



# MASTER EMERGENCY SERVICES **PLAN**



07/01/2024

FRESNO COUNTY  
OPERATIONAL AREA

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# FRESNO COUNTY OPERATIONAL AREA MASTER EMERGENCY SERVICES PLAN

## FRESNO COUNTY OPERATIONAL AREA MASTER EMERGENCY SERVICES PLAN

July 1, 2024

### Preface

The Fresno County Office of Emergency Services, located within the Department of Public Health, has prepared this document to serve as a guide for response to an emergency/disaster in the unincorporated areas of the Fresno County Operational Area, and to coordinate and assist with the disaster response in jurisdictions both within and outside of the Fresno County Operational Area. In addition to the Fresno County Operational Area Master Emergency Services Plan, hazard specific response plans and standard operating procedures (SOP's) have been developed or are in the process of development to supplement this master plan with disaster/emergency specific response procedures and information.

The Fresno County Operational Area Master Emergency Services Plan assumes that each agency with principal and support responsibilities has developed its own internal emergency plan and resource inventory. In addition, neither Fresno County nor this master plan assume responsibility for disaster preparedness, planning, response, or recovery for other local government agencies within the Fresno County Operational Area, except as authorized through statute, approved mutual aid agreements, and approved mutual aid requests. All local government agencies are responsible for disaster related functions within their jurisdiction.

### Multi-agency and Multi-jurisdiction Participation

During a response to significant emergencies, the Fresno County Operational Area (OA) may open its Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The EOC is a location where the OA can coordinate county-wide and multi-agency response to emergencies and disasters.

Staffing of the Fresno County Operational Area EOC will be limited to the Fresno County Office of Emergency Services' staff to the extent possible to preserve staff resources and maintain process efficiency. Representatives of other County departments and agencies will be requested to staff the Fresno County Operational Area EOC only, when necessary, due to conditions such as communication system (telephone and radio) difficulties, or the extreme nature or magnitude of a disaster. Communications will be maintained between the EOC and field incident sites, Departmental Operations Centers (DOCs) of County departments and other agencies participating in the disaster to facilitate multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional response coordination, as identified in the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) regulations. This plan represents multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional EOC staffing for worst-case scenarios or when good multiagency outcomes are required.



## FRESNO COUNTY OPERATIONAL AREA MASTER EMERGENCY SERVICES PLAN

### Acknowledgements

The July 1, 2024, Fresno County Operational Area Master Emergency Services Plan was prepared under the guidance of:

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## **Record of Distribution**

The Fresno County Office of Emergency Services has provided a digital copy of this plan and any subsequently approved changes to the following organizations:

Fresno County Administrative Office  
Fresno County Agriculture Department  
Fresno County Assessor-Recorder  
Fresno County Auditor-Controller / Treasurer-Tax Collector Fresno  
Fresno County Behavioral Health Department  
Fresno County Child Support Services  
Fresno County Counsel  
Fresno County District Attorney  
Fresno County Fire Protection District  
Fresno County Human Resources Department  
Fresno County Internal Services Department  
Fresno County Library  
Fresno County Probation Department  
Fresno County Public Defender Office  
Fresno County Public Health Department  
Fresno County Public Works and Planning Department  
Fresno County Retirement Association  
Fresno County Sheriff's Department / Coroner / Public Administrator  
Fresno County Social Services Department  
California Governor's Office of Emergency Services



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## Letter of Promulgation



### County of Fresno

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE  
**PAUL NERLAND**  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

June 12, 2024

To: Officials, Employees, and Community Members of Fresno County, California

The preservation of life, property, and the environment is an inherent responsibility of all levels of local, state, and federal government. The County of Fresno has prepared this Master Emergency Operations Plan (Plan) to ensure the most effective and economical allocation of resources for the maximum benefit and protection of the community in response to a significant emergency.

While no plan can completely prevent death and destruction, effective plans carried out by knowledgeable and well-trained personnel can and will minimize losses. This Plan establishes the emergency organization, assigns tasks, specifies policies, and general procedures, and provides for coordination of planning efforts of the various emergency staff and service elements utilizing the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS).

The objective of this Plan is to incorporate and coordinate all the facilities and personnel of Fresno County into an efficient organization capable of responding to any emergency. This Plan is an extension of the State of California Emergency Plan. It will be reviewed, exercised periodically, and revised as necessary to meet changing conditions.

The County Board of Supervisors gives its full support to this Plan and urges all officials, employees, and community members, individually and collectively, to do their share in the total emergency effort of Fresno County.

The concurrence of this promulgation letter reaffirms the earlier adoption of the SEMS by Fresno County. Upon adopting this Plan, the County will concurrently be adopting the provisions of NIMS. This Plan will become effective upon approval by the County Board of Supervisors.

Sincerely,

Paul Nerland  
County Administrative Officer  
County of Fresno



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## **Section 1 – Introductory Material**

### **1.1 Introduction**

Some natural and human-caused hazards pose unavoidable risk to people, property, the environment, and the economy in and around Fresno County. One important role of Fresno County is to work with others to understand hazards, reduce vulnerability and prepare for potential hazard impacts.

Emergency planning involves the development of policies, plans, and procedures that are used when responding to or recovering from an emergency or disaster. This plan serves as the primary emergency planning document for Fresno County. It is reviewed and approved by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors and is maintained by the Fresno County Office of Emergency Services. Hazard specific response plans and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) support this plan and contain either general or detailed information specific to a type of emergency or disaster.

This plan was developed in consultation with a multi-agency team under the direction of the Operational Area. It complies with local ordinance, state law and contemporary emergency planning guidance.

### **1.2 Goals and Objectives**

This plan supports the following emergency management program goals for Fresno County:

- Establish a local emergency management program.
- Comply with local, state, and federal emergency management and homeland security program requirements.
- Complete a comprehensive emergency management plan that considers the needs of the whole community, including people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs.
- Specify policies, roles, resources, and activities necessary to manage a local emergency.
- Adopt the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- Continue the use of the California Standardized Emergency Management System.
- Facilitate collaboration among organizations involved in emergency management.

The objectives of the Fresno County Operational Area emergency organization include:

- Saving lives, protecting property and the environment.
- Repairing and restoring essential systems and services.



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- Coordinating emergency response activities and resources within the County Operational Area.
- Functioning as a communication and coordination intermediary between the County Operational Area jurisdictions and agencies, and the State Regional Level EOC.
- Gathering, evaluating, and disseminating information on disaster intelligence and resources within the County Operational Area and among its jurisdictions and agencies.

### 1.3 Purpose

The purpose of the Fresno County Master Emergency Services Plan, including its annexes, is to provide a consistent, countywide framework to enable the whole community to work together to mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from the effects of emergencies regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity. Specifically, this plan is intended to:

- Facilitate multi-jurisdictional and interagency coordination in emergency operations particularly between local government, private sector, operational area (geographic county boundary), State response levels, and appropriate Federal agencies.
- Serve as a County plan, a reference document, and when possible, may be used for pre-emergency planning in addition to emergency operations.
- Identify the policies, responsibilities and procedures required to protect the health and safety of Fresno County communities, public and private property, and the environment from the effects of natural and technological emergencies and disasters.
- Identify and assign specific areas of responsibility for performing functions in response to an emergency or disaster within Fresno County.
- Establish the operational concepts and procedures associated with initial response operations (field response) to emergencies, the expanded response operations (County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activities), and the recovery process.
- Establish the organizational framework of the California Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS) within Fresno County.

### 1.4 Scope

This plan applies to any extraordinary situation, regardless of cause, when conditions may constitute a “State of Emergency” as defined by state law. When this plan is implemented, government agencies are expected to execute this plan with maximum coordination, efficiency, and effect. The provisions, policies and procedures of this plan are applicable to all agencies and individuals, public and private, having responsibility for emergency preparedness, response, recovery and/or mitigation within the geographical boundaries of the county.



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Incorporating the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Comprehensive Preparedness Guide (CPG) 101 and State of California Emergency Plan best practices, this plan is designed to be read, understood, and exercised prior to an emergency, and establishes the frameworks for implementation of the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and National Incident Management System (NIMS) for the County. Emergency operations in Fresno County will be coordinated through the structure of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). This plan will be used in coordination with the State Emergency Plan and the National Response Framework.

This plan is designed to be a simple yet comprehensive emergency management plan. It addresses multiple hazards, activities necessary before, during, and after disaster to reduce risks and impacts, and the multi-agency collaboration and coordination necessary to accomplish most activities. All agencies and departments should become familiar with the plan, their responsibilities, and be ready to support the policies and activities described herein.

### 1.5 Whole Community Planning Approach

Increases in population, aging infrastructure and housing, rising costs, limited resources, environmental changes, and several other factors can contribute to the ability to respond to and recover from emergencies and disasters. Information is also now exchanged much faster and in greater quantity than just a few years ago. To meet these challenges, Fresno County emergency planning seeks to incorporate the principles of Whole Community and Resilience. By adopting Whole Community practices, Fresno County supports broad participation in emergency management efforts. By working toward resilience, Fresno County empowers individuals and organizations to understand, prepare for and bounce-back from emergencies and disasters as best as they can. Employed together, Whole Community and Resilience achieve the fastest, most effective outcomes following emergencies and disasters. They also reserve the limited resources necessary to address the people, infrastructure and environment that are most affected by disaster.

The Fresno County Operational Area is committed to achieving and fostering a whole community emergency management program that is fully inclusive of culturally diverse populations, underserved populations, individuals with disabilities, and others with access and functional needs. By integrating community-based organizations, service providers, transportation providers, faith-based organizations, and individuals with disabilities and others with access and functional needs into the planning process, meaningful partnerships have been developed and leveraged that enable the county to create, support, and sustain an inclusive emergency management program. All programs, services, and activities provided to residents during times of emergency, to maximum extent feasible, will consider the culturally diverse,



underserved, unhoused / homeless populations of the county, and be inclusive of individuals with disabilities and others with access and functional needs.

## **1.6 Planning Assumptions**

The following circumstances were assumed during plan development:

- All incidents begin and end locally.
- Organizations (i.e., law enforcement, fire and rescue, public health, and public works) will respond to calls for service during an emergency according to their respective authorities, policies, and capabilities.
- Fresno County will lead the response to emergencies that occur within the county's area of primary responsibility.
- The State, Federal Government or another local jurisdiction will lead the response to incidents that occur within their jurisdiction.
- Unified Command will be established to lead response when multiple jurisdictions are involved.
- Emergency activity may exhaust or exceed the capability of one or more organizations. Extraordinary efforts to manage scarce resources, especially among multiple organizations, may be required.
- Fresno County will provide and request aid during an emergency, pursuant to automatic and mutual aid agreements.
- Fresno County will exhaust or expect to exhaust available resources before asking for assistance from other jurisdictions.
- Emergencies may result in casualties, fatalities and displace people from their homes.
- Disabled populations and those with access and functional needs will require additional planning considerations for communications, alert and warning, transportation and evacuation, and care and sheltering needs.
- An emergency can result in property loss, interruption of essential public services, damage to basic infrastructure, and significant harm to the environment.

## **1.7 Plan Development and Maintenance**

This plan was developed with the cooperation of participating county agencies, following emergency operations planning guidance found in the Comprehensive Planning Guide (CPG) 101, NIMS, SEMS, and the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP). The plan was developed in a functional format, focusing on a base plan, supporting annexes, and attachments and checklists where appropriate to ensure ease of use.



## FRESNO COUNTY OPERATIONAL AREA MASTER EMERGENCY SERVICES PLAN

The Fresno County Office of Emergency Services serves as custodian of the Fresno County Operational Area Master Emergency Services Plan on behalf of Fresno County. The Fresno County Office of Emergency Services will review the Plan annually and revise it every five years. All major changes, as determined by the CAO, who serves as the Director of Emergency Services, will be presented to the Disaster Council, and submitted to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors for approval.

In addition to this Master Emergency Services Plan, various county departments and programs have response plans that contain confidential, sensitive, or quickly perishable data and are maintained separately from this plan.

### 1.7.1 Plan Modifications

Upon the delegation of authority from the Director of Emergency Services, specific modifications can be made to this plan without the signature of the Board of Supervisors. The plan may be modified because of post-incident analyses and/or post-exercise critiques and if responsibilities, procedures, laws, rules, or regulations pertaining to emergency management and operations change. Attachments to this plan may also be modified as necessary without requiring BOS signature. The Fresno County Office of Emergency Services will maintain the Master Emergency Services Plan Record of Changes for all modifications made outside of the established maintenance cycle.

## 1.8 Plan Implementation and Distribution Procedure

Following the review of the planning team and Disaster Council, and upon concurrence of the Board of Supervisors, the Fresno County Master Emergency Services Plan will be officially adopted and promulgated. The plan will be distributed by email to county departments, supporting agencies, and to the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). This plan is also available online at the [Fresno County Office of Emergency Services website](#). Hard copies of the plan are available in the primary and alternate EOCs, and at the Fresno County Office of Emergency Services.

## 1.9 Preparedness

Preparedness activities are designed to anticipate and prepare Fresno County for emergency impacts that cannot be mitigated. This section describes the planning, training, exercising, equipping, and supplying activities associated with preparedness.



### **1.9.1 Education and Outreach**

Public education and awareness campaigns are often the most important mechanisms by which communities can strengthen resilience, and, as a result, minimize the impact of emergencies and disasters. The county has developed a robust public education campaign and communications strategy, in collaboration with local partners, to ensure that all community members have access to information and resources that support individual and family preparedness.

For more information on the disaster preparedness education and outreach strategies of the county, please refer to the *Fresno County Emergency Public Information and Outreach Plan*.

### **1.9.2 Training**

Training familiarizes people with emergency management policies, plans, tools, and procedures. Because Fresno County considers the knowledge and experience staff gain from training and exercises important to response, Fresno County maintains an Integrated Preparedness Plan (IPP). The IPP provides a guide for Fresno County to follow in accomplishing its training goals and priorities. Each department having staff with pre-assigned emergency operations roles should provide the appropriate training. Individuals assigned to work in the Fresno County EOC must complete a minimum level of training that includes basic ICS, SEMS, and NIMS courses. Some EOC positions require additional ICS training. A list of recommended training courses for designated EOC staff is maintained by the Fresno County Office of Emergency Services.

The Fresno County Office of Emergency Services maintains a record of required emergency management training for individuals designated to serve in the EOC. Fresno County departments maintain training certificates in individual personnel files within their respective departments.

### **1.9.3 Exercise**

Exercising is an important complement to training. It allows individuals and organizations to practice what they learn and to develop proficiency when performing certain emergency tasks. Fresno County conducts drills and exercises (i.e., table-top, functional, and full-scale) according to the U.S. Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP). HSEEP offers a standard method for designing, conducting, and evaluating exercises.

Within 90 days following an exercise or real-world disaster event, the Fresno County Office of Emergency Services facilitates a process that results in an After-Action Report/Improvement Plan (AAR/IP). The purpose of the AAR/IP is to note strengths and weaknesses in response, and to identify opportunities for improvement. After completion of AAR/IPs, Fresno County updates



planning documents and retains copies of the reports for a minimum of five years to support subsequent analysis, planning and training.

More information on the county's training and exercise program can be found in the *Fresno County OES Integrated Preparedness Plan*.

### **1.9.4 Equipping and Supplying**

Specific equipment and supplies are sometimes needed during an emergency. Equipment can range from small to heavy equipment (i.e., front loaders and dump trucks). Examples of supplies include batteries, food, water, office supplies, fuel, sandbags, and medical material.

Some equipment and supplies needed during emergencies are used day-to-day; others are obtained and stored just for use during emergencies (e.g., cots, shelter supplies, sandbags, and medical supplies). Fresno County works with different agencies to identify and track the locations of key equipment and supplies that might be needed during an emergency. Each organization is responsible for maintaining its own necessary equipment and supplies.



## Section 2 – Situation Overview

### 2.1 General Situation Overview

Fresno County is located approximately 170 miles south of Sacramento in California's Central San Joaquin Valley. Fresno County is California's sixth largest county in land area, encompassing over 6,000 square miles stretching from the Sierra Nevada's to the Coastal Ranges. Fresno County is bordered to the North by Madera and Merced, to the East by Inyo and Mono, to the South by Tulare and Kings, and to the West by San Benito and Monterey counties.



Figure 1 – Map of Fresno County

### 2.2 Geography

Fresno County is bordered to the East by foothills and high mountains (Sierra Nevada) and to the West by foothills and moderately high mountains (Coastal Ranges). The county's topography is characterized by broad, flat valley floors that generally slope from southeast to northwest. There are two major rivers in Fresno County, both which originate in the Sierra Nevada: the San Joaquin and Kings Rivers.



## 2.3 Economy

Agriculture is Fresno County's primary industry and is a driving force in the County's economy. Fresno County plays a major role in California's agricultural production. In terms of dollars produced from agriculture, from the 2021-2022 California Agricultural Statistics Review, Fresno ranks second in the state with a gross value of Agricultural Production of \$8,109,917,000<sup>1</sup>. The leading commodities in Fresno County are grapes, pistachios, milk (cow), and oranges.

In addition to agriculture, other industries such as manufacturing, logistics, energy, healthcare, and information technology thrive in Fresno County. Due to Fresno's unique location in the middle of the state, manufacturing and logistics have become a focal area of economic investment for Fresno County and the San Joaquin Valley. The healthcare industry features six hospitals within the metro area, three of which rank as the top three private employers in the county. The Fresno-Clovis metropolitan region ranks third in the state for information technology industries and includes over 500 companies<sup>2</sup>.

## 2.4 Population Distribution

Fresno County is a culturally diverse and rapidly growing area. The U. S Census recorded a resident population of 1,008,654 in 2020, an 8.4 percent increase since the 2010 Census. The county has fifteen (15) incorporated cities: Clovis, Coalinga, Firebaugh, Fowler, Fresno, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, San Joaquin, Sanger, and Selma and twenty-five (25) unincorporated communities.

City / Area	Population
Clovis	120,124
Coalinga	17,590
Firebaugh	8,096
Fowler	6,700
Fresno	542,107
Huron	6,206
Kerman	16,016
Kingsburg	12,380
Mendota	12,595

<sup>1</sup> Source: California Agricultural Statistics Review 2021-2022

<sup>2</sup> Source: Progressive Policy Institute



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City / Area	Population
Orange Cove	9,649
Parlier	14,576
Reedley	25,227
San Joaquin	3,600
Sanger	26,617
Selma	24,674
Unincorporated	162,497
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,008,654</b>

Table 1 – Fresno County Population Distribution<sup>3</sup>

### 2.4.1 Population by Race and Ethnicity

An accurate understanding of race and ethnicity demographics is essential in emergency planning to ensure equitable and culturally competent response strategies that address the diverse needs of all community members.

Race	Percentage of Population
White	35.38%
Black / African American	4.56%
American Indian / Alaskan Native	2.52%
Asian	10.7%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.22%
Some other Race	29.64%
2+ Races	16.98%

Table 2 – County Population by Race<sup>4</sup>

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

<sup>4, 5</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-Year



<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Percentage of Population</b>
Hispanic	55.88%
Non-Hispanic	44.12%

**Table 3 – County Population by Ethnicity<sup>5</sup>**

## **2.4.2 Languages Spoken**

The County recognizes that timely and accurate information dissemination is a cornerstone of successful emergency response. Residents who do not understand the dominant language spoken may experience delays in receiving crucial information, impeding their ability to make informed decisions regarding their safety. By considering the diverse languages, the county can help to ensure inclusivity, accessibility, and timely information dissemination during emergency situations. Moreover, acknowledging language diversity is intrinsically linked with cultural competency. Effective communication in languages understood by the community reinforces trust and rapport between emergency responders and residents.

For the population age five years and older, 55% speak English only in the home and 46% speak a language other than English. A breakdown of languages spoken is illustrated in the table below:

<b>Language Spoken</b>	<b>Percentage of Population</b>
English Only	55%
Spanish	35%
Asian/Pacific Islander	6%
Indo-European	3%
Other Language	1%

**Table 4 – Languages Spoken in Fresno County<sup>6</sup>**

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<sup>6</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey 5-Year



### 2.4.3 Disability by Type

Lessons learned from recent emergencies concerning people with disabilities and other access and functional needs have shown that the existing paradigm of emergency planning, implementation, and response must change to meet the needs of these groups during an emergency. Understanding the prevalence and types of disabilities allows planners to consider the needs of individuals with disabilities and others with access and functional needs throughout all phases of a disaster.

Disability by Type	Percentage of Population
Any Disability	12.7%
Hearing Difficulty	3.5%
Vision Difficulty	3.5%
Cognitive Difficulty	5.8%
Ambulatory Difficulty	6.7%
Self-Care Difficulty	3.3%
Independent-Living Difficulty	6.4%

**Table 6 – Disability by Type<sup>7</sup>**

### 2.4.4 Unhoused, Tourist and Visitor Populations

People experiencing homelessness are especially vulnerable during disasters. The 2023 Fresno-Madera Continuum of Care (FMCoC) Point-in-Time (PIT) count identified 4,493 persons in the FMCoC experiencing homelessness at the time of the count, a 7% increase from 2022<sup>8</sup>.

In a disaster, people who are homeless are more likely to experience aggravation of existing conditions such as, mental illness, withdrawal from substances, and inability to evacuate. They may also lose access to places they spent time and found safety before the disaster. Because of this, local government agencies should partner with service providers to ensure individuals experiencing homelessness and those who work with and care for them receive training on preventing re-traumatization, mental and substance use disorders, and all available local resources and services.

In addition to people experiencing homelessness, the County may experience an increase in tourist or visitor populations during certain times throughout the year. In April, the Vintage Days

<sup>7</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

<sup>8</sup> Source: FMCoC 2023 Point-in-Time Count and Housing Inventory Count, [fresnomaderahomeless.org](https://fresnomaderahomeless.org)



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at Fresno State festival attracts upwards of 50,000 attendees to the Fresno State campus each year. In September, the annual Clovis Festival draws crowds of over 70,000 people. The Big Fresno Fair in October is the 4th largest fair in California and draws more than 600,000 people each year. In December, the largest Hmong American New-Year's community celebration in the U.S. brings approximately 100,000 visitors to the Fresno County Fairgrounds.

Additionally, Fresno County is the gateway to three of California's prestigious National Parks: Yosemite, visited by over 3.5 million visitors per year and the Sequoia, and Kings Canyon National Parks that see on average 1.2 million visitors per year<sup>9</sup>.

Tourists and visitors may pose additional challenges for planners, as many may be unfamiliar with the community, its geography, and disaster resources. Clear and consistent public information and messaging will be essential to communicate risk and emergency information with these populations before, during, and after a disaster.

## 2.5 Critical Facilities and Infrastructure

Critical facilities and infrastructure are structures and institutions necessary for a community's response to and recovery from emergencies. This includes facilities housing or serving many people, such as hospitals, skilled nursing centers, schools, and correctional facilities; fire, police, and emergency services facilities; utility lifeline facilities, such as water, electricity, and gas supply; sewage disposal; hazardous materials storage facilities; and communications and transportation facilities. Local governments must ensure critical facilities continue to operate during and following a disaster to reduce the severity of impacts and accelerate recovery.

Fresno County has seven (7) General Acute Care Hospitals that provide emergency care services and 40 licensed long-term care facilities<sup>10</sup>. The county hosts the Department of State Hospitals – Coalinga, a psychiatric hospital for forensically committed patients, most of which are sexually violent predators. The county is also host to the Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) Mendota, located in Mendota, CA; the California State Prison and the County Jail, located in Fresno, CA; the Elkhorn Correctional Facility, located in Caruthers, CA; and the Pleasant Valley State Prison, located in Coalinga, CA.

### 2.5.1 Critical Facility Inventory

The Fresno County Internal Services and Public Works and Planning departments maintain a Geographic Information System (GIS) database that contains information about the locations of critical facilities and infrastructure within the county. Critical facility GIS data also aids in understanding and visualizing the geographic distribution of critical facilities to allow for better

<sup>9</sup> National Parks Service Visitor Use Statistics <https://irma.nps.gov/Stats/>

<sup>10</sup> CA Department of Health and Humans Services Licensed and Certified Healthcare Facility Listing



risk assessment, planning, and mitigation strategies. During emergencies or disasters, these data sets will be used to map the precise locations of impacted areas, critical facilities, or infrastructure. These data sets will also be used to support the Rapid Needs and Damage Assessment processes.

### **2.5.2 Transportation Infrastructure**

Transportation Infrastructure refers to the interconnected network of roads, bridges, public transit, and other essential transportation assets that facilitate the movement of people, goods, and services throughout the county.

Two major highways run North/South through the County: Interstate 5 and State Highway 99. Six other State Routes 33, 41, 145, 168, 180, 198, and 269 traverse the County. A network of County roads connects the various communities to these major arteries. The Burlington Northern Santa Fe, Union Pacific, and the San Joaquin Valley railroads maintain major rail lines through the County.

Fresno Yosemite International Airport serves several major airlines for both passengers and freight. Other public aviation facilities include Fresno Chandler Executive Downtown airport, Coalinga Municipal airport, Firebaugh airport, William Robert Johnston Municipal airport in Mendota, Reedley Municipal airport, Selma Aerodrome, Sierra Sky Park, and Harris Ranch airports.

### **2.5.3 Critical Service Dependencies**

Fresno County is committed to ensuring that communities facing disruptions of critical utility services have alternate plans in place. The County actively works with local municipalities and other community partners to provide accessible public spaces where residents can find respite from extreme heat or cold, obtain critical supplies or information, and provide access to electric power to charge devices and other necessary equipment during emergencies. The Fresno County Office of Emergency Services maintains a listing of local Resiliency Centers that may be used to provide respite for residents during utility service outages.

## **2.6 Government Structure**

Fresno County is governed by a five-member Board of Supervisors elected to represent citizens of the County. The Board of Supervisors functions as the county's primary legislative and policy-making body. County government also includes a variety of citizen boards, commissions, and committees formed to advise the Board of Supervisors and County staff on issues and policy.



## 2.7 Capability Assessment

A capability assessment provides part of the foundation for determining emergency management preparedness and mitigation strategies. Assessing the capabilities of the county is critical to understanding what resources are necessary to achieve the goals and objectives set forth in this plan. The assessment process also identifies gaps or weaknesses that may need to be addressed through preparedness planning, training, and exercising.

As an established organization, the County of Fresno has assessed their capabilities and is prepared to perform the necessary emergency response duties outlined in this plan. However, the county recognizes that without the support of local partner agencies such as cities, special districts, tribes, non-governmental entities, community-based organizations, non-profit organizations, and the private sector, the capabilities of the county alone would be limited.

The *Fresno County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan* details the county's regulatory, administrative, technical, and fiscal hazard mitigation capabilities.

## 2.8 Hazard Mitigation Overview

Hazard Mitigation is defined as a sustained action to reduce or eliminate risk to people and property from hazards and their effects. The function of mitigation differs from other emergency management disciplines because it looks at long-term solutions to reducing risk as opposed to preparedness for hazards, the immediate response to a hazard or the short-term recovery from a hazard event. Implementing mitigation programs and activities requires the participation and support of a broad spectrum of players outside of the traditional emergency management circle. Mitigation involves, among others, land use planners, construction and building officials, both public and private, business owners, insurance companies, community leaders, and politicians. The goal of mitigation is to create economically secure, socially stable, better built and more environmentally sound communities that are out of harm's way.

The *Fresno County Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan* (MJHMP), adopted by the Board of Supervisors and approved by FEMA, provides a risk assessment, profiles the impacts of hazards, and identifies mitigation measures and actions to be taken before a disaster happens to reduce the impact of future disasters. The MJHMP is reviewed and updated every five years in accordance with 44 CFR Part 201 and can be found on the Fresno County Office of Emergency Services website.



## 2.9 Hazard Analysis Summary

Threats and hazards identified in the Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) section of the MJHMP are used to inform all disaster preparedness planning efforts of the County. The following table summarizes the hazards that may affect the Fresno County planning area. For more detailed information on hazards, please see the *Fresno County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan's* Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA).

Hazard	Geographic Extent	Probability of Future Occurrence	Magnitude / Severity	Overall Significance
Agricultural Hazards	Limited	Highly Likely	Negligible	High
Avalanche	Limited	Likely	Limited	Low
Dam Failure	Extensive	Occasional	Critical	High
Drought	Significant	Likely	Limited	High
Earthquake	Significant	Occasional	Catastrophic	Medium
Flood / Levee Failure	Extensive	Likely	Critical	High
Hazardous Materials	Significant	Highly Likely	Limited	High
Human Health Hazards:				
Epidemic/Pandemic	Extensive	Occasional	Negligible	High
West Nile Virus	Limited	Highly Likely	Negligible	Low
Landslide	Limited	Occasional	Limited	Low
Severe Weather:				
Extreme Cold/Freeze	Significant	Highly Likely	Negligible	Low
Extreme Heat	Extensive	Highly Likely	Limited	Low
Fog	Extensive	Likely	Limited	Medium
Heavy Rain/Thunderstorm/Hail/Lightning	Extensive	Highly Likely	Limited	Low
Winter Storm	Limited	Highly Likely	Negligible	Medium
Tornado	Extensive	Occasional	Negligible	Low
Windstorm	Extensive	Likely	Limited	Medium
Soil Hazards:				
Erosion	No Data	Likely	No Data	Low
Expansive Soils	No Data	Occasional	No Data	Low
Land Subsidence	Significant	Likely	No Data	Medium
Volcano	Extensive	Unlikely	Negligible	High
Wildfire	Extensive	Highly Likely	Critical	High

**Table 7 – Fresno County Hazard Summary<sup>11</sup>**

<sup>11</sup> Source: Fresno County Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment



## **2.9.1 Dams**

The California Emergency Services Act (Government Code §8589.5) has specific emergency planning requirements for populated areas downstream of dams. Dam Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) include operational information necessary to carry-out an evacuation of all potentially flooded areas and inundations maps that indicate what areas could flood, the time the flood wave may arrive at specific locations and estimates of when the water will recede. Dam EAPs are developed and maintained by the Dam owner/operator.

The Fresno County OES maintains copies of the following Dam EAPs at the primary EOC:

- Balch Dam EAP
- Courtwright Dam/Wishon Dam EAP
- Crane Valley Dam/Manzanita Lake Dam EAP
- Bradbury Dam EAP
- Carpinteria Dam EAP
- Casitas Dam EAP
- Friant Dam EAP
- Glen Anne Dam EAP
- Lauro Dam EAP
- Ortega Dam EAP
- Twitchell Dam EA
- South Coast Conduit EAP
- Balsam Meadow Dam EAP
- Big Creek Dam #4 EAP
- Big Creek Dam #5 EAP
- Big Creek Dam #6 EAP
- Big Creek Dam #7 EAP
- Florence Dam EAP
- Huntington Dam EAP
- Mammoth Pool Dam EAP
- Shaver Lake Dam EAP
- Vermillion Valley Dam EAP



## **Section 3 – Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities**

### **3.1 Emergency Management Organization**

The Fresno County Master Emergency Services Plan establishes the operational organization that is relied on to respond to an emergency or disaster situation within the Fresno County Operational Area. The following sections describe the County's organizational structure and county departmental roles and responsibilities during a Fresno County/Operational Area Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activation.

In accordance with Fresno County Code Chapter 2.44.070, the Fresno County Emergency Management Organization (EMO) is comprised of all employees and departments of the County, plus other agencies, or individuals, who may perform specialized emergency functions and develop and implement emergency plans and other preparedness, response and recovery measures for emergencies and disasters occurring within the Fresno County Operational Area.

The Fresno County EMO is depicted in **Figure 2 Fresno County Emergency Management Organization** on page 30 of this plan.

### **3.2 Role of County Departments**

The County Office of Emergency Services is the lead agency in the operational area emergency response effort and serves as staff to the Director of Emergency Services. County departments are responsible to support emergency response and recovery objectives and take the lead for coordinating assigned emergency functions. The departments may also provide representatives to the EOC to coordinate people, resources, manage information, and to communicate emergency efforts between departments and/or jurisdictions. Other County departments and agencies may provide support for coordinating emergency functions and are identified in the *County Department Responsibility Matrix* in **Table 8** on page 31 of this plan.

#### **3.2.1 Disaster Service Workers**

Under California Government Code §§ 3100 – 3109, all public employees are obligated to serve as Disaster Service Workers (DSWs) to support emergency response, recovery, and mitigation activities. Public employees (civil service) are all persons employed by any county, city, state agency or public district in the State of California. DSWs provide services and support during proclaimed emergencies or disasters.



In the event of a major emergency or disaster, county employees may be called upon to perform certain duties in support of emergency management operations, such as serve in a position in the EOC, support shelter operations, or work at another incident facility in the field. County employees may also:

- Be required to work at any time during a proclaimed emergency and may be assigned to disaster service work.
- Be assigned for service at locations, times, and under conditions other than their normal work assignments.
- Be assigned duties within the EOC, in the field, or at another designated incident location.

Under no circumstances will county employees be asked to perform duties or functions that are hazardous, that they have not been trained to perform, or that are beyond their recognized capabilities.

### **3.3 Emergency Support Functions**

To align with the National Response Framework's Emergency Support Functions (ESFs), the County has organized its core capabilities within the California ESF (CA-ESF) model while retaining an ICS-like SEMS EOC structure. Use of the CA-ESF model provides a standardized, interoperable structure for grouping functions most frequently used to provide support for disaster response. ESFs bring together the capabilities of the County's departments, agencies, and other operational area partners that work together to deliver core capabilities to support an effective response. Primary / Lead responsibility in each ESF is assigned to county agencies, with support from other stakeholders, according to capability, tasking, and requirements.

#### **3.3.1 Primary Responsibilities**

County departments or agencies assigned as the primary or lead for emergency functions are based on the departments or agency's coordinating responsibilities, authority, functional expertise, resources, and capabilities in managing incident activities. Primary departments or agencies may not be responsible for all elements of a function; however, they will coordinate with supporting departments or agencies to perform emergency functions as assigned.

#### **3.3.2 Support Responsibilities**

County departments or agencies assigned as support for emergency functions are identified as those departments or agencies that may provide substantial support (e.g., information, resources, technical expertise, etc.) for performing an emergency function.



Primary and support roles for county departments are identified in the *County Responsibility Matrix* on page 31 of this plan.

### **3.3.3 Standard Operating Procedures**

County department's assigned primary responsibility for coordinating emergency response functions are also responsible for assuring the preparation, planning, and maintenance of appropriate plans, standard operating procedures (SOPs), resource lists, and checklists that detail how assigned responsibilities will be performed to support implementation of the Master Emergency Services Plan. Elements to be addressed in SOPs may include:

- Arrangements for the provision of direction and control within the department/agency.
- Specific emergency authorities that may be assumed by a designated successor during emergency situations.
- Circumstances under which successor emergency authorities would become effective and when they would be terminated.
- Current internal personnel notification/recall rosters and procedures to implement them. This should include a 24-hour communications system with the capability to notify and recall personnel designated by the agency for emergency response.
- Designation and establishment of a work/control/dispatch center or Department Operations Center (DOC) to manage organizational resources and response personnel, and to maintain contact with the EOC during emergencies.
- Designation of a representative to report to the EOC during an emergency to advise decision makers and coordinate the agency's response efforts with other responding entities (if applicable).
- Reporting of appropriate information (e.g., casualties, damage observations, evacuation status, shelter status, chemical exposure, etc.) to the EOC during an emergency.
- Support of cleanup and recovery operations following disasters.
- Training requirements of assigned response staff to perform emergency functions that is consistent with established training plans.

## **3.4 Role of the Disaster Council**

The Fresno County Disaster Council is empowered to develop and recommend for adoption or ratification by the board of supervisors, emergency and mutual aid plans and agreements, and such ordinances, resolutions, rules, and regulations as are necessary to implement such plans and agreements. The Council is comprised of the Director of Emergency Services, the Assistant Director of Emergency Services, and the members of the Management Advisory Group for the



purpose of developing and recommending for adoption or ratification by the Board of Supervisors emergency and mutual aid plans and agreements<sup>12</sup>.

### **3.5 Role of Elected Officials**

The primary role of an elected official during a disaster is that of support. As the disaster is occurring and the immediate response is underway, elected officials best serve citizens by empowering and allowing first responders and EOC staff the autonomy to manage the incident as they have been trained to do. During response, the elected official's role may consist of:

- Providing support and working with emergency management officials, as needed. This may include facilitating communication with and obtaining assistance from other agencies, declaring a local state of emergency, and issuing emergency orders such as imposing curfews etc.
- Communicating quickly, clearly, and effectively to constituents and working with partners to ensure consistent messaging.
- Maintaining situational awareness regarding the disaster by staying informed.

Once the first responders and EOC staff have stabilized the situation, elected officials become crucial to the recovery process. During recovery, the elected official's role may consist of:

- Understanding and asking questions throughout the recovery process as state and federal disaster assistance programs can be complex.
- Supporting the community throughout the recovery – it can be a long process and may take multiple years.
- Helping to identify opportunities to rebuild, redevelop, and mitigate future damage through planning and smart infrastructure investments; and
- Ensuring all Codes and Regulations are enforced during the recovery process.

### **3.6 Role of Operational Area Member Jurisdictions**

Each local jurisdiction within the Fresno Operational Area (OA) maintains its autonomy and control over personnel and equipment resources under a local emergency proclamation. Operational Area member jurisdictions play a critical role in supporting response by:

- Coordinating information, resources, and priorities among the local governments within the OA, and between the OA and the Cal OES Region.
- Receiving and processing requests for mutual aid from local jurisdictions outside of established systems (i.e., Fire, Law Enforcement) and, when unable to fill a request using

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<sup>12</sup> Fresno County Code Ch. 2.44.030 & 2.44.040



resources within the OA, forwarding the request to the appropriate discipline-specific Regional Mutual Aid Coordinator or the Cal OES Region; and

- Using multi-agency or inter-agency coordination to facilitate countywide response and recovery efforts in coordination with state and federal government agencies.

### **3.7 Role of Tribal Nations**

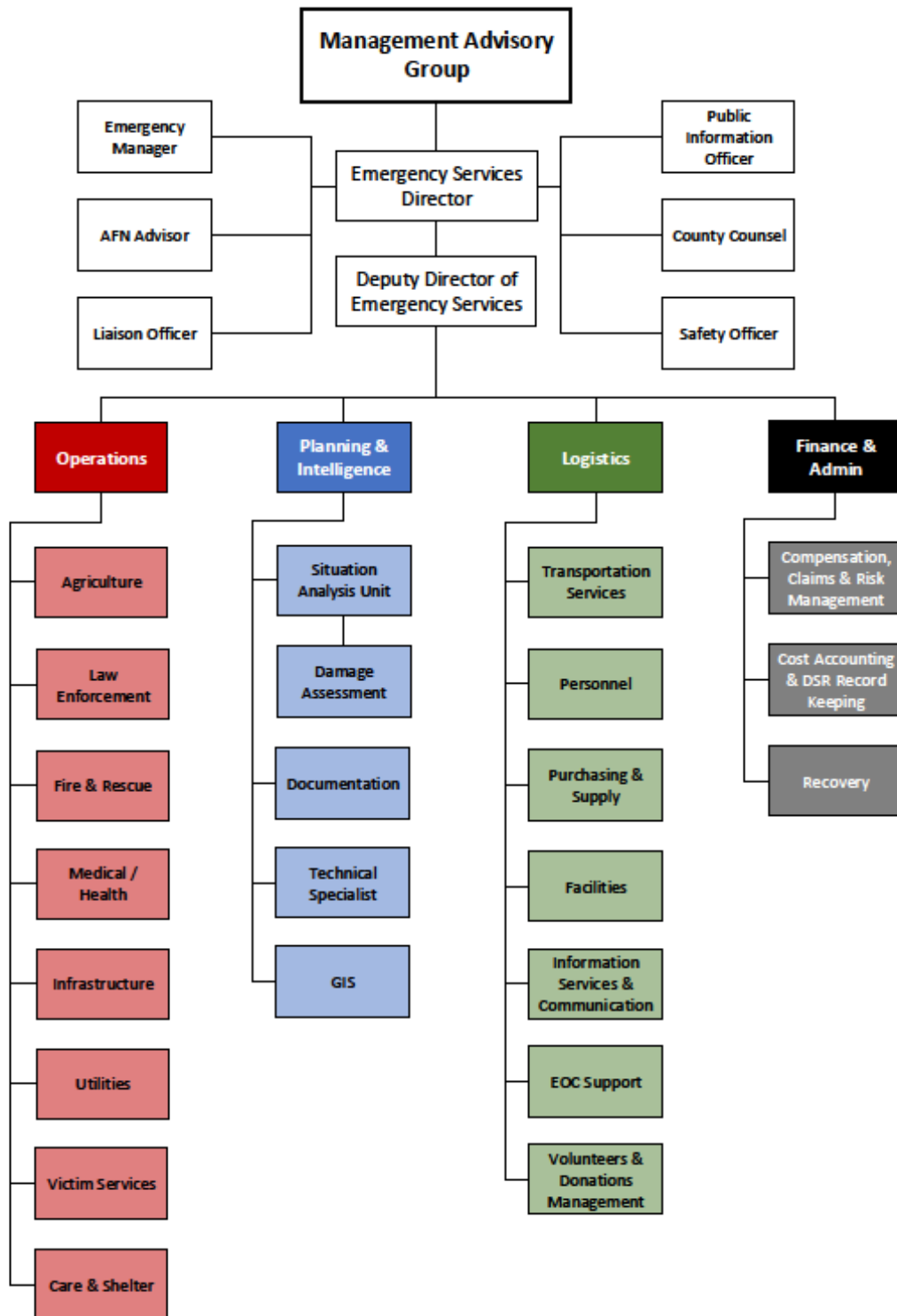
Tribal Nations are responsible for the protection and preservation of life, property, and the environment on Tribal lands. Responsibilities may include deploying field-level emergency response personnel, activating emergency operations centers, and issuing orders to protect the public on Tribal lands. Tribal Nations also bring cultural competency to the planning table, offering insights into the cultural practices, languages, and traditions of their communities. This knowledge is vital for creating emergency plans that respect and address the unique needs of tribal populations. Tribal Nations may also provide mutual aid and share resources (i.e., personnel, equipment, and facilities) during emergencies.

There are three Federally recognized Tribal Nations in Fresno County:

- Big Sandy Rancheria of Western Mono Indians of California
- Cold Springs Rancheria of Mono Indians of California; and
- Table Mountain Rancheria of California



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Rev. 7/1/2024

Figure 2 – Fresno County Emergency Management Organization



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EMERGENCY FUNCTIONS ASSIGNMENTS FOR COUNTY DEPARTMENTS

P-Denotes primary responsibility  
S-Denotes supporting responsibility

County Departments	Public Information (CA-ESF 15)	Legal Counsel	Access & Functional Needs Advisor	Management (CA-ESF 5)	Agriculture (CA-ESF 11)	Law Enforcement (CA-ESF 13)	Alert & Warning	Access Control	Evacuation (CA-ESF 16)	Search and Rescue (CA-ESF 9)	Hazardous Materials (CA-ESF 10)	Fire & Rescue (CA-ESF 4)	Public Health & Medical (CA-ESF 8)	Infrastructure (CA-ESF 3)	Care & Shelter (CA-ESF 6)	Utilities (CA-ESF 12)	Debris Management	Victim Services	Situation Analysis & Planning	Preliminary Damage Assessment	Initial Damage Estimate	Documentation	Geographic Information Systems (GIS)	Purchasing & Supply (CA-ESF 7)	Transportation (CA-ESF 1)	Communications & Information Services (CA-ESF 2)	Cybersecurity (CA-ESF 18)	Facilities	EOC Support	Personnel	Volunteer & Donations Management (CA-ESF 17)	Compensation, Claims & Risk Management	Cost Accounting & DSR Record Keeping	Recovery (CA-ESF 14)					
County Admin. Office	S		P	P					S																										S				
Public Info. Officer	P			S			S		S											S															S				
County Counsel	S	P		S																S															S				
Sheriff-Coroner	S			S		P	P	P	P	P	P	S			S					S	S	S			S	S									S				
Coroner	S			S									S							S	S														S				
Probation	S			S		S			S						S			P																	S				
Fresno County Fire Protection	S			S						S	S	P	S	S						S	S	S													S				
Public Defender																																				S			
Public Health	S			S	S								P		S	S				S	S	S													S				
Environmental Health	S			S							S			S	S		S			S	S	S													S				
Emergency Medical Services	S			S					S	S	S	S	S							S					S										S				
Office of Emergency Services	S		S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	P	S	P	S	S	S	S	S	S	P	S	P	S	S	P				
Behavioral Health	S			S									S							S															S				
Social Services	S			S									S		P	S				S		S				S									S				
Human Resources	S			S																S											S	P	P	P		S			
Internal Services	S			S		S			S						S					S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S			S				
Fleet Services	S			S																	S					P										S			
Facilities Services	S			S											S	P					S	S							P							S			
Purchasing	S			S																	S				P											S			
Security	S			S		S									S																						S		
ISD-IT	S			S																S	S			P			P	P									S		
Public Works & Planning	S			S					S		S			P		S	P		P	S	P	S	S			S										S			
Agriculture	S			S	P						S		S							S	S																S		
District Attorney	S	S		S		S																																S	
Assessor-Recorder	S			S																	S	S															S		
Auditor - Controller	S			S																S	S				S										P			S	
Library	S			S																									S									S	
Retirement Association	S			S																									S									S	
Child Support Services	S			S																																			S

Table 8 – Fresno County Department Responsibility Matrix



### **3.8 Role of Business and the Private Sector**

Much of the County's critical infrastructure is owned or maintained by businesses or the private sector and must be protected during a response to ensure a quick and complete recovery from an emergency. These same entities provide valuable resources before, during and after an emergency, and can play a critical role in meeting the needs of those impacted by an emergency or disaster. This plan recommends all businesses within the County to develop comprehensive Business Emergency Plans which include employee injury and illness prevention programs, business resumption, and continuity of operations elements. A comprehensive business emergency plan can assist the business and the community at-large by providing:

- Information to employees to protect themselves and their families from the effects of likely emergencies.
- A business emergency organization with identified positions having clear and specific emergency roles, responsibilities, delegated authority, and identified successors.
- The identification of actions necessary to protect company assets and records during emergencies.
- A listing of critical products and services.
- Production shutdown procedures.
- A business command center.
- Alternate work sites or telework/remote work procedures.
- Methods and channels of communication.
- Contacts with local emergency management officials.
- A method to provide and accept goods and services from other companies.

This plan also promotes the use of Business Operations Centers to enhance public and private coordination. Resources for Business Emergency Plans can be found on the internet at [Ready.gov/business](https://www.ready.gov/business).

### **3.9 Role of County Residents**

The residents of Fresno County are the primary beneficiaries of the county's emergency management program and play an important role in disaster preparedness by ensuring that they and their families are prepared for emergencies and disasters. Before an emergency or disaster, residents can assist the emergency preparedness and response efforts by taking first aid training, maintaining emergency supplies, and being prepared to evacuate or shelter in-place for several days. After a disaster, it is unlikely that emergency response services will be immediately available to respond to everyone's needs. It is important for residents to not only take care of themselves, their families, and any pets or other animals, but to also work together



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with their neighbors to help save lives and property. Residents are encouraged to meet with their neighbors before a disaster strikes to discuss and plan how the neighborhood could work together and leverage the skills of their neighbors until help arrives.

Residents are also encouraged to sign up for local emergency notifications to their home or cell phone number through the Fresno County Sheriff's Department's Emergency Alert system. During an emergency, residents should monitor emergency communications and carefully follow directions from authorities. Social media and other online community groups are also good places to go for information during a disaster. The County Government and public safety agencies maintain a robust presence on various social media platforms to reach a wider audience for emergency and crisis communication. Residents are encouraged to follow their municipal government, local law enforcement, fire, and other public service agencies on social media to stay informed on community events and emergency information. Foothill and mountain residents should also follow State and Federal fire and land management agencies communications platforms (e.g., U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, CAL FIRE).

Some residents may need to survive on their own for several days when first responders are overwhelmed. Being prepared means having food, water, and other supplies to last for at least 72 hours, and preferably seven (7) days or more. A disaster supply kit is a collection of basic items a household may need in the event of an emergency. The following items are some basic examples of supplies to include in a kit:

- Water – one gallon of water per person and pet per day, for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
- Food – at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert
- Flashlight
- First aid kit
- Extra batteries
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Moist towelettes / hand sanitizer, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Manual can opener for food
- Cell phone with chargers and a backup battery
- Prescription medication
- Infant formula, bottles, diapers, wipes
- Pet food and extra water for your pet
- Cash



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- Matches in a waterproof container
- Important family documents, preferably in waterproof and fire-proof containers

Residents may also join disaster volunteer programs such as the Cities of Fresno and Clovis Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), Fresno County Sheriff's Department's Search and Rescue (SAR) Team, Fresno Citizen Corps, the American Red Cross (ARC), Team Rubicon, and other community or faith-based emergency response organizations. By being prepared, residents can better serve their family, their community, and reduce demands on first responders.



## **Section 4 – Response Concept of Operations**

### **4.1 General Concept of Operations**

The Fresno County Master Emergency Services Plan addresses the entire spectrum of contingencies, ranging from relatively minor incidents to large-scale disasters. A buildup or warning period, providing sufficient time to warn the public will precede some emergencies, allowing for implementation of mitigation measures designed to reduce loss of life, property damage, and effects on the environment. Other emergencies occur with little or no advance warning, thus requiring immediate activation of the Emergency Plan and efficient and coordinated mobilization and deployment of resources. Emergencies or disasters that meet the definition of a “State of Emergency” can quickly overwhelm local resources. This section details how Fresno County provides coordination and support for response activities during emergencies and disasters.

### **4.2 Plan Activation**

The Fresno County Master Emergency Services Plan may be activated for any event (planned or unplanned) with potential impacts on the health and safety of the public and environment. The plan can be activated by the Chief Administrative Officer / Director of Emergency Services or their designee under any of the following circumstances:

- On the order of the Director of Emergency Services as designated by Chapter 2.44 – Emergency Services of the Fresno County Government Code.
- Upon proclamation by the Governor that a STATE OF EMERGENCY exists in an area of the state.
- Automatically on the proclamation of a STATE OF WAR EMERGENCY as defined in the California Emergency Services Act (Chapter 7, Division 1, Title 2, California Government Code).
- Upon the declaration by the President of the existence of a National Emergency.
- Automatically, on receipt of an attack warning or actual attack on the United States, or upon the occurrence of a catastrophic disaster that requires an immediate government response.

### **4.3 Emergency Proclamations**

When a condition of extreme peril threatens the safety of populations and property within the Fresno County Operational Area, and the condition is beyond the capability of local forces to control effectively, the local governing body (city, or county), or an official designated by



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ordinance adopted by the governing body, may proclaim a local emergency. The Proclamation of a Local Emergency provides the governing body with the legal authority to:

- Request the Governor proclaim a State of Emergency, if necessary.
- Promulgate or suspend orders and regulations necessary to provide for the protection of life and property, including issuing orders or regulations imposing a curfew within designated boundaries.
- Exercise full power to provide mutual aid to any affected area under local ordinances, resolutions, emergency plans, or agreements.
- Request state agencies and other jurisdictions to provide mutual aid.
- Require the emergency services of any local official or employee.
- Requisition necessary personnel and materials from any local department or agency.
- Obtain vital supplies and equipment; and, if required, immediately commandeer the same for public use.
- Impose penalties for violation of lawful order.
- Conduct emergency operations without incurring legal liability for performance, or failure of performance (Article 17 of the Emergency Services Act provides for certain privileges and immunities).

In the event that public real property has been damaged or destroyed, and assistance is needed for repair and restoration, the local governing body may elect to request the Governor's Office of Emergency Services Director to concur with the existence of the Local Emergency and request California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) funding. A Local Proclamation must be made within ten days of the occurrence days to qualify for assistance under CDAA. The type of disaster, date of occurrence, and area affected will be identified in the proclamation. The proclamation and request for assistance must be sent directly to the Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

A local proclamation of emergency shall not remain in effect for a period in excess of seven days unless it has been ratified by the local governing body. The local governing body will review the need for continuing the local emergency at its regularly scheduled meetings and terminate it at the earliest possible date, but in no case will a review be delayed beyond sixty days after the previous review.

A special district experiencing a disaster condition must petition the Fresno County Board of Supervisors to make a proclamation of local emergency on its behalf. An example proclamation can be found in **Attachment C** of this plan.



## **4.4 Notification and Mobilization**

Successful emergency and disaster management requires around-the-clock awareness of emergency conditions, the ability to quickly communicate emergency information to key individuals and organizations, and the capability to respond. Fresno County has designated the Sheriff's Dispatch Center as such a location to operate continually (24 hours per day/7 days per week/365 days per year). Upon notification by the Sheriff-Coroner or other official source of an imminent or actual emergency / disaster, the Fresno County Office of Emergency Services (OES) will gather additional information related to the incident, notify, and consult with the Director of Emergency Services for instructions on immediate actions needed. The OES will then initiate the appropriate disaster response coordination activities and begin mobilizing resources as necessary for the response. Staff will be notified of activation through direct phone calls.

## **4.5 Operational Priorities**

Operational priorities govern resource allocation and the response strategies for the County and its political subdivisions during an emergency. The following five priorities are established for all incidents:

- Save lives
- Protect Health and Safety
- Protect Property
- Preserve the Environment
- Preserve the Local Economy

## **4.6 Direction, Control and Coordination**

The County is responsible for coordinating the resources, strategies, and policy for any event within the county that exceeds the capacity of field responders. Tactical control always remains the responsibility of field Incident Commanders. The Director of Emergency Services, working through the mechanisms of the Emergency Operations Center, provides direction and control over the coordination of multi-department and multi-jurisdictional resources to support the emergency response.

The County uses the National Incident Management System, California's Standardized Emergency Management System, and the Incident Command System, to be consistent with the National Response Framework concepts to provide for direction, control, and coordination amongst response elements.



#### **4.6.1 National Incident Management System**

The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, illustrated the need for all levels of government, the private sector, and nongovernmental agencies to prepare for, protect against, respond to, and recover from a wide spectrum of events that exceed the capabilities of any single entity. These events require a unified and coordinated national approach to planning and to domestic incident management. To address this need, the President signed a series of Homeland Security Presidential Directives (HSPDs) that were intended to develop a common approach to disaster preparedness and response. Two Policy Directives that are of particular importance to emergency planners:

- **HSPD-5, Management of Domestic Incidents:** Identifies steps for improved coordination in response to incidents. It requires the Department of Homeland Security to coordinate with other federal departments and/or agencies and state, local, and tribal governments to establish a National Response Framework and a National Incident Management System.
- **PPD-8, National Preparedness:** Describes the way federal departments and agencies will prepare. It requires DHS to coordinate with other federal departments and agencies – and with state, local, and tribal governments to develop a National Preparedness Goal.

The National Incident Management System (NIMS) is a structure for the management of large-scale or multi-jurisdictional incidents. NIMS enables responders at all levels to work together more effectively and efficiently to manage domestic incidents no matter what the cause, size, or complexity, including catastrophic acts of terrorism and disasters. NIMS is the national standard for the effective management and coordination of disaster response and recovery activities and all incidents and disasters within the County will be managed consistent with the principles of NIMS.

Fresno County adopted NIMS on December 10, 2013, to facilitate better coordination with internal and external organizations, and to meet important federal grant program requirements.

#### **4.6.2 Standardized Emergency Management System**

The Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) is the cornerstone of California's emergency response system. SEMS is the fundamental structure for incident response in the State of California and is required by the California Emergency Services Act (ESA). The System unifies all elements of California's emergency management community into a single, integrated system and standardizes key elements. SEMS incorporates the use of the Incident Command System (ICS), California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement (MMAA), the Operational Area (OA) concept, and multi-agency or interagency coordination. State agencies



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are required to use SEMS and local government entities must use SEMS to be eligible for any reimbursement of response-related costs under the state's disaster assistance programs.

Established after the 1991 Oakland Hills firestorm, SEMS was created to provide effective management of multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional emergencies in California. By standardizing key elements of the emergency management system, SEMS is intended to:

- Facilitate the flow of information within and between levels of the system, and
- Facilitate coordination among all responding agencies.

The use of SEMS improves the mobilization, deployment, utilization, tracking and demobilization of needed mutual aid resources and reduces the incidence of poor coordination and communications and duplication of effort. SEMS is designed to be flexible and adaptable to the varied disasters that occur in California and to the needs of all emergency responders.

### 4.6.2.1 SEMS Organizational Levels

SEMS consists of five organizational levels, which are activated as necessary:

- **Field Response** – The Field Level is where emergency response personnel and resources, under the command of responsible officials, carry out tactical decisions and activities in direct response to an incident or threat.
- **Local Government** – The Local Government Level includes cities, counties, and special districts. Local governments manage and coordinate the overall emergency response and recovery activities within their jurisdiction. Local governments are required to use SEMS when their Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is activated, or a local emergency is declared or proclaimed in order to be eligible for state reimbursement of response-related costs.
- **Operational Area** – An Operational Area (OA) is the intermediate level of the state's emergency management organization, which encompasses a county's boundaries, and all political subdivisions located within that county, including special districts. The OA facilitates and / or coordinates information, resources, and decisions regarding priorities among local governments within the OA. The OA serves as the coordination and communication link between the Local Government Level and Regional Level. State and federal jurisdictions in the OA may have statutory authorities for response similar to that at the local level.
- **Region** – The Regional Level manages and coordinates information and resources among OAs within the mutual aid region and also between the OA and the State Level. The Regional Level also coordinates overall state agency support for emergency response activities within the region.



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- **State** – The State Level of SEMS prioritizes tasks and coordinates state resources in response to the requests from the Regional Level and coordinates mutual aid among the mutual aid regions and between the Regional Level and State Level. The State Level also serves as the coordination and communication link between the state and the federal emergency response system. The State Level requests assistance from other state governments through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) and similar interstate compacts / agreements and coordinates with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) when federal assistance is requested. The State Level operates out of the State Operations Center (SOC).

On November 14, 1995, the Fresno County Board of Supervisors adopted the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), designated the geographic area of Fresno County as the Fresno County Operational Area, and designated Fresno County as the Operational Area Lead Agency. The Fresno County Operational Area is comprised of all local government agencies within Fresno County boundaries, and includes Fresno County Departments, incorporated cities, school districts, and special districts, 63 of which have elected to join the operational area. Operational area members have adopted the Resolution to participate in the Fresno County Operational Area and the County-wide Standardized Emergency Management System which stipulates that:

- The Fresno County Operational Area and its members will comply and operate in accordance with SEMS regulations as set forth in the California Emergency Services Act.
- The Fresno County Operational Area and its members, in accordance with SEMS regulations, will perform functions for the county and other governmental entities within the operational area to strengthen mutual aid coordination, provide a focal point and conduit for disaster information, and coordinate the efficient management of resources.
- The Fresno County Operational Area and its members will utilize SEMS Components and concepts, including the Incident Command System, to manage multi-agency or multi-jurisdictional incidents and resources.

### 4.6.2.2 SEMS Functions

SEMS requires that every emergency response involving multiple jurisdictions or multiple agencies include the five functions of Command and Management, Operations, Logistics, Planning and Intelligence, and Finance and Administration. These functions can be applied at each level of the SEMS organization.



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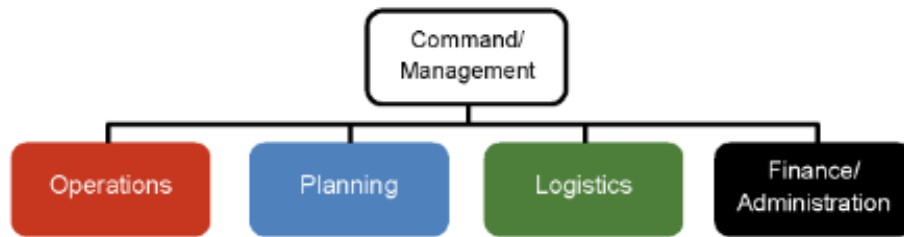


Figure 3 – SEMS Functions

- **Command** – A key concept in all emergency planning is to establish command and tactical control at the lowest level that can perform that role effectively in the organization. In the Incident Command System (ICS), the Incident Commander (IC), with appropriate policy direction and authority from the responding agency, sets the objectives to be accomplished and approves the strategy and tactics to be used to meet those objectives. The IC must respond to higher authority. Depending upon the incident's size and scope, the higher authority could be the next ranking level in the organization up to the agency or department executive. This relationship provides an operational link with policy executives who customarily reside in the Department Operations Center (DOC) or EOC, when activated.
- **Management** – The EOC serves as a central location from which multiple agencies or organizations coordinate information collection and evaluation, priority setting and resource management. Within the EOC, the Management function:
  - Facilitates multiagency coordination and executive decision making in support of the incident response
  - Implements the policies established by the governing bodies; and
  - Facilitates the activities of the Multiagency Coordination (MAC) Group
- **Operations:** Responsible for coordinating and supporting all jurisdictional operations supporting the response to the emergency through implementation of the organizational level's Action Plans. At the Field Level, the Operational Section is responsible for coordinating the tactical response directly applicable to, or in support of the objectives in accordance with the Incident Action Plan. In the Emergency Operations Center, the Operations Section Coordinator / Chief manages functional representatives who share information and decisions about discipline-specific operations.
- **Logistics:** Responsible for providing facilities, services, personnel, equipment, and materials in support of the emergency. Unified ordering takes place through the Logistics Section to ensure controls and accountability over resource requests. As needed, Unit Coordinators are appointed to address the needs for communications, food, medical, supplies, facilities, and ground support.



- **Planning / Intelligence:** Responsible for the collection, evaluation and dissemination of operational information related to the incident for the preparation and documentation of the Incident Action Plan at the Field Level or the EOC Action Plan at an Emergency Operations Center. Planning / Intelligence also maintains information on the current and forecasted situation and on the status of resources assigned to the emergency or the Emergency Operations Center. As needed, Unit Coordinators are appointed to collect and analyze data, prepare situation reports, develop action plans, set Geographic Information Systems priorities, compile, and maintain documentation, conduct advance planning, manage technical specialists, and coordinate demobilization.
- **Finance / Administration:** Responsible for all financial and cost analysis aspects of the emergency and for any administrative aspects not handled by the other functions. As needed, Unit Leaders are appointed to record time for incidents or Emergency Operations Center personnel, coordinate procurement activities, process claims and track costs.

#### **4.6.3 Incident Command System**

The Incident Command System (ICS), a component of both NIMS and SEMS, has the flexibility to be utilized for all phases of a disaster. ICS is a concept for organizing activities both at the field-level and within the EOC and is based on the application of administrative command and control principles (i.e., command, operations, planning, logistics, finance and administration) to matters demanding urgent, closely collaborative action across organizational boundaries. Emergency responders using ICS utilize a common organization and employ common terminology to describe their positions and equipment in order to organize multi-agency and multi-disciplinary resources, assign tasks and functional responsibilities, provide the coordinating structures for unified decision making, and setting incident response priorities.

#### **4.6.4 Emergency Operations Center – Incident Command Post Interface**

Field-level command and control of the incident response does not typically occur at the EOC. The Incident Commander in the field has tactical and operational control of on-scene response resources, is responsible for expanding and contracting the organizational structure as needed and provides direction to field-level responders to accomplish operational objectives. The EOC supports field-level operations by sharing information, coordinating resources, issuing formal proclamations of emergency, and determining jurisdiction-wide priorities.

#### **4.6.5 Coordination with Other Levels of Government**

The county has identified the jurisdictions, special districts, private non-profit (PNP) organizations, and volunteer agencies within the geographical boundaries of the county that



may have an emergency response role during an emergency or disaster. Their emergency roles have been identified and provisions for coordination with each of them made. Procedures that address coordination activities among all emergency response roles including higher, lateral, and subordinate roles can be found at the primary and alternate EOC facilities.

#### **4.6.6 Coordination with the State of California**

The County EOC typically coordinates with the State of California through their assigned Cal OES Emergency Services Coordinator or between the Regional Mutual Aid Coordinators and the OA Mutual Aid Coordinators when appropriate. Coordination with the State typically occurs through the Cal OES Region's Duty Officer by way of the State Warning Center.

### **4.7 Communications**

The Fresno County Internal Services Department (ISD) holds the primary responsibility for establishing a coordinated communication framework within the county, both in preparation for, during, and after emergencies or disasters. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) serves as the central hub for facilitating coordinated communication and response efforts across multiple agencies and jurisdictions during a disaster.

In this capacity, the County EOC acts as the designated point of contact connecting various entities within the county, the broader Operational Area, the State of California, and the Federal Government.

#### **4.7.1 Communications Systems**

The County utilizes various redundant communications systems, specific to public safety and emergency operations, which include both county-owned and commercially leased / contracted systems. Communications systems include:

- **Everbridge®** – The primary mass notification system used for distributing targeted emergency alerts and warnings.
- **WebEOC** – A web-enabled crisis information management system that provides real-time information sharing to support communications and situational awareness in the EOC.
- **FirstNet** – A highly secure and prioritized public safety network access that ensures a dedicated line of connectivity for first responders when needed in urban or rural environments.
- **Amateur Radio** – A Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES). Once the county sends out an alert, the community radio operators immediately re-broadcast to other radio users.



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- **Traditional Communications Systems** – These systems include telephone, fax, email, etc.
- **Social Media** – Facebook, Twitter/X, Instagram, Next Door, YouTube, etc.

For more information on the public information strategies of the County, refer to the *Fresno County Emergency Public Information and Outreach Plan*.

### 4.8 Information Collection, Analysis, and Dissemination

Successful emergency and disaster management requires around-the-clock awareness of emergency conditions, the ability to quickly communicate emergency information to key individuals and organizations, and the capability to respond. Fresno County has designated the Sheriff's Dispatch Center as such a location to operate continually (24 hours per day / 7 days per week / 365 days per year) to monitor potential threats and hazards that may require activation of this Plan.

#### 4.8.1 Before an Incident

Monitoring potential threats and hazards is a collaborative effort across local, state, and federal entities before an incident ever occurs. Sources for monitoring threats and hazards may include the National Weather Service alerts, National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) alerts, California State Warning Center reports, State Threat Assessment System (STAS) reports, Fire Hazard Severity Zone maps, reservoir, and river level monitoring data, and various local, regional or state information sharing networks. This information can be used to make time-sensitive decisions such as activating the EOC, preparing emergency management and response personnel, ordering evacuations, and providing timely alerts and warnings to County residents.

#### 4.8.2 During an Incident

During an incident, information is collected within the EOC from a variety of sources such as first response agencies in the field, the media, social media, private entities, other operational areas, and many others. To ensure effective intelligence flow, emergency response agencies at all levels must establish communications systems and protocols to organize, integrate, and coordinate intelligence among the affected agencies. Fresno County uses the Joint Information System (JIS) concept to provide the structure and systems for coordinating, developing, and delivering interagency messages, developing, recommending, and executing public information plans and strategies on behalf of the Incident Commander or EOC Director, advising the Incident Commander or EOC Director concerning public affairs issues, and controlling rumors and inaccurate information.

All incident information and documentation will be provided to the Situation Unit in the Planning Section of the EOC for inclusion into situation reports and EOC Action Plans.



### **4.8.3 After an Incident**

Information collected throughout the incident will be documented by the EOC and may be used to support disaster recovery activities. Incident information may also be used for developing after-action reports to document effective response actions and areas for emergency preparedness program enhancements.

## **4.9 Emergency Public Information**

The Fresno County government has the primary responsibility to provide accurate and timely information to the public regarding conditions, threats, and protective measures. Emergency public information to both the public and the media will only be provided through the Public Information Officer (PIO) or the Joint Information Center (JIC) within the EOC, unless the EOC is not yet activated, in which instance the Director of Emergency Services will approve the release of public information based on the facts of the incident. The Director of Emergency Services may elect to delegate this authority to the County Emergency Manager. All other individuals working at either the field response level or the EOC will refer inquiries from the media or public to the Public Information Officer or JIC. Information may not be released without the consent of the Director of Emergency Services or County Emergency Manager.

For additional information regarding the Emergency Public Information strategies and procedures for the County, refer to the *Fresno County Emergency Public Information and Outreach Plan*.

### **4.9.1 Public Alert and Warning**

The Fresno County Sheriff's Department is the designated authority within the County, to send official alert and warning messages to the public when there is an impending natural or human-made disaster, threat, or dangerous or missing person. The alert and warning function will be coordinated with the County PIO, the public safety dispatch center and disseminated through all available alert and warning mechanisms. The Fresno County Office of Emergency Services, Fresno County Sheriff's Department, or the activated Fresno County Operational Area EOC staff will, after evaluation of a warning or alert, notify appropriate agencies, the media, and the public.

The primary system for distributing alert and warning messages to the public is Everbridge. Everbridge is an opt-in, targeted mass notification system that is primarily used by the Sheriff's Department for the public alert and warning function. Everbridge provides for delivery of messages to access and functional needs recipients, including support for TTY/TDD devices. The county may also utilize Facebook, Twitter (X), Instagram, YouTube, Next Door, and the Ring Neighborhood App to disseminate emergency public information and messages.



Other methods of notification may include any of the following:

- Emergency Alerting System (EAS) / Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA)
- Cellular phone, text messages
- Media releases or social media
- Telephone (voice or fax)
- Email
- Assistive technologies (TTY/TDD)
- Interpreters / translators
- Satellite information system
- Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES)
- Direct in-person notifications (door-to-door).

Emergency messages (i.e., warnings of emergent threats that calls for immediate action) are issued in English and Spanish. In addition, emergency public information is provided in multiple languages such as English, Spanish, Hmong, and Punjabi. The County also has the capability to translate public information and education materials in additional languages as necessary.

In addition, providing effective communication to persons with disabilities and others with access and functional needs is essential during emergencies. Evacuation warnings, orders, and emergency public information messages will be disseminated using available assistive technologies (e.g., TTY/TDD), interpreters (including American Sign Language), translators, and direct (i.e., in-person) methods, as needed. ASL interpretation should ideally be provided in any crisis or emergency communications that is televised (e.g., TV news media, Zoom, livestream on social media). However, if ASL interpretation is not available, closed captioning options are available on YouTube and TV stations and will be used when providing televised public address.

#### **4.9.2 Alert & Warning Evacuation Terminology**

On May 15, 2020, California adopted common, statewide evacuation terminology, specifically for wildfire evacuations, but applicable for all situations where an evacuation may be necessary. The County of Fresno has reviewed the following terms from the State's Alert and Warning guidance and has adopted these terms in their plans and emergency communications:

- **Evacuation Order:** Immediate threat to life. This is a lawful order to leave now. The area is lawfully closed to public access.
- **Evacuation Warning:** Potential threat to life and/or property. Those who require additional time to evacuate, and those with pets and livestock should leave now.
- **Shelter-in-Place:** Go indoors, shut and lock doors and windows. Prepare to self-sustain until further notice and/or contacted by emergency personnel for additional direction.



- **Evacuation Order(s) Lifted:** The formal announcement of lifting evacuations in an area currently under evacuation.
- **Hard Closure:** Closed to all traffic except Fire and Law Enforcement.
- **Soft Closure:** Closed to all traffic except Fire, Law Enforcement, and Critical Incident resources (i.e., utilities, departments of transportation, etc. or those needed to repair or restore infrastructure).
- **Resident only Closure:** Soft closure with the additional allowance of residents and local government agencies assisting with response and recovery.

## 4.10 Evacuation and Movement

The Fresno County Sheriff-Coroner holds the authority to issue evacuation orders within the county's borders, considering various factors, including potential risks, legal considerations, timing, and the feasibility of safe evacuation. Evacuation orders result from a collective decision-making process involving key county leaders, including the Director of Emergency Services, Sheriff-Coroner, legal advisors, and relevant agency representatives. The Sheriff's Department is responsible for coordinating the evacuation of both the public and animals/livestock from hazardous areas during emergencies or disasters.

### 4.10.1 Transportation

Transportation resources used during an evacuation will be compliant with the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act for those individuals' dependent on public transportation. Examples of transportation resources may include buses, cars, medical transport vehicles, and vehicles designed to transport persons with disabilities.

The County maintains a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City of Fresno transportation services for the use of buses to support mass evacuation. This MOU primarily supports transportation from impacted areas to emergency shelters or evacuee assembly points. The assumption for rural areas is that the local schools or public/private transportation providers may be able to provide transportation resources for an evacuation, but no formal or written agreements exists with the county. Transportation of evacuated persons and animals from shelters to other locations would need to be provided by regular private or public transportation systems and should be coordinated by private citizens. Persons needing assistance with transportation from a shelter to another location would be referred to available transportation assistance resources through the local assistance center.



#### **4.10.2 Evacuation of Household Pets and Large Animals**

Animals, such as service and assistance animals, household pets, working dogs, agricultural animals/livestock, wildlife, exotic animals, zoo animals, research animals, and animals housed in shelters, rescue organizations, breeding facilities, and sanctuaries, may need evacuation support. Evacuation and transportation include the removal of animals in preparation for a disaster, or in response to a disaster-affected area. Service animals will typically evacuate with their owners as part of either the general or patient population (if in a healthcare facility setting) and remain with their owners throughout the process. Animals evacuating with their owners will likely be transported in personal vehicles, or by public or private transit vehicles, and brought to a shelter location.

The shelter-in-place of animal evacuees depends on the incident, hazard, or threat and the safety of sheltering in place versus evacuating. In some instances, it may be necessary for large animals such as livestock to shelter-in-place rather than evacuate. The Fresno County Agricultural Commissioner manages the county's *AG ID Program* that allows Agricultural Producers, approved managerial employees, and other approved agents, entry to and within evacuation zones or other restricted areas during a natural disaster. Verified Agricultural Producers are allowed entrance into evacuation zones or other restricted areas to provide feed, water, medical treatment, and other care to large scale commercial livestock at the sole discretion of law enforcement, fire personnel, or other emergency personnel.

#### **4.10.3 Re-entry**

Re-entry after an evacuation order refers to the process of allowing evacuated individuals or residents to return to their homes, businesses, or affected areas once it has been deemed safe by the relevant authorities. Re-entry protocols are often put in place to ensure the safety and orderly return of evacuees, which may include safety assessments of structures, confirming the absence of hazardous conditions, and the restoration of essential services such as electricity, water, and transportation. The specific procedures and criteria for re-entry will vary depending on the nature of the emergency and the guidance provided by local authorities.

### **4.11 Care and Shelter**

The Fresno County Department of Social Services (DSS) is the designated agency within Fresno County to organize and coordinate mass care, emergency assistance, temporary housing, and human services-related support and assistance to county residents before, during, and after an emergency. The American Red Cross (ARC) of Central California provides shelter management support for local area shelters. All shelters operated within the county under ARC supervision are considered ARC Shelters. County staff may assist the ARC with shelter management



activities by providing social services, nursing, mental, and medical/public health services at local shelters.

#### **4.11.1 Shelter Facilities**

The County of Fresno and ARC representatives have identified, assessed, and inventoried primary shelter facilities within the county to verify that they are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)<sup>13</sup>. If a primary shelter facility is not available, the County and the ARC will ensure that any alternate shelter facilities will also be compliant with ADA requirements. Alternate shelter facilities may be modified as needed to meet ADA requirements (i.e., showers and bathrooms must be accessible). Portable showers, bathrooms, and hand wash stations that meet ADA requirements will be provided, only if modifications are not feasible.

Fresno County has historically utilized and continues to use public junior high (intermediate) schools and high school facilities throughout the County as the primary resource for public shelters during disasters. The State of California Education Code § 32282<sup>14</sup> requires school districts to establish a procedure to allow the use of school buildings, grounds, and equipment to public agencies, including the American Red Cross, for mass care and welfare shelters during disasters. Public-school administrators and staff within Fresno County have historically worked quickly, efficiently, and cooperatively in past disasters to provide shelter facilities to the affected populations. High school and junior high school facilities will be utilized as disaster shelters in limited disaster events when relatively small populations are evacuated as these facilities are located in the vicinity of the affected disaster area.

The Fresno County OES maintains a listing, separate from this plan, of all facilities that have been assessed as a potential emergency shelter within the county.

#### **4.11.2 Access and Functional Needs Assessments**

Each shelter client will be evaluated by ARC shelter staff and/or staff from the County Department of Social Services (DSS) to determine if individuals have any access and/or functional needs or concerns within the shelter environment. Any resources that are needed will be obtained by the County or requested from local agencies that can provide the needed resources. The DSS will utilize personnel who have received Functional Assessment Service Team (FAST) training to assist with assessing the needs of the sheltered population.

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<sup>13</sup> Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq. (1990).

<sup>14</sup> CA Education Code Article 5. School Safety Plans, § 32282 (2)(B)(ii)



### **4.11.3      Sheltering Household Pets and Large Animals**

The Fresno County Animal Services Agency is the primary agency responsible for coordinating the care and sheltering of pets and large animals during an emergency that requires the opening of human and animal shelters. Care and sheltering includes the short- and long-term care of companion animals, large animals, and equine. The Agricultural Commissioner provides technical expertise and support for large animal and equine care and sheltering operations.

Animal shelters will be established in a safe location, away from the threat and will be located as close as possible to human shelters or co-located to facilitate interaction. Support from local partner agencies and non-profit volunteer groups are essential to animal sheltering operations. Sheltering operations will be conducted in coordination with the ARC and the Care and Shelter Branch within the county EOC.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, service animals are permitted to accompany their owner into an emergency shelter as separation from service animals may jeopardize the health, safety, and independence of evacuees with an access or functional need. Service animals will be permitted to accompany their owners while staying in human emergency shelter facilities. The county ensures that human and animal shelter facilities are clearly identified and advertised as such in public information messages.

For additional information regarding the county's Mass Care and Shelter strategies and procedures, refer to the *Fresno County Mass Care and Shelter Plan*.



## Section 5 – EOC Concept of Operations

### 5.1 Emergency Operations Center Purpose

The purpose of the Fresno County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is to provide a centralized location where executive county leadership, public safety, emergency response, and support agencies coordinate emergency planning, preparedness, response, and recovery activities. Typically, the EOC does not provide command and control of field-level incident response activities but rather provides support to coordinate information and resources that are necessary for response and recovery. The EOC provides a location where a unified, multiagency team can support department operations, integrate executive management and multi-agency decision making, and allows Fresno County to operate as a cohesive response organization during an emergency.

The County EOC is also the Operational Area EOC that provides for coordination and communications between the Fresno County Operational Area Member Jurisdictions, Department Operations Centers (DOCs), and the Inland Region of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). The responsibilities for the Fresno County Operational Area EOC and Fresno County Operational Area have been incorporated into this master plan.

### 5.2 EOC Locations

The County of Fresno has designated both a primary and alternate EOC facility to ensure the continuous delivery of essential emergency management services during events that disrupt normal local government operations.

- **Primary EOC Location**  
Internal Services Department Bldg. #6, Fresno County Clovis Campus
- **Alternate EOC Location**  
Fresno County EMS Education Center



### 5.2.1 Virtual EOC Operations

The County of Fresno maintains the capability to coordinate emergency operations utilizing a virtual EOC environment. The virtual EOC is designed to facilitate real-time information sharing with relevant agencies, departments, and partners allowing for continuous collaboration, situational awareness, and rapid decision-making during emergencies and recovery operations.

## 5.3 EOC Organization

The County EOC will operate using the functions, principles, and components of the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS). The SEMS requires local governments to provide the five coordinating functions of Management, Operations, Planning/Intelligence, Logistics, and Finance/Administration within emergency operations. The Fresno County OES is responsible for ensuring the readiness of the EOC.

The Fresno County Operational Area Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will initially be opened and operated by Fresno County OES staff. Depending on the type and size of the event, additional county staff from appropriate departments and representatives of other agencies and organizations will be tasked to report and staff the EOC. The County Emergency Manager or his/her designee will serve as the EOC Manager.

SEMS Function	Role of Local Government EOC
Management	Management personnel are responsible for policy, public information, safety, and legal and liaison activities. Management also establishes overall response priorities, approves the action plan, and directs the work of other functions.
Operations	Operations personnel provide support and coordination to local government's emergency response and coordinate countywide operations activities through the implementation of the Fresno County Operational Area Master Emergency Services Plan. Operations provide EOC response objectives consistent with management priorities.
Planning / Intelligence	Planning / Intelligence personnel collect, analyze, report, and retain emergency response information. The function also facilitates EOC action planning.
Logistics	Logistics personnel provide facilities, people, equipment, supplies, technology, and other support for EOC activities. Logistics may also be involved to support mutual aid requests.
Finance / Administration	Finance / Administration personnel manage contracts, accounting, and other associated activities in support of the EOC and cost recovery.

**Table 9 – SEMS Functions in the Local Government EOC**



### **5.3.1 Management Advisory / Policy Group**

The role of the Management Advisory Group is to assess the emergency and provide assistance in the development of EOC policy decisions. Members of this group include:

- County Administrative Officer (Director of Emergency Services)
- Director of Public Health (Assistant Director of Emergency Services)
- Sheriff-Coroner
- Chief, Fresno County Fire Protection District
- Director of Internal Services
- Director of Public Works and Planning
- Agricultural Commissioner

### **5.3.2 Management Section**

The Fresno County Emergency Services Director, as the lead administrator of the operational area, will be responsible for overall emergency policy and coordination, and will work in conjunction with governmental agencies and private organizations.

The EOC Director may establish public information and liaison functions as the circumstances of the emergency warrant. Potential liaison positions, within the management section of the EOC, may include representatives from local governments, safety/risk management, school districts, volunteer, and private agencies. State and federal agencies that may be asked to provide liaison representatives in the EOC could include the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, the California Highway Patrol (CHP), the California Department of Forestry (CDF), The California Department of Water Resources, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Should a public information function be established, the Fresno County Public Information Officer (PIO) will act as the Public Information Coordinator for the Operational Area EOC.

### **5.3.3 Operations Section**

The Emergency Services Division Manager will act as the Operations Section Chief for the Operational Area EOC and will be responsible for coordinating support to local government's emergency response, coordinating inter-jurisdictional responses, and coordinating countywide operations activities through the implementation of this plan, the Fresno County Operational Area Master Emergency Services Plan.

### **5.3.4 Planning and Intelligence Section**

A representative from the Fresno County OES will act as the Planning/Intelligence Section Chief for the Operational Area EOC, and will be responsible for gathering, evaluating, and exchanging



disaster information. In addition, the Chief will be responsible for developing the operational area incident action plan in coordination with other EOC functions and maintaining documentation and preparing recovery planning.

### **5.3.5 Logistics Section**

A representative from the Fresno County Internal Services Department will act as the Logistics Section Chief for the Operational Area EOC, and will be responsible for providing facilities, services, personnel, equipment, and materials to support the emergency response.

### **5.3.6 Finance and Administration Section**

A representative from the Fresno County OES will act as the Administration/Finance Section Chief for the Operational Area EOC and will be responsible for all financial and cost analysis aspects of the disaster, including reimbursement coordination.

## **5.4 Emergency Operations Center Activation**

The County EOC may be activated as needed to support emergency operations. Specifically, the County EOC may be activated when:

- A local government within the operational area has activated its EOC and requested activation of the operational area EOC to support their emergency operations.
- Two or more cities within the operational area have proclaimed a local emergency.
- The county and one or more cities have proclaimed a local emergency.
- A city, city and county, or county has requested a governor's proclamation of a state of emergency, as defined in Government Code 8558(b).
- A state of emergency is proclaimed by the governor for the county or two or more cities within the operational area.
- The operational area is requesting resources from outside its boundaries, except those resources used in normal day-to-day operations which are obtained through existing agreements providing for the exchange or furnishing of certain types of facilities and services on a reimbursable, exchange, or other basis as provided for under the Master Mutual Aid Agreement.
- The operational area has received resource requests from outside its boundaries, except those resources used in normal day-to-day operations which are obtained through existing agreements providing for the exchange or furnishing of certain types of facilities and services on a reimbursable, exchange, or other basis as provided for under the Master Mutual Aid Agreement.



### 5.4.1 EOC Activation Authority

The County EOC may be activated by the following authorities:

- The CAO/ Director of Emergency Services
- The Public Health Director / Assistant Director of Emergency Services
- The County Emergency Manager

### 5.4.2 EOC Managing Policy

Field-level command and control of incident response does not typically occur at the EOC. However, the EOC plays a critical role in managing emergencies and disasters. Sharing information, coordinating resources, issuing formal proclamations of emergency, and determining jurisdiction-wide priorities are all activities within the purview of the EOC.

### 5.4.3 EOC Activation Levels

The County has developed criteria that identify the events/situations that would require EOC activation. For each level, a minimum staffing guide has been developed, however, the activity and staffing level of the EOC is scalable, depending on the need of the incident or event.

Activation Level	Description	Conditions	Minimum Staffing
<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level One</b> activation involves a complete and full activation of all organizational elements at full staffing and all Emergency Support Functions.	Catastrophic or Major disaster which requires comprehensive state-level response and/or assistance or requires the response from multiple county departments and jurisdictional representatives.	All ICS positions are filled (typically 11 or more people). Alternate EOC teams may be assembled to relieve one another during 24-hour, multi-day activations.
<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level Two</b> is a partial activation when an emergency or disaster is imminent or otherwise less than severe or catastrophic.	Level Two activation is used for emergencies or planned events that would require more than a minimum staff but would not call for a full activation of all EOC organization elements, or less than full staffing (e.g. localized flooding).	This level of activation typically involves assignment of approximately 2-10 Individuals in ICS Command and General Section staff positions (i.e., EOC Director, PIO, Liaison Officer, Planning Section Chief, Operations Section Chief, Logistics Section Chief, Finance/Admin Section Chief).



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Activation Level	Description	Conditions	Minimum Staffing
Level 3	<b>Level Three</b> is a minimum activation. This level may be used for monitoring a low risk or planned event. The physical EOC facility may or may not need to be opened or staffed.	Small to moderate event (e.g., windstorm) / pre-planned event (e.g., festival or sporting event).	At this level of activation, only one or two individuals are typically activated as EOC staff (i.e., EOC Director, NWS liaison, city liaison, Planning Section Chief).
Duty Officer	Monitoring / Normal Conditions	Normal Steady-State Operations	Duty Officer Only

Table 10 – Fresno County EOC Activation and Staffing Levels

### 5.5 EOC Action Planning

The use of Emergency Action Planning within the County EOC ensures a clear and measurable process for establishing priorities and identifying incident support objectives. The EOC Action Plan identifies the operational period objectives and provides essential information regarding the incident organization, resource allocation, work assignments, safety, and situation. A well-conceived, complete EOC Action Plan facilitates successful incident operations and provides a basis for evaluating performance in achieving incident objectives. The EOC Action Plan is also a useful tool for documenting incident response activities.

The EOC Planning Section is responsible for facilitating the action planning process, meetings, and completing and distributing the action plan. The action planning process should involve the EOC Director and Section Chiefs (which includes the Chiefs of each Section), along with other EOC staff, as needed, such as special districts, and agency representatives.

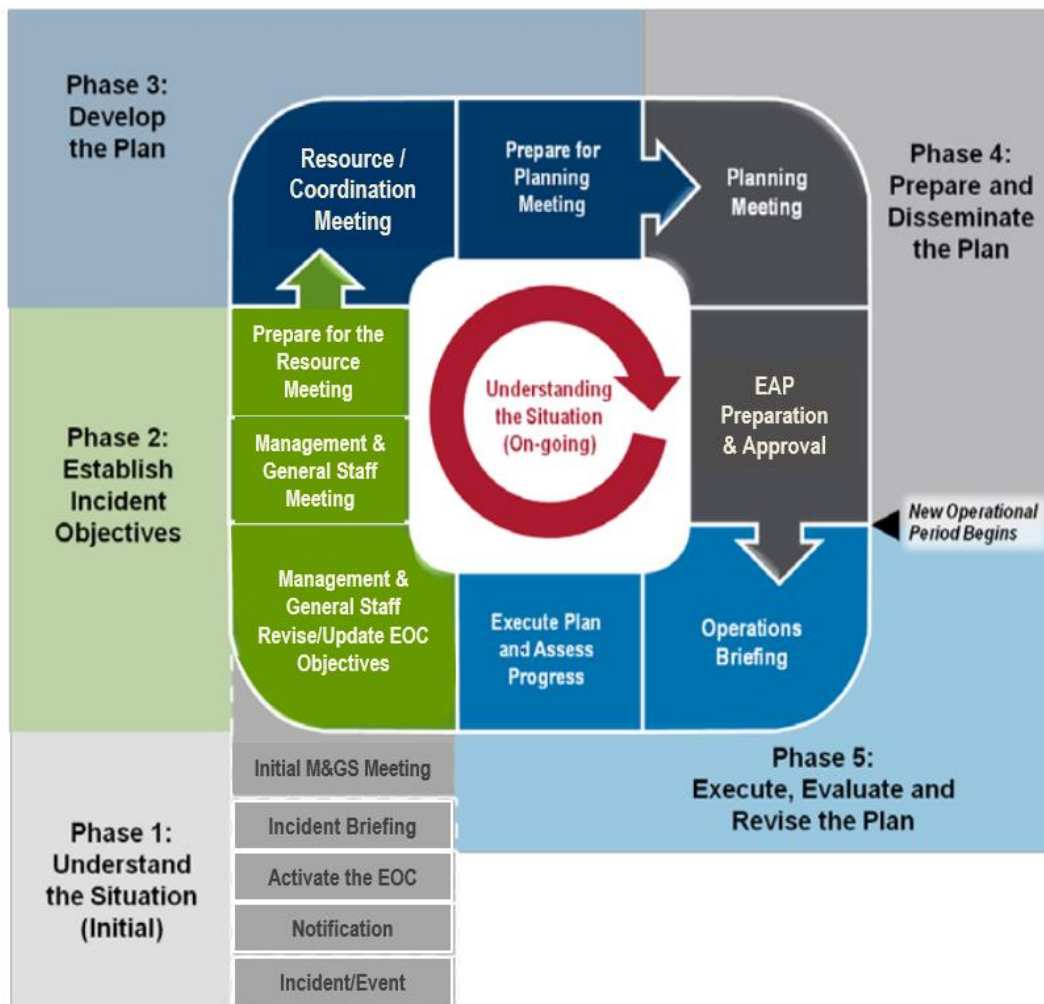
Generally, the EOC first establishes priorities and objectives during an action planning process. Typically, EOC priorities are established to protect:

1. Life
2. Health and Safety
3. Property
4. The Environment
5. The Local Economy

The action planning process culminates in an EOC Incident Action Plan (IAP) for each operational period. The process follows NIMS and is often described as the “Planning P” as shown in **Figure 4** on the next page.



## FRESNO COUNTY OPERATIONAL AREA MASTER EMERGENCY SERVICES PLAN



**Figure 4 – EOC Action Planning Process**

The EOC Action Planning Process is built on the following five phases:

1. Understand the situation
2. Establish EOC objectives (in support of the incident)
3. Develop the plan
4. Prepare and disseminate the plan
5. Execute, evaluate, and revise the plan



## **5.6 Information Management**

Collecting accurate, timely information from responders is necessary for the EOC to meet response agency requirements for support. Sharing this information with other agencies, especially those able to provide resources to support an emergency, is essential to maintaining situational awareness and obtaining additional help. Continuously collecting, confirming, and sharing intelligence is vital to the safety, efficiency, and overall effectiveness of response activities. A Public Information Officer is assigned to the EOC to develop and coordinate information sharing with the media and, ultimately, the public.

The EOC also uses traditional paper message forms (i.e., ICS 213) and technologies including email, file sharing, and Web EOC to share critical information about an incident. WebEOC is a web-based crisis management system designed to facilitate communication, coordination, and information sharing during emergencies or disasters and is the primary method for managing incident information.

## **5.7 EOC Deactivation**

The Fresno County Emergency Manager, or other designated staff, will conduct ongoing assessments of disaster response and coordination efforts, as well as the ongoing process of restoring the community to its pre-disaster conditions. Throughout this process, the EOC staff will keep the Emergency Services Director and Assistant Director of Emergency Services informed about the progress of mitigation and recovery activities.

The Emergency Services Director or Assistant Director will collaborate with the Emergency Manager to determine the appropriate timing for deactivating the EOC. County departments that have specific recovery responsibilities will continue their activities as needed until they are completed or until the Emergency Services Director makes a determination that they are no longer needed.



## **Section 6 – Continuity of Government**

### **6.1 Continuity of Government Planning Overview**

Government at all levels is responsible for providing continuity of effective leadership and authority, direction of emergency operations, and management of recovery operations. To this end, it is essential that the County of Fresno and all local governments within the County continue to function as government entities directed by their respective governing bodies. Continuity of Government (COG) is a result of a strategic planning effort to ensure that the County has sufficient resources and planning alternatives to continue its mission essential functions should facilities and personnel be affected during disruptions.

#### **6.1.1 Continuity of Operations**

County government is responsible for providing essential functions and services, such as public safety, public health, public works, and for protecting its residents, staff, visitors, and businesses, even during emergencies and other disruptions. Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP) ensures the county organization and individual departments can continue to perform essential functions, provide essential services, and deliver core capabilities during a disruption to routine operations.

The Fresno County Office of Emergency Services (OES) works closely with the Fresno County government officials, departments, and agencies throughout the OA to provide citizens and visitors with essential functions and services upon which they rely.

For more information on Essential Services and Functions of each county department, please refer to **Attachment D** Fresno County Essential Functions and Services.

### **6.2 Preservation of Local Governing Body**

The California Government Code and the Constitution of California provide the authority for state and local government to reconstitute itself in the event incumbents are unable to serve. To provide continuity for the legislative and executive departments of a political subdivision during a state of war emergency, a state of emergency, or a local emergency the local governing body has the power to appoint the following standby officers:

- Three for each member of the governing body.
- Three for the chief executive, if they are not a member of the governing body.



In case a standby office becomes vacant because of removal, death, resignation, or other cause, the governing body has the power to appoint another person to fill said office<sup>15</sup>.

### 6.3 Alternate Seat of Government

An Alternate Seat of Government may be necessary during a state of war emergency, a state of emergency, or when a local emergency exists. The County Board of Supervisors will meet as soon as possible at a predetermined place of meeting. The place of meeting for the governing body need not be within the political subdivision. The primary County Seat is located in the City of Fresno. The County of Fresno has selected the following location(s) that may serve as an Alternate Seat of Government:

- County Plaza Building located at 2220 Tulare Street, Fresno CA 93721

If necessary, the Fresno County Board of Supervisors may also conduct virtual meetings.

### 6.4 Succession of County Leadership

Orders of Succession provide for the orderly and predefined assumption of senior leaders during an emergency in the event that any leaders are unavailable, debilitated, or incapable performing their legally authorized duties, roles, and responsibilities. The county of Fresno has established the order of succession for key leadership roles see **Attachment B** of this plan.

### 6.5 Vital Records

A vital record is the recorded information that is essential for the continuation or reconstruction of an agency or government. Each agency or department within the Fresno County Operational Area should analyze its own operations and records to determine which records are vital to preserve and maintain government operations. Vital records are defined as those records that are essential to:

- Protect and preserve the rights and interests of individuals, governments, corporations, and other entities. Examples include vital statistics, land and tax records.
- Conduct emergency response and recovery operations. Records of this type include utility system maps, locations of emergency supplies and equipment, emergency management plans, personnel rosters, computer records, etc.
- Re-establish normal governmental functions and protect the rights, decisions, findings, ordinances, regulations, legal records, official proceedings, financial records, and interests of government.

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<sup>15</sup> Ca. Gov. Code § 8638



## Section 7 – Recovery Concept of Operations

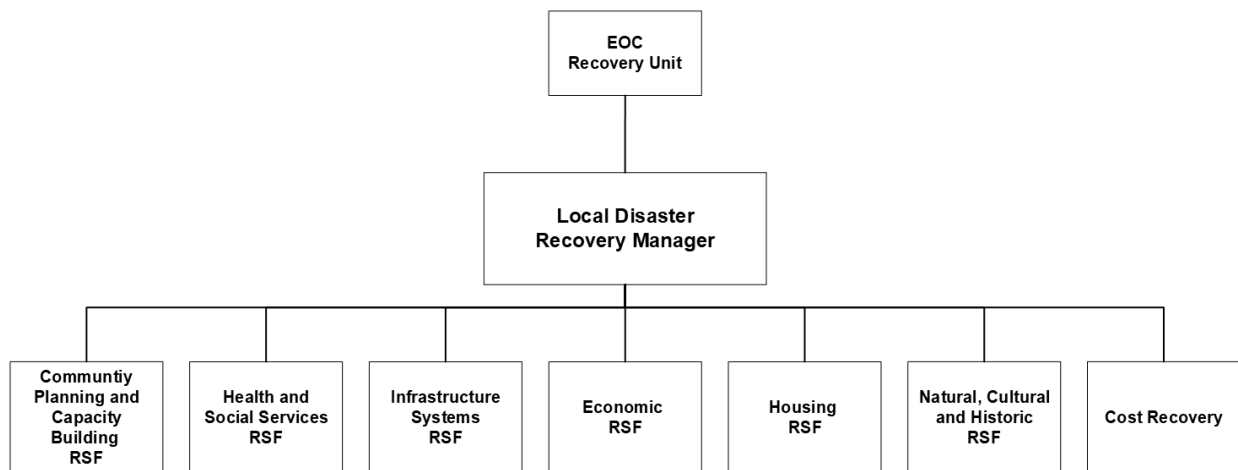
### 7.1 Recovery Overview

Recovery is the process of helping disaster-affected communities return to their pre-disaster conditions. It encompasses a range of activities, including the restoration of essential utilities, debris removal, housing and infrastructure repair, and other necessary post-disaster response actions. Throughout all phases of emergency management, the local government maintains primary responsibility for disaster recovery. However, unlike other phases of a disaster, the recovery phase heavily relies on state and Federal agencies for the allocation of recovery resources.

### 7.2 Recovery Organization

The recovery management organization of the county includes local, state, and Federal government agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), non-profit organizations (NPOs), private-sector partners, health and education institutions, and local volunteer organizations.

**Figure 5** below depicts the county’s Recovery Management Organizational structure.



**Figure 5 – Fresno County Recovery Management Organization**

### 7.3 Recovery Operations

Recovery operations focus on restoring public services, providing aid to disaster survivors, and returning affected areas to pre-emergency conditions. These activities can be short-term, intermediate, or long-term, ranging from restoring essential utilities, such as water and power, to implementing mitigation measures to reduce future hazard impacts when redeveloping



communities. Fresno County categorizes disaster recovery operations into three phases: short-term, intermediate, and long-term recovery.

### **7.3.1 Short-Term Recovery Priorities**

Short-term recovery focuses on addressing the immediate health and safety needs following rescue operations. It involves assessing the extent of damage and the necessary resources, restoring basic infrastructure, and mobilizing recovery organizations. This phase also includes restarting or restoring critical community lifelines, which are essential for making decisions related to recovery efforts.

Short-term recovery initiates as soon as damage assessment becomes possible and typically involves tasks such as restoring vital utilities (such as water, wastewater, electricity, gas, telecommunications, and transportation systems), clearing debris (which could be mudflow, fallen trees, or hazardous materials), and preparing recovery claims for reimbursement.

Short-term recovery operational priorities include:

- Damage assessment.
- Debris clearance, removal, and clean-up operations.
- Transportation route restoration.
- Re-establishment of government operations and services.
- Engagement with Whole Community, including recovery stakeholders and those with disabilities and/or access and functional needs.
- Building safety inspections.
- Abatement and demolition of hazardous structures.
- Proclamations of Local Emergency and/or Local Health Emergency (with County Public Health Officer).
- Expanded social, medical, and mental health services (with County Health and Social Services agencies).

### **7.3.2 Intermediate Recovery Priorities**

Intermediate recovery involves returning individuals, families, critical infrastructure and essential government or commercial services to a functional, if not pre-disaster state. The Intermediate Recovery phase occurs in the weeks and months following the emergency as more permanent recovery actions are implemented, including actions to assist in rebuilding impacted communities.

Intermediate recovery operational priorities may include:

- Providing accessible interim housing solutions for displaced people.



- Initiation of widespread debris removal operations.
- Immediate infrastructure repair and restoration.
- Support re-establishment of businesses, where appropriate.
- Establishment of business recovery centers.
- Engaging community on strengthening facilities during rebuilding and possible mitigation actions.
- Coordinating with County Assessor for Reassessment of Property Damaged by Misfortune or Calamity.
- Engaging support networks for ongoing emotional/psychological care (with County Health and Social Services agencies).
- Ensuring continuity of public health care through accessible temporary facilities (with County Health and Social Services agencies).

### **7.3.3 Long-Term Recovery Priorities**

Long-term recovery begins when the EOC demobilizes and continues until the last recovery project is complete. The EOC develops and executes short-term recovery plans. The Long-Term Recovery Committee, under the direction of Local Disaster Recovery Manager (LDRM) develops and coordinates implementation of long-term recovery plans.

Long-term recovery operational priorities may include the following:

- Develop long-term universally accessible housing solutions.
- Rebuild or redevelop community infrastructure to meet present and future Whole Community needs, including the needs of those with disabilities and others with access and functional needs.
- Implement economic revitalization strategies.
- Facilitate applicable funding assistance for rebuilding businesses.
- Follow up for ongoing counseling, behavioral health, and case management services (with County Health and Social Services agencies).
- Reestablish disrupted health care facilities (with County Health and Social Services agencies).
- Implement identified mitigation strategies and actions.
- Recover eligible disaster-related costs through insurance, applicable fees, mutual aid reimbursement, and state/Federal Public Assistance programs.



## **7.4 Recovery Declaration Process**

A local government may proclaim a Local Emergency, enabling the state to provide assistance for the emergency. This proclamation grants exceptional police powers, immunity for emergency actions, authorization for issuing orders and regulations, activation of pre-established emergency provisions, and serves as a prerequisite for most state and Federal assistance requests. The Local Emergency Proclamation must be issued within 10 days of the incident, ratified by the governing body within seven days, and periodically reaffirmed by the governing body to remain eligible for state and Federal disaster funding.

If circumstances warrant, the Governor of California may declare a State of Emergency, either upon request or at their discretion. This proclamation provides the Governor with powers outlined in the Emergency Services Act, authorizes Cal OES Director to administer funds under the California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) for supporting the local government response and recovery efforts, and is necessary for a Federal Declaration. Supporting information, such as a copy of the Local Proclamation, the Initial Damage Estimates, a Regional Analysis, and Written Request, must accompany the request for a state proclamation.

If the disaster is large enough and beyond the capability of the state or local government, the Governor will request a Presidential Declaration of an Emergency. This provides additional response and recovery assistance, such as Individual Assistance, Public Assistance, Hazard Mitigation, Debris Removal, Temporary Housing, and Distribution of Consumable Supplies. The Presidential Declaration must be requested within five (5) days of the need of federal assistance and include supporting information, a copy of the Governor's Proclamation and Certification by the Governor.

Certain types of assistance, such as fire or law mutual aid, American Red Cross assistance, and disaster loan programs from the Small Business Administration (SBA) and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), may be accessible without a proclamation or Presidential Declaration.

## **7.5 Damage Assessment**

Recovery begins by conducting damage assessments, a process by which the types, location and extent of disaster damage are identified (i.e., number of homes destroyed, bridges damaged, etc.). Early and accurate damage assessments help to ensure the county receives resources necessary to facilitate a timely and effective recovery.

Typically, the damage assessment process and early recovery planning begin during response phase of a disaster and are coordinated by the Damage Assessment Branch of the County's Emergency Operations Center (EOC). This Branch collects and organizes damage assessment



information for later use by state disaster personnel to monitor local disaster needs and local personnel to coordinate recovery efforts. When large disasters occur, damage assessment information is sent to the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) along with a Proclamation of Local Emergency and a formal request for recovery assistance. When a State Proclamation of Emergency and Presidential Declaration of Emergency or Major Disaster occur, numerous resources may become available to assist local recovery.

## **7.6 Financial Assistance Programs**

Following a disaster, local jurisdictions may be eligible for various state and federal public assistance programs.

### **7.6.1 State Assistance Programs**

The California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) authorizes the state to provide financial assistance to local governments for costs incurred due to a disaster. CDAA may be implemented in circumstances when local resources are exceeded. In general, the state's share eligible under CDAA is no more than 75 percent of total state eligible costs; however, funding may vary with the type of disaster at the discretion of the Legislature. There are two levels of CDAA assistance:

- **Director's Concurrence:** Under CDAA, the Cal OES Director may concur with a local government request for state assistance independently of a Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency. A Director's Concurrence is limited to eligible permanent repair work. There is generally a 75%-25% cost share between state and local governments.
- **State of Emergency Proclamation:** When the Governor proclaims a State of Emergency and authorizes CDAA, both emergency and permanent work are eligible for assistance. There is generally a 75%-25% cost share between state and local governments. In addition, the State of Emergency allows certain eligible private nonprofit organizations to receive state assistance for providing essential community services during a state declared disaster.

A written request must accompany the Local Emergency Proclamation, Initial Damage Estimate, and Regional Analysis when requesting CDAA.

### **7.6.2 Federal Assistance Programs**

Under a declaration of emergency or major disaster, the President may designate certain counties in the affected areas as eligible for the Public Assistance (PA) grant programs authorized under the Federal Disaster Relief Act of 1974, as amended by the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Amendments of 1988. The federal program requires a



## FRESNO COUNTY OPERATIONAL AREA MASTER EMERGENCY SERVICES PLAN

local emergency proclamation, state of emergency proclamation, and a federal declaration of a major disaster or emergency.

### **7.6.2.1 Federal Public Assistance**

FEMA provides State agencies, local governments, Tribal governments, and certain private nonprofit entities with Federal grants to cover eligible disaster recovery work on a cost-share basis. In accordance with the Stafford Act, the federal cost share is a minimum of 75 percent.

There are seven (7) categories of work projects under the federal program:

#### **Emergency Work:**

- Category A - Debris Removal (i.e., clearing, removing, and disposing of debris when doing so is in the public interest)
- Category B - Emergency Protective Measures (i.e., measures taken before, during, and after an incident to eliminate or lessen immediate threats to lives, public health, or safety)

#### **Permanent Work:**

- Category C - Roads and Bridges
- Category D - Water Control Facilities (i.e., Dams and reservoirs, levees and floodwalls, aqueducts)
- Category E - Buildings and Equipment (i.e., Buildings including all structural and non-structural components, including mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems; contents and equipment within the building; and furnishings)
- Category F – Utilities (i.e., water storage facilities, power generation, sewage collection)
- Category G - Parks, Recreational Facilities, and other facilities that do not fit in the previously mention categories

The California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) is responsible for processing all sub-grants for applicants, including providing technical assistance and advice to sub grantees, providing state support for damage survey activities, ensuring that potential applicants for assistance are aware of available federal assistance, and submitting documents necessary for grant awards.

### **7.6.2.2 Federal Fire Management Assistance Grant**

The Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) was authorized by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 and provides for the mitigation, management, and control of fires that threaten such destruction as would constitute a major disaster. The purpose of FMAG is to provide



supplemental federal assistance to states and local government to fight fires burning on public (non-federal) or privately owned forest or grassland.

A local or state fire agency must request an FMAG through the Cal OES Fire and Rescue Branch or the California State Warning Center (CWSC) while the fire is burning uncontrolled. There are four criteria used to evaluate the threat posed by a fire or fire complex:

- Threat to lives and improved property, including threats to critical facilities/infrastructure, and critical watershed areas.
- Availability of state and local firefighting resources.
- High fire danger conditions, as indicated by nationally accepted indices such as the National Fire Danger Ratings System.
- Potential major economic impact.

The request process is accomplished on an expedited basis and a decision is rendered in a matter of hours.

#### **7.6.2.3 Individual Assistance**

When individuals, households, or businesses are affected by an emergency or disaster, assistance may come in a variety of ways, including government and/or nonprofit, volunteer, and faith-based organizations. While disaster assistance programs are not intended to restore individuals or families to pre-disaster condition, they are intended to help begin the recovery process. Following a presidentially declared disaster declaration, state and federal governments provide several assistance programs for individuals affected by disaster:

- Individuals and Households Program
- Disaster Unemployment Assistance
- Mass Care and Emergency Assistance
- Disaster Case Management
- Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program
- Disaster Legal Services
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Assistance
- Small Business Administration Assistance

#### **7.6.3 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program**

Mitigation is the effort to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters. Mitigation is taking actions before the next disaster, to reduce or eliminate the human and financial consequences. Effective mitigation requires comprehensive understanding of the local risks, decision-making support of local officials, and investments in long-term community well-being and resilience.



Following a Presidential Disaster Declaration, FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds plans and projects for eligible jurisdictions to reduce the effects of future natural disasters. In California, these funds are administered by the Cal OES Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Unit. Eligible applicants include State agencies, local governments, special districts, and some private nonprofits.

## **7.6.4 Debris Management**

Disasters can generate substantial amounts of debris, necessitating its removal and proper disposal to mitigate threats to public health and safety while facilitating community recovery. Debris management operations are the responsibility of the affected jurisdiction; however, at the request of the state, the federal government may assist with debris management following a Presidential declaration of emergency or major disaster.

County departments work collaboratively with state and Federal debris management partners to coordinate the timely and necessary debris management activities following a disaster. These activities may include issuing a Local Health Proclamation for the removal of hazardous disaster debris, coordinating the assessment of disaster debris, monitoring the debris removal activities, communicating with residents regarding debris removal activities, and coordinating with the state regarding the status of application and eligibility for debris removal operations.

### **7.6.4.1 State Debris Removal Program**

When a disaster occurs, Cal OES coordinates requests for state and Federal assistance with debris removal and provides State agencies and local governments with guidance regarding requirements that must be met to ensure eligibility of debris management activities for funding.

- **Recycling of Debris:** To conserve California's landfill capacity, and in keeping with state policy to maximize all diversion options in order to reduce the amount of solid waste that must be disposed, it is the state's intent that disaster-related debris be recycled or centrally held until it can be processed for maximum recycling. The Integrated Waste Management Disaster Plan provides guidance on this topic.
- **State Environmental Requirements:** In a federal declaration, FEMA is responsible for ensuring compliance with federal laws, regulations, and Executive Orders (EO) for Stafford Act programs. At the state level, Cal OES ensures the state's management of disaster assistance programs are consistent with these requirements, as well as with applicable state environmental laws and regulations. Cal OES provides guidance to communities regarding the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Additionally, the Cal OES provides technical assistance to Cal OES Environmental Compliance Program applicants.



#### 7.6.4.2 Federal Debris Removal Program

The following federal debris management assistance programs are coordinated by FEMA:

- **Technical Assistance:** The federal, state, local, and tribal governments coordinate as a team to identify, evaluate, and provide the most appropriate technical assistance available. FEMA may be requested to task another federal agency to provide specific technical expertise to accomplish debris management tasks.
- **Direct Federal Assistance:** FEMA, coordinating directly with the Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO), State Coordinating Officer (SCO), and the Public Assistance Officer (PAO), may task another federal agency, such as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to perform debris management activities directly on behalf of the state, local government, or tribe when that entity does not have the resources for the work.
- **Financial Assistance:** Under the Public Assistance (PA) Program, FEMA provides financial assistance to state, local, and tribal governments for eligible debris management activities completed by those entities. Cal OES is responsible for providing the technical program assistance for those entities eligible to apply for reimbursement assistance.

More information on debris removal operations can be found in the *Fresno County Recovery Plan*.

## 7.7 Environmental and Historical Considerations

Disaster recovery activities and projects must consider the restoration and preservation of the natural environment and historical assets following a disaster event. Environmental and historical reviews may affect the timing of project approval. Recovery projects must consider the following environmental and historic preservation laws:

- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
- Floodplain Management Act
- Endangered Species Act
- Clean Water Act

The National Historical Preservation Act (NHPA) is the primary law that governs historic preservation programs nationally. The NHPA identifies historic preservation responsibilities for federal agencies and requires coordination with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). Recovery activities for properties on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places must be handled between FEMA and SHPO.



## **Section 8 – Administration, Finance and Logistics**

### **8.1 Administration**

Adherence to standard administrative and financial procedures is critical to ensure resources and funding to support response and recovery activities are accurately tracked and accounted for. Standard administrative and financial practices also support proper cost accounting in order to obtain any reimbursement provided through state and/or federal disaster assistance programs. The County follows established administrative practices for emergency operations as required by state law and the SEMS Guidelines.

Emergency management operations that support administration, finance, and logistical processes are primarily conducted within the Logistics and Finance Sections of the EOC and provide for the following:

- Tracking and documenting incident expenses
- Documenting all actions taken during emergency operations
- Procuring necessary equipment, resources, and additional support
- Tracking and documenting county employee working hours (force account labor)
- Managing continuity of operations (COOP) for the County
- Developing staff rotation schedules for extended operations
- Managing compensation and claims related to emergency operations
- Tracking and documenting the deployment and utilization of resources
- Managing additional staff and volunteers to support emergency operations
- Managing financial and in-kind donations
- Overseeing and managing information technology components and issues as they arise
- Other actions as appropriate

### **8.2 Finance**

During an emergency, all financial actions are required to be documented for the purposes of tracking all expenditures and providing appropriate documentation for possible reimbursement. Finance representatives from each county department will work collaboratively with the Cost Accounting & DSR Record Keeping Unit in the EOC to ensure that all finances are tracked and accounted for during emergency operations, utilizing established procedures and protocols for emergency cost accounting.



## **8.2.1 Cost Recovery Documentation**

Fresno County will seek federal and/or state Public Assistance for the recovery of disaster-related expenses whenever possible, including all costs associated with the response. Cal OES and FEMA require certain documentation for potential recovery of costs. To facilitate this effort, Fresno County will follow County administrative protocols to track time, expenses, and information for applicable personnel and equipment usage. The County will assign a cost code for tracking emergency expenditures which is used for both labor and equipment.

The Incident Commanders, EOC Director, and EOC staff are responsible for maintaining written records of all disaster-related personnel overtime, requests for supplies, equipment and contract personnel, and receipts for emergency purchases of supplies, equipment, and other disaster-related expenses.

The EOC Finance/Administration Section will be responsible for maintaining records for damage assessments, response actions, incident-related expenditures, insurance related documents, personnel overtime, and all other costs associated with the emergency. Expenditure tracking should be implemented immediately upon notice or obvious occurrence of disasters that require expenditure of county resources (e.g., labor, equipment, supplies).

The EOC Planning and Intelligence Section will maintain copies of documents that are integral to Emergency Operation Center functions such as EOC Action Plans, maps, Situation Status Logs, Position Logs etc., that together make up the history and chronology of incident events.

## **8.2.2 Eligible Expenses**

Eligible costs under FEMA's Public Assistance program are extraordinary costs incurred while providing emergency services required by the direct impacts of a declared disaster and which service is the responsibility of the applicant agency. State and Federal governments require detailed information and documentation to support claims for reimbursement. Funding will be approved or denied based upon the information supplied by applicants.

The following are guidelines the should be followed when documenting disaster-related reimbursable expenses:

- Costs and revenue associated with emergency operations should be segregated from normal operating expenses.
- Separate records should be maintained for each vehicle and piece of heavy equipment used for emergency operations.
- Vehicles and equipment documentation should include the times and/or hours operated by location and operator(s).
- Vehicle operating expenses should include fuel, tires, and maintenance.



- Labor costs should be compiled separate from vehicle and/or equipment expenses.
- Equipment documentation should include exactly where the equipment was used and for what; hours and minutes used; and the name of the equipment operator if applicable.
- Revenues and subsidies for emergency operations must be subtracted from any costs claimed.
- Requisitions, purchase orders, and invoices must be maintained for all supplies, materials and equipment expenses claimed.
- Costs for supplies and materials must include documentation of exactly where resources were used and for what purpose.
- All non-competitive procurements must be justified.

Additional details on the types of eligible costs related to emergency operations can be found in FEMA's *Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide* (PAPPG).

## **8.3 Logistics**

### **8.3.1 Resource Management**

The County's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) uses comprehensive resource management processes described within the National Incident Management System (NIMS), which include mutual aid and assistance agreements, the use of special Federal, state, territorial, Tribal, and local teams, resource typing, and mobilization protocols to manage resources.

### **8.3.2 Resource Priorities**

When activated, the county EOC establishes priorities for resource allocation during the emergency. Depending on the circumstances, but especially if resources are scarce, the EOC may have to carefully allocate resources to several emergency scenes or from one department to another. At other times, the EOC may facilitate movement of resources to or from Fresno County (e.g. facilitating support between two incidents or cities). In these cases, the EOC serves as the conduit for resource requests. All county resources are considered part of a pool, which may be allocated by the EOC to fulfill priority missions. Each department retains control of its non-assigned resources until requested for an emergency assignment by the EOC.

### **8.3.3 Resource Requests**

Resources include personnel, supplies, facilities, and equipment. Large-scale operations will likely exhaust local resources and will require external resource support. Resources should first be sought within the region, and if unavailable can be sought throughout the State. Any



resources obtained from outside the region, or any state resources utilized (including use of real property) should be assigned a mission task number which can be requested through Cal OES.

When the EOC is activated, resource requests must be coordinated through the EOC to ensure proper resource tracking and documentation and to ensure that efforts are not duplicated. Mutual aid will be requested through the appropriate mutual aid coordinator (i.e., fire, law, medical and health, public works, and emergency management). Mutual aid coordinators will inform EOC Logistics of those requests separately from the EOC resource request process. All other requests for resources will be requested and tracked through EOC Logistics. Field-level requests for resources will be routed through the corresponding branch within EOC Operations. Partner agencies and EOC staff may submit requests directly to EOC Logistics.

All resource requests are tracked using WebEOC and locally established resource management procedures. These may be in either electronic or paper format. Requests for state resources will be submitted through the State's mutual aid request platform (i.e., WebEOC or Sales Force).

## **8.4 Mutual Aid**

California's emergency services are based on a statewide mutual aid system designed to ensure additional resources are provided to the state's political subdivisions whenever their own resources are overwhelmed or inadequate. The basis for this system is the California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement (MMAA), which is entered into by and between the State of California, its various departments and agencies, and the various political subdivisions, municipal corporations, and public agencies to assist each other by providing resources during an emergency. The agreement obligates each signatory entity to provide aid to each other during an emergency without expectation of reimbursement. Under specific conditions, Federal and state funding may be appropriated to reimburse public agencies who aid other jurisdictions. If other agreements, memoranda, and contracts are used to provide assistance for consideration, the terms of those documents may affect disaster assistance eligibility and local entities may only be reimbursed if funds are available.

The following are Mutual Aid Systems in California:

- Fire and Rescue
- Law Enforcement
- Coroner
- Medical and Health
- Emergency Management



### 8.4.1 Agreements and Understandings

The CAO / Director of Emergency Services is authorized to develop MOUs to provide specific disaster-related support when possible. Fresno County maintains a list of applicable MOUs for emergency operations. Should county resources prove to be inadequate during an emergency, requests will be made for assistance from other local jurisdictions, higher levels of government, and other agencies in accordance with existing or emergency-negotiated mutual-aid agreements and understandings. Such assistance may take the form of equipment, supplies, personnel, facilities, or other available capabilities. All agreements and understandings will be entered into by duly authorized officials and will be formalized in writing whenever possible.

Fresno County periodically reviews existing agreements and memoranda to renew agreed upon terms and actively seeks additional MOUs as needed. A template mutual aid agreement is contained in **Attachment E** of this plan.

## 8.5 After-Action Reporting

California Code of Regulations, Title 19, § 2450 states that (a) Any city, city and county, or county declaring a local emergency for which the governor proclaims a state of emergency, and any state agency responding to that emergency shall complete and transmit an after-action report to Cal OES within ninety (90) days of the close of the incident period. The Fresno County OES will complete the AAR for the county that meets this requirement.

The identification of corrective actions is critical to the AAR process. Corrective actions may encompass anything from detailed recommendations for improving individual agency plans and procedures to broader systems or county-wide improvements. Corrective actions are assigned to relevant stakeholders and tracked to ensure the identified corrective actions have been addressed.

The AAR will include at a minimum:

- Response actions that were taken.
- Application of SEMS during response.
- Necessary modifications to plans and procedures that are needed.
- Lessons learned.
- Noted areas of improvement.
- Best practice implementations proposed.
- Training needed.
- Recovery activities conducted to date.
- Additional information as appropriate.



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Findings and recommendations in the contents of the AAR will be used to further develop and update the county's Master Emergency Services Plan, as necessary. AAR development will include the input of necessary response personnel involved in the incident or exercise.



## **Section 9 – Authorities and References**

### **9.1 Federal Authorities**

- Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq.
- Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1988, 42 U.S.C. 5121, et seq., as amended
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5, Management of Domestic Incidents, February 28, 2003
- Federal Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards (PETS) Act (42 U.S.C.A § 5196a-d (2006).
- Post – Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 (enacted in Title V of P.L. 109-295, DHS Appropriations Act of 2007).
- Sandy Recovery Improvement Act of 2013.
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive 8, National Preparedness, December 17, 2003
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive 20 (HSPD-20), National Continuity Policy (May 9, 2007).
- The Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Chapter 1, Federal Emergency Management Agency, October 1, 2007
- The Code of Federal Regulations, 2 CFR Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards
- Volunteer Protection Act of 1997
- Public Law 920, Federal Civil Defense Act of 1950, as amended
- Public Law 84-99, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Flood Fighting
- Public Law 93-288, Federal Disaster Relief Act of 1974
- Public Law 106-390, Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000
- Public Law 107-188, Bio-terrorism Act, June 2002
- Public Law 107-296, Homeland Security Act, January 2002
- Public Law 920, Federal Civil Defense Act of 1950
- Executive Order 13228, Office of Homeland Security, October 8, 2001
- Executive Order 13231, Critical Infrastructure Protection, October 16, 2001
- Executive Order 13234, Citizens Prepared, November 9, 2001
- Presidential Decision Directive 39 - U.S. Policy on Counterterrorism, June 1995
- Presidential Decision Directive 62 - Combating Terrorism, May 1998
- Presidential Decision Directive 63 – Critical Infrastructure Protection, May 1998
- National Security Presidential Directive 17 - National Strategy to Combat Weapons of Mass Destruction



## 9.2 State Authorities

- CA Government Code (CGC), Title 1, Chapter 4, Division 8, Section 3100 (Disaster Service Workers)
- CGC, Title 1, Chapter 4, Division 8, Section 8635 (Continuity of Government)
- CGC, Title 2, Division 1, Chapter 7, (California Emergency Services Act)
- CGC, Title 2, Division 1, Chapter 7.5 (California Natural Disaster Assistance Act)
- California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement
- California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 19, Division 2 (Standardized Emergency Management System)
- California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 19 § 2450
- Government Code section 8593.3, subdivision (a) (AB 2311, Brown, Chapter 520, 2016 and AB 2645, Rodriguez, Chapter 247, 2022)
- Government Code section 8593.3.5 (SB 160, Jackson, Chapter 402, 2019)
- Government Code section 8593.3, subdivision (C) (AB 477, Cervantes, Chapter 218, 2019)
- Government Code section 8593.9 (AB 2968, Rodriguez, Chapter 257, 2020)
- Government Code section 8610 (AB 2386, Bigelow, Chapter 254, 2020)
- Government Code section 8593.3.2 (AB 580, Rodriguez, Chapter 744, 2021)
- Government Code section 8593.10 (AB 781, Maeinschein, Chapter 344, 2023)
- Government Code section 7299.7 (AB 1638, Fong, Chapter 587, 2023)
- California Penal Code 409.5(a) (Evacuation Authority)
- California Government Codes §§ 8610-8614 & § 8605
- California Government Codes § 8638
- CA Education Code Article 5. School Safety Plans, § 32282 (2)(B)(ii)
- California Department of Water Resources Flood Control (California Water Code §128).
- Orders and Regulations which may be selectively promulgated by the Governor during a STATE OF EMERGENCY.
- Orders and Regulations which may be selectively promulgated by the Governor to take effect upon the Existence of a STATE OF WAR.
- Governor's Executive Order W-9-91

## 9.3 Local Authorities

- Fresno County Code of Ordinances Chapter 2.44 Emergency Organization
- Fresno County Code of Ordinances Chapter 4.04.020 Emergency Purchases and Rentals



## 9.4 References

- ADA Best Practices Tool Kit for State and Local Governments
- National Response Framework, October 2019
- FEMA Comprehensive Preparedness Guide 101: Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plans, September 2021.
- FEMA A Whole Community Approach to Emergency Management: Principles, Themes, and Pathways for Action, December 2011.
- Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide (PAPPG), FEMA, June 2020
- National Incident Management System, 2017
- National Incident Management System Training Program 2020
- National Response Plan, 2004
- National Disaster Recovery Framework, 2011
- National Mitigation Framework, 2013
- National Parks Service Visitor Use Statistics
- California State Emergency Plan, 2017
- California Disaster Recovery Framework – 2019
- State of California Alert & Warning Guidelines – March 2019
- State of California Emergency Management Mutual Aid Plan – 2012
- State of California Planning Best Practices for County Emergency Plans, 2022
- State of California Best Practices for County Emergency Plans and Integrating Access and Functional Needs within the Emergency Planning Process, Best Practices for Stakeholder Inclusion
- State of California Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS)
- California Agricultural Statistics Review 2021-2022
- CA Department of Health and Human Services Licensed and Certified Healthcare Facility Listing
- United States Census Bureau
- Progressive Policy Institute
- FMCoC 2023 Point-in-Time Count and Housing Inventory Count
- Fresno County Community Health Dashboard
- Fresno County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Fresno County Emergency Public Information and Outreach Plan
- Fresno County Recovery Plan
- Fresno County Care and Shelter Plan
- Fresno County OES Integrated Preparedness Plan



## Section 10 – Glossary and Acronyms

### 10.1 Glossary of Terms

<b>After Action Report (AAR)</b>	A report that examines response actions, application of SEMS, modifications to plans and procedures, training needs, and recovery activities. AARs are required under SEMS after any emergency that requires a gubernatorial state of emergency proclamation. Local government AARs must be submitted to Cal OES within 90 days.
<b>California Emergency Services Act</b>	An Act within the California Government Code to ensure preparations within the state will be adequate to deal with natural, human-caused, or war-caused emergencies which result in conditions of disaster or in extreme peril to life, property, and the natural resources of the state, and generally to protect the health and safety and preserve the lives and property of the people of the state.
<b>Command</b>	The act of directing, ordering, or controlling by virtue of explicit statutory, regulatory, or delegated authority.
<b>Command Staff</b>	The Command Staff at the SEMS Field Level consists of the Information Officer, Safety Officer, and Liaison Officer. They report directly to the Incident Commander. They may have an assistant or assistants, as needed. These officers are also found at the EOC levels in SEMS, and they report directly to the EOC Director and comprise the Management Staff. They may have an assistant or assistants, as needed.
<b>Continuity of Government (COG)</b>	Activities that address the continuance of constitutional governance. COG planning aims to preserve and/or reconstitute the institution of government and ensure that a department or agency's constitutional, legislative, and/or administrative responsibilities are maintained. This is accomplished through succession of leadership, the pre-delegation of emergency authority, and active command and control during response and recovery operations.
<b>Continuity of Operations (COOP)</b>	Planning should be instituted, including all levels of governments, across the private sector and non-governmental organizations as appropriate, to ensure the continued performance of core capabilities and/or critical government operations during any potential incident.
<b>Critical Infrastructure</b>	Systems and assets, whether physical or virtual, so vital to the United States that the incapacity or destruction of such systems



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	and assets would have a debilitating impact on security, national economic security, national public health or safety, or any combination of those matters.
<b>Demobilization</b>	The orderly, safe, and efficient return of an incident resource to its original location and status.
<b>Department Operations Center (DOC)</b>	An Emergency Operations Center (EOC), specific to a single department or agency where the focus is on internal agency incident management and response. They are often linked to and, in most cases, are physically represented in a combined agency EOC by authorized agent(s) for the department or agency.
<b>Disaster</b>	A sudden calamitous emergency event bringing great damage, loss, or destruction.
<b>Emergency</b>	Any incident(s), whether natural or human-caused, requires responsive action to protect life or property. Under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, an emergency means any occasion or instance for which, in the determination of the President, federal assistance is needed to supplement state and local efforts and capabilities to save lives, protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in any part of the United States.
<b>Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC)</b>	A congressionally ratified organization that provides form and structure to interstate mutual aid. Through EMAC, a disaster-affected state can request and receive assistance from other member states quickly and efficiently, resolving two key issues upfront: liability and reimbursement.
<b>Emergency Operations Center (EOC)</b>	The physical location at which the coordination of information and resources to support incident management (on-scene operations) activities normally takes place. An EOC may be a temporary facility or may be in a more central or permanently established facility, perhaps at a higher level of organization within a jurisdiction. EOC may be organized by major functional disciplines (e.g., fire, law enforcement, and medical services), by jurisdiction (e.g., federal, state, regional, tribal, city, county), or some combination thereof.
<b>EOC Action Plan</b>	The plan developed at SEMS EOC levels, which contains objectives, actions to be taken, assignments, and supporting information for the next operational period.
<b>Essential Facilities</b>	May include facilities such as law enforcement, fire, emergency operations centers, schools, medical facilities, and other



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	resources that have a role in an effective and coordinated emergency response.
<b>Evacuation</b>	Organized, phased, and supervised withdrawal, dispersal, or removal of civilians from dangerous or potentially dangerous areas and their reception and care in safe areas.
<b>Incident</b>	An occurrence or event, natural or human-caused, which requires a response to protect life or property. Incidents can, for example, include major disasters, emergencies, terrorist attacks, terrorist threats, civil unrest, wildland and urban fires, floods, hazardous materials spills, nuclear accidents, aircraft accidents, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, tropical storms, tsunamis, war-related disasters, public health and medical emergencies, and other occurrences requiring an emergency response.
<b>Incident Action Plan (IAP)</b>	An oral or written plan containing general objective reflecting the overall strategy for managing an incident. It may include the identification of operational resources and assignments. It may also include attachments that provide directions and important information for management of the incident during one or more operational periods. At the SEMS EOC Level, it is called the EOC Action Plan.
<b>Incident Commander (IC)</b>	The individual responsible for all incident activities, including the development of strategies and tactics, and the ordering and the release of resources. The IC has overall authority and responsibility for conducting incident operations and is responsible for the management of all incident operations at the incident site.
<b>Incident Command Post (ICP)</b>	The field location where the primary functions are performed. The ICP may be co-located with the incident base or other incident facilities.
<b>Incident Command System (ICS)</b>	A standardized on-scene emergency management construct specifically designed to provide for the adoption of an integrated organizational structure that reflects the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. ICS is the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure, designed to aid in the management of resources during incidents. It is used for all kinds of emergencies and is applicable to small as well as large and complex incidents. ICS is used by various jurisdictions and functional agencies, both public and private, to organize field-level incident management operations.



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<b>Joint Information Center (JIC)</b>	A facility established to coordinate all incident-related public information activities. It is the central point of contact for all news media. Public information officials from all participating agencies should co-locate at the JIC.
<b>Mitigation</b>	Provide a critical foundation in the effort to reduce the loss of life and property from natural and/or human-caused disasters by avoiding or lessening the impact of a disaster and providing value to the public by creating safer communities. Mitigation seeks to fix the cycle of disaster damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage. These activities or actions, in most cases, will have a long-term sustained effect.
<b>Mobilization</b>	The process and procedures used by all organizations - federal, state, tribal, and local - for activating, assembling, and transporting all resources that have been requested to respond to or support an incident.
<b>Multiagency Coordination Group (MAC Group)</b>	Typically, administrators/executives, or their appointed representatives, who are authorized to commit agency resources and funds, are brought together and form MAC Groups. MAC Groups may also be known as multiagency committees, emergency management committees, or as otherwise defined. It can provide coordinated decision-making and resource allocation among cooperating agencies and may establish the priorities among incidents, harmonize agency policies, and provide strategic guidance and direction to support incident management activities.
<b>Mutual Aid Coordinator</b>	An individual at the local government, Operational Area, Region, or State Level that is responsible to coordinate the process of requesting, obtaining, processing, and using mutual aid resources. Mutual Aid Coordinator duties will vary depending upon the mutual aid system.
<b>Mutual Aid Region</b>	A mutual aid region is a subdivision of Cal OES established to assist in the coordination of mutual aid and other emergency operations within a geographical area of the state, consisting of two or more Operational Areas.
<b>National Incident Management System (NIMS)</b>	Provides a systematic, proactive approach guiding government agencies at all levels, the private sector, and non-governmental organizations to work seamlessly to prevent, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of incidents, regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity, in order to reduce the loss of life or property and harm to the environment.



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<b>Operational Area (OA)</b>	An intermediate level of the state emergency organization, consisting of a county and all other political subdivisions within the geographical boundaries of the county.
<b>Operational Period</b>	The time scheduled for executing a given set of operation actions, as specified in the Incident Action Plan. Operational periods can be of various lengths, although usually last 12-24 hours.
<b>Preparedness</b>	A continuous cycle of planning, organizing, training, equipping, exercising, evaluating, and taking corrective action in an effort to ensure effective coordination during incident response. Within NIMS, preparedness focuses on the following elements: planning, procedures and protocols, training and exercises, personnel qualification and certification, and equipment certification.
<b>Prevention</b>	Actions to avoid an incident or to intervene to stop an incident from occurring. Prevention involves actions to protect lives and property. It involves applying intelligence and other information to a range of activities that may include such countermeasures as deterrence operations; heightened inspections; improved surveillance and security operations; investigations to determine the full nature and source of the threat; public health and agricultural surveillance and testing processes; immunizations, isolation, or quarantine; and, as appropriate, specific law enforcement operations aimed at deterring, preempting, interdicting or disrupting illegal activity, and apprehending potential perpetrators and bringing them to justice.
<b>Public Information Officer (PIO)</b>	A member of the Command Staff (Management Staff at the SEMS EOC Levels) responsible for interfacing with the public and media and/or with other agencies with incident-related information requirements.
<b>Recovery</b>	The development, coordination, and execution of service- and site-restoration plans; the reconstitution of government operations and services; individual, private-sector, non-governmental, and public assistance programs to provide housing and to promote restoration; long-term care and treatment of affected persons; additional measures for social, political, environmental, and economic restoration; evaluation of the incident to identify lessons learned; post-incident reporting; and development of initiatives to mitigate the effects of future incidents.



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<b>Response</b>	Activities that address the short-term, direct effects of an incident. Response includes immediate actions to save lives, protect property, and meet basic human needs. Response also includes the execution of EOP and of mitigation activities designed to limit the loss of life, personal injury, property damage, and other unfavorable outcomes. As indicated by the situation, response activities include applying intelligence and other information to lessen the effects or consequences of an incident; increased security operations; continuing investigations into nature and source of the threat; ongoing public health and agricultural surveillance and testing processes; immunizations, isolation, or quarantine; and specific law enforcement operations aimed at preempting, interdicting, or disrupting illegal activity, and apprehending actual perpetrators and bringing them to justice.
<b>Situation Report</b>	Often contains confirmed or verified information regarding the specific details relating to the incident.
<b>Stafford Act</b>	The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act) establishes the programs and processes for the federal government to provide disaster and emergency assistance to states, local governments, tribal nations, individuals, and qualified private nonprofit organizations. The provisions of the Stafford Act cover all hazards including natural disasters and terrorist events. Relevant provisions of the Stafford Act include a process for Governors to request federal disaster and emergency assistance from the President. The President may declare a major disaster or emergency.
<b>Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)</b>	Complete reference document or an operation manual that provides the purpose, authorities, duration, and details for the preferred method of performing a single function or several interrelated functions in a uniform manner.
<b>Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS)</b>	A system required by California Government Code and established by regulations for managing response to multiagency and multijurisdictional emergencies in California. SEMS consists of five organizational levels, which are activated as necessary: Field Response, Local Government, Operational Area, Region, and State.
<b>Threat</b>	An indication of possible violence, harm, or danger.
<b>Unified Command</b>	An ICS application used when more than one agency has incident jurisdiction or when incidents cross political jurisdictions. Agencies work together through the designated members of the UC, often the senior person from agencies



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	and/or disciplines participating in the UC, to establish a common set of objectives and strategies and a single IAP.
<b>Vital Records</b>	The essential agency records needed to meet operational responsibilities under national security emergencies or other emergency or disaster conditions (emergency operating records), or to protect the legal and financial rights of the Government and those affected by Government activities (legal and financial rights records).



## 10.2 List of Acronyms

<b>AAR/IP</b>	After-Action Report/Improvement Plan
<b>ADA</b>	Americans with Disabilities Act
<b>ARC</b>	American Red Cross
<b>ASL</b>	American Sign Language
<b>BLM</b>	Bureau of Land Management
<b>Cal OES</b>	California Governor's Office of Emergency Services
<b>CAO</b>	Chief Administrative Officer
<b>CDAA</b>	California Disaster Assistance Act
<b>CDF</b>	California Department of Forestry
<b>CEQA</b>	California Environmental Quality Act
<b>CERT</b>	Community Emergency Response Team
<b>CHP</b>	California Highway Patrol
<b>COG</b>	Continuity of Government
<b>COOP</b>	Continuity of Operations
<b>CPG</b>	Comprehensive Preparedness Guide
<b>CSWC</b>	California State Warning Center
<b>DOC</b>	Department Operations Center
<b>DSS</b>	Department of Social Services (Fresno County)
<b>DSW</b>	Disaster Service Worker
<b>EAP</b>	Emergency Action Plan / Evacuee Assembly Point
<b>EAS</b>	Emergency Alert System
<b>EMAC</b>	Emergency Management Assistance Compact
<b>EMAP</b>	Emergency Management Accreditation Program
<b>EMS</b>	Emergency Medical Services
<b>EOC</b>	Emergency Operations Center
<b>EOP</b>	Emergency Operations Plan
<b>ESA</b>	Emergency Services Act
<b>FAST</b>	Functional Assessment Support Team
<b>FEMA</b>	Federal Emergency Management Agency
<b>FMAG</b>	Fire Management Assistance Grant
<b>FMCoC</b>	Fresno Madera Continuum of Care
<b>GIS</b>	Geographic Information System
<b>HIRA</b>	Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment
<b>HMGP</b>	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
<b>HSEEP</b>	Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program
<b>HSPD</b>	Homeland Security Presidential Directive
<b>IA</b>	Individual Assistance
<b>IAP</b>	Incident Action Plan
<b>IC</b>	Incident Commander



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<b>ICP</b>	Incident Command Post
<b>ICS</b>	Incident Command System
<b>IPP</b>	Integrated Preparedness Plan
<b>ISD</b>	Internal Services Department (Fresno County)
<b>JIC</b>	Joint Information Center
<b>JIS</b>	Joint Information System
<b>MAC</b>	Multi-Agency Coordination
<b>MJHMP</b>	Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan
<b>MMAA</b>	Master Mutual Aid Agreement
<b>MOU</b>	Memorandum of Agreement
<b>NEPA</b>	National Environmental Protection Act
<b>NHPA</b>	National Historic Preservation Act
<b>NIMS</b>	National Incident Management System
<b>NOAA</b>	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
<b>NRF</b>	National Response Framework
<b>OA</b>	Operational Area
<b>OES</b>	Office of Emergency Services (Fresno County)
<b>PA</b>	Public Assistance
<b>PAO</b>	Public Assistance Officer
<b>PIO</b>	Public Information Officer
<b>PIT</b>	Point-in-Time
<b>PNP</b>	Private Non-Profit
<b>PPD</b>	Presidential Policy Directive
<b>RACES</b>	Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services
<b>SAR</b>	Search and Rescue / Search and Recovery
<b>SBA</b>	Small Business Administration
<b>SEMS</b>	Standardized Emergency Management System
<b>SHPO</b>	State Historic Preservation Officer
<b>SOC</b>	State Operations Center
<b>SOP</b>	Standard Operating Procedure
<b>STAS</b>	State Threat Assessment System
<b>USACE</b>	US Army Corp of Engineers
<b>USFS</b>	US Forest Service
<b>WEA</b>	Wireless Emergency Alert



## Attachment A – Plan Concurrence

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
County Administrative Office

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
AG Commissioner

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Assessor

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Auditor-Controller/Treasurer-Tax  
Collector

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Department of Behavioral Health

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Child Support Services

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
County Fire / CAL FIRE

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
County Clerk/Registrar of Voters

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
County Counsel

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
District Attorney

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Human Resources

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Internal Services Department

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Library

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Office of Emergency Services

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Probation Department

Date \_\_\_\_\_



Signed:

Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Public Defender

Signed:

Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Public Health

Signed:

Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Public Works and Planning

Signed:

Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Purchasing

Signed:

Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sheriff - Coroner

Signed

Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department of Social Services



## Attachment B – Order of Succession

Department	Order of Succession
Chief Administration	1. Chief Operating Officer 2. Deputy CAO
Director of Emergency Services	1. Public Health Director 2. Chief Operating Officer
Chief Operations Officer	1. Deputy CAO 2. Deputy CAO
Sheriff	1. Undersheriff
Agricultural Commissioner	1. Agricultural Commissioner 2. Assistant Agricultural Commissioner
Assessor/Clerk Recorder	1. Assistant Assessor-Recorder 2. Business Manager
Auditor-Controller	1. Assistant Auditor-Controller
Chief Probation Officer	1. Deputy Chief Probation Officer 2. Assistant Deputy Chief Probation Officer
County Counsel	1. Chief Deputy(ies) County Counsel



<b>Department</b>	<b>Order of Succession</b>
Director of Behavioral Health	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Deputy Director</li><li>2. Deputy Director</li></ol>
Director of Internal Services Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Assistant Director of Internal Services</li><li>2. Deputy Director Internal Services (Admin)</li></ol>
Director of Public Health	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Assistant Director of Public Health</li><li>2. Public Health Nurse Division Manager</li><li>3. Environmental Health Division Manager</li></ol>
Director of Public Works	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Deputy Director of Public Works</li></ol>
Director of Social Services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Deputy Director</li><li>2. Deputy Director</li></ol>
District Attorney	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Assistant District Attorney(ies)</li></ol>
Emergency Manager	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Emergency Management Specialist</li><li>2. Emergency Management Specialist</li></ol>
Fire Chief	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. District Assistant Chief</li><li>2. Unit Duty Chief</li></ol>
Public Defender	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Assistant Public Defender</li><li>2. Chief Defense Attorney</li></ol>



## Attachment C – Example Proclamation

1 PROCLAMATION OF EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY  
2 BY THE EMERGENCY SERVICES DIRECTOR  
3 COUNTY OF FRESNO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
4

5 IN THE MATTER OF THE  
6 2022-23 WINTER STORMS  
7 IN FRESNO COUNTY

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE  
EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL  
EMERGENCY

8 WHEREAS, the California Emergency Services Act (Government Code section 8630, et.  
9 seq.) establishes procedures for proclaiming emergencies and for responding promptly to the  
10 needs that arise during emergencies; and

11 WHEREAS, section 2.44.060.A. of the Fresno County Code and Section 8630 of the  
12 Government Code empower the Emergency Services Director or his designee, or the Board of  
13 Supervisors if in session, to proclaim the existence of a local emergency when the County is  
14 affected by or likely to be affected by a public calamity; and,

15 WHEREAS, the Emergency Services Director of the County of Fresno does hereby find that  
16 a crippling disaster, which severely impairs public health and public safety, is created by conditions  
17 of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property which have arisen within said County, due to  
18 extreme weather conditions, including atmospheric river systems, that have resulted in the closure  
19 of County and State roads beginning on December 31, 2022 and continuing; and

20 WHEREAS, ingress and egress for residents in the foothill community area of Shaver Lake  
21 and Big Creek is compromised due to the complete closures of Highway 168 and Huntington Lake  
22 Road Road, and partial closure of Auberry Road and damage to other public roads throughout  
23 Fresno County; and

24 WHEREAS, forecasted atmospheric river weather systems continue to threaten additional  
25 infrastructure; and

26 WHEREAS, local resources are inadequate to cope with the effects of said emergency and  
27 the combined forces of other political subdivisions of the State are required to assist the County to  
28 combat the effects of said emergency; and

WHEREAS, on January 4, 2023, the Governor of California proclaimed a State of  
Emergency to exist throughout California due to severe winter storms related to a series of



1 atmospheric river systems; and

2 WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno is not in session and cannot  
3 immediately be called into session.

4 NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that a local emergency now exists  
5 throughout said County; and

6 IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said local  
7 emergency, the powers, functions, and duties for the emergency organization of this County shall  
8 be those prescribed by state law, ordinances and resolutions of this County, and by the Fresno  
9 County Operational Area Master Emergency Services Plan, as approved by the Board of  
Supervisors; and

10 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this proclamation be forwarded to the State  
11 Director of the Office of Emergency Services.

12 This emergency is proclaimed in the County of Fresno on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2023, to-  
13 wit:

14 

15 Paul Nerland, County Administrative Officer /  
16 Emergency Services Director



## Attachment D – Fresno County Essential Functions and Services

Department	Description	Essential Functions
County Administrative Officer	The County Administrative Officer (CAO) is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Board of Supervisors. The CAO serves the legislative function of the Board by providing research, information, and recommendations, and serves all of the executive functions of the Board by administering and supervising all County departments in matters that are the responsibility of the Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administration of County Business.</li> <li>• Respond to media inquiries/public information requests.</li> </ul>
AG Commissioner	The Fresno County Ag Commissioner's office is a regulatory agency acting under the jurisdiction and direction of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), The California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR), and the California Department of Food and Agriculture's, Division of Measurement Standards (DMS) and in cooperation with various federal, state, regional, and local agencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enforce the laws and regulations of the California Food and Agricultural Code, Title 3 (Food and Agriculture) and Title 4.</li> <li>• Enforce the laws and regulations of the California Code of Regulations Division 9 (Division of Measurement Standards) Respond to pesticide incident involving an injury of persons.</li> </ul>
DPH -Animal Services	DPH -Animal Services is a county agency whose purpose is to provide humane and professional solutions for animal related problems, to encourage responsible behaviors, and to create a safer environment for people and animals to co-exist.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Care for the basic needs of animals at the animal shelter.</li> <li>• Provide medical care for the animals at the animal shelter.</li> <li>• Respond to calls for service related to animals.</li> </ul>
Assessor	The Assessor, as mandated by the California State Constitution, keeps track of ownership changes, maintains maps of parcel boundaries, and updates property descriptions and physical characteristics. The Assessor's Office maintains files of individuals and properties eligible for exemptions and other tax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Locate and identify all taxable property in the county.</li> <li>• Establish taxable value for all property subject to property taxation.</li> <li>• Secure servers and back up data for assessed values of all properties.</li> </ul>



Department	Description	Essential Functions
	relief. The Assessor's Office additionally estimates the fair value of assessable property by analyzing trends in sales prices, construction costs, and rents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct site visits by appraisers for property destruction.</li> <li>• Issue copies of Vital Records (birth/death/marriage certificates).</li> </ul>
Auditor-Controller	The Auditor-Controller provides public oversight, fiscal leadership, and financial integrity and accountability through effective fiscal monitoring, reporting, and safeguarding of public resources and provides service, assistance, and information to the public, BOS, the Administrative Office, County departments, and employees and special districts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post Special District Checks.</li> <li>• Technical System Support.</li> <li>• Direct Deposits Payroll.</li> <li>• Produce checks/disburse.</li> </ul>
Clerk of the Board	Clerk of the Board performs all acts required by law or by ordinance as directed by the Board; answers varied inquiries and provides information regarding Board actions; prepares the agenda for Board meetings and keeps official records of actions taken by the Board; plans, organizes, and directs the clerical services for the Board; and processes legal documents, notices, and orders of the Board.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perform all acts required by law or ordinance as directed by the Board.</li> <li>• Administer assessment appeals Board processes.</li> <li>• Maintain and update Fresno County Code.</li> <li>• Process Public Records Requests.</li> </ul>
Board of Supervisors	The Board of Supervisors is the legislative and executive governing body of Fresno County government. Within the limits prescribed by State law, the Board enacts ordinances and rules, determines County policy, supervises the activities of County departments, adopts an annual budget, and fixes salaries.	The Board, in and of itself, is an essential function.
Department of Behavioral Health	The Department of Behavioral Health offers mental health and alcohol and drug services for all ages through education, prevention, early intervention, crisis services, assessments, case management, medication services, psychiatric evaluations, peer services, and outpatient therapy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency psychiatric evaluation services.</li> <li>• Mental health treatment.</li> <li>• Substance use treatment.</li> <li>• Provide Access to Medical Records.</li> </ul>



Department	Description	Essential Functions
Child Support Services	The Child Support Program provides services to families to establish and enforce child support, paternity, and medical support orders. Fresno County Child Support Services is the local child support agency dedicated to protecting the rights of the custodial parent, the non-custodial parent, and their children while enforcing child support orders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Screen reports of child abuse and neglect, assign to response path.</li> <li>• File Detention reports with Juvenile Court for children removed from home (within 48 hours of removal).</li> <li>• File change of placement paperwork.</li> </ul>
County Fire/CAL FIRE	The department is administered, and career personnel are provided, through a contract with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE). Clerical and automotive support personnel are provided by County employees. The department assists with fire protection through a mutual aid agreement to CAL FIRE	All services are provided for public safety and are essential to county operations.
Public Works & Planning	Public Works & Planning was established pursuant to Sections 50022.1 through 50022.4 of the California Government Code to provide minimum standards to safeguard life or limb, health, property, and public welfare, by regulating and controlling structural design, construction, materials, occupancy, and location of all buildings and structures within the unincorporated area of the county.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enforce the California Building Code as mandated by the State of California.</li> <li>• Perform inspections of buildings and premises as required.</li> <li>• Process building permit applications.</li> <li>• Collect fees for service.</li> </ul>
Fire Marshal	The Fresno County Fire Marshall provides plan review and inspection services to all unincorporated areas of Fresno County in order to implement the fire and life safety regulations and building standards established and adopted by the State Fire Marshal and County Board of Supervisors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perform fire and life safety clearance inspections in State licensed facilities.</li> <li>• Ensure regulations stipulated in the California Public Resources Code 4290 are applied to new development and structures in the State Responsibility Areas of Fresno County.</li> </ul>
Public Works & Planning	Public Works & Planning functions as the planning agency for the unincorporated area of Fresno County, formulating and implementing the general plan and community plans, and coordinating land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perform field inspections</li> <li>• Issuance of building permits.</li> <li>• Establish a public counter and receive building permit applications and issue building permits.</li> </ul>



# FRESNO COUNTY OPERATIONAL AREA MASTER EMERGENCY SERVICES PLAN

Department	Description	Essential Functions
	use considerations in accordance with the zoning ordinance.	
DPH Environmental Health	DPH Environmental Health Division works to ensure that all businesses in Fresno County handle, store and dispose of hazardous materials and hazardous wastes in compliance with applicable laws and regulations in order to protect the health and environment of the citizens of Fresno County.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction inspections for septic systems and wells.</li> <li>• Respond to hazardous materials emergencies and spills during business hours and after hours.</li> </ul>
County Clerk and Registrar of Voters	County Clerk and Registrar of Voters is charged with issuing public and confidential marriage licenses, performing civil marriage ceremonies, filing fictitious business name statements, and other miscellaneous ministerial duties. County Recorder is charged with recording, indexing, and permanently archiving all records of land transactions in Fresno County. Records of all births, deaths and marriage events that occurred in Fresno County are on record with the Recorder division. The Elections division of the department maintains records on the registered voters in the county, and conducts local, state and federal elections in the county.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Record Official Records.</li> <li>• Provide copies of recorded Documents.</li> <li>• Send voter data to the Secretary of State.</li> </ul>
County Counsel	The County Counsel represents the County and its officials in civil litigation, defends the County in administrative law proceedings, provides written and oral legal opinions to County officers, and acts as legal advisor to County boards, commissions, and committees.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing legal advice and assistance to the Board of Supervisors and County personnel.</li> <li>• Make scheduled court appearances or contact courts of nonappearance.</li> <li>• Provide legal opinions and/or contracts that are time sensitive.</li> </ul>



Department	Description	Essential Functions
District Attorney	The District Attorney's Office is part of the executive branch of government, supporting and enforcing the laws made by the legislative branch and interpreted by the judicial branch.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigation of Violent Crimes.</li> <li>File court documents by Department (Court).</li> <li>Subpoena defendants for Court.</li> </ul>
Human Resources	The Human Resources Department is responsible for providing human resource and payroll services to all County departments in a manner that ensures compliance with the requirements of the County merit system rules and state and federal employment, leave, and tax laws.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruitment, testing, and certification of new employees.</li> <li>Advisement and consultation regarding the County personnel rules, including advice to supervisors regarding disciplinary actions.</li> <li>Management of all confidential investigatory situations which arise.</li> <li>All aspects of payroll and benefits administration for the County and third-party agencies.</li> </ul>
Information Technology	Information Technology provides enterprise services to all County departments and desktop support for all departments that do not have departmental technical staff. Information Technology also provides telecommute support as well as maintenance of a catalog of enterprise systems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Web content management in conjunction with PIO, Public Health, and the DPH-OES.</li> <li>Database management</li> <li>Local and wide area network management.</li> <li>Network security.</li> </ul>
Public Health	The Department of Public Health protects the health of the community by preventing disease and promoting health equity. Public Health is also responsible for enforcing state and local health laws.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communicable Disease Prevention (Title 17 reporting requirements within 24 hours).</li> <li>Surveillance and case investigation of all reportable communicable diseases.</li> <li>Urgent Care Clinic Services (if applicable).</li> <li>Issue copies of Vital Records (birth/death/marriage certificates).</li> </ul>



Department	Description	Essential Functions
Probation	The Probation Department is an integral part of the justice system and functions as a legislatively created support agency for the criminal, juvenile, and family courts. Serves the citizenry of Fresno County by discharging the duties assigned by California statutes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detention of youth in institutions.</li> <li>• Ensure the safety of youth, staff and public.</li> <li>• Release and relocation of detained youth in case of emergency requiring evacuation.</li> </ul>
DPH - Public Guardian Sheriff -Public Administrator	The Public Guardian investigates and may administer the estates of deceased individuals with no will or without an appropriate person willing or able to act as administrator.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make burial arrangements.</li> <li>• Administer decedent's will/wishes.</li> <li>• Conduct investigations.</li> <li>• Pay decedent's taxes.</li> </ul>
Public Works & Planning	Public Works & Planning Department consists of multiple Divisions and teams of staff that work collectively and collaboratively to serve the constituents of Fresno County in the areas of Municipal Services, Capital Improvement Projects, Maintenance and Operations of various County managed public facilities and Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Traffic accident response--impacts critical life/health safety.</li> <li>• Flood response--priority safety related response.</li> <li>• Ensure availability of fuel (CNG &amp; unleaded/diesel) --fueling is provided to numerous other county departments including sheriff, probation, road &amp; bridge.</li> </ul>
Fresno County Library	The Fresno County Library serves the learning, cultural, and community needs of the diverse populations within the county.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administration of library services.</li> <li>• Internet access, including wireless access.</li> <li>• Public services.</li> </ul>
Sheriff	The Sheriff's Office is responsible for public protection and investigating crimes occurring within the unincorporated areas of Fresno County.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All services are provided for public safety and are essential to county operations.</li> </ul>
DPH-OES	The DPH-OES is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the County's disaster preparedness and response program. In addition, it is responsible for maintaining the County's Emergency Operations Center (EOC), as well as coordinating EOC activities during a disaster.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administer the County's emergency management program.</li> <li>• Operate and staff the County's EOC.</li> <li>• Conduct emergency operations per the County's EOP.</li> </ul>



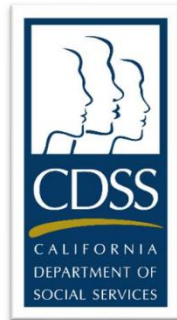
# FRESNO COUNTY OPERATIONAL AREA

## MASTER EMERGENCY SERVICES PLAN

Department	Description	Essential Functions
Department of Social Services	The Department of Social Services is one of the largest departments in the County responsible for administering numerous programs aimed at meeting the needs of the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respond to reports or abuse or neglect of imminent risk.</li> <li>• Identify at-risk clients from all programs for first responders.</li> <li>• Issue benefits manually or electronically.</li> </ul>
Auditor Controller	The Auditor Controller receives, safeguards, distributes, and invests County, School District and Special District funds. In addition, the Treasurer/Tax Collector's office receives Transient Occupancy Taxes (hotel and motel), business improvement district taxes, prepares and collects business license renewal fees and conducts an annual sale of property deemed to be in tax default five (5) or more years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reconcile county bank account</li> <li>• Send wire transfers for payroll and various authorized electronic payments.</li> <li>• Enter employee payroll.</li> </ul>
DSS - Veterans Service Office	DSS - Veterans Service Office is an office established by the Board of Supervisors of Fresno County to assist every veteran, their dependents and survivors in presenting and pursuing any claim in establishing the veteran's right for benefits provided by law.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make appointments for counseling with available registered counselors.</li> <li>• Make appointments for Veterans to meet with representatives.</li> <li>• Assign new intake cases to staff.</li> </ul>
PWP - Water & Natural Resources	The Division of Water and Natural Resources manages the County Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("white area"), Flood Control Agency, Drought Workgroup and participates in and supports a variety of natural resource issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flood control.</li> <li>• Stormwater management.</li> <li>• Groundwater sustainability.</li> </ul>



## **Attachment E – Example Memorandum of Understanding**



**California Mutual Aid Region MAR-V  
Intra-Region  
Memorandum of Understanding  
between  
California Department of Social Services  
and  
Fresno County  
for Mass Care and Shelter Supplies**



## I. Purpose

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is made and entered into by County of Fresno (County) and the California Department of Social Services (CDSS).

CDSS understands there exists a great potential for a natural disaster or catastrophic event capable of producing Mass Care and Sheltering needs that may overwhelm local and regional capability. CDSS is working in partnership with counties throughout the state to provide offered and requested State Mass Care and Shelter supplies for counties to be prepared and have available, sufficient supplies to meet estimated community needs resulting from a natural disaster or catastrophic event.

In preparation for such events, CDSS is offering the County, without monetary obligation, State Mass Care and Shelter supplies for the County to store and maintain to respond to a natural disaster or catastrophic event. The County may provide access and use of the supplies to cities within the County and to surrounding counties in the Mutual Aid Region (MAR-V) to accommodate their need for emergency sheltering.

## II. Agreement of Cooperation

Under this MOU, the County agrees to allow each county in MAR-V to request and have access to the Mass Care and Shelter supplies and equipment warehoused by the County. The County agrees to make the items available to other counties in a manner determined by the County, in the spirit of cooperation and mutual aid, upon request and authorization of CDSS.

The County understands and agrees that the supplies and equipment may only be used for the stated purposes set forth in the MOU.

### CDSS and the County agree as follows:

1. The County may request and CDSS will provide Mass Care and Shelter supplies that the County will store and maintain for the stated purposes set forth in this MOU and be responsible for all costs associated with the storage.
2. The County is authorized to enter into sub-agreements to release or reassign supplies and equipment or directly provide supplies and equipment without agreement to cities or other counties within MAR-V that may request Mass Care and Shelter supplies and equipment through surrounding MAR-V counties in accordance with the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS).



3. In the event of an emergency situation, the County may retain priority use of the locally stored sheltering supplies under this MOU and will update CDSS on the used inventory count to maintain accurate inventory numbers.
4. Accurate records and documents related to Mass Care and Shelter supplies and equipment assistance will be maintained by the County and provided to CDSS whenever the provided inventory counts change pursuant to use or provision to a city or other requesting county.
5. Operational policies and procedures and contact lists shall be developed by the County and provided to CDSS and MAR-V Mass Care and Shelter contacts of each county.
6. CDSS and the County may terminate its participation in this MOU upon ninety (90) days advance written notice to the other party.
7. This MOU shall in no way affect or have any bearing on any preexisting resource assistance or mutual aid contracts between the County and any other entity.
8. This MOU does not relieve the County or any other entity signing a sub-agreement with the County from the necessity and obligation of using its own resources for furnishing emergency Mass Care and Shelter services within any part of its jurisdiction.
9. The County assumes any and all liability, claims, losses, damages, or expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees, for personal injury (including death) or damage to property or losses arising from any negligent acts or omissions or willful misconduct related to the storage, maintenance, and use of the supplies.
10. The County shall require in its sub-agreements that the entity provided Mass Care and Shelter supplies shall assume any and all responsibility to inspect and maintain the assets monthly.

### III. Miscellaneous

Neither party to this MOU has the authority to act on behalf of the other party or bind the other party to any obligation set forth in this MOU. This MOU is not intended to be enforceable in any court of law or dispute resolution forum. The sole remedy for non-performance under this MOU shall be termination, with no damages or penalty.



#### IV. Signatures

**California Department of Social Services**

Print Name: JR ANTABLIAN

Title: Branch Chief, Disaster Services

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**County Authorized Representative**

Print Name: Nathan Magsig

Title: Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Attachment F – Annual Plan Review Procedure

All plans and procedures maintained by the Fresno County Office of Emergency Services are reviewed annually. The following procedures are used to perform an annual review of all emergency plans:

- ☐ Read the plan before starting the review process.
- ☐ Review the stakeholder contact list for the plan and update contacts as needed.
- ☐ If the plan was implemented or tested in the last year, review the After-Action Report/Improvement Plan (AAR/IP) for necessary revisions.
- ☐ If there were regulatory/legislative (local, state, or federal) changes within the last year that require update of the plan, review the regulatory/legislative requirements, and identify areas of the plan that require revisions.
- ☐ Review the Situation Overview section and update for any changes to potential hazards, demographics (if applicable), situational context, or relevant incidents that have occurred in the last year that may affect the planning environment.
- ☐ Schedule an annual plan review meeting with all applicable stakeholders to review the following plan content:
  - ☐ Assumptions
  - ☐ Situation Overview
  - ☐ Roles & Responsibilities
  - ☐ Emergency Organizational Structure (ICS Roles)
  - ☐ Concept of Operations
  - ☐ Checklists (if applicable)
  - ☐ Communication Procedures
  - ☐ Applicable Attachments/Annexes
- ☐ Collect feedback from stakeholders and update sections of the plan as necessary.
- ☐ Submit the plan to the Director of Emergency Services.
- ☐ Send out draft plan to all stakeholders for final review.
- ☐ Update the revision date of the plan.
- ☐ Schedule the next plan review date.

[illegible]