



# County of Santa Cruz

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## **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

5200 Soquel Ave, Bldg. C, Second Floor  
Santa Cruz, California 95062-7800  
TEL: 831-454-2715

### **Santa Cruz County Emergency Management Council 2017 Annual Report**

#### **Role of the Council**

The County Emergency Management Council was established to comply with the legal requirements of the State and to assist the Board of Supervisors and the Director of Emergency Services in the administration of Chapter 2.26 of the Santa Cruz County Code.

The County Emergency Management Council is empowered to develop and recommend for adoption to the Board of Supervisors, emergency and mutual aid plans and agreements, and such ordinances, resolutions, rules and regulations as may be necessary to implement such plans and agreements, and any necessary amendments thereto. (Ord. 3853 § 1 (part), 1987: prior code § 3.61.020: Ord. 2545, 3/21/78)

#### **Meeting Dates, Time and Location**

The Emergency Management Council generally meets the first Thursday of every second month, excluding the July meeting. The meeting location is held at the Emergency Operations Center with alternative location at local American Red Cross headquarters.

#### **Council Structure**

The Emergency Management Council shall consist of the following members:

A. The following individuals or designees:

1. Emergency services administrator of the county, or his or her designee;
2. Sheriff-coroner of the county, or his/her designee;
3. Public works director of the county, or his/her designee;
4. Planning director of the county, or his/her designee;
5. Area fire coordinator of the fire chiefs association, or his/her designee;
6. A representative of the county emergency medical services program, designated by the health services administrator;
7. Human Services Department, or his/her designee;

B. Representatives of the following agencies, as appointed by the board of supervisors upon nomination by such agencies:

1. University of California, Santa Cruz Campus;
2. Amateur Radio (RACES);
3. Local chapter of the American Red Cross;
4. Local Emergency Communications Committee for Monterey Bay (EAS);
5. Each incorporated city;
6. Medical Society of Santa Cruz County
7. Dominican Santa Cruz Hospital Force;
8. County Office of Education;
9. Watsonville Community Hospital;

C. Five members appointed by the Board of Supervisors.

D. One at large community member, who represents a local volunteer effort related to disaster planning.

**E. Other invited Community Members as noted on the updated sign in sheet attached**

### **Council Staff**

The Office of Emergency Services provides staff support and clerical services to the Council.

**Attendance for 2015 and 2016 - See attached Attendance Rosters**

**The following EMC membership and appointments have been brought up to date.**

- Santa Cruz – Paul Horvat
- Scotts Valley – John Wilson
- MRC – Heather Thomsen
- Aptos/La Selva – Scott Cullen
- Watsonville Tamera Vibes
- At Large Community member– Brian Sherin (in progress)
- Local Emergency Communications Committee of Monterey Bay (EAS) – Mark Carbonaro (in process)

### **Annual Goals and Accomplishments**

The County Emergency Operation Center and The Emergency Management Council now occupy a new location on the second floor of the Sheriff Administration building. This central location is more accessible to personnel and offers a state of the art facility to coordinate response to area disasters as well as essential training to County staff and Community partners. A major focus of the Council continues to be an emphasis on the necessity of coordinated response and recovery plans and organizational models between not only the County and the four cities, but also the other associated emergency response providers in the County.

Training continues to be an integral part of each Council meeting, where Council members now have a forum for discussion of Operational Area responsibilities and capabilities of member organizations.

During 2016, the Council served as a forum for presentations on Winter Weather briefings from National Weather Service staff; Best Practices Presentation on successful partnership and program implementation in disaster preparedness by Nick Gottuso, Coastside Coordinator, the Coastside Emergency Corps and Charise McHugh, Committee Chair, Coastside Emergency Action Program

### **CERT Council**

- The CERT Council is being re-established with Fire Dept. personnel to be named CERT Program Managers
- CERT Program Managers to oversee how CERT Teams are trained and deployed.
- Program Managers will be responsible for CERT Teams in their designated geographic region and will act as the single POC for those teams.
- CERT Council by-laws have been drafted and will be reviewed and adopted by the Council members

### **Homeland Security Grant Updates**

OES continues to work closely with the EMC on reporting Homeland Security, Hazard Mitigation, Emergency Management Performance and Bay Area Urban Security Initiative grant opportunities for the 2015-2017 grant program years.

### **EMC Website**

The Emergency Management Council web site has been determined to no longer be useful in the iteration it was developed and was found to be underutilized. The contract with the web developer had expired under the previous Emergency Manager's tenure and no follow up was provided to current staff.

### **OES Website**

The County OES web presence is now a County branded website, providing up to date information related to all things Emergency preparedness, prevention, status on current incidents and links to our vast County resources. The website also offers a 'Feature of the Month' making the current month's theme engaging as well as educational. The County has a relevant forward facing Emergency Services website that is now a tool the County can proudly promote with our community partners and county residents. <http://www.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/Departments/EmergencyServices/FeatureoftheMonth.aspx>. The website also links to the County Facebook page and Twitter utilizing social media as a means of expanded communication.

### **Local Hazard Mitigation Planning**

The County Office of Emergency Services in consultation with Laurie Lang, HSA Health Educator completed our Local Hazard Mitigation Plan supported by grant funds from FEMA. This plan is used identify and prioritize county hazard mitigation infrastructure improvement projects. **The County Planning Department coordinated the 5 year update and completed it in September 2015. The Plan is current through 2020 and is published on the OES website as well as the Planning Department website.**

## **Future Goals**

The Council expects to continue its emphasis on broadening member organizations understanding of the authorities, capabilities and needs of emergency response and recovery organizations in the County. This continues to be of particular importance in light of the 2016 Winter Storms and County Fires. Tsunami, Earthquake and Storm responses and coordination involves all levels of emergency response and preparedness. The Council continues to be committed to strengthening its strategic planning efforts to focus the County's emergency response assets in multidisciplinary training, establishment of funding priorities, organizational coordination and outreach to the community.

## **2015-16 Objectives**

1. Provide emergency management refresher training to the Council Members. **(Two trainings were offered in NIMS/SEMS combined training in September, 2016 and an EOC Management Course offered in October, 2016)**
2. Complete the EMC website rollout. **(Revised objective - see OES Website update)**
3. Customize Urban Area Security Regional Catastrophic Plans for mass care and shelter, mass fatality, debris removal, donation's management, volunteer management, mass evacuation and mass transportation. **(In Progress)**

## **2017-2018 Objective Recommendations**

1. Continue to meet on a bi-monthly basis.
2. Continue to include Council Member presentation and training as a portion of each meeting.
3. Update the County Emergency Management Plan (EMP) and publish to the OES website
4. Continue to support the development of integrated Emergency Response Plans and organizational models between the County, each City, and all public or private emergency response organizations and Non-Government Agencies in the County through UASI training opportunities and offering table top and functional exercises with said agencies.

## **Respectfully submitted by:**

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Emergency Services Manager  
County of Santa Cruz  
January 31, 2017