



**Stephanie Rawlings-Blake**  
Mayor

**CITY OF BALTIMORE**

**LEPC**

**LOCAL EMERGENCY  
PLANNING COMMITTEE**



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**Thursday, Dec. 11, 2014**  
**1:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

**Quarterly Meeting**  
**American Red Cross of the Chesapeake Region**  
**4800 Mount Hope Drive, Baltimore, MD 21215**

**MEETING MINUTES**

The Meeting was called to order at 1:18 by C.P Hsia, LEPC Vice-Chair who gave thanks to the Red Cross as well as congratulated Chris Young on his recent promotion to Regional Disaster Officer for the ARC Chesapeake. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes from the last meeting as distributed.

Connor Scott, Deputy Director MOEM welcomed the attendees and gave a brief overview of recent events and activities which included the protests and rallies happening in Baltimore City and its impact on surrounding communities. Protest organizers have communicated well with BPD, and BPD's objective is to allow protestors to exercise their first amendment rights while maintaining safety. BPD's Twitter account is the best method of staying informed of ongoing protest activities, including anticipated impacts and protest locations. Upcoming protests include 2 protests the evening of December 11<sup>th</sup>, one at MICA and one marching from Penn Station to Central Booking. Saturday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> from 2-3 PM an expected 500 protestors will gather at McKeldin Square. BPD has been using ICS to coordinate all activities.

**Government Update**

C.P. Hsia, MOEM, provided list of responses since Sept. Of note:

- 2202 Aisquith St. – Building fire, 3 alarm warehouse fire on a windy day. Embers spread starting 6 other structure fires. Mutual aid was called in from Anne Arundel, Howard, Baltimore County, and Harford County.
- 405 S. Paca St. – building collapse while contractors were inside. 2 initially trapped, 1 prolonged extrication. UMMC's go-team was dispatched and began patient care during extrication.
- 942 Jack St. – BPD requested BCFD hazmat for meth lab. 32 houses evacuated while scene was secured.

Samuel Johnson, MOEM, provided training update. Last month's Active Assailant Seminar was presented to a crowd of 970 people and included speakers from Sandy Hook, CT; The Mall in Columbia; the DC Navy Yard; and Perry Hall High School.

Register for upcoming classes directly at:

<https://memamaryland.csod.com/client/memamaryland/default.aspx> or contact [samuel.johnson@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:samuel.johnson@baltimorecity.gov) for assistance or to submit requests.

<b>G393 Mitigation for Emergency Managers</b>	<b>December 16-18, 2014</b>
<b>G191 ICS/EOC Interface</b>	<b>October 1, 2014</b>
<b>ICS300 Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents</b>	<b>October 13-15, 2014 (2 ½ days)</b>
<b>ICS400 Advanced ICS for Command and General Staff</b>	<b>October 15-16, 2014 (1 ½ Days)</b>
<b>G557 Rapid Needs Assessment</b>	<b>October 27, 2014</b>

<b>G110 Emergency Management Operations Course</b>	November 12-14, 2014
<b>G108 Community Mass Care</b>	December 09-10, 2014
<b>G202 Debris Management Planning</b>	January 20-22, 2015
<b>G386 Mass Fatalities Incident Course</b>	February 17-19, 2015
<b>G361 Flood Fight Operations</b>	March 17-18, 2015
<b>G235 Emergency Planning Course</b>	April 14-15, 2015
<b>G272 Warning Coordination</b>	May 19-20, 2015

Kevin Cleary, MOEM, provided summary of 2014 Public Safety Initiatives (PSIs). PSIs brought together City and private-non-profit (PNP) resources to target challenged neighborhoods and provide services and resources for community members. 4 PSIs were completed in 2014, planning 5 for 2015 due to success.

### **Citizens and Communities**

Kevin Cleary, MOEM/Baltimore City Citizen Corps Council, CERT is moving towards its neighborhood-based roots. Several members have gone to FEMA train-the-trainer classes to build the City's capacity. Most recent training was held for Loyola University, which targeted underclassmen to start the program.

### **Businesses**

C.P. Hsia, MOEM, reported on update to the Corporate Emergency Access System (CEAS). CEAS has expanded their capability to ease just-in-time credentialing for businesses to allow access to areas closed due to incidents. The new mobile app and training for police allows easier ID verification and logging of ingress and egress. BPD is updating their CEAS plan and working to train officers on the new mobile application.

### **Non-Profits**

Chris Young, Red Cross, reported on ARC restructuring. Nationally, the ARC has cut from 93 regions to 62. The Chesapeake Region has now absorbed the Delmarva Peninsula. Chris Young has also been appointed the Regional Disaster Officer for this chapter. Another national initiative is the Home Fire Preparedness Campaign, which aligned with the October PSI to install smoke detectors. ARC also provided behavioral health counseling during the PSIs.

### **Break**

### **Ebola Preparedness Panel**

- **Michael Mannozi** – Emergency Operations Manager, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
- **Meghan Stepanek** – Director of Public Health Preparedness and Response, Baltimore City Health Department
- **Chief James Matz** – Battalion Chief EMS, Baltimore City Fire Department
- **Captain Kimberly Staton** – Infection Control Officer, Baltimore City Fire Department
- **Dr. Brian Garibaldi** – Associate Medical Director, Osler 8 Biocontainment Unit, The Johns Hopkins Hospital

The panel stressed the importance of public information and education. Ebola, while deadly, is not highly contagious. There is almost no risk to Baltimore at this time. The current outbreak occurring in Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Mali is the largest in history with 18,000 reported cases and 6,800 reported deaths. There are no cases in the US at this time.

Maryland has convened an Infectious Disease Committee and regularly conferences with local, state, and federal partners to discuss plans and preparedness. 3 federally-designated Ebola treatment centers are in the Maryland (JHU, UMMC, and NIH), and the state's public health lab is approved to test for and handle Ebola. Several tabletop exercises have been conducted to

test procedures and preparedness. DHMH has also been pushing guidance to schools, correctional facilities, employers, clinicians, and local health departments while coordinating with the CDC. DHMH distributes weekly situation reports and conducts outreach to educate care providers throughout the chain of healthcare. Information is also distributed online, via social media, through provider networks, and meetings with community members.

Current priority is finalizing medical waste disposal plan.

BCHD has undertaken many of the same activities on the local level and emphasizes the importance of proper messaging and finding good information on Ebola. Basic protective actions also protect from the flu and other illnesses. Good sources of information can be found: <http://health.baltimorecity.gov/node/2272> and

CDC Ebola website: [www.cdc.gov/ebola](http://www.cdc.gov/ebola) It is updated very regularly. Here are some info tools that are particularly helpful for understanding Ebola and sharing information about risk.

- CDC: Top 10 Things you REALLY Need to Know about Ebola  
<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/top-10-things.pdf>
- CDC: Is it Flu or Ebola? (it is helpful as a health education tool to distinguish flu from Ebola. It also helps to illustrate that the risk is extremely low for the spread of Ebola in the community at large) <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/is-it-flu-or-ebola.pdf>
- CDC: Ebola- What's the difference between infection spread through the air or by droplets? <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/infections-spread-by-air-or-droplets.pdf>

Additional information

- CDC: Why Ebola is Not Likely to Become Airborne  
<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/mutations.pdf>
- CDC: How to Talk with your Children about Ebola:  
<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/how-talk-children-about-ebola.pdf>
- CDC: Questions and Answers about CDC's Ebola Monitoring & Movement Guidance:  
<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/exposure/gas-monitoring-and-movement-guidance.html>
- CDC: Ebola Information for West Africans Living in the United States:  
<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/information-for-west-africans-in-us.pdf>
- CDC: What is contact tracing? (describes how epidemiological investigations are conducted) <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/contact-tracing.pdf>

For ongoing infection control prevention, especially around flu season, check out CDC Print Materials: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/freeresources/print.htm> We also have additional copies of 'Cover your Cough' brochures and 'Wash Your Hands' brochures we can mail you. Let us know how many you'd like and the address of where we should send them.

BCFD EMS has procedures to divide patients into 3 categories: negative interview (has no travel history to Ebola-affected countries), positive interview and ambulatory, and positive interview non-ambulatory. Patient category is determined starting from the 911 call-taking process to screen for symptoms and travel history. Any flagged calls are relayed securely to the responders. EMS will equip one provider in PPE to interview patient to determine final category. The goal is to limit exposure to potential patients while providing adequate care. Hospitals will be notified if patient is deemed high-risk. Procedures are in place for handling contaminated equipment and decontaminating the ambulance. Additional notifications will be made to the BCFD Infection Control Officer, Hazmat Officer, BCHD, and DHMH.

The Johns Hopkins Hospital has been designated as an Ebola treatment facility. Preparations have been underway since the summer, and staff throughout the Hopkins system have received training on screening and infection control. At JHH, over 600 staff have received training and are conducting refreshers. Plans are also in place for patient transport, transportation of lab specimens, and waste disposal (currently estimated to be \$600,000 per patient). JHH is also about to open their biocontainment Unit, which will be a multi-room, secure facility designed to handle the worst airborne diseases with one-way flow, remote video equipment, and its own lab. 30 physicians and 60 nurses and staff have been trained to provide care in the biocontainment unit.

## Closing

This will be our last LEPC meeting for 2014. Please be on the lookout for our 2015 meeting notices. As always, contact [lepc@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:lepc@baltimorecity.gov) with any questions or if you would like to host a LEPC meeting.