



Sheila Dixon
Mayor

CITY OF BALTIMORE

LEPC

LOCAL EMERGENCY
PLANNING COMMITTEE



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Thursday September 20, 2007
9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Maryland Department of the Environment
1800 Washington Boulevard

MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 9:45 AM.

Adoption of Prior Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the July 19, 2007 meeting were approved.

LEPC Background, Administration, and Development

Mr. Adam Stolz, Office of Emergency Management, mentioned that the LEPC's origins are from 1986, when Congress passed the Emergency Preparedness Community Right To Know Act for chemical emergency preparedness. The LEPC currently aims to retain this focus on hazardous chemicals while expanding to encompass all hazards and all communities in the City.

Mr. Stolz mentioned the functions of the LEPC include informing and preparing the public; and preparing neighborhoods to deal with emergencies in the City.

Quarterly LEPC general meetings will be held for the public. Quarterly Advisory Committee meetings.

[See LEPC meeting slides]

PRESENTATIONS

Production & Storage of Hazardous Chemicals in Baltimore:

An Overview of Industry Trends and 2006 Tier II/EHS Reports
- Richard Sarudy, BCFD and Craig Owen, SBIMAP

Unfortunately Mr. Craig Owen was not able to attend due to unforeseen events this day. Mr. Sarudy provided an overview of the Tier II reporting process; hazmat production and shipments through the Port of Baltimore; hazmat emergency responses in the City; and local and national trends in hazmat transportation.

[See Hazmat slides and spill response summary]

Code Red 2007:

Successes and Lessons Learned from the City's Response to this Summer's Heat Waves
- Dr. Joshua Sharfstein, Commissioner of Health and Lt. Robert Maloney, OEM

Lt. Maloney provided an overview of the Code Red background, objectives, and planning process. Dr. Sharfstein reported on heat impact data from summer 2007. A sharp decline in hyperthermia

deaths was noted. The role of the City leadership, the media, and community organizations was commended for raising awareness of heat hazards.

[See Code Red slides]

PROGRAM/SECTOR REPORTS

Government

- Training & Exercises

- a. People's Community Health Clinic Exercise (8/11/07)
Mr. Scott Brillman, OEM, spoke about an exercise in August at the People's Community Health Center where the staff of 80 were trained in triage. The Health Department also attended. The exercise went very well.
- b. SBIMAP TTX (8/21/07)
Mr. Gene Reynolds, SBIMAP, reported on this tabletop exercise which simulated a train derailment. The exercise was well-attended and participants had a good opportunity to work through the incident response.
- c. Pandemic Flu Special Needs TTX (8/29/07)
Mr. Joel Palmer, BCHD, reported on this exercise held by MDOD to focus on the needs of residents with special needs in the event of a pandemic.
- d. Nautical Shield (9/8/07)
Mr. Stolz and Chief Donald Heinbuch, BCFD, reported on the Nautical Shield exercise held by the U.S. Coast Guard. Numerous agencies were involved in a tactical response and unified command.

Mr. Stolz introduced Mr. Wayne Brown, recently hired as the Training and Exercise Coordinator for OEM. He will be involved in coordinating upcoming City drills and is a contact for other agencies planning exercises.

- Hazmat/WMD

No report as this was already covered in Mr. Sarudy's presentation.

- Public Health Preparedness

Ms. Brooke Courtney, Director of the Baltimore City Health Department Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response, reported on ongoing planning initiatives including pandemic flu planning; Cities Readiness Initiative for anthrax preparedness; first responder prophylaxis; public-private partnerships; and continuity of operations planning.

- Law Enforcement

Major David Engel, Commander of the Baltimore Police Department Intelligence Section, discussed the continuing importance of citizens' vigilance and urged everyone to contact BPD at **888-223-0033** should they observe suspicious behavior.

- Public Warning

Lt. Richard Williams, OEM, reported on plans to upgrade a portion of the City's outdoor siren system. Major Scott Roper, Baltimore Police Department, reported on the City's reverse 911 notification system.

Citizens

- CERT
Mr. Doug Brooks, OEM, reported on the City's Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) program.
- RACES
Brief mention was made of the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES) program and the need for volunteer operators.
- Community Reports
This is an opportunity each meeting for individual communities to report on preparedness activities in their respective areas.

Businesses

- BECON
Mr. Stolz reported on the Baltimore Emergency Communications Network (BECON), a system for communicating between the City and major employers in an emergency. The system is currently being expanded outside of the downtown area with pilot groups. This section of the meeting is an opportunity for businesses to report on their preparedness activities.
- SBIMAP
Mr. Gene Reynolds and Mr. Peter Colegrove gave an overview of the South Baltimore Mutual Aid Plan (SBIMAP). The group was founded in 1982 to foster coordination between businesses and government in preparing for and responding to chemical emergencies. SBIMAP has received widespread recognition and has a long history of collaboration with the LEPC.
- Non-Profits
This is an opportunity for non-profit organizations to report on their preparedness activities.
- Other

Old Business

None

New Business

Mr. Burt Sklar, Department of Public Works, mentioned the EPA Region III Preparedness conference being held in Pittsburgh December 2-5, 2007. In prior years this conference has been held in Baltimore and the LEPC has a significant interest in seeing it return to Baltimore. Several attendees expressed interest in attending.

LEPC funding was brought up. Ms. Patricia Williams, Maryland Department of the Environment, provided an overview of the Community Right to Know grant funding purpose and uses. A more full report on LEPC finances will occur at the next meeting.

Lt. Maloney introduced the OEM staff and recognized Mr. Antonio Hayes, Deputy Chief of Staff for Mayor Dixon.

Details on the next LEPC General Meeting will be announced.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.