



Sheila Dixon  
Mayor

CITY OF BALTIMORE

# LEPC

LOCAL EMERGENCY  
PLANNING COMMITTEE



Robert Maloney  
Director

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Tuesday, June 24, 2008  
9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Morgan State University  
1700 East Cold Spring Lane

## MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 9:20 AM.

### Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the meeting of March 25, 2008, were approved as distributed.

### Announcements

Mr. Adam Stolz, Deputy Director of the Mayor's Office of Emergency Management (MOEM), welcomed attendees and introduced Mr. Adrian Wiggins, Chief of the Morgan State University Police. Chief Wiggins on behalf of University President Dr. Earl Richardson thanked the LEPC for selecting Morgan to host today's LEPC meeting. Wayne Brown, MOEM acknowledged Dr. Payton of the University President's office who was also in attendance.

### PROGRAM/SECTOR REPORTS

#### Government

- **Incidents & Events**

- **Overtaken Tanker, Scott Brillman - MOEM**

At approximately 0300 hours on June 10, 2008, a gasoline tanker overturned on the I-95 on-ramp in Federal Hill spilling fuel onto the railroad tracks below. BCFD quickly responded and extinguished a fire that was confined to the cab of the vehicle. A Hazmat contingent also responded. Door to door notifications were made to residents in the immediate vicinity but evacuation was not warranted. The MARC train system experienced interruption to service for a few hours. There were no injuries.

- **Homeless Sheltering Update - Robert Maloney, Director/MOEM**

- In response to the mandate set forth by Mayor Dixon to provide shelter nightly to those in need, a 24 hour shelter was activated on Fayette Street and operated at full capacity each evening which can probably be attributed to the kindness of the staff and an outreach to connect clients with available resources. Efforts are ongoing to open another 24 hour shelter in approximately 120 days.
- Two large encampments which were unclean, unsafe, and rodent infested have been eliminated, and where applicable residents moved to drug treatment facilities.

- **Code Red Heat Alert Program Update – R. Maloney**

The Code Red Heat Alert Program is the collaboration of city agencies and outside organizations whose purpose is to manage the effects of extreme heat on the public, especially the most vulnerable citizens. The City is being proactive in planning efforts

including: Medic units tracking hyperthermia cases; public education outreach (Mayor's press conference); police follow up on 311 reports of concern for citizens; ice distributions and CERT Team activations as needed.

- **Training & Exercises – Wayne Brown, Exercise & Training Coordinator, MOEM**
  - Radiation Seminar: On March 28<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Links from JHU led a Seminar for City Employees on the effects of a radiation event. Attendees viewed clips from the HBO movie “Dirty Wars” which is about the affects on a community after a “dirty bomb”. There was a discussion of Hazmat procedures and equipment led by Lt. Ric Sarudy of the BCFD. There was also a panel question and answer forum.
  - Baltimore City Health Department COOP TTX – Meghan Butasek, BCHD, reported on this TTX which included activation of an Incident Operations Center, SNS relay requests, a call down drill, and testing of the 800 MHz system and resulted in a lot of useful feedback from the leaders to incorporate into the plan.
  - Baltimore City participated in the National Level Hurricane Exercise which included an evaluation of decision making and coordination of agencies at local, state and federal levels.
  - Raven Stadium Exercise/“Operation Purple Haze” – A regional/functional evacuation/mass casualty/mass decontamination exercise is scheduled for August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Participation interest should be forwarded to Wayne Brown [wayne.brown@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:wayne.brown@baltimorecity.gov) or 410.396-6182.
  - Upcoming MTA Exercise – (a drill that will simulate an afternoon rush hour attack on the metro) to test emergency response notification procedures, interagency communication, equipment and training needs, effectiveness of current response plans and procedures, interagency coordination, and triage, transport and treatment of casualties.

## Citizens

- **CERT – Scott Brillman, MOEM**
  - The Team Communication Alert System (web based) is now live.
  - Equipment for the teams (which includes AM/FM radios and ID & Medical supplies) has arrived and will soon be distributed.
  - There is collaboration with The Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods to actively enhance CERT member recruitment efforts.
  - The CERT web site will soon be available at [www.baltimorecitycert.com](http://www.baltimorecitycert.com) where each team will have its own page.
  - A team leader meeting is scheduled for July 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in Fairfield. New equipment will be distributed.
  - Upcoming planning includes development of geographically placed specialized teams, such as: Flagging, Flooding, and Medical.
- **Citizen Corps – S. Brillman**
  - The Citizen Corp Council is a subcommittee of the LEPC that focuses on educating the public in emergency preparedness. It is open to members of the public, government agencies, private companies and non-profit organizations interested in broadcasting the emergency preparedness message in Baltimore City. It's mission is to coordinate and deliver programs to educate the public about hazards. The next meeting will be scheduled sometime in September. Anyone interested should contact Scott Brillman at [scott.brillman@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:scott.brillman@baltimorecity.gov) or 410-396-6182.

## Businesses

- **Corporate Emergency Access System (CEAS) – A. Stolz**
  - CEAS is a pre-event credentialing program that allows critical business employees to gain access to restricted areas following a disaster or serious emergency by using a secure identification card recognized by the police. The CEAS Program goal is to help businesses mitigate damage and loss resulting from a disaster or emergency. This is accomplished by allowing businesses more rapid access to restricted areas following emergency events. A meeting was held in downtown Baltimore and surveys have been distributed for businesses to complete. An implementation committee is being formed.
  
- **SBIMAP**
  - No report.

## OLD BUSINESS

None

## NEW BUSINESS

- **Region III EPA Spills Conference**
  - Katrina Harris reported that efforts are underway to bring this conference back to Baltimore for 2009. Meetings have been held with BACVA and local hotels. It has been here three times previously (2001, 2002 and 2005). The possible dates are either the week prior to Thanksgiving or December 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>. The 2008 Conference will be in Richmond in October.

## PRESENTATIONS

### **Dangerous Summertime Weather – Preparing & Reacting** **Christopher Strong, Warning Coordination Meteorologist** **National Weather Service, Baltimore-Washington Office**

Mr. Strong gave an overview of his agency which is a federal entity under the Department of Commerce/NOAA and his forecasting office which has a staff of 25 and operates 24/7 – 365 days per year and whose mission is to protect people's lives and property by alerting of impending dangerous weather conditions and how to react. He noted that flash flooding is the greatest threat to lives and property during and soon after a storm. The peak Hurricane season is August – October and though actual hurricanes are less common in this area, remnants of a hurricane or tropical storm pose the same threat but on a lesser scale. During a weather event with a potential to be life threatening a "watch" alert means to watch out and keep tabs on what is being predicted and a "warning" means to take action to protect yourself as something is happening or about to happen. A "hurricane watch" means that the storm is approximately 3-4 days out and a "hurricane warning" indicates that the storm is less than 24 hours away.

**For more information contact Christopher Strong [cstrong@noaa.gov](mailto:cstrong@noaa.gov)**

### **Floodplains 21<sup>st</sup> Century - Connecting with the Public & Future Challenges** **Kenneth Hranicky and Peter Conrad** **Baltimore City Department of Planning**

A presentation and brief history of rainfall and flooding events was discussed. In 1974 Baltimore obtained membership in the NFIP whose goal it is to insure that the community can get up and running soon after a flooding event. FEMA is currently doing a map modernization project that will assist members of the NFIP to update maps. Computer mapping will vastly improve the quality of floodplain mapping but it requires a huge amount of time and data collecting. Also discussed was the IPCC Assessment report which assesses the risk of climate change based upon human activity and to develop models to predict effects and determine solutions. The state's final action report is being finalized, but part of the

recommendations include elevation of new development and building height restrictions (both having ADA implications). The city has plans to notify property owners in newly defined flood zones and is looking at establishing a risk notification process. Reimbursement for damage is based upon the level of insurance which may be mandated by the mortgage lender.

**The next LEPC general meeting will be held in September 2008. Date and location will be announced. Recommendations for location or interest in hosting the meeting should be forwarded to Adam Stolz.**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.