

SARASOTA COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Emergency Services

TO: Sarasota County Commission
THROUGH: Thomas A. Harmer, County Administrator
FROM: Richard A. Collins, Director, Emergency Services
Edward J. McCrane, Emergency Management Chief
DATE: May 5, 2015
SUBJECT: **Adoption of the Sarasota County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan**

RECOMMENDED MOTION(S) OR ACTION(S):

To adopt a Resolution approving the Sarasota County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan as the formal guide for the County's Emergency Management activities, pursuant to Section 252.38(2), Florida Statutes.

BACKGROUND:

Section 252.38, Florida Statutes requires counties to establish and maintain an emergency management agency and develop a county emergency management plan that is coordinated and consistent with the state comprehensive emergency management plan. Each county is required to work collaboratively with the Florida Department of Emergency Management to seek approval and renewal of their comprehensive emergency management plan every five years. The approved plan must be submitted to the Board of County Commissioners for adoption in compliance with the requirements, format and standards contained in Rule 9G-6, Florida Administrative Code.

RELEVANT PRIOR BOARD ACTION:

1. June 30, 2009: The Board adopted resolution 2009-127 approving the current Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP).

ANALYSIS/NEXT STEPS:

The Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan is an operational orientated document authorized by Chapter 252, Florida Statutes. The CEMP establishes the framework to ensure that Sarasota County and its municipalities will be adequately prepared to deal with all hazards threatening the lives and property of Sarasota County citizens. The CEMP identifies specific hazards, vulnerabilities, and risks to the county, establishes a concept of operations during disasters, and provides specific guidance in processes related to recovery from a disaster, as well as mitigation of threats to disaster.

The CEMP may also contain annexes beyond the basic plan based upon the county's needs and potential hazards. The plan may also contain a terrorism annex which is exempt from public records requests. These annexes are not required by the State and may be added, deleted, and updated as necessary. Anytime the basic plan is changed or updated it must be reviewed, approved by the State, and then readopted by the Board. In this latest update of the CEMP, staff identified and enhanced multiple

components of the basic plan. These updates incorporate the latest trends in disaster management and include:

- The foundational structure for the management of disasters to incorporate the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- A streamlined and more effective organizational structure for the Division of Emergency Management.
- The use of an Emergency Management Working Group with membership from County departments to facilitate disaster planning and programmatic implementation.
- The roles and responsibilities of County department directors in the leadership of the Emergency Operations Center functions during a disaster.
- A fundamental emphasis and process for developing a Common Operating Picture and Situational Awareness among County departments, agencies, and municipalities during a disaster.
- The use of Department Disaster Preparedness Plans (DDPP) for County departments.
- Updates to the strategic roles and membership of the Executive Policy Group during disasters.

The Emergency Management team will utilize the CEMP in the development and enhancement of various plans, projects, and annexes including:

- Emergency Operations Center Operational Guide Annex
- Terrorism Annex
- Department Disaster Preparedness Plans
- Improved Continuity Of Operations Plans
- Director and Manager emergency operations training sessions
- Disaster exercises and workshops

STAFF RECOMMENDATION(S):

Staff recommends the approval of the 2015 Sarasota County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan as this plan not only meets the requirements of the Florida Department of Emergency Management, but provides the County with an effective and detailed plan of action to respond and recover from disasters.

FUNDING:

Funding for future required updates to the CEMP will be from the Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistance (EMPA) Base Grant program.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)
2. Resolution