



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
July 25, 2017

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
 From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager
 Submitted by: Gil Dong, Fire Chief
 Subject: Rescind Resolution No. 62,957-N.S. and Adopt a Resolution for Continual Participation in the Alameda County Operational Area

RECOMMENDATION

Rescind Resolution No. 62,957-N.S. and adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with the Alameda County Operation Area Emergency Management Organization.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

None.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City of Berkeley participates in Statewide emergency management structures defined at the State level. That participation is codified through an agreement with the Alameda County Operational Area Emergency Management Organization. The agreement must be updated every ten years. At this time, the City needs to renew its commitment to participate.

BACKGROUND

As a result of the 1991 East Bay Hills firestorm, State Senator Nicholas Petris sponsored legislation that established the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), in California. As part of SEMS, cities participate in Operational Area¹ agreements. These agreements establish the administrative pathways that enable resource sharing among cities, counties and the State during disasters.

In January 1995, in accordance with State statutes, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors first developed the Alameda County Operational Area Emergency Management Organization.

The agreement adopted by the County Board of Supervisors on May 16, 2016 will be effective until December 31, 2025. This agreement establishes a cooperative effort with the following features:

¹ An Operational Area is defined in California Government Code §8559(b) as “an intermediate level of the state emergency services organization consisting of a county and all political subdivisions within the county area.”

- A partnership for exchanging disaster information, mutual aid requests, and resource requests in emergencies;
- Supports cooperative disaster preparedness efforts;
- No monetary compensation is required for participants to be members of the organization;
- The State's SEMS regulations and guidelines will guide the policies and procedures of the organization;
- The Alameda County Sheriff/Director of Emergency Services serves as the Operational Area Coordinator and is responsible for assuring the representation of all affected jurisdictions in decision-making before, during, and after a disaster occurs; and
- A representational Operational Area Council is established to review and approve policies and procedures for the organization and serve as Alameda County's Civil Defense and Disaster Council.

On April 16, 1996, the Berkeley City Council adopted Resolution No. 58,407-N.S., authorizing the City Manager to agree to participate in the Alameda County Operational Area Emergency Management Organization. Council again authorized participation on February 15, 2005 through Resolution No. 62,957-N.S.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

No environmental effects.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The preservation of life, property and the environment is the responsibility of local, state and federal government. This agreement ensures a unified and coordinated effort between state and local government agencies to facilitate mutual aid and to ensure the effective and efficient use of regional and local resources in the event of a catastrophe. The City's continued participation in the Operational Area Emergency Management Organization is a key step toward that goal.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None considered.

CONTACT PERSON

Keith May, Assistant Fire Chief, Berkeley Fire Department, 510-981-5508

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

ADOPTING A REVISED RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN ALAMEDA COUNTY OPERATIONAL AREA AGREEMENT, AND RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO. 62,957-N.S.

WHEREAS, the potential for a major catastrophe due to natural or human-caused disaster requires all government entities within Alameda County to be prepared to share resources and information among themselves as well as with the State of California in order to protect the public welfare; and

WHEREAS, greater efficiency and disaster preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation can be achieved by combining the efforts of the County of Alameda, other cities, special districts, and other public benefit non-profit corporations in pre-disaster agreements; and

WHEREAS, the California Emergency Services Act makes reference to the “operational area” and defines it as “an intermediate level of the state emergency services organization” created to perform extraordinary functions for local government within a county area such as strengthening mutual coordination, providing a focal point and conduit for disaster information, and assisting in the efficient management of resources.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that Resolution No. 62,957-N.S. is hereby rescinded.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute an agreement with the Alameda County Operational Area Emergency Management Organization and amendments thereto; a record signature copy of all agreements and amendments to be on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

