Community and Personal Preparedness

BRACING YOURSELF FOR THE BIG ONE

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Issues of Recovery After a Major Earthquake
Office of Emergency Management

- OEM is responsible for organizing and directing preparedness efforts of the Emergency Management Organization of Los Angeles County.
- OEM is the day-to-day Los Angeles County coordinator for the entire geographic area of the county.

Planning and Coordination

Operations

Training

Technical Operations

Public Education
Phases of a Disaster

- Preparedness
- Response
- Mitigation
- Recovery

Disaster Event
Can You Prepare for Recovery?

What we know: The systems we normally rely on will not be available or will not work the same way.

What we don’t know:

- Which and how many systems will fail?
- What plans are in place?
- How much help to expect from others?
- How priorities are ordered and that we agree on the important things?
- Who will have the loudest voice?
- What others think of our neighborhood?
- How stressful this will be?
- How to define “Recovery”
Recovery Priorities

1. Government/Infrastructure

2. Families and Households

3. Business Stabilization/Resumption
Assistance Programs

- State and Federal Assistance Programs
  - Are not intended to restore what you had
  - Are very limited in direct financial assistance
  - Will require that you apply first for loans

- Assistance from Non-Profit Organizations
  - Local, Regional, Statewide and National Programs
  - Red Cross, Faith-based, Service Club, Faith Groups…etc
The Four Pillars

Physical  Government  Social  Economic
Road Damage
Red Tagged
Physical Recovery

- The earth is no longer shaking, much.
- Some roads are closed, traffic is horrible and unpredictable, big equipment rules the streets.
- There is still lots of debris on smaller streets, private property and piled in designated areas.
- Utilities are uncertain or patch-worked or not available.
- Parks are a mess, or still being used by assistance agencies.
- Strangers are inspecting everything.
- New hazards are announced weekly.
Unfamiliar Landmarks
What’s Going On

- Setting priorities.
- Struggling to provide essential services and adjust to high demands and urgent needs.
- Coordinating acceptance/distribution donated goods and coordinating with voluntary agencies.
- Holding meetings, press conferences and interviews to “get the word out” on recovery activities.
- Talking to community leaders special interest groups and the public about recovery plans, health consequences and new community planning options.
- Restoring essential facilities, equipment, records, etc.
- Setting up “Centers”.
- Garnering political support and assistance.
Option #1 – Short Term
Option #2 – Mid Term
Option #3 – Mid to Long Term
Government Recovery

What it Feels Like

- Lines are long and it’s almost impossible to get the help I need while trying to work/go to school.
- Nothing is organized and it’s clear nobody knows what they are doing or can tell me what I need to do.
- There is so much information that I can’t tell what is important … or that it’s true.
- Boring meetings with hard to understand information are taking place in my neighborhood…apparently there are going to be big changes?
- Strangers who “care” are trying to tell me what I should do/expect/pay for.
- Why are they wasting time on “_____”? 
- Everything is taking too long.
Endless“News”
Getting Help
Potential Recovery Centers

- FEMA Center
- Local Assistance Center
- Emergency Volunteer Center
- Family Assistance Center
- Evacuation Center
- Emergency Shelter
- Jobs Center
- One-Stop

- Insurance Centers
- Church Volunteers
- Scouting Projects
- Business Volunteers
- Distribution Centers
- Many many more...
Public health and social services are working and suspended services are coming back...even if they look different.

Family and individual preparedness is better understood and becomes behavioral.

Local Assistance Centers, Employment Centers, Permit Centers, etc. are helping to streamline processes.
Battle for the Future

A SMALLER FOOTPRINT
When then-Mayor Ray Nagin's Bring New Orleans Back Commission unveiled this map in early 2006, it sparked an outcry in neighborhoods where green dots designated areas where parks might be created. Nearly five years later, urban planners seem to have been right in their predictions that letting property owners rebuild everywhere would produce a gap-toothed effect of remodeled homes amid a sea of blight. On the other hand, some of the green dot areas have had substantial rebuilding.
Social Recovery

- Communities participate in recovery decisions and can accept change.
- New or re-established local networks help to restore community values.
- Mental health services are accessible and community stress is manageable.
Economic Recovery

* Transportation * Jobs * Housing * Healthcare *

- Addressing economic losses of the community
- Identifying available working capital
- Promoting businesses in damaged areas
- Maximizing consumer base
- Reestablishing commercial services
- Facilitating business recovery
- Securing disaster business loans and grants
- Establishing documentation system to collect and store disaster-related costs to ensure reimbursement opportunities
Fundamental Changes
The Housing Dilemma
Join Us for the Largest Earthquake Drill in U.S. History.

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www.shakeout.org