



Annex C: Emergency Support Function #3 – Public Works

November 2020

Coordinating Agency

Hamilton County Environmental Services

Supporting Agencies

Hamilton County Engineer's Office
Hamilton County Facilities
Hamilton County Planning + Development
Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office
Hamilton County Public Health
Hamilton County Purchasing
American Red Cross, Greater Cincinnati Tri-State Chapter
Greater Cincinnati Water Works
Local Jurisdictional Public Works Agencies
Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati

Introduction

Purpose

The purpose of Emergency Support Function (ESF) #3 – Public Works is to establish how activities related to public works and engineering will be coordinated during and after disasters to meet the emergency needs of Hamilton County, OH. This ESF describes the operational components as well as roles and responsibilities of the agencies necessary to fulfill the duties of ESF #3.

Scope

ESF #3 serves to coordinate activities related to public works and engineering in Hamilton County during the response and recovery phases of the emergency management cycle. During and shortly after the incident, ESF #3 is responsible for supporting local jurisdictions in addressing public works issues including debris removal, providing technical advice related to engineering questions, and addressing temporary construction issues in areas the county is directly responsible for.

Activities of ESF #3 include provision of technical advice, demolition and stabilization projects, inspections, evaluations, contracting, reconnaissance, emergency repairs, temporary and permanent construction, debris removal and public works/engineering emergency supply and support services.

Situation

There is no single county organization that has oversight over all varieties of public works/engineering assistance that may be required following a disaster. In general, Hamilton County Environmental Services can address most of the public works and debris management issues, therefore they serve as the lead agency for this function. The Hamilton County Engineer's Office will be used to address most engineering concerns and act as a Support Agency to Hamilton County Environmental Services. All support agencies for ESF #3 may be required to report individually on their emergency missions when activated in the Regional Operations Center or at the site of the disaster.

Disasters cause property damage to homes, public buildings and other facilities. Those structures may require reinforcement, demolition or isolation to ensure safety. Public utilities may be partially or fully

inoperable following disasters. (Refer to ESF #12 – Energy for energy utility information and ESF #2 – Communications for communications information.)

Equipment in the immediate disaster area may be damaged or inaccessible. County government may have to deploy resources from outside the affected area in order to ensure a quick, effective response.

Assumptions

Planning requires assumptions based on statistics, history, behavior patterns and likely future trends. The following assumptions were made as consideration for ESF #3:

- ESF #3 will prioritize county emergency missions by addressing life safety and human health issues first.
- Rapid damage assessment of the disaster area will be necessary to determine potential workload (See Annex E, Tab A – Damage Assessment Plan).
- The Hamilton County Debris Management Annex will be activated for disposal of materials from debris clearance and demolition activities. (See Tab A – Debris Management)
- County and local agency requirements remain in effect unless revised by the appropriate authorities in accordance with applicable rules and regulations. Additional consumer protection programs may be put in place to protect citizens.
- ESF #3 support services for the disaster area may be provided to some degree by contracted agencies or mutual aid.

Concept of Operations

Overview

1. When the Hamilton County EOC is open, the Operations Coordination Section Chief will notify agencies of ESF #3 when public works and engineering capabilities are required for county assessment, response and recovery activities during emergencies. Full or partial activation of ESF #3 will depend upon the requirements for response and recovery.
2. Personnel from ESF #3 Coordinating and Support Agencies are prepared to staff the Regional Operations Center on a twenty-four-hour basis and provide personnel and equipment as applicable for emergency response and recovery activities at the disaster site.
3. Additional public works and engineering services and equipment may be contracted on an emergency basis when required for response and recovery operations.
4. The Ohio National Guard (ONG) is a state asset that, if activated, may provide personnel and equipment for the following public works/engineering emergency activities:
 - a. Debris removal
 - b. Damage Assessment
 - c. Demolition and/or emergency repairs or stabilization of unsafe public structures
 - d. Engineering reconnaissance
 - e. Delivery of potable water
 - f. Assistance with emergency drainage problems
5. Close coordination is maintained between ESF #3 organizations during emergencies to:
 - Prioritize response and recovery missions
 - Share and update information
 - Ensure expedient response and recovery actions
 - Avoid redundant activities
 - Ensure a unified effort when working with local, county, state, federal, and private organizations

- Provide accurate intelligence to other organizations in the Hamilton County EOC and at the site of the emergency
6. Each ESF #3 organization is responsible for providing logistical support to their personnel and for tracking and maintaining equipment and supplies.
 7. The pre-positioning of ESF #3 resources may take place depending upon the nature of the hazard.
 8. Provisions shall be made for the maintenance, repair, and storage of equipment in protected locations to ensure safe operation.
 9. ESF #3 will coordinate with ESF #7 — Resource Management, and ESF #5 — Information & Planning when establishing staging areas for personnel, equipment, and supplies. This will ensure that the best sites are identified, established, and that site locations, contact numbers, and capabilities are distributed to personnel needing this information.
 10. Deactivation of ESF #3 can be a long-term process, extending deep into the recovery phase since public works and engineering projects may require many months of activity. Deactivation will be coordinated with local officials.

Relationship Between Levels of Government

1. Federal
 - a. Federal ESF #3 may be activated for emergencies in Ohio requiring federal assistance. The federal ESF #3 Team is composed of the following organizations:
 - i. Department of Defense, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Primary Agency)
 - ii. Department of Agriculture
 - iii. Department of Commerce
 - iv. Department of Health and Human Services
 - v. Department of the Interior
 - vi. Department of Labor
 - vii. Department of Veterans Affairs
 - viii. Environmental Protection Agency
 - ix. Tennessee Valley Authority
 - b. The state ESF #3 Team will coordinate with the federal ESF #3 Team by working with them in the field, in the Disaster Field Office (DFO) and by providing them with emergency missions that are beyond the capabilities of ESF #3.
2. State
 - a. Ohio Department of Natural Resources is the state liaison organization between Ohio and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
 - b. The Ohio Adjutant General's Department is the state liaison organization between Ohio and the Department of Defense.
 - c. State ESF #3 organizations may contract with and coordinate with a wide variety of private public works and engineering services in order to provide expedient response and recovery to communities during emergencies.
 - d. Each ESF #3 organization maintains internal listings of private organizations that may be needed for specific services during emergencies. Coordination and approval will be obtained with appropriate fiscal and executive personnel within each organization and the Ohio EOC/Disaster Field Office before a commitment to a private provider is made.
 - e. ESF #3 organizations will coordinate with ESF #3 organizations from adjacent states when required during emergencies.
3. County/Local
 - a. Local-level emergency requests for county public works/engineering resources and services communicated to the Regional Operations Center will be directed to ESF #3 personnel for action.
 - b. Requests for ESF #3 assistance, made by local officials to ESF #3 personnel at the site of the emergency, will be coordinated with and approved by ESF #3 ROC personnel before action is taken.

Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities

The Hamilton County Environmental Services (HCES) has the primary responsibility for the public works functions in Hamilton County. HCES will serve as the coordinating agency for this ESF.

Coordinating Agency Responsibilities

Hamilton County Environmental Services will:

1. Coordinate the activities of Support Agencies within ESF #3 to fulfill operational objectives.
2. Direct the activities of the ESF #3 in conjunction with assistance from ESFs at the local, State, or Federal levels as applicable.
3. Collaborate with other Coordinating Agencies to ensure an effective response between ESFs.
4. Designate sufficient representatives (no less than three) to support/staff 24-hour operations at the Hamilton County EOC. The Hamilton County EMHSA will maintain listings of these personnel, 24-hour contact information, and directions for contacting them in the event of communication outages.
5. Develop and train all staff responsible for implementing ESF #3 on standard operating procedures.
6. Share ESF #3 activity information with appropriate EOC personnel.
7. Prioritize ESF #3 operational strategies in alignment with the EOC and on scene objectives.
8. Receive, manage, and track resource requests for ESF #3 in accordance with established resource management procedures.
9. Coordinate with ESF #15 – Emergency Public Information for the inclusion of appropriate information for public dissemination.
10. Provide longer-term coordination of debris removal across Hamilton County and support the restoration and recovery of infrastructure with engineering technical support.
11. Assist in the development of the After Action Report. This report is a detailed, written analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of county-level emergency response and short-term recovery activities based upon extensive research of the event and interviews with participating assessment, response, and short-term recovery personnel.

Supporting Agencies Responsibilities

Hamilton County Engineer's Office will:

1. Provide personnel and equipment for the following engineering emergency activities:
 - a. Remove debris in public right of way.
 - b. Repair within the public right of way
 - c. Engineering reconnaissance.
 - d. Assist with demolition, emergency repairs, or stabilization of unsafe public structures.
 - e. Address emergency drainage problems.
 - f. Ensure emergency access where needed.

Hamilton County Facilities will:

1. Provide personnel and equipment for the following public works emergency activities:
 - a. Debris removal from county property.
 - b. Damage assessment of county property.
 - c. Provide technical assistance for inspections, emergency repairs, or demolition of damaged county property.
2. Provide technical recommendations as requested by ESF #3 organizations during emergencies.
3. Provide equipment and personnel for ESF #3 operations.

Hamilton County Planning + Development will:

1. Provide personnel for building inspections and flood damage assessments as needed at the site of the emergency.
2. Provide technical assistance for inspections, emergency repairs, or demolition of damaged public buildings.
3. Assist search and rescue efforts by providing information needed for the mission.

Hamilton County Prosecutor’s Office will:

1. Review all projects on behalf of Hamilton County agencies for legal issues and impacts associated with disaster response and recovery.
2. Provide legal advice to Hamilton County decision makers as required.

Hamilton County Public Health will:

1. Coordinate with Ohio EPA and local agencies to maintain and/or restore sanitation standards for public works facilities in the disaster area.
2. Coordinate with Ohio EPA and the affected Public Works agency to issue boil water advisories and alerts with respect to damaged public works facilities in the disaster area.

Hamilton County Purchasing will:

1. Establish contracts with agencies able to assist with debris removal, demolition, and repair of buildings, roadways, and bridges as required.

American Red Cross, Greater Cincinnati Tri-State Chapter will:

1. Coordinate with volunteer agencies and work groups to obtain information and referral sources for emergency repairs and debris removal.

Greater Cincinnati Water Works will:

1. Determine the locations and extent of line breaks and coordinate with jurisdiction agencies for repairs and traffic control.
2. Coordinate the delivery of potable water.
3. Coordinate the issuance of boil water advisories and alerts.

Local Jurisdictional Public Works Agencies will:

1. Maintain jurisdiction streets
2. Perform damage assessment
3. Clear debris
4. Provide emergency equipment as needed

Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati will:

1. Determine location and extent of line breaks
2. Coordinate with Jurisdictions for repairs and decontamination, if necessary
3. Coordinate with Jurisdictions for traffic control, as necessary.

Reference

Ohio Emergency Management Agency. (2020). *Recovery Toolbox: Debris Management*. Retrieved from https://ema.ohio.gov/Recovery_DebrisInfo.aspx

Attachments

Tab A – Debris Management Plan