

City of Alexandria EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Code of Virginia § 44–146.19 authorizes and requires each political subdivision within the Commonwealth to be responsible for local disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. The statute requires the preparation and maintenance of a local emergency operations plan that includes the responsibilities of all local agencies, and that establishes a chain of command. Pursuant to the same statute, a comprehensive review and revision of the local emergency operations plan must be conducted every four years to ensure that the plan remains current and that locality’s governing body must formally adopt the revised plan. The City of Alexandria Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), developed in coordination with City of Alexandria departments and offices, as well as mutual aid organizations, non–profit organizations, state agencies, federal agencies, business organizations, and other concerned community organizations, serves as the local emergency operations plan required by Virginia Statute § 44–146.19. The Alexandria Office of Emergency Management coordinates the review and updates to this plan with other City departments/offices and non-governmental organizations throughout the perpetual emergency planning process. This is a high-level, strategic document designed to provide the framework and structure for all City Departments and non-governmental partners during the response to a major emergency.

To facilitate effective intergovernmental operations, this EOP adopts an organizational approach that groups City departments and non-governmental partners into functional areas that typically need to be addressed during an emergency or disaster. These functional areas are called Emergency Support Functions (ESFs). Each ESF outlines the likely actions needed for a response operation along with department-specific responsibilities. Each ESF is led by a “Primary Agency,” which – in each case – is a City department or office that has been so designated based on its authorities, resources, and capabilities in the functional area. The EOP also includes support annexes. Support annexes describe the framework through which the City departments, private-sector, not-for-profit and volunteer organizations, and other non-governmental organizations coordinate and execute common emergency management strategies. The actions described in the support annexes apply to every type of emergency or disaster.

The 2021 EOP update includes the following:

- Follow the Federal Emergency Management Agency guidance by removing components in the 2016 EOP that are not Federally recognized as ESFs.
 - Those that are not Federally recognized as ESFs are now support annexes.
- The Basic Plan portion of the EOP will be made available on the City’s website for the public once approved by City Council
- The Red Cross status was changed from a Primary Agency to Support Agency in ESF # 6 – Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Temporary Housing, & Human Services

The table that follows shows all of Alexandria's ESFs and their respective primary agency/department.

Emergency Support Functions & Primary Agencies

Emergency Support Function	Primary Agency
ESF # 1 – Transportation	Transportation & Environmental Services
ESF # 2 – Information Technology & Telecommunications	Information Technology Services
ESF # 3 – Public Works & Engineering	Transportation & Environmental Services
ESF # 4 – Firefighting & Emergency Medical Services	Fire Department
ESF # 5 – Information & Planning	Office of Emergency Management
ESF # 6 – Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Temporary Housing, & Human Services	Recreation, Parks, & Cultural Activities
ESF # 7 – Logistics Management & Resource Support	Finance Department
ESF # 8 – Public Health, Behavioral Health, & Medical Facilities	Health Department
ESF # 9 – Technical Rescue	Fire Department
ESF # 10 – Hazard Materials	Fire Department
ESF # 11 – Agriculture & National Resources	Placeholder
ESF # 12 – Energy & Water Supply	Transportation & Environmental Services
ESF # 13 – Law Enforcement & Security	Police Department, Sheriff's Office
ESF #14 – Cross-sector Business & Infrastructure	Placeholder
ESF # 15 – External Affairs	Office of Communications & Public Information

The table that follows shows all of Alexandria's Support Annexes and their respective primary agency/departments.

Support Annexes & Primary Agencies

Support Annex	Primary Agency
SA # 1 – Volunteer & Donation Management	Office of Emergency Management
SA # 2 – Life Safety & Damage Assessment	Office of Emergency Management
SA # 3 – Alert & Warning	Office of Emergency Management
SA # 4 – Administration/Finance	Finance Department, Human Resources
SA # 5 – Mass Fatality Management	Health Department
SA # 6 – Debris Management	Transportation & Environmental Services