



Emergency Services Council **Meeting Minutes**



January 18th, 2024

Meeting commenced at 5:33PM

I. Roll Call

Atherton	Diana Hawkins-Manuelian	Present
Belmont	Tom McCune	Present
Brisbane	Terry O'Connell	Not Present
Burlingame	Peter Stevenson	Not Present
Colma	Carrie Slaughter	Present
Daly City	Glenn Sylvester	Present
East Palo Alto	Lisa Gauthier	Not Present
Foster City	Patrick Sullivan	Present
Half Moon Bay	Deborah Penrose	Not Present
Hillsborough	Marie Chuang	Present
Menlo Park	Betsy Nash	Present
Millbrae	Ann Schneider	Present – Virtually
Pacifica	Sue Vaterlaus	Present
Portola Valley	Craig Taylor	Present
Redwood City	Kaia Eakin	Present
San Bruno	Rico Medina	Present
San Carlos	John Dugan	Present
San Mateo	Robert Newsom	Not Present
South San Francisco	Eddie Flores	Not Present (observer)
Woodside	Paul Goeld	Present
County of San Mateo	Supervisor Slocum	Present

II. Approval of Agenda

- Approved without objection

III. Approval of Minutes (June Meeting)

- Approved without objection

IV. Public Comments, Correspondence (Clerk), Announcements

- Public Comments
 - No public comments
- Correspondence
 - No correspondence received
- Announcements
 - No new announcements

V. Director's Vision

- Director Dhapodkar outlined the Department of Emergency Management's future vision to include all-hazards and all aspects of emergency management: preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery.
- Member inquired about hacking as a threat, to which Director Dhapodkar noted Homeland Security's classification.
- Concerns were raised regarding resource coordination among municipalities, prompting Director Dhapodkar to outline the hierarchical process of resource requests and emphasize the need for improved coordination efforts at all levels.
- Initiatives discussed included developing a roadmap to track DEM's goals and priorities more effectively and completing the All-Hazards Emergency Plan (AHEP) within the next year and a half.
- The meeting underscored the importance of community engagement and empowerment in disaster preparedness, with discussions highlighting grassroots efforts such as Disaster Preparedness Day and the role of CERT and VOAD in bolstering local resilience.
- Public Comment
 - No public comments

VI. Alert and Warning Presentation

- Program Services Manager II Reynolds presented information on the alert and warning program, particularly focusing on Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS). This system provides a comprehensive infrastructure for government authorities to send emergency messages to the public through diverse communication channels. IPAWS facilitates the dissemination of alerts and warnings across various platforms such as broadcast, satellite, cable, wireless, and the internet, aiming to reach a wide audience during emergencies or disasters. By delivering timely and life-saving information, IPAWS assists individuals and communities in staying informed and taking necessary actions to ensure their safety during crises.
- Program Services Manager II Reynolds addressed concerns and queries from various cities regarding backup power for communication towers, prevention of hacking on cell towers, and the effectiveness of alternative communication methods like radios and TV.
- Director Dhapodkar responded to inquiries about satellite communications, highlighting limitations such as effectiveness and indoor use, and acknowledged the need for further consideration of solutions for hearing and visually impaired individuals.
- Concerns were raised by Member regarding accessibility issues for seniors with setting up accounts for SMC Alert and the potential for alert fatigue with multiple alert systems like Genasys and MyShake app.
- Member expressed interest in testing for members with hearing and/or visual impairments, prompting discussions about potential solutions.
- Member inquired for more information on analog vs digital communication methods to address differences in geographical and topographical situations, indicating a need for further education and understanding among stakeholders.
- Public Comments
 - No public comments

VII. Evacuation Modeling Software Demonstration

- Ladriss Technologies CEO, Leo Zlmen, demonstrated LADRIS, the AI evacuation software, showcasing its predictive modeling capabilities for emergency response planning.

- Member inquired about LADRIS's ability to determine the number of first responders needed for specific emergencies, to which CEO explained that it relies on data provided by local jurisdictions to create predictive models.
- Member sought assurance regarding the validity of LADRIS's data, with CEO emphasizing that the software becomes more effective with increased scenario testing.
- Member questioned the distinction between LADRIS and Genasys, with CEO clarifying that LADRIS focuses on predictive modeling and data analytics, whereas Genasys is a platform for evacuation zones.
- Atherton requested insights into the datasets used by LADRIS, prompting CEO to explain its utilization of both private and public data from sources like Google and Waze to analyze traffic and road networks.
- Public Comments
 - No public comments

VIII. Director's Report (Project Updates)

- None

IX. Report Outs – Council Members

- None

X. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 7:17PM

XI. Announcement of the next meeting: April 18th, 2023 @ 5:30PM