

# **The New Orleans City Assisted Evacuation Plan**

## **Purpose**

The purpose of the City Assisted Evacuation Plan (CAEP) is to help citizens who want to evacuate during an emergency, but lack the capability to self-evacuate. The CAEP is not intended to replace the individual's personal responsibility in preparing their own evacuation. It is meant to be an evacuation method of last resort and only for those citizens who have no other means or, have physical limitations that prohibit self evacuation.

## **Synopsis**

The general concept of the CAEP is that the city utilizes its facilities, manpower and other resources to provide assistance to citizens who cannot self-evacuate during the declaration of an emergency. The City of New Orleans, Office of Homeland Security and Public Safety, will have the overall command and responsibility for execution of the CAEP. The plan is designed to get all citizens and visitors out of the city prior to the tropical storm winds of a hurricane or during any other emergency that requires total evacuation of the city. This includes citizens without transportation and persons in need of medical resources (NMR). The plan uses the Morial Convention Center (MCC), Union Passenger Terminal (UPT) and Louis Armstrong Airport (MSY) as debarkation points for an emergency evacuation. The plan requires evacuation by air, rail and ground transportation to be fully effective. The goal is to have the CAEP completed in a 36 hour time period beginning at the issuance of evacuation orders by the governor and the mayor. The first 12 hours of the period being preparatory to implant security at the processing and staging centers and to acquire transportation resources.

The City will have the overall responsibility for getting the citizens from pre-identified pickup locations to the registration centers and debarkation points. The State, supported by external entities, will have the responsibility for moving the persons from the threat area and into shelters. When the threat has passed and re-entry is authorized, this process will be reversed.

The CAEP is activated by notifying all the partner governmental and non-governmental entities that an evacuation has been ordered and the facilities, transportation and emergency response personnel should execute their component of the plan. The city will establish evacuee processing and staging centers at local hotels, the MCC and the UPT. The Louisiana Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, in conjunction with other State Departments (DOTD, DSS, DHH, LSP), will activate their plans developed to transport and shelter evacuees.

This synopsis does not detail all aspects of the CAEP, but is meant to provide a quick overview of the general concept. The attached flow charts and the individual operations plans describe the movements at each facility.

## **Activation**

The CAEP is activated upon orders from the Mayor and in concurrence with the Governor following the declaration of an emergency. The Mayor's declaration of an emergency must be followed by a specific order to the Director of the Office of Emergency Preparedness (OEP) to launch the CAEP. The Director of OEP also serves as the EOC Coordinator in the New Orleans Emergency Operations Center (EOC). It is assumed that in a potential hurricane event that the EOC will be activated well in advance of the actual declaration of an emergency as officials track the storm. The EOC Coordinator then directs the Operations Section Chief to initiate the CAEP by notifying the components of the EOC tasked with launching the plan.

The Operations Section Chief, upon receiving the order to launch the CAEP, will use the components of the Operations Section and prepared check lists to ensure that all of the required internal and external entities necessary to execute the CAEP have been notified that the plan has been initiated: These organizations include the following:-

### Local Government Agencies

- New Orleans Office of Homeland Security and Public Safety
- New Orleans Office of Emergency Preparedness
- New Orleans Police Department (NOPD)
- New Orleans Fire Department (NOFD)
- New Orleans Mayor's Office of Technology (MOT)
- New Orleans Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
- New Orleans Health Department (NOHD)
- New Orleans Council on Aging (NOCA)
- Other Orleans Parish Departments
- Jefferson Parish OEP
- Plaquemines Parish OEP
- St. Bernard Parish OEP
- Port Authority
- Harbor Police

### State Agencies

- Louisiana Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (LOHSEP)
- Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LOTD)
- Louisiana Department of Social Services (LDSS)
- Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (LDHH)
- Louisiana National Guard (LNG)
- Louisiana State Police (LSP)

### Non Government Operated Entities

AMTRAK

Moial Convention Center (MCC) (owned by the State)

Union Passenger Terminal (UPT) (owned by the City)

Louis Armstrong Airport (MSY)

Regional Transit Authority (RTA)

Louisiana Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA)

American Red Cross (ARC)

New Orleans Hotel and Lodging Association (NOHLA)

Lakefront Airport (LA)

Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT)

It is expected that the State agencies above will make the necessary notifications to the appropriate Federal agencies such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Department of Defense (DOD).

Components of the EOC tasked with making notifications that the CAEP has been launched will monitor the development of that particular component of the plan and keep the Operations Section Chief advised accordingly.