



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR

October 24, 2006

To: Honorable Mayor and  
Members of the City Council

From: *PK* Phil Kamlarz, City Manager

Submitted by: Debra Pryor, Fire Chief

Subject: National Incident Management System

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution approving the National Incident Management System (NIMS) as the City's official all-hazards incident response system to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters, regardless of cause, size, or complexity.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

None.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Homeland Security Presidential Directive-5, directed the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to develop and administer a National Incident Management System, which would provide a consistent nationwide approach for federal, state, local, and tribal governments to work together more effectively and efficiently to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters, regardless of cause, size, or complexity

Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD- 5), Management of Domestic Incidents, requires all federal departments and agencies to adopt and implement the NIMS, and requires state and local jurisdictions to implement the NIMS to receive federal preparedness funding.

BACKGROUND

In 1993, California was the first state to adopt a statewide Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) for use by every emergency response organization, and implemented a system involving local and state agencies to ensure the continual improvement of the system. The Standardized Emergency Management System substantially meets the objectives of the National Incident Management System.

The City of Berkeley has used SEMS as the emergency management system to coordinate large-scale incidents and disasters since 1993.

The Office of Emergency Services provided NIMS training during the month of September 2006 to personnel who are assigned to work in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in the event of a disaster or large-scale incident. Additional training classes will be scheduled for non-public safety personnel who are not assigned to the EOC over the next eight months. The Berkeley Police Department completed their NIMS training to all of their employees. The Berkeley Fire Department will complete their NIMS training for sworn personnel by November 1, 2006.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

If the City does not adopt a resolution proclaiming NIMS as the official incident response system, the City will be ineligible for federal grants.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None

CONTACT PERSON

Gil Dong, Assistant Fire Chief, 981-5502  
Arrietta Chakos, Assistant City Manager, 981-7000

Attachment  
1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

APPROVING THE NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the President in Homeland Security Directive-5, directed the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to develop and administer a National Incident Management System, which would provide a consistent nationwide approach for federal, state, local, and tribal governments to work together more effectively and efficiently to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters, regardless of cause, size, or complexity; and

WHEREAS, California local and state government pioneered the development of the Standardized Emergency Management System to respond to a variety of catastrophic disasters, including fires, earthquakes, floods, and landslides; and

WHEREAS, in 1993, California was the first state to adopt a statewide Standardized Emergency Management System for use by every emergency response organization, and implemented a system involving local and state agencies to ensure the continual improvement of the Standardized Emergency Management System; and

WHEREAS, it is essential for responding to disasters and securing the homeland that federal, state, local, and tribal organizations utilize standardized terminology, standardized organizational structures, interoperable communications, consolidated action plans, unified command structures, uniform personnel qualification standards, uniform standards for planning, training, and exercising, comprehensive resource management, and designated incident facilities during emergencies or disasters; and

WHEREAS, the California Standardized Emergency Management System substantially meets the objectives of the National Incident Management System, and

WHEREAS, Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD- 5), Management of Domestic Incidents, requires all federal departments and agencies to adopt and implement the NIMS, and requires state and local jurisdictions to implement the NIMS to receive federal preparedness funding.

NOW, THEREFORE IT RESOLVED that the City of Berkeley approves the National Incident Management System as the system to respond to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters, regardless of cause, size, or complexity.