

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS MASTER PLAN AND PROCEDURES

AIR RESOURCES ANNEX

As Approved by the Emergency Operations Board on March 17, 1997

This Annex is not a stand alone plan, but is intended to augment the City of Los Angeles Emergency Operations Master Plan and Procedures, and along with departmental plans, provide direction and guidance to City departments for coordination and mobilization of air resources during officially declared emergencies. This Annex is applicable to those City departments with Emergency Operations Organization (EOO) responsibilities (specifically those who operate and maintain air resources) and all other City agencies with essential EOO needs or resources and facilities available to the EOO. The policies and procedures contained in this Annex are subject to the rights, duties and obligations of the Mayor and/or the Emergency Operations Board as defined in the Los Angeles Administrative Code, Section 8.21, et seq.

AIR RESOURCES ANNEX

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SECTION A: BACKGROUND

On May 25, 1994, the City Council approved a motion instructing the City Administrative Officer, with the assistance of the Departments of Water and Power, Fire, Police and General Services to develop and present to the Council's Public Safety Committee a plan to mobilize the City's air resources during officially declared states of disaster or local emergency. The Air Resources Annex to the Emergency Operations Master Plan and Procedures provides the mobilization plan and insures the timely and effective utilization of all the City's air resources in response to a disaster.

A declared local emergency can impact heavily upon the City's resources in all arenas, especially immediate response and recovery efforts. Four City departments with air resource capabilities and responsibilities, the Departments of Water and Power, Fire, Police and General Services, have maintained a close working relationship and have pooled air resources to augment each other's efforts during disasters. This Annex formalizes the relationships of these departments regarding air resources during a declared local emergency, centralizes the point for coordinating those resources and promotes a system whereby all City air assets are considered in a cooperative emergency response and recovery effort.

SECTION B. INVOLVED DEPARTMENTS

The involved departments are Water and Power, Fire, Police and General Services.

SECTION C. PROCEDURES FOR INTERDEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS

The use of available air resources during a declared local emergency is subject to the supervening authority of the Mayor pursuant to section 8.29 of the Los Angeles City Administrative Code. Absent specific directions from the Mayor, the use of available air resources during a declared local emergency shall be coordinated through the City Emergency Operations Center (EOC). In the interest of expediency, those with primary control of the air resources may be contacted directly for their approval to temporarily release their resources to another agency. Such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld nor shall a department be required to unreasonably deplete its resources in furnishing such aid. The EOC shall be notified of any such agreement by the department releasing resources. The request and release of such air resources shall be weighed and governed by an overall rule of reasonableness as to the requirement of each department to meet its primary mission during such emergencies and given the potential competing needs of each department.

Each department with air resources shall provide the other involved departments and the Office of the City Administrative Officer, Emergency Preparedness Division with names and telephone numbers for making

requests to furnish such resources. In the absence of a declaration of local emergency by the Mayor, departments will mutually support each other in furnishing air resources in accordance with existing practices and agreements to mitigate emergencies facing the City.

SECTION D. PRIMARY MISSIONS

During a declared local emergency, it is essential that City departments aid and assist one another. Air resources of one City department can be made available to another in order to prevent and combat the effects of emergencies such as flooding, fire, earthquake, pestilence, war, terrorism, power blackouts, interruption/contamination of water supplies and civil unrest.

Flight missions during declared local emergencies which are the specific responsibility of a department shall normally be flown only by personnel qualified and trained in that mission. Safety and familiarity with missions makes it advisable to consult with the department which regularly handles such missions regarding the feasibility of utilizing personnel from another department to fly that department's mission.

The primary missions of involved departments include, but are not limited to, the following:

Department of Water and Power

- , Satisfy City Charter obligations to provide water and electric power services essential for the maintenance of public health and safety.
- , Satisfy federal, state, North American Electric Reliability Council and the Western System Coordination Council mandates regarding the operation, maintenance and repair of Department or jointly owned and Department operated water and power facilities, including the generation, transmission, distribution and exchange of electrical power, as well as delivery of potable water supply through the Department's aqueduct, storage and water treatment facilities.
- , Satisfy binding contractual requirements contained in legal agreements with federal, state and local governmental agencies and other private utilities.

Fire Department

- , Provide emergency firefighting and rescue services to the citizens of Los Angeles.
- , Support emergency firefighting and rescue services to surrounding communities under Automatic and Mutual Aid agreements.

Police Department

- , Work in partnership with City agencies, residential and business communities of the City of Los Angeles to enhance public safety and to reduce the fear and incidence of crime.
- , Support the Police Department's other resources in the fulfillment of their missions.

General Services Department

- , Provide maintenance, logistical and mechanical support to Department of Water and Power, Fire Department and Police Department helicopter operations.

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

Date: February 26, 1997

To: Chief Willie L. Williams, Chair
Emergency Operations Board

From: Bob Canfield, Acting Division Head
Emergency Preparedness Division
Office of the City Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: AIR RESOURCES ANNEX TO MASTER PLAN

Recommendation

That the Emergency Operations Board (Board) approve the attached Air Resources Annex to the City's Emergency Operations Master Plan and Procedures (Master Plan).

Background

On May 25, 1994, the City Council approved a motion instructing the City Administrative Officer (CAO) with the assistance of the Departments of Water and Power, Fire, Police and General Services, to develop and present to the Council's Public Safety Committee a plan to mobilize the City's air resources during officially declared states of disaster or local emergency. The purpose of the annex is to establish procedures for coordinating interdepartmental use of air resources to ensure their availability for emergency response and disaster recovery.

With the assistance from the abovementioned departments, a draft resource specific annex was developed by the CAO and approved in concept by the Board at its meeting of November, 1996. Subsequent to that meeting, concerns were raised by the Fire Department and the City Attorney's Office regarding procedural

elements and the need for consistency with provisions of the Los Angeles Administrative Code. The draft annex has been reviewed by representatives of the involved departments and revised to address those concerns.

Attachment

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