

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

457
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FROM: Riverside County Fire Dept., Office of Emergency Services

SUBMITTAL DATE:
January 24, 2013

SUBJECT: After-Action Report (AAR) submitted by the Riverside County Fire Dept. for the Great California ShakeOut Drill of October 18, 2012.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:
Receive and file the attached report from the Riverside County Fire Dept., Office of Emergency Services.

BACKGROUND: At 10:18 a.m. on October 18, 2012, over 600,000 residents and employees within Riverside County took part in the largest, fifth annual earthquake preparedness effort in U.S. History, the Great ShakeOut; a multi-state earthquake drill where participants simultaneously practiced the recommended action to take during an earthquake: Drop, Cover and Hold On. Many Riverside County departments took advantage of this opportunity by conducting evacuation drills, table top exercises, and by testing standard operating guidelines and procedures.

Peter Lent

Peter Lent, Deputy Director, Office of Emergency Services
for John Hawkins, Fire Chief

FINANCIAL DATA

Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$ n/a	In Current Year Budget:	n/a
Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$ n/a	Budget Adjustment:	n/a
Annual Net County Cost:	\$ n/a	For Fiscal Year:	n/a

SOURCE OF FUNDS: n/a

Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE

BY *Tina Grande*
Tina Grande

County Executive Office Signature

- Consent
- Policy
- Consent
- Policy

Dep't Recomm.:

Per Exec. Ofc.:

Prev. Agn. Ref.:

District: All

Agenda Number:

2-4



The Great California ShakeOut

After Action Summary from 10/18/12

Prepared by: Alia A. Rodriguez

12/12/2012

The Great California ShakeOut is an annual opportunity to practice how to be safer during big earthquakes: "Drop, Cover and Hold On." The ShakeOut has also been organized to encourage you, your community, your school, or your organization to review and update emergency preparedness plans and supplies, and to secure your space in order to prevent damage and injuries

Introduction:

At 10:18a.m on October 18, 2012, over 600,000 residents and employees within Riverside County took part in the largest earthquake preparedness effort in U.S. History, The Great ShakeOut. With planning taking place since 2008, the ShakeOut was a multi-state earthquake drill where participants simultaneously practiced the recommended action to take during an earthquake: Drop, Cover, and Hold On. The drill was designed as a way for the general public to learn about earthquakes and take specific actions to prepare themselves before the next destructive earthquake strikes. It was primarily promoted through a central website, where people were encouraged to register and pledge their participation to take part in the exercise. In addition, residents were informed via many sources of media, including the web, radio, press and flyers. While the citizens of Riverside County were encouraged to participate, it was not a requirement. However, many Riverside County departments took advantage of this opportunity by conducting immediate, in place protection measures (Drop, Cover, Hold On), evacuation drills, table top exercises, and testing standard operating guidelines and procedures.

Emergency Command Center:

At 10:18 a.m., the Perris Emergency Command Center (ECC) launched the ShakeOut by first alerting all CAL FIRE/Riverside County Fire stations that the drill had commenced and to proceed with the Earthquake Standard Operating Guidelines. This was followed by the ECC personnel conducting an Internal Systems Checklist which initiates assessments on personnel, computer and 9-1-1 phone systems, facility structural integrity, generators, and additional back-up equipment. In addition, fire stations and battalions were instructed to email damage assessment reports in accordance to the department SOG and report injuries promptly to the ECC.

Station Level Response:

Many fire stations from the CAL FIRE/Riverside County Fire battalions participated in the 2012 Great ShakeOut by complying with the department's Earthquake Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG's). Upon the announcement of the ECC that the ground had stopped shaking, fire personnel each met at their designated gathering point, secured the station, removed their apparatus from the bays and proceeded to conduct a damage assessment on the fire station. Fire personnel then drove their primary response areas and performed simulated area checks on community infrastructure integrity, water ways and large target hazard occupancies. From these assessments, fire stations were tasked with submitting a windshield survey to their operational battalion chiefs who then compiled the information and submitted it to the ECC.

Some fire stations within local government jurisdictions coordinated with city staff to open an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) where engine companies reported their simulated damage to. Additionally in some city EOC's, position specific role and responsibility training was conducted.

Station Level Pros:

- Station personnel were able to exercise the CAL FIRE-Riverside County Fire Department Earthquake SOG which included the impact and post-impact phases and any updated battalion windshield surveys

Station Level Cons:

- The windshield surveys do not seem to be universal in format
- No identification as to what the role of a fire company is post disaster

- No standard Target Hazard List definition
- Upon a real disaster when the County EOC is fully activated, city leaders must understand the expectations from the Operational Area Emergency Operations Center and the Regional Emergency Operations Center (REOC)

Perris Headquarters:

At 10:18 a.m., the CAL FIRE/Riverside County Fire Department Perris Headquarters, universal precautions were taken in the form of Drop, Cover, and Hold on actions, overview of evacuation plans including designated post disaster meeting location, and the dissemination and discussion of emergency preparedness pamphlets.

Riverside County Fire Department, Office of Emergency Services:

The Riverside County Fire Department Office of Emergency Services (OES) had several Emergency Services Coordinators (ESC's) facilitate and assist city jurisdictions with Table Top and Functional Exercises that included many local government, special district, military and private entities. At the County EOC level, an exercise was sent to all authorized users of the county purchased WebEOC program which allowed them to participate and practice in the updated version of the program. Prior to the ShakeOut drill, Fire OES personnel conducted emergency preparedness presentations to not only government employees, but to community members, school districts, water districts, and private/non-profit organizations. Additionally, informational pamphlets on emergency and disaster preparedness were disseminated at a variety of Health & Safety Fairs, community workshops and public meetings. Several Fire OES staff also assisted in the coordination and evaluation of the Riverside County Administrative Center's 14 story evacuation drill.

Riverside County Administrative Center:

At 10:18 a.m., the drill began and occupants working inside County facilities were asked to inspect their respective areas after the shaking has stopped. Upon reports of simulated damage, the County Administrative Center activated alarms on all floors at which time the building was under full evacuation procedures. The Emergency Action Plan was in place and the Evacuation Post was established to gather floor accountabilities. After receiving the "All Clear" from Riverside County Sheriff, County employees were allowed to re-enter the CAC.

In accordance with the County Administrative Center (CAC) Emergency Action Plan, the building's emergency response teams consist of the County Executive Officer, County of Riverside Sheriff's Department, Safety Division, Facilities Management, and Floor Warden Response Teams with significant coordination from Riverside County Office of Emergency Services.

In approximately seven minutes, staff and visitors at the CAC safely exited the building utilizing proper egress protocols. Reports of staff accountability were coming in to the evacuation post within ten minutes of initial alarm. The final all clear was given to remaining assembly sites at 10:45am and visitors were allowed to re-enter at 10:50am.

A full building evacuation has many variables that can be problematic. No injuries to staff or visitors were reported. The objective of safely and efficiently clearing the building was deemed a success by all observing participants. Comments and suggestions were recorded in both the participant's post drill meeting and at the Floor Warden Post drill meeting. Comments on areas of improvement were revealed, documented, and will be reviewed for future drill scenarios.

Conclusion:

There were many benefits to participating in The Great California ShakeOut 2012 varying from planning, communication, response and community outreach, etc. which served well for Riverside County's preparedness efforts. To further increase these efforts for the coming year, the following items have been identified as recommendations:

- Continued education to employees on emergency preparedness
- Continued commitment to community and public involvement
- Hold regular emergency drills that incorporate both community members and employees within Riverside County
- Extend outreach of WebEOC training to the Fire Department Chief Officers and Emergency Command Center Captains
- Increase participation from special districts and jurisdictions by conducting an early outreach and press release

In summary, The Great ShakeOut 2012 provided valuable information for Riverside County, California, and the nation as a whole in regards to planning, preparedness and response. It was evident that while some of the safety measures and processes the government have established can save thousands of lives, that the more thorough preparation and post incident training of first responders and education of stakeholders and the public, can make a great difference in a catastrophic event.



Board of Supervisors

TO RECOGNIZE & HONOR

The Great California ShakeOut

October 18, 2012

WHEREAS, the County of Riverside recognizes that no community is immune from natural hazards whether it be earthquake, wildfire, flood, winter storms, drought, heat wave, or dam failure. Further, the County of Riverside recognizes the importance enhancing its ability to withstand natural hazards as well as the importance of reducing the human suffering, property damage, interruption of public services and economic losses caused by those hazards; and

WHEREAS, major earthquakes pose a particular, significant, and ongoing threat to the entire County of Riverside and its residents. The County of Riverside has a responsibility to promote earthquake preparedness internally, as well as with the public, and plan appropriately for earthquake-related disasters; and

WHEREAS, the protection of the employees of the County of Riverside will allow them to facilitate the continuity of government and assist the public following a major earthquake event; and

WHEREAS, community resiliency to earthquakes and other disasters depends on the preparedness levels of all stakeholders in the community – individuals, families, schools, community organizations, faith-based organizations, non-profits, businesses, and government; and

WHEREAS, on October 18, 2012, the County of Riverside is participating in **The Great California ShakeOut**; and

WHEREAS, by participating in **The Great California ShakeOut**, the County of Riverside has the opportunity to join and support all Californians in strengthening community and regional resiliency; and

WHEREAS, by supporting **The Great California ShakeOut**, the County of Riverside can educate its residents regarding actions to protect life and property, including mitigating structural and non-structural hazards and participating in earthquake drills; and

WHEREAS, by registering at www.ShakeOut.org, Riverside County employees can participate in the ShakeOut "Drop, Cover and Hold On" earthquake drill on October 18, 2012, at 10:18 A.M. and encourage the public, schools, businesses, and other community stakeholders to register as well.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, DETERMINED AND ORDERED on this 16th day of October, 2012, that the Riverside County Board of Supervisors do hereby support the County's involvement in The Great California ShakeOut 2012 and does hereby encourage all employees and residents to take proactive measures today to mitigate the effects of a major earthquake.

Bob Buster

Bob Buster, Supervisor
First District

Jeff Stone

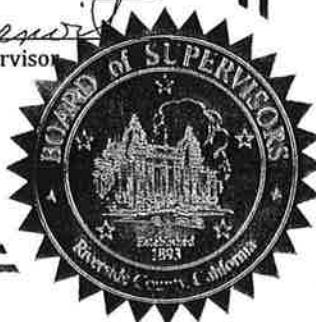
Jeff Stone, Supervisor
Third District

Marion Ashley

Marion Ashley, Supervisor
Fifth District

John Tavaglione
John Tavaglione, Supervisor
Second District

John J. Benoit
John J. Benoit, Supervisor
Fourth District



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