

KANSAS CITY METROPOLITAN AREA REGIONAL COORDINATION GUIDE (RCG)



*Prepared for the Mid-America Regional
Council (MARC) in Coordination with the Metropolitan
Emergency Manager's Committee (MEMC)
Plans Subcommittee*



**REDACTED VERSION
OCTOBER 2009**

FOREWORD

The Kansas City Metropolitan Area Regional Coordination Guide (RCG) is an all-hazard, capabilities-based guide designed to address any of the hazards potentially affecting the metro-area. The RCG is for use by all local governments, as well as Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), such as the private and volunteer agencies and organizations in the metro region.

The RCG is intended to ensure a series of formal actions are in place to facilitate communication and cooperation between the many agencies and organizations in the region potentially involved in emergency events requiring some degree of regional coordination. Participation in the activities described in the RCG is voluntary and the RCG is not intended to be an operational document. Operational emergency activities are coordinated through local Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) and described in local Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs), standard operating guides, and the operating procedures maintained by local emergency response agencies and organizations.

Throughout the RCG, the terms “regional coordination activities” and “regional coordination protocols” are used synonymously and defined as: a series of formal actions taken by the jurisdictions involved in the event intended to facilitate the exchange of pertinent information, the release of consistent public information messages, and the sharing of resources and personnel. The regional significance of an incident will be determined by the jurisdictions involved. The concepts described in the RCG are designed to be flexible and the extent of its use will be determined by the event and the needs of the involved jurisdictions, agencies and organizations.

The activities described in the RCG support the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the initiatives set forth in the National Preparedness Guidelines (NPG), both of which encourage jurisdictions to work together to strengthen collaboration and enhance regional capabilities. Further, the RCG supports the goals and objectives set forth in the Kansas City Urban Area Homeland Security Strategy, whose focus is to “strengthen relationships between jurisdictions and across disciplines by leveraging the long history of cooperation and coordination which exists between emergency services agencies in the region”.

The RCG is organized using a Base Guide and fifteen (15) Emergency Support Function (ESF) annexes. The Base Guide provides the overall organizational structure for regional coordination, while the ESF annexes address the regional issues associated with specific emergency functions.

The RCG was developed with oversight from the Metropolitan Emergency Management Committee (MEMC) Plans Subcommittee and support from planning Task Forces and Workgroups comprised of local government officials, response personnel, voluntary agency representatives and members of the private sector. In addition, the regional coordination protocols described in the RCG have been endorsed by the Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Committee (RHSCC), which provides oversight and policy guidance for homeland security issues and funding in the metro-area.

DISTRIBUTION LIST

The Regional Coordination Guide (RCG) will be provided to all plan stakeholders through the Metropolitan Emergency Information System (MEIS). A redacted version will be posted on the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Website.

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