



Emergency Management Element

GOAL PROTECT THE PUBLIC AND THEIR PROPERTY FROM THE IMPACT OF A PUBLIC EMERGENCY OR NATURAL EVENT.

Objective 1 Emergency and Disaster Planning. Protect the community from the impact of emergency and disaster events through event planning and awareness.

- Policy 1.1 Timing of Facilities and Services. Ensure all existing public emergency services are maintained, improved, or expanded in coordination with the development of properties and capital improvements schedule.
- Policy 1.2 New Development Expansions. Require new development to pay its fair share for public safety, shelter, recovery and emergency service expansions related to additional equipment, personnel, and facility needs.
- Policy 1.3 Emergency Preparedness Plans. The City shall annually evaluate and update, as necessary, the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, Sarasota County Local Mitigation Strategy, Floodplain Management Plan, and National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS).
- Policy 1.4 Development Planning Practices. The City shall continue to evaluate the potential impact of tropical events on its buildings and land areas and update its planning practices and report its findings. Areas to focus on include:
- A. State Coastal Planning Area.
 - B. Coastal Construction Control Line.
 - C. Gulf Front Setback Line.
 - D. Erosion Control Line.
 - E. Special Flood Hazard Areas.
 - F. Likely evacuation areas and ability of evacuation routes to serve demand.
 - G. Need for additional hurricane shelters.
- Policy 1.5 Emergency Responder Accessibility. Utilize the site and development process to ensure that new developments provide adequate accessibility for emergency vehicles by establishing:
- A. An interconnected road system.
 - B. Secondary emergency access points.



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C. Access to water lines, fire hydrants, and other public safety infrastructure systems.

Policy 1.6 Fire Facility Planning. The City shall continue to evaluate the relocation of fire station no. 2 in order to improve distribution of services throughout the community. Issues to be addressed include:

A. Determination of the optimal location based upon LOS standards.

B. Funding through the capital improvements schedule.

C. Design and construction of facility based upon criteria established in the Public Facilities and Properties Element.

Policy 1.7 Continuity of Operations Planning. Continue to develop, maintain, and implement a plan for the daily operations of the City in emergency or disaster event situations.

Policy 1.8 NIMS and ICS Coordination. Utilize the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Command Systems (ICS) programs to prepare for emergency and disaster events.

Policy 1.9 Public Awareness and Education. Maintain public education efforts regarding awareness and preparation for disaster and emergency events including: community awareness presentations, the annual hurricane workshop, City website, and newsletters. Education efforts should include information about:

A. Distinction between hurricane categories and evacuation zones

B. Evacuation routes

C. Public and private shelter options

D Home preparedness planning

E. Flood insurance

Policy 1.10 Community Hurricane Planning. Continue to pursue funding for the implementation of the hurricane mitigation projects listed in *Creating a Hurricane Tolerant Community*. Annually update the plan based on most current best management practices, community needs, and City goals.

Objective 2 Emergency Services and Post-Disaster Response. Provide an effective and efficient response to all public emergency and natural disaster events.

Policy 2.1 Operation and Service Standards. By December 2011, establish operation and service standards that ensure the City has the emergency management resources it needs to respond to emergency events. Standards shall use the following criteria to evaluate needed resources:



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- A. Response time.
- B. Distance from station to emergency event.
- C. Ability to access major roadways and community connectors.

- Policy 2.2 Staff Training and Procedure Planning. Prepare to respond to emergency situations and disasters through staff training and procedure planning. Staff should be trained according to their level of responsibility:
- A. Emergency Responders – lead role. Includes Police, Fire, and City Manager personnel.
 - B. Non-Essential Responder – support role. Includes NPOD volunteers and others, as assigned by City Manager.
- Policy 2.3 NPODS Coordination. Coordinate with Sarasota County on the use of the Neighborhood Points of Distribution System to ensure the public’s basic needs are provided for after a disaster event.
- Policy 2.4 Evacuation Notification. Utilize the City’s Code-Red system to notify the public about evacuation procedures.

Objective 3 Disaster Evacuation and Sheltering. Maintain or reduce evacuation times and increase shelter capacity in the local area.

- Policy 3.1 Second Option Shelters. Provide information about second option shelter alternatives through enhanced public education to allow those without special needs to remain within their neighborhoods.
- Policy 3.2 Neighborhood Shelters. Utilize the site and development process to encourage major developments to harden their community buildings for use as shelters for their residents.
- Policy 3.3 Shelter Building Standards. Utilize the site and development review process to ensure shelters meet and/or exceed approved shelter design standards including windows and structure strength.
- Policy 3.4 Pet Friendly Shelters. Coordinate with Sarasota County Emergency Management, Red Cross, and private developments to ensure that appropriate shelter space is available for pets.
- Policy 3.5 Shelter Coordination. Continue to coordinate with Sarasota County Emergency Management and Red Cross in the identification and operation of shelters within the Venice community. Ensure that there are appropriate shelter types for the various levels of storms and emergency



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events from minor to severe.

- Policy 3.6 Shelter Co-location. Identify and expand opportunities to develop new shelter facilities as part of construction projects at schools, community agencies, and other local, regional, and state facilities.
- Policy 3.7 Community Organization Shelter Facilities. Coordinate with Sarasota County Emergency Management, the State of Florida, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to identify funding for private community organizations to upgrade facilities to shelters.
- Policy 3.8 Evacuation Planning. Coordinate evacuation routes and timing with local, regional, and state partners. Ensure that residents have time and transportation resources to evacuate safely. Provide residents maps and other information needed.
- Policy 3.9 Family Response Planning. Educate the public about the need for developing a family evacuation/shelter plan including:
- A. Storm evacuation category.
 - B. Evacuation routes.
 - C. Shelter options.
 - D. Family/friends notification about evacuation plans.
 - E. Development of hurricane kit.
 - F. House preparation needs.

Objective 4 Disaster Management and Emergency Services Coordination. Coordinate emergency services and disaster management efforts with local, regional, state, and federal government agencies and private organizations.

- Policy 4.1 Emergency Management Coordination. Coordinate with Sarasota County, State of Florida, FEMA, Red Cross, and other emergency management partners on all aspects of emergency management preparedness, mitigation, and response.
- Policy 4.2 Emergency Planning and Response. Coordinate with local, state, and regional organizations including Sarasota County and the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council on the assessment of storm surge impacts and evacuation planning.
- Policy 4.3 Emergency Event Regulations. Uphold all City of Venice, Sarasota County, State of Florida, and United States regulations that address issues related to emergency preparedness and planning.



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- Policy 4.4 Response Recovery Agreements. Continue to participate as a member in the Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement (SMAA) between the State of Florida and the City of Venice.
- Policy 4.5 Special Needs Coordination. Coordinate with Sarasota County on the identification of special needs individuals to assure that they receive transportation to a shelter in case of a disaster event.
- Policy 4.6 Red Cross Coordination. Continue to coordinate with the Red Cross on all public sheltering issues:
- A. Location of shelters in community.
 - B. Construction of new public and private shelter space.
 - C. Operation of shelters during an emergency event.
 - D. Provision of pet friendly shelter space.
- Policy 4.7 Medical and Health Care Coordination. Coordinate emergency and health care medical needs of the community's residents with local hospitals, clinics, and other health care providers. Ensure that a variety of health care services are provided to meet Venice's multi-generational population.