

DISASTER COUNCIL REVIEW OF NEIGHBORING CITIES

The Municipal Codes for all 13 Cities within Alameda County referencing Emergency Organizations/ Disaster Councils were reviewed. Of the 13 cities in Alameda County two identify the City Manager as the Chair of the Disaster Council and one city plans to reinstate an Emergency Ordinance identifying the City Manager as the Chair. All other cities identify the Mayor as the Chair.

The ordinance presented at the December 2015 City Council meeting reflected reinstating the Emergency Ordinance/ Disaster Council identifying the City Manager as the Chair instead of the Mayor to improve the work flow of the Disaster Council. The Disaster Council membership is made up of professional responders and agencies that will be working closely with the city in the event of a disaster.

The Emergency Ordinance as it was presented to the City Council in December 2015 had been given to the State for comment during the initial writing. The State felt that the ordinance as written and that was presented to City Council met all the requirements. The State requirements are as follows and provide the ordinance the legal basis of the emergency organization.

- The ordinance must provide for a Disaster Council
- A chairperson or director of the Disaster Council must be specified
- The emergency organization must be recognized
- Compliance with the Emergency Services Act must be stated

Other requirement of being a recognized as an accredited Disaster Council:

- Disaster Service Worker Volunteer Resolution
- Be a part of the Master Mutual Aid Agreement

The State representative was clear that as long as the makeup of the Disaster Council includes an identified Chair and Vice Chair that the ordinance complies with the guidelines set by the State.

The Model Disaster Council Ordinance states at the top of the document "Disclaimer: This is merely intended to be a sample ordinance. Local jurisdictions must consult local legal counsel in drafting or amending their ordinances." City Attorney Alan Cohen has told us that there is nothing that would preclude us from identifying the City Manager as the Chair of the Disaster Council.

The Disaster Council Chair's only duty is to call for least a bi-annual meeting of the Disaster Council. The appointment of the membership is still guided by the Ordinance which states in section 2-24.3 items d. and e. that in addition to the Chair, Vice Chair, and Assistant to the Vice Chair the Membership may include:

- d. Such chiefs of emergency services as are provided for in a current emergency management plan, adopted pursuant to this ordinance.
- e. Such representatives of civic, business, labor, veterans, professional, or other organizations **having an official emergency responsibility, as may be appointed by the Director (City Manager)** with the advice and consent of the City Council.

Staff Submittal
Re: b-j
6/21/16

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The Disaster Council is empowered, to develop and recommend for adoption by the City Council, emergency and mutual aid plans and agreements, ordinances and resolutions and rules and regulations as are necessary to implement such plans and agreements. Disaster Council members, must have training, background and expertise in their field to facilitate the planning effort and the authority to execute the plans once they are adopted by the City Council, regardless of who may be identified as the Disaster Council Chair.

Neighboring City Review of Disaster Council Chair and Vice Chair Assignments

	City Name	Chair	Vice Chair
1.	Albany	Mayor	City Administrator
2.	Berkeley –currently has a commission- but plans to reinstate a Disaster Council	City Manager - once DC is reinstated	Assistant City Manager - once DC is reinstated
3.	Dublin	Mayor	City Manager
4.	Emeryville	Mayor	Assistant Director of Operation
5.	Fremont	City Manager	Appointed by the City Manager
6.	Hayward	City Manager	Fire Chief
7.	Livermore	Mayor	City Manager
8.	Newark	Mayor	City Manager
9.	Oakland	Mayor	City Administrator
10	Piedmont	Mayor	Vice Mayor
11	Pleasanton	Mayor	City Manager
12	San Leandro	Mayor	City Manger
13	Union City	Mayor	City Manager