Disaster Response Coordination
Houston’s Emergency Management System
MOPSHS: Who are we?

- The Mayor’s Office of Public Safety & Homeland Security:
  - Office of Emergency Management (OEM)
  - Houston Emergency Center (HEC)
  - Homeland Security
OEM: Who are we?

• The Office of Emergency Management is the chief coordinating body for disaster response in the City of Houston.

  Planning – Response – Recovery – Preparedness – Mitigation

• Emergency management authority established by Section 418, Government Code and Chapter 13, Code of Ordinances
The Essential Emergency Manager
Who is OEM?

City Leadership

Emergency Management

Responding Agencies

Office of Homeland Security & Public Safety

Office of Emergency Management

Houston Emergency Center (911)

Mayor Annise Parker
Emergency Management Director
Daily Responsibilities

- Severe Weather Monitoring
- Emergency Warning
- Public Information
- Emergency Response & Resource Coordination
- Planning
- Mitigation
Disaster Responsibilities

• Emergency Operations Center Activation
• Coordination of Citywide Response
• Multi-Jurisdictional Coordination
• Public Information & Warning
Emergency Operations Center

City of Houston
Emergency Operations Center
Houston Emergency Center
5320 North Shepherd Drive
Cross Streets:
N. Shepherd & Donovan
EOC Activation

• Significant weather events
• Disasters
• Large-scale special events
• As needed
Catastrophic Medical Operations Center (CMOC)

• Housed at the City of Houston EOC
• Medical emergency response for 25 counties.
• Part of statewide and national response structure
Preparedness

• Community preparedness events
• Planning
• Training & exercise
Preparedness Materials

Emergency Alerts in Houston
alerts.houstonoem.org

Emergency Notification System (ENS) (Reverse 911)
Where: Emergencies that affect your neighborhood
What: Public safety agencies in Harris and Fort Bend Counties, including the City of Houston
How: Landline and mobile phones
Sign-Up: Landlines are already included. Register your mobile and VoIP phones online at 911.org

Wireless Emergency Alerts
Where: Emergencies that affect large areas
What: Local, State and Federal public safety agencies including the National Weather Service
How: WEA-enabled mobile phones
Sign-Up: No need to sign up. Your WEA-enabled phones will automatically receive the message.

EAS® Emergency Alert System (EAS)
Where: Emergencies that affect large areas
What: Local, State and Federal public safety agencies including the National Weather Service
How: Text messages, radio, television, and internet messaging

State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry
www.readytexas.org

What is STEAR?
Sign up with STEAR to give local emergency responders access to critical information about your locations when disasters strike.

Who should register for STEAR?
• Individuals who need to make or receive a call
• Individuals who are without power and need communication
• Individuals who need to coordinate with family/roommates

How do you register for STEAR?
• Call 211 and speak with a trained operator (Video phones may call 877-541-7903)
• Register online at texassitter.org
Recovery

- Damage Assessment
- Disaster Declaration Coordination
- Continuity of Services
- Health & Welfare Coordination
- Response Cost Reimbursement (Finance)

Photo: Houston Chronicle
Information Products and Resources

- OEM Incident Notifications (Alerts) to City stakeholders, including Council offices
- AlertHouston Notifications (open to the public and all COH employees)
- Houston Emergency Information Site
  - houstontx.gov/emergency
- Houston OEM Social Media
  - Twitter: @HoustonOEM
  - Facebook.com/HoustonOEM
  - Nextdoor.com
- Houston OEM Website (Disaster Preparedness Resources)
  - houstonoem.org
Disaster Response Coordination
Houston’s Emergency Management System

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