

City of Bridgeport Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

The City of Bridgeport is faced with mitigating for, preparing for, responding to, and recovering from a variety of many emergencies and disasters that may impact the immediate or surrounding communities with little or no warning at all. Some of the incidents that the OEMHS responds to include but are not limited to the following.

- **Natural Hazards: Hurricanes, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Winter Storms, Extreme Heat or Cold, Earthquakes, and Floods.**
- **Man-made Hazards: Civil Disorder, Strikes, Terrorism, and Chemical Spills.**
- **Transportation Accidents: Rail, Waterway, Highway, and Air.**
- **Utility Failures: Gas, Electric, and Water Supply disruptions or emergencies.**
- **Environmental Hazards: Chemical Spills, Toxic Releases, Waste Material Spills, and Radiological Contaminants.**
- **Epidemics: West Nile Encephalitis, Flu/H1N1 Emergencies, and other health hazards.**
- **War Related Incidents: Biological, Chemical, and Nuclear Warfare, Conventional Warfare, any and all Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Threats.**

When these situations occur, there needs to be a physical facility designed to obtain and analyze information to ensure that emergency personnel as well as the community are aware of the incident and knows what to do, where to go, and who to call. The Emergency Management Team ideally are those individuals who can provide a solutions to any problems that may arise and help minimize any potentials of loss to lives and property within a community. An Emergency Operations Center is the facility where all centralized information gathering, and direction and control is coordinated. The facility is designed to disseminate warnings, alerts, coordinate response, and provide the public as well as emergency service personnel with pertinent information that may in fact save lives and protect property.

EOC Staffing

The emergency staff required to operate an EOC effectively during an emergency situation will depend on several factors: size of the jurisdiction, size of day-to-day staff, nature of the incident or emergency, and percentage of population and area involved in the event. In almost every disaster, there is a tendency toward convergence upon the EOC. Far more people appear in the EOC than are required to manage the situation. Most of all the staff consists of Fire, Law Enforcement, Public Health, EMS, Public Facilities, Harbor Master, Red Cross, Board of Education, Mayor's Office, Public Information Officer, Utilities, Hospitals and the Emergency Management Director. These individuals must be capable of making decisions in their area of responsibility. They are required to be someone with authority to obligate resources and personnel.

In summary, the EOC is the centralized point of coordination of all major operations and the purpose of this central point of contact is to ensure harmonious response when the emergency involves more than one entity and/or several response agencies. Before the rain and snow fall, before the storm hits, before the tide surges, whatever the emergency or disaster when the word comes in trained individuals properly prepared to respond must be able and ready to act with little or no notice at all. Imagine Oklahoma City, Hurricane Katrina, Columbine High School, or any other catastrophic emergency or disaster occurring in or around the City of Bridgeport, are you prepared enough to know what to do, who to call, or where to go? If the answer is no, please get prepared!

CITY OF BRIDGEPORT EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER STAFF			
Mayor and Administration	Fire Department	Police Department	American Medical Response
OEMHS	Public Health Department	Public Facilities	Engineering Department
Building Department	OPED	Education Department	Department of Social Services
Information Technology	Harbor Master Office	Public Information Office	Finance Department
City Council	OPM	Public Safety Communications	Saint Vincent's Medical Center
Bridgeport Hospital	City Attorney Office	Aging and Disabilities Department	United Illuminating
Aquarion Water	Socuthern CT Gas	Cablevision/Optimum	AT&T
CT American Red Cross	First Student Bus Company	Greater Bridgeport Transit Authority	Metro North Transit Authority
Bridgeport Port Jefferson Ferry Boat	United States Coast Guard	Connecticut DEMHS	Disability Resource Center
Connecticut DMAS	Connecticut DEP	Greater Bridgeport Amatuer Radio Club	Region 1 DEMHS
Region 1 Emergency Planning Team	Bridgeport Regional Business Council	FBI	ATF
Connecticut Infusion Center	Connecticut DOT	Connecticut State Police Troop G	Water Polluution Control Authority
Local/Regional Media	CT Weather Center	Fairfield County HazMat	Salvation Army of Bridgeport
Local Places of Worship & Services	University of Bridgeport	Sacred Heart University	Housatonic Community College
Fairfield University	Silkorsky Airport	United Technologies Sikorsky Aircraft	Bridgeport Housing Authority
Career Resources	Kennedy Center	CT Department of Developmental Services	Connecticut Urban Search and Rescue
Bridgeport Correctional Center	Town of Derby OEM	Greater Bridgeport Regional Planning Agency	US Customs & Border Protection
Sonitrol Security Systems of Bridgeport	Arena at Harbor Yard	Bridgeport Bluefish Baseball Club	Bridgeport LEPC Members