



## **Overview of Disaster Response and Recovery Operations**

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## Disaster Declarations Overview

- **Local Declarations** - County / City Declares When Local Resources are Anticipated or Actually Exceeded.
- **State Declarations** – Widespread Anticipated or Actual Impact of an Incident / Event. Authorizes Mission Support to Localities and Establishes Multiple Agency Coordination via the VEOC.
- **Federal Declarations** – *Emergency* (Pentagon, Boston, Pre-Landfall Hurricane) or *Major* (Impacts from Severe Weather or Significant Long Term Event).
- ***A “Declaration” Does Not Automatically Mean That Recovery Programs Will be Activated nor Does it Allow Waiver of Safety or Totally Other Procedures.***

## Recovery Programs Overview

- **FHWA** – Emergency Relief (ER) Program – Applicable by Functional Classification for VDOT and Locality Maintained Routes.  
<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/reports/erm/index.cfm>
- **FEMA** – Public Assistance (PA) Program – Non FHWA Routes *Except* for Debris Removal. VDOT is a “Sub Grantee” from VDEM.  
<http://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-local-state-tribal-and-non-profit>
- **State Public Assistance (PA) Program** – Limited Availability. Designed for Localities Not Federally Declared. Program Administered by VDEM.
- ***Each Program Has Eligibility Requirements Which May Include Disaster Specific Guidance. Example – Debris Removal Regular Time for Sandy.***

## Disaster Recovery Programs - Overall

- **No Program is Designed to Make a Damaged Area (Individual or Infrastructure) 100% Whole Without Their Contribution to the Recovery Effort!**
- **Disaster Recovery Programs are Basically Grants On a “Cost Share” Basis With Terms and Conditions!**

## General Response

- **Follow Your Operating Procedures, Codes and Standards.**
- **Document, Document and Document Your Response Operations (Safety).**
- **Photos (Safety) Support Response Activities and Damage Assessment (IDA and PDA).**
- **Coding and Documentation of Operational Activities is Essential to Support Recovery Program Application(s).**

## VDOT Emergency Response General Components

- **Duty Officers – 9 District and 1 Central Office. Initial Notification(s) and Situational Awareness 24/7.**
- **District “Area Command” – Incident / Event Management Team to Address Expanded Incidents / Events. Follows ICS / NIMS “Doctrine”**
- **Emergency Support Function (ESF-1) – Response Component at the VEOC. Multiple Transportation Agencies (VDOT, DRPT, DOAV, DMV, VPA and Federal Liaison).**
- **Front Line Forces and Support Elements – State Forces and / or Contractor Resources.**

## VDOT Emergency Response – “Mutual Aid”

- **District Resource Shifts – Spotsylvania Debris Teams Working in Gloucester. (Gloucester Tornado)**
- **HERT / TIGER – VDOT “Mutual Aid” Teams Typically Sent From Non-Impacted District Locations. Example – Staunton District Debris Team Working in Williamsburg Area. (Irene)**
- **Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) – Other States Resources Requested Through The VEOC.**

## Damage Assessments

- **Initial Damage Assessment (IDA) – Estimated Damage By Category by Jurisdiction. (Agency Coverage)**
- **Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) – Refined IDA. Estimated Damage Costs Broken Down in More Detail. (Agency Coverage)**

### VDOT Typical Categories

- A – Debris Removal (Not Typically Initial Roadway Clearance)**
- B – Protective Measures (Typically Initial Roadway Clearance)**
- C – Permanent Roadway Infrastructure Repairs**
- E – Buildings / Facilities**



## Damage Assessments

- **Initial Damage Assessment (IDA) – 48 Hours From Transition to Non-Emergency Operations. Provides a General Snapshot of the Estimated Incident / Event Impact(s) by Jurisdiction.**
- **Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) – Requested By The State and Undertaken After IDA. Typically Joint Team of FEMA / VDEM. Significant Damage Area Site Visits. Mission - Validate the IDA.**
- ***Results of PDA are Evaluated and Developed Further. If Damage Thresholds are Met (Not Just VDOT), Governor Sends Declaration Request Letter to President / FEMA.***

## General Recovery Operations

- **Joint Field Office (JFO) – VDEM and FEMA Prime Occupants. Mission - A.) Support Disaster Recovery Operations B,) Assistance Grants (i.e. Worksheet / Subgrantee Applications) Development and Submission.**
- **FHWA – Inspection Teams (VDOT and Designated FHWA Staff). VDOT Develops and processes Detailed Damage Inspection Reports (DDIR).**
- ***Applications (FEMA and FHWA) are routed for submission. Where is the “Easy” Button????***

## VDOT Last 7 FEMA Declarations

- *Hurricane Sandy DR-4092 – 34 Applications (Currently Processing)*
- *Dericho DR-4072 - 69 Applications*
- *Tropical Storm Lee DR-4045 – 54 Applications*
- *Hurricane Irene DR-4024 – 123 Applications*
- *Hurricane Irene EM-3329 – 2 Applications*
- *February 2010 Winter Storm DR-1905 – 64 Applications*
- *December 2009 Winter Storm DR-1874 – 66 Applications*

*Total FEMA Applications – 412\**

*FEMA Cost Share (75%) – (Current Figure as of Presentation)*

*\*Sandy Applications Still In Process With VDEM / FEMA.*

## VDOT FHWA Emergency Relief (ER)

- ***FHWA Emergency Relief Program – “Active” For Irene, TS Lee, Dericho.***
- ***VDOT Serves As The State Authorized Agency (SAA).***
- ***Changes in Debris Operations From FHWA ER To FEMA PA.***

# VDOT Process Map

Handout or Separate Slide – Process Map

## VDOT FEMA Public Assistance (PA) – Common Items

- **VDEM / FEMA PA Staff Are Typically “Reservists” In Virginia.**
- **Explain Your “Business” To The PA Staff (VDEM & FEMA). Be Prepared To Re-Explain If They “Rotate” Out.**
- **VDEM / FEMA PA Staff Like “Paper” Documents. Electronic Files Are Good But Check Software Versions To Avoid Conflict.**
- **Ensure Your Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Is Engaged Throughout The Submission And Reimbursement.**
- ***No Program is Designed to Make a Damaged Area (Individual or Infrastructure) 100% Whole Without Their Contribution to the Recovery Effort!***

## VDOT FEMA Public Assistance (PA)

- **VDOT Is a “Subgrantee” – Not Direct To FEMA.**
- **Applications (i.e. Worksheets) Are Submitted Through VDEM.**
- **Routed To FEMA (Region III) For Processing.**
- **FEMA Eligible Funding “Obligated” To The Project And VDEM.**
- **VDOT Requests “Obligated” Funding / Closeout From VDEM.\***
- **“Obligated” Funding Eventually Routes To VDOT.**

**\*Extensions or Appeals Also Are Routed Through VDEM.**

## General FEMA View

- <http://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-eligibility>





## VDOT FEMA Public Assistance (PA)

- **VDOT Works With Contractor Resources For Debris Monitoring. Similar To Construction / Maintenance Monitoring.**
- **VDOT Utilizes Emergency Services Contracts (VDEM <http://www.vaemergency.gov/em-community/procurement/em-services-contracts>).**
- **VDOT Partners With Regional Debris Service Contract Vehicles Where Applicable.**
- **VDOT Has Used Public Assistance Contract Staff – Technical Assistance Contractor (TAC) – Hurricane Irene.**

## Program / Policy Monitoring

- **Keep Abreast of Overall Changes. Work With Your Local Emergency Management Office.**
- **Disaster Specific Memos (FEMA 9500 Series) May Impact Your Application / Submissions. <http://www.fema.gov/9500-series-policy-publications>**
- **FHWA Emergency Relief Manual - <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/reports/erm/index.cfm>**

## Training and Exercises

- **Leverage Training Opportunities From Emergency Management Partners (Local, State and Federal).**
- **Engage In Local Emergency Drills and Exercises. Operational Readiness Is Good!**
- **After Action Reviews Are Good!**
- **“It’s a lot easier to meet before the emergency than during it.”**

## Questions?

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