



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Overview

As exemplified by the COVID-19 Pandemic and recent all-hazard emergencies, emergency preparedness and management are essential to the City's ability to effectively respond and provide continued services to the community. The City's Office of Emergency Services maintains an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in "response-ready" condition to serve as the City's hub for emergency management activities in support of large-scale emergencies or planned events. In the event of any all-hazard emergency, the City will closely monitor county, state and federal orders, guidance and legislation to see how they apply to Santa Clara, advocate for regional, state, and federal resources and funding to provide as needed assistance to individuals and businesses that have been negatively impacted, and focus on economic recovery.

Guiding Principles

The City of Santa Clara's guiding principles for legislative advocacy include and are not limited to:

- Support the League of California Cities' and National League of Cities' positions on priority bills that benefit Santa Clara.
- Protect local revenue sources and prevent unfunded mandates.
- Protect and/or increase funding for specific programs and services.
- Protect and/or increase local government discretion.
- Advance approved policies such as the City's Statement of Values, the General Plan, or the Climate Action Plan.

Legislative Advocacy Position

In order to adequately prepare for and manage emergencies to protect the community, the City of Santa Clara:

- Supports efforts to provide direct relief funding to local jurisdictions, especially small and medium-sized cities, which can be utilized to mitigate, prepare, respond to, and recover from any all-hazard emergencies and emergent crises and threats, including offsetting lost revenue and reimbursing incurred costs.
- Supports the temporary suspension of certain time-specific statutory and meeting requirements and flexibility to adjust city services as needed to mitigate, prepare, respond to, and recover from any future all-hazard emergencies.
- Supports federal and state efforts to help mitigate the economic impacts from all-hazard emergencies on the City and its' businesses and residents.
- Supports public health efforts and resources to help mitigate the spread of infectious disease, including providing access to personal protective equipment and encouraging residents to receive approved vaccinations.
- Supports legislative efforts and funding to assist local governments with the development of wildfire mitigation plans.

- Supports legislative efforts and funding for mutual aid to assist with emergency operations and streamline reimbursement processes.
- Supports legislation efforts and funding for emergency management infrastructure.
- Supports funding and efforts for cybersecurity resilience, preparedness, response, mutual aid, and forensic investigation capabilities.
- Supports expedited California Disaster Assistance Act and Stafford Act reimbursement funding activities.
- Monitors homeowner and renters' insurance protection efforts and legislation, and advocate for reasonable, affordable, and accessible programs for Santa Clara residents.
- Opposes efforts to reduce local jurisdictions' autonomy as it relates to disaster recovery and management.
- Opposes efforts to shift responsibility, to the City, of programs that have traditionally been carried out, or funded, by federal, state, or county governments.