



COMMUNITY CONTINUITY

Prepare, Protect and Sustain our Harbor Communities

COPE Preparedness, *Community Outreach Promoting Emergency Preparedness (formally COPSS)* was founded in 2004, first as a joint committee of seven harbor area neighborhood councils then incorporated in 2006 as a 501 (c) 3, nonprofit organization. Since its inception COPE Preparedness has **RESEARCHED** what is being done to protect the harbor area; has **RALLIED** the community into a cohesive outreach plan; and has **REINFORCED** a sense of urgency by all concerned that this issue is of highest priority to all harbor area residents. COPE Preparedness maintains a growing community database of over 6000 participants; conducts numerous community education and awareness presentations and organizes community initiatives such as Community Continuity. COPE Preparedness promotes emergency preparedness on its website at www.COPE-Preparedness.org and continues to fulfill its mission of:

“Promoting Emergency Preparedness through Proactive Community Outreach”

COPE Preparedness proposes that our community leaders prepare, protect and sustain our communities by participating in the Community Continuity Four Phase Initiative as described herein:

OVERVIEW - Phase I, II, III, IV

Phase I – OPENING THE DIALOGUE - Date: April 4, 2009

Focus: Identify hazards – motivate dialogue- survey readiness - promote preparedness – and move towards Community Continuity. Discuss the role of community organizations in disaster preparedness, response and recovery. When disaster strikes what demands will be placed on them, how they will cope, and how can they prepare! How can community groups be a conduit to stakeholders and each other to promote preparedness to strengthen community continuity?

Invited 60 participants will be community leaders from:

Including but not limited to: Chamber of Commerce: (San Pedro, Harbor City, Wilmington), ILWU, PMA, Faith Based, Non-Profits, Neighborhood Councils, Homeowner Groups, Neighborhood Watch,, Ham Radio, CERT, and Community Groups

Phase II - GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS - Date: Fall 2009

Focus: Business and industry are the back bone of the community but how well prepared are they? Are they an asset or liability? How do their emergency plans interact with each other and those of the community? How can they promote preparedness now so that they and the community respond and recover quickly when disaster strikes?

Invited participants will be business and industry leaders from:

Representatives from each entity participating in Phase I and:

Including but not limited to: BICEPSS, representatives from businesses and port industry, Area Maritime Security Committee, (AMSC), Port Industry, Leisure/Entertainment, Refineries, POLA, POLB, ILWU, PMA utility companies, small and large community businesses.

Phase III -- CONNECTING THE DOTS - Date: Winter 2009

Focus: Connecting business and community groups to responder agencies, public entities, city, county and federal emergency operations. Analyze what to expect, when and what help is coming, coordinating plans and communication. Determine how to work together to promote preparedness as a community priority.

Invited participants will be leaders from:

Representatives from each entity participating in Phase I & II and:

Including but not limited to: City, County State Agencies (LAPD, LAFD, USCG, Public Health, AMSC, EMD, Port Police), AMSC, POLA – POLB, (Private/Public): LAUSD, Harbor College, PTA’S, Day Care Facilities, Nursing Homes, Hospitals, Animal Control, Parks & Recreation, Red Cross/Salvation Army, Harbor Safety Committee

Phase IV – PULLING IT ALL TOGETHER - Date: Early 2010

Focus: Analysis of the collaborative information, survey results, presentation of written EOP’s, outline of STRATEGIC PLAN

Invited participants will be selected representatives from previous participants in Phase I, II, III