

2020 Kent County, Delaware Emergency Operations Plan Update

DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Kent County Government, Delaware



PROJECT DETAILS

DIFFICULTY: Medium

COST: \$40,000 - \$50,000

TIMEFRAME: Six (6) Months

DELIVERABLES: An Updated County-Wide Emergency Operations Plan

CORE COMPETENCIES:

- Project Management
- Meeting Coordination and Facilitation
- Operations Responsibilities Development
- Strategic Reorganizations
- Plan Preparation
- Plan Integration

PROJECT TEAM

Vision Planning and Consulting

CLIENT CONTACT

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PROJECT OVERVIEW

Vision Planning and Consulting (VPC) prepared an update to the existing Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and Annexes for Kent County, Delaware, and 15 County Departments. The EOP Base Plan was supplemented by 14 ESFs and 10 HSAs. The 2020 Plan was reorganized to reflect a newer ESF organization and FEMA recommendations, to map ESFs to ICS functions, and to better integrate with the State of Delaware's EOP and Functional Annexes.

PROJECT SUMMARY

VPC reorganized and updated the County's EOP structure to match the FEMA Emergency Support Function (ESF) framework and provided a more efficient way to track roles and responsibilities during an emergency activation event. By organizing the 2020 EOP around support function capabilities such as transportation, communications, mass care, etc., the County will be better able to plan responses and track resources.

The Plan's Hazard Specific Annexes (HSAs) were revised to reflect the natural hazards identified in the County's 2015 Hazard Mitigation Plan, as well as creating new annexes for civil disturbance and infectious diseases.

A new Infections Disease HSA was developed to incorporate potential contagions such as the recent threat of SARS-CoV-2, more commonly known as Covid-19. It included: select definitions; assumptions; a description of the Pandemic Planning Continuum; and what to do before, during, and after a pandemic declaration.

VPC made extensive efforts to involve all departments within the County in the Plan Update process. County departments were involved via questionnaires, worksheets, phone

calls, email, and through departmental work sessions. VPC developed questionnaires that were tailored to each County department. Departments were provided the opportunity to identify their roles based on department reorganization, new capabilities, and new or updated legal requirements.

VPC also developed a new ICS Section to be included in the Kent EOP Base Plan, which illustrates the ICS structure and organization, and includes a component which maps the County ESFs to the appropriate NIMS/ICS Sections. Additionally, a table mapping each Kent County ESF to the appropriate corresponding Delaware Emergency Operations Plan (DEOP) Functional Annex was created to provide clarity and assist with interoperability. Finally, each County ESF Annex document also has a section in the header which links them to the appropriate ICS Branch and DEOP Functional Annex, as discussed in the EOP Base Plan.

The final deliverable is a comprehensive Emergency Operations Plan with: 1) Emergency Support Functions delineating department roles and responsibilities for each of 14 support capabilities, and 2) ten (10) Hazard Specific Annexes providing hazard specific information,