

Emergency Support Function # 1 – Transportation

Primary Agencies

Emergency Management
Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Secondary/Support Agencies

Sheriff's Office
Police Department
Public Schools
Private Contractors

Introduction

Purpose:

Transportation assists local, federal, and state government entities and voluntary organizations requiring transportation capacity to perform response missions following a disaster or emergency. Emergency Support Function #1 will also serve as a coordination point between response operations and restoration of the transportation infrastructure.

Scope:

ESF #1 will:

- Coordinate evacuation transportation as its first priority during disaster operations;
- Prioritize and allocate all local government transportation resources;
- Facilitate movement of the public in coordination with other transportation agencies;
- Facilitate damage assessments to establish priorities and determine needs of available transportation resources
- Maintain ingress/egress;
- Provide traffic control;
- Communicate and coordinate with Virginia Department of Transportation; and
- Coordinate with surrounding localities and private organizations to ensure that potential resources are available during disaster operations.

Policies:

Local transportation planning will use the most effective means of transportation to carry out the necessary duties during an incident, including, but not limited to:

- Use of available transportation resources to respond to an incident;
- Provide traffic control;
- Facilitate the prompt deployment of resources;
- Recognize State and Federal policies, regulations, and priorities used to control movement of relief personnel, equipment, and supplies;
- Develop and maintain priorities for various incidents through an interagency process led by Rockbridge County, City of Buena Vista, and the City of Lexington and the Virginia Department of Transportation.
- Request additional resources

Concept of Operations

General:

The Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) provides guidance for managing the use of transportation services and request for relief and recovery resources.

Access routes should remain clear to permit a sustained flow of emergency relief.

All requests for transportation support will be submitted to the Rockbridge County/City of Buena Vista/City of Lexington Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for coordination, validation, and/or action in accordance with this Emergency Support Function.

Organization:

Rockbridge County, City of Buena Vista, and the City of Lexington, in conjunction with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), is responsible for transportation infrastructure of Rockbridge County. Rockbridge County, City of Buena Vista, and the City of Lexington and VDOT are responsible for coordinating resources needed to restore and maintain transportation routes necessary to protect lives and property during an emergency or disaster.

VDOT, in conjunction with support agencies, will assess the condition of highways, bridges, signals, rail and bus transit and other components of the transportation infrastructure and where appropriate:

- Provide information on road closures, alternate routes, infrastructure damage, debris removal;
- Close infrastructure determined to be unsafe;
- Post signage and barricades; and
- Maintain and restore critical transportation routes, facilities, and services.

Responsibilities:

- Develop, maintain, and update plans and procedures for use during an emergency or disaster;
- The personnel will stay up to date with education and training that is required for a safe and efficient response to an incident;
- Alert Rockbridge County, City of Buena Vista, and the City of Lexington, and local primary agency representative of possible incident, and begin preparations for mobilization of resources;
- Keep record of all expenses through the duration of the emergency;
- Follow emergency procedures and policies for conducting evacuations;
- Include procedures for traffic control;
- Identify pre-designated Pick-Up Sites, if any; and
- Identify viable transportation routes, to, from and within the emergency or disaster area.