

Annex 16 (ESF-16 –Emergency Traffic Management) to the Darlington County Emergency Operations Plan

Primary: Darlington County Sheriff's Office

Support: SC Highway Patrol, Hartsville Police Department, Darlington Police Department, Lamar Police Department, Society Hill Police Department, SC Department of Natural Resources, SC Law Enforcement Division, SC Department of Transportation, Roads and Bridges

I. Introduction:

- A. The aggressive management of evacuating motor vehicle traffic during the threat of, or immediately following an emergency or disaster is critical to the life safety of all residents. Transportation system management is vitally important to successfully execute this function. This function must be planned and executed in a coordinated manner that will ensure the most timely and orderly movement of the impacted populace to an area of safety. Evacuations may occur as a result of natural or technological hazards faced by the county and will require the planning and coordination of all public safety agencies in the county.
- B. Hazards, which will require action by this ESF, include but are not limited to; hurricanes, hazardous materials incidents, flooding, tornadoes, winter storms, fires, the H.B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant (nuclear), the H.B. Robinson Fossil Fuel Plant, the Darlington County Turbine Plant, dam failure, weapons of mass destruction (terrorism) incidents and earthquakes.
- C. Effective emergency traffic management will be accomplished by multiple cooperating agencies led by the Darlington County Sheriff's Office, which has overall responsibility for this emergency support function. Public awareness, education and communications efforts are essential to the success of this function and must be accomplished by all agencies and coordinated by the Public Information Officer (PIO) in the Emergency Services Department.

II. Mission: To provide for coordinated plans, policies and actions to ensure the safe and orderly evacuation of populations affected by all hazards. To further ensure that once the threat or hazard no longer exists that prompt and orderly re-entry into the evacuated area is accomplished. Other missions may not involve evacuations, but are equally important. They include, but are not limited to, ensuring public safety to motorists during hazardous weather conditions, re-routing traffic to protect motorists or pedestrians from hazardous material exposure, restricting access and developing diversions from flood prone areas.

III. Concept of Operations:

- A. The Darlington County Sheriff's Office is designated as the lead law enforcement

agency for all emergency traffic management issues before, during and after any required evacuation in Darlington County. The Sheriff's Office is responsible for insuring that traffic management actions are coordinated with all supporting local, state and federal agencies.

B. County traffic management responsibilities:

1. The Sheriff's Office has the responsibility for all preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation actions including the development and maintenance of any SOP's, policies or procedures required to implement this annex. The Sheriff's Office is responsible for insuring that traffic management actions are coordinated with all supporting agencies. Close coordination with SC Highway Patrol is critical to insure that local evacuation strategies do not interfere with strategies already developed and in place at the state level. The SC Department of Public Safety in conjunction with the SC Department of Transportation have developed plans and strategies to evacuate the coastal areas when threatened by a hurricane. Coordination of local plans is essential to avoid duplication of effort with state and local officials.
2. The Sheriff's Office will implement this annex when directed to or deemed necessary by the appropriate authority. For the purposes of this annex, the "appropriate authority" is defined as the Emergency Services Director or his designee when the EOC is activated, the Fire Services Incident Commander at any hazardous materials or manmade incident, the EMS Incident Commander at any incident where life safety is threatened, the Law Enforcement Incident Commander at any incident where public safety is threatened or any member of a law enforcement agency, Fire Department, EMS or Rescue Squad or anyone who as defined under the SC Emergency Powers Act or Emergency Health Powers Act (or other applicable state or federal law) is granted the authority to order or compel the evacuation of any portion of the county.
3. Traffic management execution timelines will vary depending on the incident. Several factors will dictate the execution timeline for traffic management. Factors such as the type of incident, the time of day when the incident occurs, the availability of personnel to insure an orderly movement of motorists, the number of residents that must be evacuated and the weather at the time of the incident must be considered when this annex is implemented.

C. Municipal Police Chiefs retain jurisdiction in their municipalities, however they are responsible for coordinating municipal traffic evacuation plans with the Sheriff's Office to reduce overlap and duplication of effort.

D. The SC Highway Patrol has the responsibility to implement state traffic management plans. However, local government is responsible for the development and coordination of local evacuation plans. Darlington County does not have any evacuation routes designated by the SC Highway Patrol. Statewide

all interstate highways are designated as evacuation routes during the hurricane season. Selected state and county roads may also be designated as evacuation routes. These designated routes should have signage in place that will direct traffic away from coastal hazard areas.

E. Evacuation routes:

1. For the purposes of this annex the following highways or roads within the county are designated as evacuation routes:
 - US Hwy 52 (Governor Williams Hwy) from the Florence County line to the Chesterfield County line.
 - Society Hill Road from the intersection of Cashua Ferry Road in the City Of Darlington to the intersection of US Hwy 15/401/52 in the Town of Society Hill.
 - Cashua Ferry Road (SC Hwy 34) from the City of Darlington to the Marlboro County line.
 - SC Hwy 151 (Bobo Newsome Hwy/Harry Byrd Hwy) from the Chesterfield County line to the intersection with Pearl Street in the City of Darlington.
 - SC Hwy 34 (East Lydia Hwy and Cashua Ferry Road) from the intersection of US 15 south all the way through the City of Darlington to the Marlboro County line.
 - US Hwy 15 (locally West Lydia Hwy, Marquis Hwy, North and South Fifth Street and Hartsville Hwy) from the Lee County line through and around the City of Hartsville then through the Town of Society Hill to the Marlboro County line.
 - US Hwy 401 (Lamar Hwy) from the City of Darlington through the Town of Lamar to the Sumter County line.
 - SC Hwy 102 (Patrick Hwy) from the City of Hartsville to the Chesterfield County line to the Town of Patrick and intersection of US Hwy 1.
 - I-95 (the one-mile stretch) from the Florence County line to the Florence County line.
 - I-20 (seven miles) from the Florence County line to the Lee County line.
 - SC Hwy 403 (Oates Hwy) from the intersection of US-15 and SC 34 to the Florence County line.
 - Any county road or state highway that will move residents away from the scene of the emergency.
2. Direction of travel on these routes will be the appropriate direction that will move county residents away from the impending emergency or scene of the emergency.
3. Traffic Control Points: With the exception of the TCPs established for the evacuation of the HBRSEP 10-mile EPZ and for coastal evacuations during an impending hurricane, TCPs will be established as necessary to insure an orderly movement of motorists away from the impending emergency or scene of the emergency.
4. H.B. Robinson Steam Electric Plant 10-mile Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ):

Specific evacuation routes for the HBRSEP can be found in Annex 25, Tab A. Appendix 4.

5. Hurricane or Weather events: Specific evacuation routes for weather events can be found in Annex 25, Tab B.
 6. Hazmat and WMD incidents: Specific evacuation routes for Hazmat incidents can be found in Annex 10. Specific evacuation routes for WMD/Terrorism incidents can be found in Annex 25, Tab F.
 7. Other: For evacuation routes for hazards not listed above, see Annex 25, Tabs A through J.
- F. Communications: The Sheriff's Office will designate the specific radio frequencies to be utilized during the evacuation. Municipal Police departments will utilize the frequencies assigned to their departments. SC Highway Patrol will use their frequencies during evacuations. Communications with the EOC will be conducted over the Sheriff's Office primary operating frequency. Alternate communications with the EOC will be cell phone or land line telephone during evacuations.
- G. Re-entry procedures: See the specific hazard annex for re-entry procedures, Annex 25, Tabs A through J.
- H. Public information: During an evacuation, accurate and timely information to the general public will insure an orderly evacuation from the hazard area(s). All information concerning evacuation routes, times and procedures will be issued from the EOC. The Emergency Services PIO will approve the release of all information concerning evacuations. Each department will coordinate their new releases with the PIO in the EOC. (See Annex 15 (ESF-15), Public Information).

IV. Responsibilities:

- A. Preparedness Phase:
1. Darlington County Sheriff's Office:
 - a. Develop plans for evacuation routes for affected areas of the county.
 - b. Designate traffic control points as necessary for the identified hazards.
 - c. Determine the equipment resources required to implement this annex.
 - d. Develop and coordinate the manpower and equipment required to support this annex.

- e. Schedule and conduct pre-evacuation coordination meetings with all participating agencies.
 - f. Establish procedures to monitor traffic flow.
 - g. Develop and coordinate plans for ingress and egress of emergency vehicles during evacuations.
 - h. Develop and expand the emergency traffic management communications plan identified in paragraph F above, to be used by all agencies during evacuation operations.
 - i. Coordinate with all county and municipal public safety agencies to ensure a clear understanding of emergency traffic management responsibilities.
 - j. Develop plans and procedures to insure the availability of tow trucks to remove vehicles that have broke down from the evacuation route.
 - k. Ensure all ESF-16 personnel integrate NIMS principles in all planning. As a minimum all primary action officers for ESF-16 will complete FEMA's NIMS Awareness course or an equivalent course.
 - l. Annually review the Department of Homeland Security Universal Task List and integrate tasks as appropriate.
 - m. Participate in an annual exercise to validate this annex and supporting SOPs.
2. Municipalities:
- a. Develop plans for evacuation routes for the municipality.
 - b. Designate traffic control points as necessary for the identified hazards.
 - c. Determine the equipment resources required to implement this annex.
 - d. Develop and coordinate the manpower and equipment required to support this annex.
 - e. Establish procedures to monitor traffic flow.
 - f. Develop and coordinate plans for ingress and egress of emergency vehicles during evacuations.
3. SC Highway Patrol:
- a. Develop plans for state evacuation routes for affected areas of the county.

- b. Designate traffic control points as necessary for the identified hazards to implement the state emergency traffic management plans.
 - c. In conjunction with the Sheriff's Office, develop, determine and coordinate the manpower and equipment resources required to implement the state portion of this annex.
 - d. Establish procedures to monitor traffic flow.
 - e. Develop and coordinate plans for ingress and egress of emergency vehicles during evacuations.
4. Roads and Bridges: Develop plans and procedures to assist law enforcement agencies with providing assistance to evacuees whose vehicles have broken down.
 5. SC Department of Transportation: Develop the plans and procedures to assist law enforcement agencies by providing barricades and traffic cones as necessary to help regulate traffic flow.

B. Response Phase:

NOTE: All incidents in Darlington County will be managed using the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Incident Command System/Unified Command System.

1. Sheriff's Office:
 - a. Staff the ESF-16 desk in the EOC.
 - b. Designate and manage the operation of law enforcement manpower and equipment staging areas.
 - c. Conduct pre-mission operational briefings for all participating state, county and municipal public safety agencies.
 - d. Implement the emergency traffic management plans for the identified hazard and designate alternate routes where applicable.
 - e. Execute the emergency traffic management public information program.
 - f. Report traffic flow information to the EOC.
 - g. Implement the emergency traffic management communications plan.

- h. Provide information to the Detention Center and Prison Farm that may assist in their evacuation of prisoners.
- 2. Municipalities:
 - a. Conduct pre-mission operational briefings for all participating state, county and municipal public safety agencies.
 - b. Implement the emergency traffic management plans for the identified hazard and designate alternate routes where applicable.
 - c. Report traffic flow information to the EOC.
- 3. SC Highway Patrol:
 - a. Staff the ESF-16 desk in the EOC.
 - b. Implement the state emergency traffic management plans for the identified hazard and designate alternate routes where applicable.
 - c. Report traffic flow information to the EOC.
- 4. Roads and Bridges: Implement plans and procedures to assist law enforcement agencies with providing assistance to evacuees whose vehicles have broken down.
- 5. SC Department of Transportation:
 - a. Assist law enforcement agencies by providing barricades and traffic cones as necessary to help regulate traffic flow.
 - b. If available, provide the SHEP vehicle to assist with stranded and broken down motorists.
- C. Recovery Phase:
 - 1. Coordinate with all agencies to facilitate re-entry operations returning displaced citizens into unaffected areas of a disaster.
 - 2. Manage traffic at critical intersections post impact with priority given to emergency service vehicles, transportation of supplies and equipment and access to critical facilities.
 - 3. Assist public and private organizations with traffic control during the restoration of infrastructure services.

4. Require law enforcement agencies to maintain records of all costs incurred during the event.

D. Mitigation Phase:

1. Support and plan for mitigation measures.
2. Document matters that may be needed for inclusion in briefing situation reports and plans.

V. **Administration and Logistics:**

- A. Administration: Initial situation reports should be given to the Sheriff's Office as soon as practicable. Reports will be consolidated and submitted to the Emergency Services Department for analysis and distribution and should contain but not be limited to the following:

1. Type of emergency
2. Damage incurred
3. Casualties incurred
3. Evacuation routes activated
4. Traffic control points activated
5. Agencies involved
6. Nature and extent of any assistance required.

- B. Logistics: Organic supplies, operational aids and transportation will be used by all forces. Additional supplies and transportation will be requested through the Emergency Operations Center.

- C. Provide a laptop computer for use in the ESF for WEBEOC access.

VI. Annex review and maintenance: This annex (ESF) will be reviewed annually by the primary action agency, department or individual with changes submitted to the Emergency Services Department by November 30th of each year for inclusion into the EOP. Following exercises or actual events the annex will be reviewed to determine if changes are required. If no changes are required, the primary action agency, department or individual will certify to the Emergency Services Director that the annex has been reviewed and changes are not required.

VII. Coordinating Instructions: This annex is effective for planning upon receipt and execution upon order.