

Emergency Support Function #1 TRANSPORTATION

Lead Agency

- Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

Support Agencies and Organizations

- Chesapeake Bay Bridge – Tunnel District (CBBT)
- Department of Aviation (DOAV)
- Department of General Services (DGS)
- Department of Military Affairs (DMA)
- Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy (DMME)
- Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)
- Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT)
- Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS)
- Virginia State Police (VSP)
- Virginia Port Authority (VPA)
- Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF)

Purpose

Through VDOT's coordination role, Emergency Support Function (ESF) #1 integrates the responsibilities of state agencies in the prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery, infrastructure restoration, safety, and security of all Commonwealth transportation infrastructures.

Scope & Applicability

Activities within the scope of ESF #1 functions include: processing and coordinating requests for transportation support as directed under the Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Operations Plan (COVEOP); reporting damage to transportation infrastructure as a result of the incident; coordinating alternate transportation services; coordinating the restoration and recovery of the transportation infrastructure; performing activities conducted under the direct authority of state agencies; and coordinating and supporting prevention, preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation among transportation infrastructure stakeholders at the local level.

Policies

- to successfully accomplish their tasks. All agencies assigned responsibilities within this ESF will develop and maintain the necessary plans, standard operating procedures, mutual aid agreements, and model contracts
- Prior to an incident, priorities are developed and maintained to facilitate prompt deployment of resources for a variety of incidents. This is accomplished through an interagency process coordinated and led by VDEM. Each ESF is responsible for compiling, submitting and updating information to ESF #1 for prioritization or as needs warrant.
- To ensure an orderly flow of resources, agencies will advise ESF #1 of all transportation movements arranged independently from ESF #1.
- In accordance with state and federal policies, the transportation industry will function under its own management and operate systems and facilities to provide the maximum service to fill essential

needs as specified by appropriate federal, state and local government authorities.

- The actual process of emergency management of transportation within the Commonwealth is the responsibility of state and local government.
- State-directed emergency transportation operations will be in consonance with, and responsive to, regional and national policy directives, controls, and procedures of the federal government.
- State-directed emergency transportation operations will coordinate with affected local governments to supply appropriate resources to accommodate citizens with special and/or functional needs during an evacuation.

Organizational Structure

Under federal law, the U. S. Secretary of Transportation is responsible for exercising leadership in national and regional transportation emergencies. The U. S. Department of Transportation (DOT) will be responsive to requests for assistance from the state in coordination with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) during a resource crisis or a natural disaster.

The Secretary of Transportation will coordinate all emergency-related actions with the Virginia Emergency Response Team (VERT) Coordinator and/or State Coordinator of Emergency Management and may relocate to the Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC). This may be necessary to facilitate work through other state agencies and/or develop recommended courses of action for the Governor to counteract a potential or actual transportation emergency.

The Operations and Security Division (OSD) of VDOT serves as the State Transportation Secretariat's coordinating entity for emergency operations.

VDOT Transportation Plan is a separately published plan, which includes procedures for aviation support, how DMV will coordinate the movement of essential goods and supplies, and the activities of the VPA. More detailed concepts, procedures, and action checklists are included in agency-specific Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) developed and maintained by these departments, in coordination with VDOT.

Concept of Operations

The State Secretary of Transportation will monitor and coordinate, as needed, the activities of the state agencies listed below with transportation-related duties and responsibilities in order to support disaster response and recovery operations, and to effectively manage transportation resources across all supporting agencies in order to:

1. Maintain the state highway system, to include debris clearance and restoration, following an emergency or disaster.
2. Facilitate, in coordination with the State Police and affected local governments, traffic movement during a large-scale evacuation and re-entry.
3. Provide an Initial Damage Assessment (IDA) Report of state highways, roads and bridges to the VEOC within 72 hours of the damage.
4. Provide transportation services, back-up communications and other available resources as needed in support of VEOC operations.

State agencies share major responsibilities in assisting local governments in evacuations and re-entry into evacuated areas. For the hurricane threat to Hampton Roads, VDOT and law enforcement agencies play the major roles. The COVEOP Hurricane Response Plan prescribes the concept of operations, responsibilities and tasking for hurricane evacuation.

All state departments and agencies with transportation-related responsibilities will

provide emergency services within their modal scope of operations. They will be coordinated with each other as needed in order to efficiently manage transportation resources and complete task assignments. Overall coordination affecting ESF#1 and any resolution of conflicting interests will be resolved at the lowest level possible.

State transportation agencies will coordinate with federal agencies and the private sector transportation industry to provide necessary equipment, facilities and personnel in response to emergency requirements. All intrastate transportation available for emergency management purposes will be subject to their control with the following exceptions:

1. Transportation required for military, federal or civilian personnel or supplies.
2. Federally controlled or operated vessels, trains, vehicles or aircraft, unless specifically made available.
3. Commercial or scheduled air carriers (interstate carriers).
4. Ocean-going vessels.

The transportation industry will be responsible for continuity of management, protection of personnel and facilities, conservation of supplies, restoration of damaged lines and terminals, rerouting, expansion or improvement of operations and securing of necessary manpower, materials and services.

Carriers and shippers will conduct business as usual whenever possible. If exemptions to state rules and regulations are needed to expedite delivery of essential resources to disaster areas, VDOT will coordinate with the Governor to consider and/or implement accommodations. Payments for transportation services will be made in the normal manner except when the consignor or consignee is an emergency management state or federal agency. The unit or agency involved will be billed for services. The principal change from accustomed business conditions will be controls, which may be placed upon the use of transportation to ensure that

service is being utilized for essential survival activities in support of disaster areas on a priority basis, and for the other areas of the state as available and required.

Roles & Responsibilities

Virginia Department of Transportation

- Implement Volume 7 (Transportation) of the VDOT EOP, when required.
- Maintain the state highway system, to include debris clearance and removal from highways, roads, bridges, and state-owned property.
- Restore highways, roads, and bridges which are a responsibility of the VDOT; and assist cities and counties in the restoration of highways, roads and bridges, upon request (accounts receivable basis).
- Facilitate, in coordination with the State Police and affected local governments, traffic movement during a large-scale evacuation and re-entry.
- Provide an Initial Damage Assessment report within 72 hours of damages to state highways, roads, and bridges to the State EOC.
- Coordinate requests for federal assistance for debris or wreckage removal from state property.
- Provide ground transportation, back-up communications, and other available resources as needed in support of State EOC operations.
- Operate and maintain the Field Operations Section, and keep it informed of all significant information, actions, and plans.
- Appoint a VDOT Incident Commander who will take the lead in aggressively pursuing the VDOT goal of opening the

roadway(s) as quickly and safely as possible. The VDOT Incident Commander has the authority, responsibility, and commensurate accountability to be in charge of all VDOT activities associated with the incident.

- Provide for damage assessment and hazard mitigation surveys for highways, roads, and bridges in the state system.
- Coordinate emergency engineering services for highway operations.
- Provide back-up communications to support emergency services activities.
- Coordinate waivers and/or clearances for the expedient but safe highway clearance for oversized and overweight vehicles.
- Conduct emergency demolition, except demolition from private property, unless structure poses a safety hazard to the traveling public. (The phrase demolition here refers to any extraordinary uses of explosives, beyond what might be considered normal for removal of debris/wreckage. Such request will likely emanate from the State EOC and be accomplished in coordination with other state agencies).

Chesapeake Bay Bridge – Tunnel District

- Provide traffic control and other general support to VDOT as needed.
- Coordinate with ESF #1 in the VEOC and report the status of the CBBT and its impact on Virginia ports and highways.

Department of Aviation

- Perform airlift missions in direct support of the VEOC during emergency response and recovery.

- Provide and/or coordinate air transportation resources for the transport of essential goods via air as appropriate.
- Provide an IDA report to ESF #1 in the VEOC within the required timeline of damages to air carrier and/or general aviation airports, airplanes, and airport facilities in the disaster area, excluding military or other federally owned property or facilities.

Department of General Services

- Provide passenger vehicle resources as requested (when available) from the Commonwealth's centralized fleet.

Department of Military Affairs

- Assist in debris removal if resources are available.
- Provide military transportation in accordance with ESF #16 of the COVEOP and other supporting ESFs and support plans.

Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy

- Coordinate the transport of essential goods and people over all modes in support of the VEOC during emergency operations and recovery.

Department of Motor Vehicles

- Coordinate the transport of essential goods and people over all modes in support of the VEOC during emergency operations and recovery.

Department of Rail and Public Transportation

- Coordinate with railroad companies to maintain the system, to include restoration following an emergency or disaster.
- Provide an IDA report to ESF#1 representative in the VEOC within the

required timeline of damages to the state railway system.

- Coordinate with public transport agencies to request assistance needed for recovery.

Virginia Department of Social Services

- Coordinate with VDOT during mass evacuation and sheltering to provide information regarding opening and closing of State Managed Shelters along evacuation routes.

Virginia State Police

- Provide rotary and fixed wing aircraft for reconnaissance operations and transportation of personnel (aviation).
- Identify communication requirements for the STARS state agencies involved. Assign specific STARS Talk-Groups to be used based on communication and agency participation assessments.
- Develop a comprehensive communications plan based on NIMS/ICS Standards and submit ICS-205 and ICS-205T.
- Deploy technical personnel for Mobile Command Posts and STARS Transportable Communications System (TCS).
- Provide technical communications personnel for support of VEOC.
- Coordinate communications requirements and activations of interoperable communications with other localities and agencies utilizing COMLINC, ORION or other resources as made available in VEOC Operations Plan.

Virginia Port Authority

- Provide coordination with critical Virginia port facilities and federal port

partners to restore damaged port facilities and ensure all main shipping channels are cleared and re-opened.

- Provide an Initial Damage Assessment (IDA) report to ESF #1 in the VEOC within the required timeline of the disaster event of the status of the port's critical infrastructure and waterways, excluding military or other federally owned property or facilities. The IDA will be developed from information gathered from federal, state, and local port partners.

Virginia Department of Forestry

- Support road clearing operations with chainsaw crews following wind related storms.
- Provide snow removal on rural gravel roads.
- Assist with rescue and recovery of stranded motorist during snow incidents.

Authorities & References

Authorities

- Virginia Emergency Services and Disaster Laws

References

- Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) 4.6.3: The emergency operations/response plan shall identify and assign specific areas of responsibility for performing essential functions in response to an emergency or disaster. Areas of responsibility to be addressed include: transportation resources.