

Report to Council
to date: May 11, 2022

Emergency and Disaster Management (EDM)

Completed Projects July 6, 2021 to date

- COVID-19 related reports to the state, attended meetings with local stakeholders and state agencies, and provided continual testing support to both clinics via three-month contracts. Although not entirely complete, one clinic is self-sufficient and the other is preparing to become self-sufficient – contracts are complete end of June for full demobilization of city-supported testing.
- New Tsunami brochures hand-delivered to all RV parks and Hotels July/2021
- 8.2m earthquake response – Tsunami Advisory w/ IM Short team assembly and community communication July/2021
- NIXLE subscription promotional advertisements – KVAK Radio/app Aug/2021
- Tsunami brochure and guidance letter mailed to every Valdez PO Box Aug/2021
- PWSC – Orientation presentation to new students on Valdez hazards Aug/2021
- UAF – Collaborated w/ UAF on sUAS ed for middle schoolers in Alaska Aug/2021
- Flu Clinic – Coordinated in partnership with local PHN Oct/2021
- Tsunami Inundation “Know Your Zone” ed and contest give-away – KVAK Oct/2021
- Tsunami Education Presentations – Elena Suleimani/AEC in Valdez Oct/2021
- Participated in TTX – Civil Disturbance USCG/APSC/AMH/COV Nov/2021
- SPOT weather training w/ NWS – Coordinated for VPD dispatch Nov/2021
- PSA – Valdez Glacier Lake winter advisory on glacier changes Jan/2022
- Old VFD and VPD renovation temporary EDM storage – finalized drawings Jan/2022
- Tonga volcano eruption – Tsunami Advisory w/ IM Short team assembly and community communication Jan/2022
- “When Minutes Matter” 2-day FEMA communications seminar Feb/2022
- USFA O-305 AHIMT training – 5-day COV IMT certification training Mar/2022
- Supported snow-load disaster declaration Mar/2022
- Became a member of the Alaska Emergency Management Assoc. May/2022
- COV Emergency Manager job description created May/2022

Work in Progress

- EOP revisions are ongoing
- EDM webpage on COV site; improvements are in draft-mode in the page’s background
- Elena Suleimani studio recording (from Oct/2021) 55min tsunami educational piece is complete and will be distributed to stakeholders May/2022 for summer on-boarding. The piece will also be available to the public/schools/etc. on COV YouTube and EDM site.
- NIXLE subscription campaign w/ Seed Media; 30 second add & 2-minute sign-up tutorial have debuted in the theater and digital signage boards (i.e. airport, Hub, Food Cache, and Civic Center). Preparing to air ads on YouTube and Facebook that will direct viewers to the full videos to increase subscriber base. Videos housed on COV YouTube and EDM site.
- Tsunami Education/Personal Prep 6-minute video w/ Seed Media is complete. Debuts June/2022 in theatre once EDM page is upgraded with personal preparedness resources.

Video is then advertised on social media platforms; NIXLE is also promoted within. This is a precursor to a larger education/personal preparedness self-reliance initiative for residents beginning in 2023.

- Functional Exercise 2-day; Earthquake/Tsunami COV IMT and stakeholders Nov/2022
- COV Tsunami-Ready certification with NOAA/NWS; final items are: road signage changes/additions and minor revisions/additions to the EOP
- New COV evacuation mapping will be completed and distributed May/2022 and is also one of the requirements for the Tsunami Ready certification.
- Creating a 36”X24” metal sign using info from both sides of tsunami brochure plus additional information included r.e. NIXLE, evacuation routes, and links to EDM page and newly created media products. Sign will be translated into several languages accessed via QR code. Sign will be placed in small boat harbor, offered to fish processors, at recreational locations, Kelsey Dock, and all RV parks and Hotels wishing to post the sign.
- 2022-Budgeted non-perishable food supply for displaced persons during disaster events is nearing coordination completion with supplier. Final proposal/quote ready May/2022
- Coordinating with PVMC to assist in the creation of a team that will be prepared to move hospital patients during tsunami evacuations and disaster events over to ACS at GMS
- Outdoor warning siren maintenance and equipment upgrades
- MOUs with local stakeholders
- Continued ICS training for COV IMT
- Attendance to monthly USGS PWS slope instability/landslides mtgs
- Attendance to monthly scientific group PWS slope instability mtgs
- Attendance to monthly Barry Arm Landslide working group
- Ongoing LEPC participation
- Ongoing FEMA Emergency Manager training through independent study courses, virtual training, and in-person courses.

Long Range Plans

- Certify Valdez as a “Storm Ready” community through NOAA/NWS
- Create and implement a plan (in partnership with the USGS and other scientists) to monitor the ongoing changes to the Valdez Glacier, Ice Dam Lake, and slope instabilities in the area that could create landslide-generated tsunamis in Glacier Lake. This hazard affects the immediate area and downstream public and private assets.
- Earthquake education is on the shirttails of the current tsunami education efforts. Additional community education will also include: Avalanche, Flooding, Outdoor Recreation, and Haz Mat.
- Work with Capital Facilities department to create a storage location, resource preparation, and point of distribution for EDM supplies out of the inundation zone.
- Fire Station 4 is inadequate as a community shelter. Alternatives need to be discussed.
- Acquire a Command and Communications vehicle for mobile ICS disaster response and emergency use by COV public safety departments (FIRE/EMS/SAR/POLICE).
- Organize COV building-specific evacuation, reunification, rallying, communication, and personnel accountability plans for disaster response at each COV facility
- Complete Emergency Manager certification training
- Complete emergency services radio upgrades

- Create a Functional Needs Population Registry – volunteer registry to identify persons in the community with functional needs to improve planning and response as pertaining to evacuations, sheltering, and disaster response – partnering with The Response Group on this project.
- Create a family/resident community preparedness and self-reliance initiative for implementation in 2023 and 2024