



## MEMORANDUM

To: Public Safety Subcommittee

From: Zuzzette Bricker, Office of Emergency Management Program Manager

Date: May 10, 2018

Subject: April 2018 Office of Emergency Management Report

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**Mission:** The Office of Emergency Management is responsible for minimizing the impact of natural and man-made disasters by establishing readiness through city-wide prevention, preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation.

**Current Preparedness Level:** SEMS is the system required by Government Code §8607 (a) for managing response to multi-agency and multi-jurisdiction emergencies in California. SEMS provides for a multiple level emergency response organization and is intended to structure and facilitate the flow of emergency information and resources within and between the organizational levels.

### Shelter Fundamentals and Exercise Training

The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) has maintained a long standing cooperative relationship with the American Red Cross to provide evacuation and shelter support for the community during emergencies or disasters. As part of the collaborative partnership, OEM and the American Red Cross partnered in April to provide shelter training to city staff, volunteers, and surrounding organizations.

The purpose of a shelter is to provide a safe place for people to stay during an emergency, with access to various types of support and information. In some cases, people leave their homes as a precautionary measure. These people usually return home as soon as possible after the emergency has passed. In other cases, when their homes are damaged as a result of the disaster, they may continue to live in the shelter until alternative housing can be secured, or until the home has been repaired. Shelter operations require a skilled team of people who are ready to help.

Regardless of the emergency, when large groups of people are temporarily displaced from their homes, the American Red Cross responds by opening and operating temporary shelters. In most cases, the American Red Cross will secure shelter for

disaster victims in public and private facilities, such as schools, churches, and community centers. Should the American Red Cross not be available, the City of Moreno Valley would take on the responsibility for providing a temporary care and reception site for those in need.

In an effort to enhance the City of Moreno Valley's capabilities, OEM hosted shelter fundamental training as well as hands on training for the City Parks & Community Services Department and the Emergency Response Force (ERF) volunteer cadre. OEM partnered with Red Cross, opening the course to several surrounding organizations; Department of Public and Social Services, City of Corona, City of Murrieta, Morongo Tribe, and American Red Cross volunteers. The intent of the course was to prepare shelter staff to effectively manage shelter operations as a team, thus meeting the needs of people displaced as a result of a disaster.