

CHATHAM COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN

PROGRAM DIRECTION,
CONTROL AND COORDINATION

MAY 2013





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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Strategic Plan and the County's Emergency Management Program (Program) is institutionalized and documented in this and other program planning documents. The Program plan, sometimes referred to as an administrative plan, explains the source of authority to execute the components of the program and explains when the authorities are active. The plan explains how the vision, mission, goals and objectives of the program support those of the parent organization. Where available, industry codes of practice are used to determine appropriate and best practices. The plan outlines relevant program policies and procedures that are pertinent to those governed by the program and explain the source of funding and normal budget levels necessary to ensure program continuity and viability.

The Chairman of the Chatham County Commission shall nominate to the State Director of Emergency Management for appointment by the Governor, a Director of Emergency Management for the entire County of Chatham.

Members of the Multi-Agency Coordination System are charged with providing input to ensure the Program is developed and maintained in collaboration with stakeholders, both from policy and operational levels. This plan will be reviewed and updated at the latest every five years ensuring performance objectives listed in subsequent sections are periodically evaluated.

The Program consists of the following components:

- Program administration such as: Vision, Mission, Enabling Authorities, and goals and objectives.
- Identification of a Program Director with the authority to execute the plan.
- Identification of, and authority for, an Emergency Management Advisory Committee.
- Performance objectives and a means of periodic evaluation.
- Program elements describe the program including activities which fall within the scope and purview of the director of emergency management as well as the associated activities of elements that are coordinated through that office. This includes organizations and agencies of governments assigned response and recovery functions as well as those having regular responsibilities for mitigation of, and preparedness for disasters. These elements are applicable to the four phases of disaster/emergency management: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery and also apply to prevention activities.



- Applicable legal requirements and legal authorities to establish the appropriate amount of flexibility and responsiveness to conduct emergency management activities in both disaster and non-emergency situations.
- Compliance with applicable legislation, regulation, directives, policies, and industry codes of practice. Provisions that the program is established in state and local law, and exists in compliance with the legal provisions found in state and local law. These legal provisions identify the fundamental authorities for the program, and include planning, funding mechanisms, continuity of operations, environmental compliance, historic preservation and disaster insurance.
- A strategy for addressing needs for legislative and regulatory revisions that evolve over time; it also maintains a process and procedure to identify issues for presentation to legislative and regulatory bodies, and, when appropriate, makes such presentations.
- Development and implementation of mutual aid agreements, contractual service agreements, memoranda of understanding, and/or other agreements that provide additional equipment, supplies, facilities, and/or personnel that can be used to achieve operational objectives.
- Development of plans, procedures and necessary resources that enable the chief executive and other key officials to direct, control, and coordinate both internal and external resources efficiently and effectively during response and recovery operations.
- Procedures that ensure response, recovery and mitigation activities are coordinated and concurrently implemented



ACRONYMS

CEMA	Chatham Emergency Management Agency
COG	Continuity of Government Plan
COOP	Continuity of Operations Plan
DRP	Disaster Recovery Plan
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
EOP	Emergency Operations Plan
HMP	Hazard Mitigation Plan
OCGA	Official Code of Georgia
Program	Chatham County Emergency Management Program



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I. Program Administration

- A. Vision: One of the most basic and fundamental responsibilities of government is to provide for the safety and welfare of its citizens before, during and after major emergencies and disasters. Therefore, an effective County-wide Emergency Management Program should always remain one of the highest priorities of elected and appointed officials. However individual citizens must also accept personal responsibility within their own means and abilities to be constantly aware of risk and always prepared to take protective actions when necessary for their own safety as well as that of their families, friends and property.

- B. Mission: “[Chatham Emergency Management Agency] CEMA’s mission is to create the highest possible state of emergency readiness and to be prepared to react promptly to save lives and property in the County and any of its municipalities when threatened or affected by an emergency or major disaster” (The Code of Chatham County, 2012, Chapter 4, Administration, Article III, Emergency Management, §4-306-2-a)

- C. Goals and Objectives
 - 1. Goals:
 - a. Minimize suffering, loss of life, personal injury, and damage to property resulting from hazardous and emergency conditions.
 - b. Minimize conditions resulting from disaster-related shortages of materials or services that would have an undesirable impact on the residents, the economy, and the well being of Chatham County.
 - c. Provide relief and promote short-range and long-range recovery.
 - d. Mitigate future losses of life and damage to property resulting from disasters.
 - e. Support and assist local governments and the private sector to integrate hazard identification, risk assessment, risk management, and prevention into a comprehensive approach to hazard mitigation.
 - f. Maximize the effective use of available public and private resources devoted to hazard mitigation.



- g. Ensure efficient, effective, and integrated response to potential and/or actual emergencies and disasters by developing response capabilities, providing for immediate and sustained response operations, and enabling a smooth transition into long term recovery.
 - h. Provide for the rapid assessment and, as appropriate, verification, impact analysis, and timely notification of predictions, forecasts, and/or warnings of potential and/or actual emergencies or disasters in order to maximize protective actions, emergency preparedness, and to enhance response effectiveness.
 - i. Provide for timely, effective, efficient, and coordinated government response to potential and/or actual emergencies and disasters.
 - j. Provide for: an efficient, integrated, and comprehensive transition process from response to recovery operations; effective disaster assistance to impacted individuals, businesses, and public agencies; long-term reconstruction activities; and mitigation and risk management initiatives.
 - k. Ensure emergency managers and the affected public receives comprehensive and relevant skill development through training and exercises in emergency management, public awareness programs, and professional job-specific training.
2. Objectives
- a. Integrate hazard mitigation activities in pertinent agency programs.
 - b. Maximize the use of hazard mitigation funding to reduce the impact of future disasters.
 - c. Maintain collaborative and cooperative relationships with the business and industry communities for all-hazards.
 - d. Provide assistance and guidance to improve all-hazard risk assessments.
 - e. Integrate NIMS structure into plans and operations.
 - f. Enhance and coordinate mutual aid programs.



- g. Improve communications with constituents, neighborhoods, communities and special interest groups.
- h. Support and assist local jurisdictions in planning efforts for hazardous material or radiological incidents.
- i. Ensure that the emergency management community has a program and procedures to utilize volunteers and volunteered resources.
- j. Increase the agency's capability to assess impending threats and issue warnings.
- k. Exercise response and recovery plans and planning guidance.

D. Enabling Authorities

1. State Government Resolution for Emergency Management

- a. Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981. As Amended December 1992.

1) Section I - Definition

- a) “Emergency Management’ means the preparation for the carrying out of emergency functions other than functions for which military forces are primarily responsible to prevent, minimize, and repair injury and damage resulting from emergencies, energy emergencies, disasters, or the imminent threat thereof, of manmade or natural origin”...
“These functions include, without limitation, fire-fighting services; police services; medical and health services; rescue; engineering; warning services; communications; defense from radiological, chemical, and other special weapons; evacuation of persons from stricken areas; emergency welfare services; emergency transportation; plant protection; temporary restoration of public service utility services; and other functions related to civilian protection, together with other activities necessary or incidental to the preparation for and carrying out of the foregoing functions.” (Chapter 3, Article 1, 38-3-3.)



- 2) Section II - Local Emergency Management Authorities
 - a) "Each political subdivision shall have the power and authority:
 - (i) To appropriate and expend funds, execute contracts, and to obtain and distribute equipment, materials, and supplies for emergency management purposes;
 - (ii) To provide for the health and safety of persons and property, including emergency assistance to the victims of any emergency or disaster resulting from manmade or natural causes or enemy attack and to direct and coordinate the development of emergency management plans and programs in accordance with the policies and plans set by the federal and state emergency management agencies;
 - (iii) To appoint, employ, remove, or provide, with or without compensation, chiefs of services, warning personnel, rescue teams, auxiliary fire and police personnel, and other emergency management workers;
 - (iv) To establish a primary and one or more secondary control centers to serve as command posts during an emergency or disaster;
 - (v) Subject to the order of the Governor or the chief executive of the political subdivision, to assign and make available for duty the employees, property, or equipment of the subdivision relating to fire-fighting, engineering, rescue, health, medical and related services, and to police, transportation, construction, and similar items or services for emergency



management purposes, within or outside of the physical limits of the subdivision;

- (vi) In addition to the heretofore stated powers and authorities, to acquire, temporarily or permanently, by purchase, lease, or otherwise, sites required for installation of temporary housing units for disaster victims; and to enter into whatever arrangements, including purchase, of temporary housing units and payment of transportation charges, which are necessary to prepare or equip such sites to utilize the housing units.”
(Chapter 3, Article 1, 38-3-27)

3) Section III-Local Emergency Management Financial Assistance

- a) “To the extent funds are appropriated for such purpose by the General Assembly, the director of emergency management is authorized and directed to provide funds to counties or municipalities which operate a local emergency management organization as required by this Code section. No county or municipality shall be entitled to receive funds unless the local emergency management organization has met of the state and federal requirements to be an emergency management organization qualified to receive federal funds, including:
 - (i) Legal establishment by local ordinance or resolution;
 - (ii) A legally appointed local director who has been endorsed and approved by the state director of emergency management and appointed by the Governor;
 - (iii) An approved emergency and disaster plan with applicable annexes; and



- (iv) An approved fiscal year program paper and other necessary compliance documents.” (Chapter 3, Article 1, 38-3-27)
- 4) Section IV - Immunity of State and Political Subdivisions
 - a) “Neither the state nor any political subdivision of the state, nor the agents or representatives of the state or any political subdivision thereof, shall be liable for personal injury or property damage sustained by any person appointed or acting as a volunteer emergency management worker or member of any agency engaged in emergency management activity.” Immunity does not apply in cases of willful misconduct, gross negligence or bad faith. (Chapter 3, 38-3-35.)
 - b) The Code of Chatham County, 2012, Chapter 4, Administration, Article III, Emergency Management §4-301 thru §4-316.
 - c) “There is hereby established the Chatham Emergency Management Office which shall perform emergency management functions county-wide in Chatham County.
 - d) The Chairman of the Chatham County Commission shall nominate to the State Director of Emergency Management for appointment by the Governor, a Director of Emergency Management for the entire County of Chatham.” (§4-306)
 - e) “The Director of CEMA shall have direct responsibility for the organization, administration, and operation of the local organization for emergency management, subject to the direction and control of the County Commission Chairman and County Manager or their designee. Because the Chatham Emergency Management Agency is a county-wide organization that coordinates the activities of each municipal and County



department or agency, each local government retains authority over its own staff and equipment resources but subordinates itself to the overall coordination and direction of CEMA during an emergency.” (§4-307.)

II. Local Organization For Emergency Management

- A. (Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981. As Amended December 1992.Chapter 3, Article 1, 38-3-27)
1. “The governing body of each county of this state may establish a local organization for emergency management in accordance with the state emergency management plan and program.” ... “The executive officer or governing body of the political subdivision is authorized to nominate a local director to the director of emergency management who shall have the authority to make the appointment.
 2. The local director shall have direct responsibility for the organization, administration, and operation of the local organization for emergency management, subject to the direction and control of the executive officer or governing body and shall serve at the pleasure of such executive officer or governing body. Each local organization for emergency management shall perform emergency management functions within the territorial limits of the political subdivision within which it is organized and, in addition, shall conduct such functions outside of such territorial limits as may be required pursuant to Article 1, this article, and Article 3 of this chapter.“
- B. The Code of Chatham County, 2012, Chapter 4, Administration, Article III, Emergency Management.
1. “There is hereby established the CEMA Office that shall perform emergency management functions countywide. The Chairman of the Chatham County Commission shall nominate to the State Director of the Office of Homeland Security/Georgia Emergency Management Agency for appointment by the Governor, a Director of Emergency Management for the entire County of Chatham.” (§4-307)
 2. “The Director of CEMA shall have responsibility for the organization, administration, and operation of the local organization for emergency management, subject to the direction and control of the County Commission Chairman and County Manager or their



designee. Because CEMA is a countywide organization that coordinates the activities of each municipal and County department or agency, each local government retains authority over its own staff and equipment resources but subordinates itself to the overall coordination and direction of CEMA during an emergency. The extent of the participation of each local government during an emergency is determined in advance by the EOP.”
(§4-308-1.b)

III. Program Performance Objectives and Periodic Evaluation

A. County Code Performance Objectives (§4-307)

1. To represent the governing officials of Chatham County and its municipalities on matters pertaining to emergency management;
2. To assist County and municipal officials in organizing County and municipal departments for emergency operations;
3. To assist municipal and County department officials and directors with the development of "emergency Standing Operating Procedures (SOP)" for each of the local governmental, private, or volunteer organizations that may be responding to an emergency. Each organization must develop its own emergency response plan with CEMA assistance, and it shall be closely coordinated with CEMA's Chatham County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) that is the overall coordination plan;
4. To develop in conjunction with municipal and County departments and agencies, the Chatham County Emergency Operation Plan for emergency functions as defined in this Ordinance. The Plan will be in consonance with the State Operations Plan, and shall be submitted to the governing officials of Chatham County and its municipalities for approval, and thence to the State Office of Homeland Security/Georgia Emergency Management Agency Director for approval;
5. To maintain CEMA at the highest possible state of emergency/readiness as defined herein, and carry out the day-to-day administration of the County Emergency Management Program, including the submission of required reports to the State Office of Homeland Security/Georgia Emergency Management Agency;



6. To submit reports and plans as required by Federal, State, and local authorities in keeping with good management practices (e.g. financial, management activities, etc.);
7. To operate and manage a facility to be used as the Chatham Emergency Operations Center (EOC); and
8. To coordinate the activities of the Chatham EOC staff during periods of activation and/or emergency.

B. Organizational Performance Objectives

1. Integrate hazard mitigation activities in pertinent agency programs.
2. Improve communications with stakeholders, legislators, and special interest groups.
3. Support and assist local jurisdictions and agencies in their planning efforts for emergency preparedness.
4. Develop, update, and maintain appropriate regulations for emergency management.
5. Institutionalize a work plan process throughout the agency.
6. Initiate and maintain the agency strategic planning process.
7. Ensure implementation of a program and procedures to utilize volunteers and volunteered resources.
8. Increase the agency's capability to assess impending threats and issue warnings.
9. Establish programs and streamline processes to improve customer service.
10. Identify opportunities for outsourcing and evaluate cost effectiveness.
11. Facilitate seamless electronic communication capabilities countywide.
12. Provide interactive internet access to CEMA information.
13. Provide professional development training to CEMA staff and essential emergency services training to local agencies and other segments of the emergency management community.



14. Develop, implement, and document intra-agency training curricula for positions within the EOC.
15. Exercise major response and recovery plans and planning guidance for functions identified in the EOP.
16. Establish an Emergency Telephone Recording System for providing information to the general public

IV. Program Elements and Description

- A. The EOP and the Chatham County Disaster Recovery Plan (DRP) describe facets of County emergency operations within the scope and purview of the director of emergency management as well as the associated activities of elements that are coordinated through that office.
- B. This includes organizations and agencies of government that are assigned response and recovery functions as well as those that have regular responsibilities for mitigation of and preparedness for disasters.

V. Legal Authorities and Requirements

- A. The Code of Chatham County, 2012, Chapter 4, Administration, Article III, Emergency Management.
- B. Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981 as Amended (OCGA 38-3)

VI. Compliance Legislation

- A. The EOP (§4-308-2)
 1. CEMA shall develop and periodically update the EOP for the purpose of establishing policies, procedures, programs, and projects to implement this Ordinance and enable the County and municipal governments to respond to natural and technological emergency situations.
 2. The Director of CEMA is responsible for the development, execution, and coordination of the Chatham County EOP. This Plan shall be developed in close coordination with the State Office of Homeland Security/Georgia Emergency Management Agency. It shall also be based on recommended principles and practices promulgated by the Federal Department of Homeland Security and other recognized emergency and disaster preparedness agencies and organizations.



3. The Plan shall be submitted to the Chatham County Manager, Municipal Government Managers, and Georgia Office of Homeland Security/Georgia Emergency Management Agency for review, comment, and recommendation to the Chatham County Commission and the Municipal Councils. The Plan shall be adopted by the County Commission and Municipal Councils by resolution and may be changed and updated periodically by resolution.”
- B. Funding Mechanisms: Planning and preparation for an emergency is an ongoing activity that is funded, staffed and managed on a countywide basis by Chatham County through the CEMA. Funding for CEMA is appropriated annually by the County Commission with supplementary Federal funding made available through the State from the Office of Homeland Security (§4-306-2-a).
- C. Continuity of Government:
1. Constitutional county officers shall, within 30 days after taking office, in addition to any deputy authorized pursuant to law to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the office, designate by title individuals as emergency interim successors and specify their order of succession. The successor shall exercise the powers and discharge the duties only until such time as the Governor, under the Constitution or authority other than the Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981 or other official authorized under the Constitution or the Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981 to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the office of Governor, may, where a vacancy exists, appoint a successor to fill the vacancy or until a successor is otherwise appointed or elected and qualified as provided by law, or until an officer or his deputy or a preceding named emergency interim successor becomes available to exercise or resume the exercise of the powers and discharge the duties of his office.
 2. The County Commission and municipal councils of Chatham County's municipalities are authorized and directed by the Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981 to provide by ordinance or resolution for emergency interim successors for the officers of their respective local governments.
 3. All emergency interim successors designated under this section shall have the same qualifications as are prescribed by law for the officer by whom they are designated.
 4. Designations of emergency interim successors to State officers shall become official upon the officer filing a list of the successors



with the Secretary of State, who shall inform the Governor, the Emergency Management Division, emergency interim successors to the officer involved, and the judge of the probate court of the County of legal residence of the successors of such designations and any changes therein altered by the officer concerned filing a notice of the change or alteration with the Secretary of State.

5. At the time of their designation, emergency interim successors shall take such oath as may be required for them to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the office to which they may succeed. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person, as a prerequisite to the exercise of the powers or discharge of the duties of an office to which he succeeds, shall be required to comply with any other provision of law relative to taking office.
 6. Emergency interim successors shall receive the same compensation as is paid the officer by whom they are appointed. The compensation shall be paid only during such time as a successor shall exercise the powers of the officer by whom he has been designated.
 7. Governmental powers shall be exercised by emergency interim successors appointed under the emergency circumstance.
- D. Environmental Compliance: Chatham County emergency operations must be conducted in compliance with applicable local, County, State, and Federal ordinances, codes and regulations. Oversight of environmental issues will be managed by Emergency Support Function #11, Agriculture and Natural Resources.
- E. Historic Preservation: Chatham County emergency operations must be conducted in compliance with applicable local, County, State, and Federal ordinances, codes and regulations. Historical preservation issues will be managed by Emergency Support Function #11, Agriculture and Natural Resources.
- F. Disaster Insurance:
1. By right of Sovereign Immunity Chatham County is self insured for general, professional and automotive liability.
 2. The Travelers Insurance Companies insure Chatham County buildings and business personal property in the event of loss or damage as a result of natural or man-made disaster or emergency.

VII. Strategies for Legislative Revisions



- A. The process and procedure to identify issues for presentation to legislative and regulatory bodies, and when appropriate, to make such presentations, is based on the periodic review of emergency plans and/or authorities or the intent to enter into agreement with a jurisdiction(s) external to Chatham County. In this event, a Staff Report is used for transmission of County Commission agenda items to include requests for legislative and regulatory revisions that evolve over time.

VIII. IMPLEMENTATION

- A. As the governing body of Chatham County, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners is vested with the power to protect the lives, health, welfare and property of citizens in the event of an emergency situation requiring the safeguard of the public interest, pursuant to Georgia Constitution Article. 9, §2, ¶3, GA. Constitution Article. 9, §2, ¶1 and the laws of the State of Georgia. The Chatham County Board of Commissioners has adopted the Chatham County Emergency Management Ordinance for the protection of the public during emergencies that shall only be implemented upon a declaration of emergency and the signing of a declaration stating that they are in effect.
 - 1. These Ordinances may be executed when in the judgment of the Chairman of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, with appropriate advice from CEMA and other agencies, emergency conditions exist which require the declaration to be issued.
 - 2. An “emergency” is defined as an extraordinary condition exists in which the threat or actual occurrence of a disaster or event, including an energy emergency, as defined in the Georgia Emergency Management Act and any amendments thereto, which may result in the large scale loss of life, injury, property damage or destruction, or in the major disruption of routine community affairs or business and government operations, and is of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant extraordinary assistance by CEMA and other Chatham County departments and other agencies to supplement the efforts of available public and private resources.

IX. Mutual Aid Agreements, Contractual Service Agreements, Memoranda of Understanding for Equipment, Supplies, Facilities and Personnel

- A. Mutual Aid Agreements:
 - 1. Georgia Emergency Management Agency Statewide Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement: In accordance with the authorities contained in Articles I through III, Chapter 3, Title 38, Official Code



of Georgia Annotated, including OCGA § 38-3-29, to expire on January 7, 2012, “,,this agreement provides for mutual assistance between the State of Georgia and Chatham County in managing any emergency or disaster that is duly declared by the governing authority of any political subdivision that is a participating party, whether arising from natural disaster, technological hazard, man-made disaster, civil emergency aspects of resources shortage, community disorders, insurgency, or enemy attack.” This Agreement, “... provides for mutual assistance between the Participating Parties in managing any emergency or disaster that is duly declared by the governing authority of any political subdivision that is a Participating Party...” “ ‘Participating Parties’ means the several counties and municipalities of this State or combinations thereof that have become parties to this agreement by their approval and execution of this agreement.”

2. Georgia Emergency Management Agency Area Five Mutual Aid Agreement: As authorized by OCGA § 38-3-29, with automatic annual renewal, the 12 counties of Georgia Emergency Management Agency Area V shall take such action as necessary to render requested mutual aid or exercises and training for mutual aid in accordance with the terms of this agreement.
3. Emergency Disaster and Mutual Aid Agreement: As authorized by OCGA § 38-3-29, with automatic annual renewal, Chatham and Richmond County’s have adopted an Emergency Disaster and Mutual Aid Agreement that authorizes the provision of assistance in the event of any emergency or disaster,

B. Contractual Service Agreements: Chatham County has entered into contracts with firms to provide a myriad of Emergency Management Services as required during emergency operations. These contracts have automatic renewals for a period of three years. Copies of the Emergency Management Services Contracts are maintained in the CEMA Office and the Chatham County Purchasing Department

C. Letters of Agreement:

1. Intergovernmental Agreement: As authorized by Article 9, § 3 ¶ 1(a) of the Georgia Constitution, with automatic annual renewal unless terminated, the Bloomingdale City Council, Chatham County Board of Education, Garden City City Council, Pooler City Council, Port Wentworth City Council, Savannah City Council, Thunderbolt Town Council, and Tybee Island City Council have adopted the Intergovernmental Agreement that upon a declaration of emergency by the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Chatham



County Board of Commissioners, the Emergency Management Ordinance and the Chatham County EOP shall apply and be effective within the territorial limits of the jurisdiction until the declaration of emergency has terminated, provided that the declared emergency impacts or has the capability of causing an impact within the territorial limits.

2. National Incident Management System Agreement: As required by Homeland Presidential Security Directive V, with automatic annual renewal unless terminated, the Bloomingdale City Council, Chatham County Board of Education, Garden City City Council, Pooler City Council, Port Wentworth City Council, Savannah City Council, Thunderbolt Town Council, and Tybee Island City Council have adopted the National Incident Management System Agreement under O.C.G.A 38-3-57 as its system of preparing for and responding to disaster incidents and directs incident managers and response organization in Chatham County to train in and use these systems in their response operations.

- D. Memorandums of Understanding and Memorandums of Agreement: CEMA maintains a variety of additional Memorandums of Understanding and Memorandums of Agreement with various entities. CEMA's Memorandums of Understanding and Memorandums of Agreement are filed in Appendix 5-2 of the EOP.

X. Command Relationships for the Coordination and Control of Resources During Response and Recovery

- A. The Chatham County Continuity of Operations Plan, Continuity of Government Plan, and the EOP address procedures that describe the command relationships within the program and with external organizations.
- B. The plans, procedures and necessary resources enable the chief executive and other key officials to direct, control, and coordinate both internal and external resources efficiently and effectively during response and recovery operations.

XI. Procedures for Concurrent Recovery and Mitigation Activities

- A. The Chatham County EOP addresses procedures that ensure response, recovery and mitigation activities are coordinated and concurrently implemented.



- B. The Chatham County DRP addresses procedures that ensure recovery and mitigation activities are coordinated and sustained during long term recovery actions.

XII. Plan Management

- A. Executive Agent: CEMA is the executive agent for Annex management and maintenance. This annex will be updated periodically as required to incorporate new directives and changes based on lessons learned from exercises and actual events. This section establishes procedures for interim changes and full updates of the Annexes.
- B. Types of Changes: Changes include additions of new or supplementary Material and deletions. No proposed change should contradict or override authorities or other plans contained in statute, order, or regulation.
- C. Coordination and Approval: Any department or agency with assigned responsibilities within the EOP Annexes may propose a change to the plan. CEMA is responsible for coordinating all proposed modifications to the Annexes with primary and support agencies and other stakeholders, as required. CEMA will coordinate review and approval for proposed modifications as required.
- D. Notice of Change: After coordination has been accomplished, including receipt of the necessary signed approval supporting the final change language, CEMA will issue an official Notice of Change. The notice will specify the date, number, subject, purpose, background, and action required, and provide the change language on one or more numbered and dated insert pages that will replace the modified pages in the EOP. Once published, the modifications will be considered part of the EOP for operational purposes pending a formal revision and re-issuance of the entire document. Interim changes can be further modified or updated using the above process.
- E. Distribution: CEMA will distribute the Notice of Change to all participating agencies. Notice of Change to other organizations will be provided upon request. Re-issuance of the individual annexes or the entire EOP will take place as required. Working toward continuous improvement, CEMA is responsible for an annual review and update of the EOP to include related annexes, and a complete revision every four years (or more frequently if the County Commission or GEMA deems necessary). The review and update will consider lessons learned and best practices identified during exercises and responses to actual events, and incorporate new information technologies. CEMA will distribute revised EOC Annex documents for the purpose of interagency review and concurrence.



ANNEX A – ORDINANCE REGARDING EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. §§ 38-3-27 through 38-3-28 and 38-3-54 through 38-3-56 authorizes the Chatham County Board of Commissioners to provide emergency management within Chatham County;

WHEREAS, the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) is the state agency assigned responsibility for coordination of all organizations for emergency management activities within the state;

WHEREAS, the Chatham Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) is the Chatham County-established emergency management agency; and

WHEREAS, to ensure an effective and coordinated response to disasters, the county wishes to coordinate CEMA activities and responses with cities located within the county; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners believes that an ordinance should be adopted to protect the health and safety of persons and property during an emergency or disaster resulting from technological or natural causes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that the Code of Ordinances of Chatham County is amended by creating a new Chapter III Emergency Management to read as follows:

ARTICLE III Emergency Management

Section 1. Emergency Management and Response Powers

'4-301 Statutory Authorization. The General Assembly of the State of Georgia, in the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, Title 38, Chapter 3, Emergency Management, "Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981," as amended, authorizes and directs each County to establish a local organization for emergency management in accordance with the State Emergency Management Plan and Program; and Georgia Constitution, Article 9, Section II, Paragraph 1, Home Rule for Counties, delegates the responsibility to local governmental units to adopt regulations designed to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of its citizenry. Therefore, the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County, Georgia, acting under the authority granted to it by the Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981 and its Enabling Act, Georgia Laws 1984, pp. 5050-5076, as amended, does ordain and enact into law the following emergency management ordinance:



'4-302 **Title and Jurisdiction.** This Emergency Management Ordinance shall apply to Chatham County, Georgia in its entirety. The Chatham Emergency Management Agency is the only such agency approved by the Chatham County Commission for coordinating emergency management functions, and therefore, this Ordinance shall serve all of the municipalities and the unincorporated area of Chatham County.

'4-303 **Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981.** The provisions of the Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981 are incorporated herein by reference.

'4-304 **Purpose and Objectives.**

1. General. Because of the existing and increasing possibility of the occurrence of emergencies or disasters resulting from technological or natural causes, and in order to ensure that preparations of this County will be adequate to deal with such emergencies or disasters, and generally to provide for the common defense and to protect the public peace, health, and safety, and to preserve the lives and property of the people of Chatham County, it is found and declared to be necessary:
 - a. To create a Chatham Emergency Management Agency (CEMA);
 - b. To confer upon the Chairman of the Chatham County Commission or the Chairman's designee the emergency powers provided in the Official Code of Georgia, Title 38, Chapter 3;
 - c. To provide for the rendering of mutual aid among the political subdivisions of Chatham County, with other counties, and with the State and Federal governments with respect to the carrying out of emergency management functions; and
 - d. To authorize the taking of such steps as are necessary and appropriate to carry out the requirements of the Official Code of Georgia, Title 38, Chapter 3.
2. Coordination. It is further declared to be the purpose of this Ordinance and the policy of Chatham County that all emergency management functions of the County be coordinated to the maximum extent possible with the comparable functions of the State and Federal governments, including their various departments and agencies, of other counties, states, and localities,



and of private agencies of every type, to the end that the most effective preparation and use may be made of the nation's manpower, resources, and facilities for dealing with any emergency or disaster that may occur.

'4-305

Definitions. Unless specifically defined below, words or phrases used in this Ordinance shall be interpreted so as to give them the meaning they have in common usage and to give this Ordinance its most reasonable application. Words used in the singular shall include the plural, and the plural the singular; words used in the present tense shall include the future tense. The words "shall," "will," and "must" are mandatory and not discretionary. The word "may" is permissive. As used in this Ordinance, the term:

1. Chatham County Emergency Operations Plan means the officially adopted, and Georgia Emergency Management Agency approved, emergency operations plan for Chatham County, Georgia.
2. Declaration of Local Emergency means the condition declared by the Chairman of the County Commission when, in his judgment, the threat or actual occurrence of a disaster, emergency, or energy emergency in any part of the County is of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant extraordinary assistance by the County to supplement the efforts and available resources of the several localities and relief organizations in preventing or alleviating the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering threatened or caused thereby.
3. Disaster means any happening that causes great harm or damage.
4. Emergency means any extraordinary condition in which there exists the threat or actual occurrence of a disaster or event, including an energy emergency as defined in the Georgia Emergency Management Act and any amendments thereto, which may result in the large scale loss of life, injury, property damage or destruction, or in the major disruption of routine community affairs or business and government operations, and is of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant extraordinary assistance by CEMA and other Chatham County departments and other agencies to supplement the efforts of available public and private resources.
5. Emergency Interim Successor means a person designated pursuant to this Ordinance, in the event an officer is unavailable to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of an office, until a successor is appointed or elected and qualified as may be prescribed by the Constitution, statutes, laws, charters, and



ordinances of the State and its political subdivisions, or until the lawful incumbent or the successor is able to resume the exercise of the powers and the discharge of the duties of the office.

6. Emergency Management means the preparation for, and the carrying out of, all emergency and disaster functions, as more fully defined by this Ordinance.
7. Emergency Standing Operating Procedures (SOP) means the standing operating procedures developed by each emergency response unit for the purpose of preplanning the unit's response to a request for emergency assistance.
8. Energy Emergency means a condition of danger to the health, safety, welfare, or economic well-being of the citizens of this County arising out of a present or threatened shortage of usable energy resources; also any condition of substantial danger to the health, safety, or welfare of the citizens of this County resulting from the operation of any electrical power-generating facility, the transport of any energy resource by any means whatsoever, or the production, use, or disposal of any source material, special nuclear material, or by-product, as defined by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, 68 Stat. 919, 42 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.; also any nuclear incident, as defined by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, occurring within or outside this State, substantially affecting the health, safety, or welfare of the citizens of this County.
9. Energy Resources means all forms of energy or power including, without limitation to, oil, gasoline, and other petroleum products; natural or synthetic gas; electricity in all forms and from all sources; and other fuels of any description, except wood.
10. Natural Disaster means any hurricane, tornado, storm, flood, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, drought, fire, or other catastrophe which causes, or which may cause, substantial damage or injury to civilian property or persons.
11. Political Subdivision means cities, counties, towns, villages, authorities, and any other bodies created by the State and exercising any of the governmental powers of the State.
12. State of Emergency means the condition declared by the Governor when, in his judgment, the threat or actual occurrence of a disaster, emergency, or energy emergency in any part of the State is of



sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant extraordinary assistance by the State to supplement the efforts and available resources of the several localities and relief organizations in preventing or alleviating the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering threatened or caused thereby.

13. Technological or Human-Caused Disasters mean the application of one or more modes of harmful force to the environment. These include but are not limited to contamination (as in the case of chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear hazards), energy (explosives, arson, and even electromagnetic waves), or failure or denial of service (sabotage, infrastructure breakdown, and service disruption) including theft or disruption of cyber networks and transportation media.
14. Unavailable means either that a vacancy in an office exists as the result of any emergency as defined in this Section and there is no deputy or other successors authorized to exercise all of the powers and discharge all of the duties of the office, or that the lawful incumbent of the office, including any deputy exercising the powers and discharging the duties of an office because of a vacancy, and his duly authorized deputy are absent or unable to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the office.

'4-306 Emergency Management.

1. Emergency Management Function Defined. Emergency Management means the preparation for, and the carrying out of, all emergency and disaster functions other than those functions for which military forces or other State and Federal agencies are primarily responsible to prevent, minimize, and repair damage resulting from emergencies or disasters, or the imminent threat thereof, of technological or natural origin. These functions include, without limitation to, fire-fighting services, police services, medical and health services, rescue, engineering, warning services, communications, defense from radiological, chemical and other special weapons, evacuation of persons from stricken areas, emergency welfare services, emergency transportation, plant protection, restoration of public utility services, and other functions related to civilian population, together with all other activities necessary or incidental to total emergency and disaster preparedness for carrying out the foregoing functions.



2. Emergency Management Concept of Operations.
 - a. Planning and preparation for an emergency is an ongoing activity that is funded, staffed and managed on a countywide basis by Chatham County through the CEMA. Funding for CEMA is appropriated annually by the County Commission with supplementary Federal funding made available through the State from the Office of Homeland Security. CEMA's mission is to create the highest possible state of emergency readiness and to be prepared to react promptly to save lives and property in the County and any of its municipalities when threatened or affected by an emergency or major disaster.
 - b. In accordance with State and Federal guidelines, CEMA is responsible for the preparation of the County Emergency Operations Plan based on the principle that local authorities bear the initial responsibility for emergency preparedness and disaster relief. Each level of government accomplishes the functions for which it is responsible, requesting assistance from the next higher level of government only after resources at the requesting level have been expended or are clearly inadequate to cope with the effects of the emergency or disaster.

'4-307

Office of the Director, Chatham Emergency Management Agency.

There is hereby established the CEMA Office that shall perform emergency management functions countywide. The Chairman of the Chatham County Commission shall nominate to the State Director of the Office of Homeland Security/Georgia Emergency Management Agency for appointment by the Governor, a Director of Emergency Management for the entire County of Chatham. When appointed, the Director is charged with the following duties:

1. To represent the governing officials of Chatham County and its municipalities on matters pertaining to emergency management;
2. To assist County and municipal officials in organizing County and municipal departments for emergency operations;
3. To assist municipal and County department officials and directors with the development of "emergency Standing Operating Procedures (SOP)" for each of the local governmental, private, or volunteer organizations that may be responding to an emergency. Each organization must develop its own emergency response plan with CEMA assistance, and it shall be closely coordinated with



CEMA's Chatham County Emergency Operations Plan that is the overall coordination plan;

4. To develop in conjunction with municipal and County departments and agencies, the Chatham County Emergency Operation Plan for emergency functions as defined in this Ordinance. The Plan will be in consonance with the State Operations Plan, and shall be submitted to the governing officials of Chatham County and its municipalities for approval, and thence to the State Office of Homeland Security/Georgia Emergency Management Agency Director for approval;
5. To maintain CEMA at the highest possible state of emergency\readiness as defined herein, and carry out the day-to-day administration of the County Emergency Management Program, including the submission of required reports to the State Office of Homeland Security/Georgia Emergency Management Agency;
6. To submit reports and plans as required by Federal, State, and local authorities in keeping with good management practices (e.g. financial, management activities, etc.);
7. To operate and manage a facility to be used as the Chatham Emergency Operations Center (EOC); and
8. To coordinate the activities of the Chatham EOC staff during periods of activation and/or emergency.

'4-308 CEMA and Emergency Operations Plan.

1. CEMA.
 - a. CEMA is responsible for assisting municipal, County, private and volunteer organizations, agencies, or departments participate in the emergency management program, with the development of simple, workable, and understandable emergency Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). The purpose of having such SOPs is to ensure that the emergency response unit (department, agency, etc.) is organized and knows exactly what, when, and how it is to accomplish its emergency response function.
 - b. The Director of CEMA shall have responsibility for the organization, administration, and operation of the local



organization for emergency management, subject to the direction and control of the County Commission Chairman and County Manager or their designee. Because CEMA is a countywide organization that coordinates the activities of each municipal and County department or agency, each local government retains authority over its own staff and equipment resources but subordinates itself to the overall coordination and direction of CEMA during an emergency. The extent of the participation of each local government during an emergency is determined in advance by the Emergency Operations Plan.

- c. The Director is responsible for ensuring that all of the duties and responsibilities assigned to CEMA by the "Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981" are fulfilled to the highest degree possible given the resources provided for CEMA, including the specific duties listed in this Ordinance.

2. The Emergency Operations Plan.

- a. CEMA shall develop and periodically update the County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) for the purpose of establishing policies, procedures, programs, and projects to implement this Ordinance and enable the County and municipal governments to respond to natural and technological emergency situations.
- b. The Director of CEMA is responsible for the development, execution, and coordination of the Chatham County EOP. This Plan shall be developed in close coordination with the State Office of Homeland Security/Georgia Emergency Management Agency. It shall also be based on recommended principles and practices promulgated by the Federal Department of Homeland Security and other recognized emergency and disaster preparedness agencies and organizations.
- c. The Plan shall be submitted to the Chatham County Manager, Municipal Government Managers, and Georgia Office of Homeland Security/Georgia Emergency Management Agency for review, comment, and recommendation to the Chatham County Commission and the Municipal Councils. The Plan shall be adopted by the County Commission and Municipal Councils by resolution and may be changed and updated periodically by resolution.



- d. Activation of the Chatham County EOP. The Chatham County EOP shall become operative as follows:
 - (1) Automatically by the declaration of a "State of Emergency" by the Governor of the State of Georgia as either a state-wide, regional, or local area emergency or emergency alert; or
 - (2) Automatically by the Declaration of Local Emergency by the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners.
 - (3) On order of the CEMA Director provided that the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency has been declared by the Governor; or that the Director is acting as the designee of the Chairman of the County Commission.
 - (a) The CEMA Director is hereby authorized to order the mobilization of any appropriate emergency response organization, or any portion thereof, as required to provide for increased readiness in the event of the threatened existence of an emergency prior to the activation of the Chatham County EOP.
 - (b) The CEMA Director is further authorized to order the activation of the full Chatham County EOP and all emergency response organizations in the event that an emergency has already occurred but neither the County Commission Chairman nor his successor are available, nor can they be communicated with in a timely fashion; or, upon the request of the Mayor, legally appointed successor, or the governing body of any Chatham County municipality or adjacent local government experiencing an emergency or disaster within their jurisdiction.



'4-309 Role of Chatham County and Municipal Governments During Non-Emergency Periods.

1. General Powers and Duties of Local Governments.
 - a. It is the duty of government to provide for the public health, safety, and welfare of its citizens by making provisions for emergencies and disasters that may occur at some future date. Chatham County is authorized and empowered by the Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981, as amended, to make, amend, and rescind such orders, rules, and regulations as may be necessary for emergency management purposes. All such orders, rules, and regulations must be consistent with any orders, rules, or regulations promulgated by the Governor or by any State agency exercising a power delegated to it by the Governor.
 - b. All orders, rules, and regulations so promulgated shall have the full force and effect of law when a copy thereof is filed in the office of the Clerk of the County Commission or the appropriate municipal clerk's office. Laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations inconsistent with the Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981, or with any order, rule, or regulation issued under the authority of the Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981 or this Ordinance shall be suspended during a Declaration of Local Emergency to the extent that the conflict exists.
 - c. In order to attain uniformity so far as practicable throughout the United States in measures taken to aid emergency management, all actions taken under the authority of the Georgia Emergency Management Act of 1981 and this Ordinance and all orders, rules, and regulations made pursuant thereto shall be taken or made with due consideration to the orders, rules, regulations, actions, recommendations, and requests of Federal authorities relevant thereto and, to the extent permitted by law, shall be consistent with such orders, rules, regulations, actions, recommendations, and requests.
2. Responsibility of Chatham County Departments and Agencies and Municipalities to Develop Emergency SOPs. Each municipality and County department official is responsible for the development of an appropriate response plan or emergency SOP for each response unit. Each response organization must develop its own emergency



SOP with CEMA assistance in order to ensure that it is closely coordinated with the Chatham County EOP that is the overall, State approved county-wide coordination plan. The purpose of an emergency SOP is to ensure that the emergency response unit is organized and knows exactly what, when, and how it is to accomplish its emergency response function. Each emergency SOP must be submitted to the local governing body for approval. It is the CEMA Director's responsibility to, as requested and or required, assist emergency response units develop an acceptable emergency SOP document.

'4-310 Emergency Management and Response Powers.

1. Declaration of Local Emergency.
 - a. Grant of Authority. In the event of an actual or threatened occurrence of a disaster or emergency, which may result in the large-scale loss of life, injury, property damage or destruction or in the major disruption of routine community affairs, business or governmental operations in the county and which is of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant extraordinary assistance by federal, state and local departments and agencies to supplement the efforts of available public and private resources, the Chair of the Board of Commissioners may declare a local emergency for Chatham County. The form of the declaration shall be similar to that provided by this Code section.
 - b. Request for State Assistance. Consistent with a Declaration of Local Emergency, the Chair may request the Governor to provide assistance, provided that the disaster or emergency is beyond the capacity of the county to meet adequately and state assistance is necessary to supplement local efforts to save lives and protect property, public health and safety, or to avert or lessen the threat of a disaster.
 - c. Continuance. The Declaration of Local Emergency shall continue until the Chair finds that emergency conditions no longer exist, at which time, the Chair shall execute and file with the Clerk of the Board of Commissioners a document marking the end of the Declaration of Local Emergency. No state of local emergency shall continue for longer than 30 days, unless renewed by the Chair. The Board of Commissioners may, by resolution, end a Declaration of Local Emergency at any time.



d. Effect of Declaration of Local Emergency.

- (1) Activation of the EOP. A declaration of emergency by the Governor or a declaration of local emergency by the Chair shall automatically activate the county EOP and shall be the authority for deployment of personnel and use of any forces to which the plan applies and for use or distribution of any supplies, equipment, materials, and facilities assembled, stockpiled or arranged to be made available pursuant to the Georgia Emergency Management Act or any other laws applicable to emergencies or disasters.
 - (a) The CEMA Director shall have the legal authority to exercise the powers and discharge the duties conferred upon the emergency management agency, including the implementation of the EOP, coordination of the emergency responses of public and private agencies and organizations, coordination of recovery efforts with state and federal officials, and inspection of emergency or disaster sites.
 - (b) In responding and conducting necessary and appropriate investigations, the Director or his/her designee is authorized to enter at a reasonable time upon any property, public or private, for the purpose of investigating and inspecting sites involved with emergency management functions. The Director is authorized to execute a right of entry and/or agreement to use property for these purposes on behalf of the County; however, any such document shall be later presented for ratification at a meeting of the Board of Commissioners.
 - (c) No person shall refuse entry or access to any authorized representative or agent of the county who requests entry for purposes of inspection, and who presents appropriate credentials. Nor shall any person obstruct, hamper or interfere with any such



representative while that individual is in the process of carrying out his or her official duties.

- (2) **Emergency Powers.** Following a Declaration of Local Emergency and during the continuance of such Declaration, the Chair is authorized to implement local emergency measures to protect life and property or to bring the emergency situation under control. In exercising this authority, the Chair may cause to become effective any of the following sections of this chapter as appropriate as well as any other emergency powers conferred upon the County Commission Chairman by law. If any of these sections are included in a Declaration of Local Emergency, the same shall be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Commissioners and shall be in effect until the Declaration of Local Emergency has terminated.
- (3) **Authority to Waive Procedures and Fees.** Pursuant to a Declaration of Local Emergency, the Board of Commissioners is authorized to cause to be effective any of the subsections of this Article as appropriate. The implementation of such subsections shall be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Commissioners.
- (4) **Additional Emergency Powers.** The Chair of the Board of Commissioners shall have, and may exercise for such period as the declared emergency exists or continues, the following additional emergency powers:
 - (a) To enforce all laws, rules, and regulations relating to emergency management and to assume direct operational control of all civil forces and helpers in the County;
 - (b) To direct and compel the evacuation of all or part of the population from any stricken or threatened area, for the preservation of life or other disaster mitigation, response or recovery;
 - (c) To control ingress and egress to and from a disaster area, the movement of persons within



the area, and the occupancy of premises therein;

- (d) To prescribe routes, modes of transportation and destinations in connection with evacuation;
- (e) To suspend or limit the sale, dispensing or transportation of alcoholic beverages;
- (f) To make provision for the availability and use of temporary emergency housing, emergency shelters and/or emergency medical shelters;
- (g) To transfer the direction, personnel or functions of any county departments and agencies or units thereof for the purpose of performing or facilitating emergency services;
- (h) To utilize all available resources of the County and subordinate agencies over which the County has budgetary control as reasonably necessary to cope with the emergency or disaster; to include but not be limited to the County's State of Local Emergency Compensation Policy;
- (i) To suspend any law, code provision or regulation prescribing the procedures for conduct of county business, or the orders, rules or regulations of any county agency, if strict compliance with any ordinance, resolution, order, rule or regulation would in any way prevent, hinder or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency or disaster, provided that such suspension shall provide for the minimum deviation from the requirements under the circumstances and further provided that, when practicable, specialists shall be assigned to avoid adverse effects resulting from such suspension;
- (j) To provide benefits to citizens upon execution of an intergovernmental agreement for grants to meet disaster-related necessary expenses or serious needs of individuals or families



adversely affected by an emergency or disaster in cases where the individuals or families are unable to meet the expenses or needs from other means, provided that such grants are authorized only when matching state or federal funds are available for such purposes;

- (k) To perform and exercise such other functions, powers and duties as may be deemed necessary to promote and secure the safety and protection of the civilian population, including individuals with household pets and service animals prior to, during and following a major disaster or emergency;
- (l) To conduct the affairs and business of the county at places other than the regular or usual location, within or outside of the county, when it is not prudent, expedient or possible to conduct business at the regular location. When such meetings occur outside of the county, all actions taken by the Board of Commissioners shall be as valid and binding as if performed within the county. Such meetings may be called by the presiding officer or any two members of the governing body without regard to or compliance with time-consuming procedures and formalities otherwise required by law.
- (m) To contract for public works without letting such contract out to the lowest, responsible bidder and without advertising and posting notification of such contract for four weeks; provided, however, that the emergency must be of such nature that immediate action is required and that the action is necessary for the protection of the public health, safety and welfare. Any public works contract entered into pursuant to this subsection shall be entered on the minutes of the county as soon as practical and the nature of the emergency described therein in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 36-91-22(e).



- (n) To suspend the purchasing ordinances, regulations or policies. County officials shall continue to seek to obtain the best prices during the State of Local Emergency.
- (o) To temporarily suspend the enforcement of the ordinances of the county, or any portion thereof, where the emergency is of such nature that immediate action outside the code is required, such suspension is consistent with the protection of the public health, safety and welfare, and such suspension is not inconsistent with any federal or state statutes or regulations.
- (p) To coordinate the exercise of the above emergency powers within Chatham County, including municipalities through CEMA.

2. Form of Declaration of Local Emergency. Upon the Declaration of Local Emergency, an official "Declaration of Local Emergency," in substantially the same form set forth in Appendix 1, shall be signed and filed in the Office of the County Clerk and shall be communicated to the citizens of the affected area using the most effective and efficient means available. The declaration shall state the nature of the emergency or disaster, the conditions that require the declaration and any sections of this Article which shall be in effect. All emergency powers permitted under the state statutes contained in O.C.G.A. §38-3-27 et seq., and as set forth in section 4-310(d) of the Chatham County Ordinance regarding Emergency Management, shall be in full force and effect during the declaration of local emergency and shall be implemented as needed to address any emergency or disaster.

‘4-312 Overcharging Prohibited. In order to preserve, protect or sustain the life, health or safety of persons, or their property, within an area in the unincorporated area of Chatham County designated in a declaration of emergency, it shall be unlawful, during the duration of the emergency or subsequent recovery period, for any person, firm or corporation located or doing business in the unincorporated area of Chatham County to overcharge for any goods, materials, foods, equipment, supplies, services, labor, motel rooms, temporary lodging or houses, sold or rented, within Chatham County.



1. Definitions.
 - a. Overcharging means charging prices for goods, materials, foods, equipment, supplies, services, labor, motel rooms, temporary lodging or houses, which are in excess of the customary charges by 25% or, inapplicable cases, in excess of the suppliers' or providers' costs for such goods, materials, foods, equipment, supplies, services, labor, motel rooms, temporary lodging or houses, by 25%. The existence of overcharging shall be presumed from a 25% increase in the price at which the merchandise or rate, fee, cost/rental of housing was offered in the usual course of business immediately prior to the onset of the emergency, but shall not include increases in cost to the supplier directly attributable to the higher cost of material, supplies and labor costs resulting from the emergency.
 - b. Subsequent Recovery Period means that period during which the emergency continues to cause disruptions in the area designated in the Declaration of Local Emergency, but shall not exceed six months after the Declaration of Local Emergency has been terminated.
2. This section shall become effective only upon the signing of a Declaration of Local Emergency and the signing of a declaration stating that it is in effect.

'4-313 Zoning Regulations Suspended.

1. In order to preserve, protect or sustain the life, health, welfare or safety of persons, or their property, within an area in Chatham County designated in a Declaration of Local Emergency, temporary mobile/ manufactured/ industrialized homes, travel trailers, recreational vehicles, campers or mobile/manufactured/industrialized home parks, campgrounds or other living areas may be located on property approved by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners in any zoning district. The parks, campgrounds or other living areas shall be designed by an engineer and plans shall be approved by the Chatham County Health Department, Engineering Department and Public Works Department, and the Building Safety and Regulatory Services Department. Permits may be issued by the Building Safety and Regulatory Services Department to establish temporary mobile/manufactured/ industrialized homes or mobile/manufactured/industrialized home parks for a period not to



exceed 18 months. Such approval may only be extended by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners beyond eighteen months after a public hearing and a demonstrated finding of necessity on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners. Except as provided herein, the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

2. This section shall become effective only upon the signing of a Declaration of Local Emergency and the signing of a declaration stating that it is in effect.

'4-314 Emergency Business License.

1. Before conducting any business within an area in the unincorporated area of Chatham County designated in a Declaration of Local Emergency, a business license shall be obtained and posted at the work site. Said business license shall expire at the end of 12 months. The cost of the emergency business license shall be equal to the cost for a license issued under current regulations for the business conducted.
2. Applicants shall provide the following information when applying for a temporary business license:
 - a. Name of applicant;
 - b. Permanent address and telephone number of applicant;
 - c. Local address and telephone number of applicant;
 - d. Applicant's date of birth and age, if an individual;
 - e. Applicant's Social Security Number or Federal Employer Identification Number;
 - f. If applicant is a corporation, the state and date of incorporation;
 - g. Tag registration for each vehicle to be used in the business;
 - h. List of cities where business has been conducted by the applicant within the past 12 months;
 - i. Georgia Sales Tax number or authorization;



- j. Georgia State Business License number, if required;
3. The temporary business license application shall be signed under oath by the applicant.
4. This section shall become effective only upon the signing of a Declaration of Local Emergency and the signing of a declaration stating that it is in effect.

‘4-315 Registration of Building and Repair Services

1. In accordance with O.C.G.A. § 38-3-56, before building, constructing, repairing, renovating or making improvements to any real property, including dwellings, homes, buildings, structures or fixtures within an area in the unincorporated area of the county designated in a Declaration of Local Emergency, any person, firm, partnership, corporation or other entity must register with the Chatham County Building Safety and Regulatory Services Department and secure a building permit that is posted at the work site. Each day any such entity does business in the unincorporated areas of the county without complying with this ordinance constitutes a separate offense.
2. The cost of registration fees in a Declaration of Local Emergency is fixed at \$_____ per annum. Registration is nontransferable. The cost of the emergency building permit shall be equal to the cost for a building permit under existing regulations. The permit shall only be authorized for repairs.
3. Before repairing any structure within an area in the unincorporated area of Chatham County designated in a declaration of emergency, a building permit must be obtained and posted at the work site. The cost of the emergency building permit shall be equal to the cost for a building permit under current regulations. The permit shall only be authorized for repairs. Applicants shall provide the following information when applying for a temporary building permit:
 - a. Name of applicant;
 - b. Permanent address and phone number of applicant;
 - c. Local address and telephone number of applicant.
 - d. Applicant’s Social Security number or federal Employer Identification number;



- e. If applicant is a corporation, the state and date of incorporation;
 - f. Tag registration information for each vehicle to be used in the business;
 - g. List of cities and/or counties where the applicant has conducted business within the past 12 months;
 - h. Georgia sales tax number or authorization;
 - i. Georgia business license number, if required;
 - j. Copy of license from the Secretary of State, if required.
4. Effective Date. This section shall become effective only upon a Declaration of Local Emergency stating this section is in effect. Unless otherwise specified in the Declaration of Local Emergency or otherwise extended by the Board of Commissioners, the provisions of this Code section shall remain in effect during the Declaration of Local Emergency and for a subsequent recovery period of three months.

‘4-316 Closed or Restricted Areas and Curfews During Emergency

1. To preserve, protect or sustain the life, health, welfare or safety of persons, or their property, within a designated area under a Declaration of Local Emergency, it shall be unlawful for any person to travel, loiter, wander or stroll in or upon the public streets, highways, roads, lanes, parks or other public grounds, public places, public buildings, places of amusement, eating places, vacant lots or any other place during a declared emergency between hours specified by the Chair until the curfew is lifted.
2. To promote order, protect lives, minimize the potential for looting and other crimes, and facilitate recovery operations during an emergency, the Chair shall have discretion to impose reentry restrictions on certain areas. The Chair shall exercise such discretion in accordance with the County Emergency Operations Plan, which shall be followed during emergencies.
3. The provisions of this section shall not apply to persons acting in the following capacities:



- a. Authorized and essential law enforcement personnel;
 - b. Authorized and essential health care providers;
 - c. Authorized and essential personnel of the county;
 - d. Authorized National Guard or federal military personnel;
 - e. Authorized and essential firefighters;
 - f. Authorized and essential emergency response personnel;
 - g. Authorized and essential personnel or volunteers working with or through the county emergency management agency (EMA);
 - h. Authorized and essential utility repair crews;
 - i. Citizens seeking to restore order to their homes or businesses while on their own property or place of business;
 - j. Other authorized and essential persons as designated on a list compiled by EMA, the Director of Public Safety and/or the Sheriff of the county.
3. Enforceability. This section shall be enforced by officers of the law enforcement personnel approved to provide aid and assistance during the emergency. Nothing contained in this section shall prohibit a law enforcement officer from bringing other charges under state law.
 4. Effective Date. This section shall become effective only upon the signing of a Declaration of Local Emergency, stating this section is in effect.

Section 2 Enforcement and Remedies

1. Law Enforcement.
 - a. The Sheriff of Chatham County and his lawful deputies, the Savannah Chatham Metropolitan Police Department, and the officers of any other law enforcement agency authorized by the Sheriff of Chatham County and approved by the Chairman to provide aid and assistance shall be authorized to enforce the orders, rules and regulations contained in this chapter and/or implemented by the Chair or local governing authority during an emergency.
 - b. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a law enforcement officer from bringing additional charges under State law.
2. Penalties. Failure to comply with any of the requirements or provisions of the regulations contained in this chapter, or with any code section, order, rule or regulation made effective by the Chair



or local governing authority upon or after the declaration of an emergency shall constitute a violation of the provisions of this chapter. Any person who violates any provision in this chapter shall, upon conviction thereof, be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not exceeding \$1,000.00, imprisonment for a term not exceeding 60 days, or both such fine and imprisonment, for each violation. Each person assisting in the commission of a violation shall be guilty of separate offenses. Each day during which a violation or failure to comply continues shall constitute a separate violation.

3. Injunctive Relief. In accordance with O.C.G.A. § 38-3-5, in addition to the remedies prescribed in this section, the CEMA Director is authorized to obtain an injunction to restrain violation of laws, code sections, orders, rules and regulations which are contained in the Georgia Emergency Management Act and/or this code, and/or which are implemented by the local governing authority during a declared emergency.
4. Liberality of Construction. This Ordinance shall be liberally construed in favor of the governing body of Chatham County and deemed neither to limit nor repeal any other powers granted under State statutes.

Section 3. Regulations Continued in Effect

All ordinances, resolutions, motions and orders pertaining to civil defense, emergency management and disaster relief, which are not in conflict with this Article, are continued in full force and effect. Such ordinances, etc., are on file in the office of the Chatham County Commission.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this ordinance shall become effective upon its approval

So ordained this ____ day of _____, _____.

Board of Commissioners of Chatham County, Georgia

Attest:

County Clerk



ANNEX B – DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY

STATE OF GEORGIA
CHATHAM COUNTY

WHEREAS, Chatham County, Georgia has experienced an event of critical significance as a result of [description of event] on [date]; and

WHEREAS, in the judgment of the Chair of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, with advice from the Chatham Emergency Management Agency, there exist emergency circumstances located in [describe geographic location] requiring extraordinary and immediate corrective actions for the protection of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Chatham County, including individuals with household pets and service animals; and

WHEREAS, to prevent or minimize injury to people and damage to property resulting from this event.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me by local and state law;

IT IS HEREBY DECLARED that a local state of emergency exists and shall continue until the conditions requiring this declaration are abated.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That the Chatham Emergency Management Agency activate the Emergency Operations Plan;
2. That the following sections of the Chatham County Code be implemented: [If deemed appropriate, choose from the following: '4-312 Overcharging Prohibited; '4-313 Zoning Regulations Suspended; '4-314 Emergency Business License; '4-315 Emergency Building Permit; '4-316 Closed or Restricted Areas and Curfew during Emergency; '4-317 Liberality of Construction, Enforcement and Penalty for Violation;]
3. That the following measures also be implemented: [Select items or such other measures as may be appropriate.]

ENTERED at [time] on [date].

[Signed],

Chair,
Chatham County Board of Commissioners



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ANNEX C – STATEWIDE MUTUAL AID AND ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT

The State of Georgia is vulnerable to a wide range of natural or man-made disaster/emergencies. The Georgia Emergency Management Act, as amended (The Act) gives the local governments of the State the authority to make agreements for mutual aid assistance in emergencies, and through such agreements to ensure the timely reimbursement of costs incurred by the local governments which render such assistance. Under the Act the Agency has authority to coordinate assistance between local governments during emergencies and to provide available resources where needed.

This mutual aid agreement is entered pursuant to authorities contained in Articles I through III, Chapter 3, Title 38, Official Code of Georgia Annotated, including O.C.G.A. § 38-3-29, specifically.

ARTICLE I STATEMENT OF AGREEMENT, DEFINITIONS AND AUTHORITIES

This Agreement is made and entered into between the participating political subdivisions, which approve and execute this agreement, hereinafter called "Participating Parties" and the Georgia Emergency Management Agency-Homeland Security (GEMA-Homeland Security). For purposes of this agreement, the following terms and expressions shall apply:

- (1) "Agreement" means this agreement, sometimes called the "Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement" (SWMAA).
- (2) "Assistance" includes personnel, equipment, facilities, services, supplies and other resources furnished to a Requesting Party pursuant to this agreement during an emergency or disaster.
- (3) "Assisting Party" means a Participating Party that provides assistance pursuant to this agreement during a disaster or emergency.
- (4) "Authorized Representative" means a Participating Party's elected or appointed official or employee who has been authorized in writing by that party to request, to offer, or otherwise to provide assistance or an employee of GEMA-Homeland Security designated by its Director under the terms of this agreement.
- (5) "Participating Parties" means the several counties and municipalities of the State of Georgia or combinations thereof that have become parties to this agreement by their approval and execution of this agreement.
- (6) "Requesting Party" means a Participating Party that requests assistance pursuant to this agreement during a disaster or emergency.

Any term or expression not defined in this agreement shall have the meaning specified in the Georgia Emergency Management Act, (the Act) as amended and rules promulgated thereunder, unless used in a context that clearly suggests a different meaning.



ARTICLE II GENERAL PURPOSE

The purpose of this agreement is to provide for mutual assistance between the Participating Parties in managing any emergency or disaster that is duly declared by the governing authority of any political subdivision that is a Participating Party, whether arising from natural disaster, technological hazard, human caused disaster, civil emergency aspects of resource shortages, community disorders, insurgency, enemy attack, acts of terrorism, other significant events or a national security activity.

ARTICLE III ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

The prompt, full and effective utilization of resources of the Participating Parties, including any resources on hand or available from the State or Federal Government or any other source, that are essential to the safety, care and welfare of the people in the event of any locally declared emergency or emergency declared by the Governor shall be the underlying principle on which all articles of this agreement shall be understood.

In the event a conflict between any provision of this agreement and any existing intrastate mutual aid agreement affecting a Participating Party, the provisions of this agreement shall be controlling.

On behalf of the governing authority of each political subdivision of this State participating in the agreement, the Director of emergency management of such political subdivision will be responsible for formulation of the appropriate mutual aid plans and procedures necessary to implement this agreement.

ARTICLE IV PARTICIPATING PARTY RESPONSIBILITIES

(a) It shall be the responsibility of each Participating Party to formulate procedures and programs for intergovernmental cooperation in the performance of the responsibilities listed in this article. In formulating such plans, and in carrying them out, each Participating Party, insofar as practical, shall:

(1) Protect and assure uninterrupted delivery of services, medicines, water, food, energy and fuel, search and rescue, and critical lifeline equipment, services, and resources, both human and material.

(2) Inventory and set procedures for the loan and delivery of human and material resources, together with procedures for reimbursement.

(b) Whenever a Participating Party declares a local emergency and such disaster or emergency is too great to be dealt with unassisted, for which a state of emergency has been declared, the authorized representative of the Requesting Party for such Participating Party or his/her authorized representative may request assistance from another Participating Party by contacting the Director of the GEMA-Homeland Security.



The provisions of this agreement shall only apply to requests for assistance made by and to authorized representatives. Requests may be verbal or in writing. If verbal, the request shall be confirmed in writing within 30 days of the verbal request. Requests shall provide the following information:

- (1) A description of the emergency service function for which assistance is needed, such as but not limited to fire services, law enforcement, emergency medical, transportation, communications, public works and engineering, building inspection, planning and information assistance, mass care, resource support, health and medical services, damage assessment, volunteer and donated goods and search and rescue.
- (2) The amount and type of personnel, equipment, materials and supplies needed, and a reasonable estimate of the length of time they will be needed.
- (3) The specific place and time for staging of the assisting party's response and a point of contact at that location.

The Assisting Party will (a) maintain daily personnel time records, material records and a log of equipment hours (or miles, if appropriate) and (b) report work progress to the Requesting Party at mutually agreed upon intervals.

ARTICLE V LIMITATIONS

Any Participating Party requested to render mutual aid shall take such action as is necessary to provide and make available the resources covered by this agreement in accordance with the terms hereof; provided that it is understood that the Participating Party rendering aid may withhold resources to the extent necessary to provide reasonable protection for such political subdivision.

Emergency forces will continue under the command and control of their supervisors, but the organizational units will come under the operational control of the emergency services authorities of the Requesting Party unless the Director of GEMA-Homeland Security or his/her authorized representative approves an alternative. These conditions may be activated, as needed, in any disaster or emergency for which a state of emergency has been declared and shall continue so long as the state of emergency or disaster remains in effect or loaned resources remain in the Requesting Party's jurisdiction(s), whichever is longer.

ARTICLE VI LIABILITY AND IMMUNITY

(a) In accordance with O.C.G.A. § 38-3-35(a), no political subdivision of the state, nor the agents or representatives of the state or any political subdivision thereof, shall be liable for personal injury or property damage sustained by any person appointed or acting as a volunteer emergency management worker or member of any agency engaged in emergency management activity. The foregoing shall not affect the right of any person to receive benefits or compensation to which he might otherwise be entitled



under Chapter 9 of Title 34, Code Section 38-3-30, any pension law, or any act of Congress.

(b) In accordance with O.C.G.A. § 38-3-35(b), no political subdivision of the state nor, except in cases of willful misconduct, gross negligence, or bad faith, the employees, agents, or representatives of the state or any political subdivision thereof, nor any volunteer or auxiliary emergency management worker or member of any agency engaged in any emergency management activity complying with or reasonably attempting to comply with Articles 1 through 3, Chapter 3, Title 38, Official Code of Georgia Annotated; or any order, rule, or regulation promulgated pursuant to Articles 1 through 3 of title, or pursuant to any ordinance relating to precautionary measures enacted by any political provisions of Articles 1 through 3 of said chapter and title, or pursuant to any ordinance relating to precautionary measures enacted by any political subdivision of the state shall be liable for the death of or the injury to person or for damage to property as a result of any such activity.

(c) It is the express intent of the parties that the immunities specified above shall be construed in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 38-3-35 and shall apply in addition to any other immunities provided by statutory or case law.

ARTICLE VII RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES

In accordance with O.C.G.A. § 38-3-30(a), whenever the employees of any Assisting Party or political subdivision are rendering outside aid pursuant to this agreement and the authority contained in Code Section 38-3-27, the employees shall have the same powers, duties, rights, privileges and immunities as if they were performing their duties in the political subdivisions in which they are normally employed.

ARTICLE VIII REIMBURSEMENT

In accordance with O.C.G.A. § 38-3-30(b), the Requesting Party shall be liable for any loss of or damage to equipment used or placed within the jurisdiction of the Requesting Party and shall pay any expense incurred in the operation and maintenance thereof. No claim for the loss, damage or expense shall be allowed unless, within 60 days after the same is sustained or incurred, an itemized notice of the claim under oath is served by mail or otherwise upon the chief fiscal officer of the Requesting Party. The Requesting Party shall also pay and reimburse the Assisting Party for the compensation paid to employees furnished by the Assisting Party during the time of the rendition of the aid and shall defray the actual traveling and maintenance expenses of such employees while they are rendering the aid. The reimbursement shall include any amounts paid or due for compensation due to personal injury or death while the employees are engaged in rendering the aid. The term "employee," as used herein, shall mean, and this provision shall apply with equal effect to, paid, volunteer and auxiliary employees and



emergency management workers. Expenses that are to be reimbursed by the Requesting Party shall include the following:

- (1) Labor costs, which shall include all usual wages, salaries, compensation for hours worked, mobilization and demobilization, the Assisting Party's portion of payroll taxes (as employer), insurance, accrued paid leave and other fringe benefits, but not those amounts paid or due as a benefit to the Assisting Parties personnel under the terms of the Georgia Workers Compensation Act.
- (2) Equipment costs, which shall include the fair rental value, the cost of fuel and other consumable supplies, service and repairs. If the equipment is damaged while in use under this agreement and the Assisting Party receives payment for such damage under any contract for insurance, the Requesting Party may deduct such payment from any item or items invoiced.
- (3) Material costs, which shall include the total reasonable cost for the use and consumption of any and all consumable supplies delivered by the Assisting Party for the benefit of the Requesting Party.
- (4) Meals, lodging and other related expenses, which shall include charges for meals, lodging and other expenses relating to the provision of assistance pursuant to this agreement shall be the actual and reasonable costs incurred by the Assisting Party.

The Assisting Party shall maintain records and submit invoices within 60 days for reimbursement as specified hereinabove and the Requesting Party shall pay the invoice no later than 30 days following the invoice date.

ARTICLE IX IMPLEMENTATION

- (a) This agreement shall become operative immediately upon its approval and execution by the GEMA-Homeland Security and any two political subdivisions of this State; thereafter, this agreement shall become effective as to any other political subdivision of this State upon its approval and execution by such political subdivision.
- (b) Any Participating Party may withdraw from this agreement by mailing notice of withdrawal, approved by the governing authority of such political subdivision, but no such withdrawal shall take effect until 30 days after the governing authority of the withdrawing political subdivision has given notice in writing of such withdrawal to the governing authorities of all other Participating Parties. Such action shall not relieve the withdrawing political subdivision from obligations assumed hereunder prior to the effective date of withdrawal.
- (c) Copies of this agreement shall, at the time of their approval, be deposited with each of the Participating Parties and with the GEMA-Homeland Security.



ARTICLE X

GEORGIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY-HOMELAND SECURITY

GEMA-Homeland Security shall act as the coordinating entity under this agreement. Nothing herein shall limit any authority of the Governor or the Director of the GEMA-Homeland Security under articles, I, II, or III of Chapter 3, Title 38, Official Code of Georgia Annotated. In the event the Governor should declare a State of Emergency, any and all provisions of this agreement which may conflict with actions taken pursuant to such declaration shall be superseded by any such act or actions.

ARTICLE XI

TERM OF AGREEMENT

This agreement shall expire on March 1, 2016. Agreement of the Participating Parties to extend the term of this agreement at any time during the last year of its original term or the last year of any subsequent four-year term shall extend the term of this agreement for four years. Each four-year extension shall constitute a separate agreement.

ARTICLE XII

VALIDITY

This agreement shall be construed to effectuate the purposes stated in Articles II and III hereof. If any provision of this agreement is declared unconstitutional, or the applicability thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the constitutionality of the remainder of this agreement and the applicability thereof to other persons and circumstances shall not be affected thereby.



ANNEX D – INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

This Intergovernmental Agreement (hereinafter “Agreement”) is made and entered into this ____ day of _____, 2013, by **Chatham County**, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia (hereinafter “County”), and the **Mayor and Council of the City of XXX**(hereinafter “XXX”), a municipal corporation organized under the laws of the State of Georgia.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, on September 17, 2012, the County amended its Emergency Management Ordinance of Chatham County (“Emergency Management Ordinance”) to define “emergency”, to provide for a declaration of emergency, to provide for a curfew and re-entry restrictions during periods of emergency, to provide for building permits during periods of emergency, to provide for temporary housing during periods of emergency, to allow for emergency business licenses during periods of emergency, to prevent price gouging, and for other related purposes; and

WHEREAS, “emergency” is defined under Section 4-304 of the Emergency Management Ordinance as any extraordinary condition in which there exists the threat or actual occurrence of a disaster or event, including “energy emergency” as defined in the Georgia Emergency Management Act and any amendments thereto, which may result in the large scale loss of life, injury, property damage or destruction, or in the major disruption of routine community affairs or business and government operations, and is of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant extraordinary assistance by CEMA and other Chatham County departments and other agencies to supplement the efforts of available public and private resources; and

WHEREAS, the Chatham County Emergency Operations Plan shall become operative upon a declaration of emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Emergency Management Ordinance applies in the unincorporated area of the County; and

WHEREAS, Article 9, § 3 ¶ 1(a) of the Georgia Constitution authorized the County to enter into intergovernmental agreements with municipalities.



NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises, the County and XXX agree as follows:

1. XXX agrees that upon a declaration of emergency by the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, the Emergency Management Ordinance and the Chatham County Emergency Operations Plan shall apply and be effective within the territorial limits of XXX until the declaration of emergency has terminated, provided that the declared emergency impacts or has the capability of causing an impact within the territorial limits of XXX.
2. The County and XXX agree that upon declaration of emergency, the police and Sheriff shall enforce the Emergency Management Ordinance within the territorial limits of their jurisdiction.
3. The term of this Agreement shall be for 25 years.
4. This Agreement shall be construed and interpreted in accordance with Georgia law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, said parties have hereunto set their hands and affixed their seals, the day and year first above written.

Chair
Chatham County Board of Commissioners

Date

ATTEST:

Clerk

Mayor
City of _____

Date

ATTEST:

Clerk



ANNEX E – NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AGREEMENT
Chatham County, Georgia

WHEREAS, Federal Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD) 5 establishes the National Incident Management System (NIMS); and

WHEREAS, NIMS establishes a single, comprehensive approach to domestic incident management to ensure that all levels of government across the nation have the capability to work efficiently and effectively together using a national approach to domestic incident management; and

WHEREAS, NIMS provides a consistent nationwide approach for federal, state and local governments to work together to prepare for and respond to, and recover from domestic incidents regardless of the cause, size or complexity; and

WHEREAS, NIMS provides for interoperability and compatibility among federal, state and local capabilities and includes a core set of concepts, principles, terminology and technologies covering the Incident Command System, Unified Command, training, management of resources and reporting; and

WHEREAS, as Federal departments and agencies shall make adoption of the NIMS a requirement for providing federal preparedness assistance through grants, contracts or other activities to local governments; and

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia has enacted through law (O.C.G.A 39-3-57) that all local public safety and emergency response organizations, including emergency management agencies, fire departments and emergency medial services, shall implement the standardized unified incident command system and that those agencies that do not establish such a system shall not be eligible for state reimbursement for any response or recover related expenses;

Be it therefore resolved that the County of Chatham, State of Georgia hereby adopts the National Incident Management System (NIMS) as established under HSPD 5 and Unified Command system as established under O.C.G.A 38-3-57 as its system of preparing for and responding to disaster incidents and directs all incident managers and response organization in Chatham County to train in and use these systems in their response operations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, said parties have hereunto set their hands and affixed their seals, the day and year first above written.

Mayor, City of _____ Date

ATTEST:
Clerk



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ANNEX F – SAMPLE EMERGENCY AND DISASTER MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, a need for mutual aid agreements between the counties, cities, authorities and private agencies in Georgia has been recognized; and

WHEREAS, authority for such agreements can be found in O.C.G.A. § 38-3-29.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners and _____, adopt this Emergency and Disaster Mutual Aid Agreement

1. Definitions: The following definitions shall apply throughout this agreement:

Agreement: “Agreement” means the Emergency and Disaster Mutual Aid Agreement.

Emergency: “Emergency” means any occurrence, or threat thereof, whether natural, or caused by man, in war or in peace, which results or may result in substantial injury or harm to the population or substantial damage to or loss of property.

Disaster: “Disaster” means any natural, technological or civil emergency, or threat thereof that causes damage or has the potential to cause damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to result in a declaration of a state of emergency by a county, city, the Governor, or the President of the United States.

Participating Local Agency: “Participating Local Agency” means a county, city, authority or private agency that has duly enacted this agreement.

Receiving Local Agency: “Receiving Local Agency” means the Participating Local Agency requesting equipment, services, personnel or other aid pursuant to this agreement.

Assisting Local Agency: “Assisting Local Agency” means the Participating Local Agency furnishing equipment, services, personnel or other aid pursuant to this agreement.

Emergency Management Director: “Emergency Management Director” means the person appointed by the county governing authority to implement the emergency plan of the county.

2. Term: This agreement begins on the date executed by the parties and continues for one year. This agreement shall automatically renew for an additional one-year period unless any party provides written notice of an intention not to renew within 30 days of the expiration date.



3. Basic Agreement: Any Participating Local Agency requested to render mutual aid or requested to participate in exercises and training for mutual aid pursuant to this agreement shall take such action as is necessary to provide and make available the resources covered by this agreement in accordance with the terms hereof; provided, however, that the Assisting Local Agency may withhold or withdraw those resources necessary to provide protection for such Local Agency.
4. Procedure: In the event of any emergency or disaster, the Emergency Management Director of any County or Local Agency, or the designee of the county governing authority, may request assistance of another Participating Local Agency by contacting the Emergency Management Director, or the designee of the governing authority, of that County or Local Participating Agency. The provisions of this agreement shall only apply to requests for assistance made by and to official Emergency Management Directors or the designees of the county governing authority or Local Participating Agency. Requests may be verbal or in writing. If verbal, the request shall be confirmed in writing within ten days of the verbal request.
5. Rights and Duties: Each Participating Local Agency shall afford to the employees of any other Participating Local Agency, while operating within its jurisdiction under the terms and conditions of this agreement, the same powers (except that of arrest, unless specifically authorized by the Receiving Local Agency), duties, rights, privileges and immunities as are afforded employees of the Receiving Local Agency in which they are performing emergency services. Employees of the Assisting Local Agency will continue under the command and control of their regular leaders, but, as a group will come under the operational control of the emergency services authorities of the Receiving Local Agency, unless the Receiving Local Agency relinquishes such control.
6. Licenses and Permits: Whenever any person holds a license, certificate or other permit issued by the state, county or other qualified agency evidencing that the individual possesses any required professional, mechanical, or other skills, such person may be permitted by the Receiving Local Agency to render aid involving such skill in any other Participating Local Agency to meet an emergency or disaster situation.
7. Compensation: Each Participating Local Agency shall provide for the payment of compensation and death benefits to injured employees of that County and the representatives of deceased employees in case such employees sustain injuries or are killed while rendering aid pursuant to this agreement, in the same manner and on the same terms as if the injury or death were sustained within their own Local Agency.



8. Payment and Reimbursement: The Receiving Local Agency shall pay and reimburse the Assisting Local Agency for the compensation paid to its employees during the time and rendition of the aid and shall defray the actual traveling and maintenance expenses of the employees while they are rendering the aid. The reimbursement shall include any amounts paid or due for compensation due to personal injury or death while the employees were engaged in rendering the aid. The Receiving Local Agency shall also be liable for any loss or damage to equipment used for or in the Receiving Local Agency pursuant to this agreement and shall pay any expense incurred in the operation or maintenance thereof. No claim for the loss of, damage to or expense of such equipment shall be allowed unless, within 60 days after the same is sustained or incurred, an itemized notice of the claim under oath is served by mail or otherwise upon the chief fiscal officer of the Receiving Local Agency.

9. Immunity: Neither an Assisting Local Agency nor, except in cases of willful misconduct, gross negligence, or bad faith, the employees, agents, or representative of any Assisting Local Agency, nor any unpaid trained personnel or member of any agency engaged in any emergency management activity pursuant to this agreement, shall be liable for the death of or injury to person or for damage to property as a result of such activity.



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ANNEX G – SAMPLE GENERAL RELEASE AGREEMENT

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF CHATHAM

FOR AND IN CONSIDERATION OF work performed by Chatham County on subject property located at _____. I/we, the owners of subject property acknowledge and do forever release, acquit, discharge and covenant to hold harmless Chatham County and any of its officers, agents, and employees from any and all action, causes of action, claims, demands, damages, costs, loss of services, compensation, and losses and expenses of whatsoever kind or nature in law or equity, for and on account of, or in any way growing out of, any and all known and unknown personal injuries and/or property damages that the undersigned may now or hereafter have as owners of the subject property resulting from work being performed on the subject property on or about _____, 20____.

It is further understood and agreed that this Release Agreement extends to and includes indemnification for the negligence, if any, of the county, its officers, agents, servants and employees either direct or vicarious, or for its or their own act or omission that would or may constitute negligence of which would or may constitute the creation or maintenance of a nuisance.

I/we have carefully read the foregoing and fully understand and agree to the same and have executed the same freely and voluntarily. Furthermore, I/we have consulted or been given the opportunity to consult with an attorney of my/our own choosing prior to the execution of this document.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has/have hereunto set his/their hand and seal this _____ day of _____, 20____.



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ANNEX H – SAMPLE RIGHT OF ENTRY AND AGREEMENT TO ALLOW USE OF PROPERTY AS A RESULT OF STATE OF EMERGENCY

STATE OF GEORGIA
CHATHAM COUNTY

This Right of Entry and Agreement to Allow Use of Property as a Result of State of Emergency is entered into between the Chatham County Board of Commissioners (“County”), (insert address) and _____ print the name and address of property owner(s) (“Property Owner(s)"). In consideration of the sum of ONE DOLLAR (\$1.00), the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged by the parties, we agree as follows:

WHEREAS, as a result of (insert a description of the emergency), a state of emergency has been declared for the County; and

WHEREAS, certain real property is needed by the County Emergency Management Agency to be used for _____

NOW THEREFORE IT IS AGREED BETWEEN THE PARTIES THAT

_____ (print the name of property owner(s)) am/are the owner(s) of property located at Land

Lot # _____, District # _____, Section # _____, and Parcel # _____ of

_____ County and shown on the map filed in the _____

County Tax Offices. I/we agree to allow the _____ County Board of Commissioners (“County”), their employees and agents to enter the above

referenced property for purposes of establishing _____

for a period up to _____ days, unless otherwise extended by mutual agreement.

County:

Property Owner:

DATE

DATE

Property Owner

DATE



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