

# Overview of The EOC Policy Coordination Group

Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

# EOC Policy Coordination Group

- **Mayor** – Leads the EOC Policy Coordination Group, issues a Disaster Declaration or Local State of Emergency when needed and represents the City of Austin government.
- **City Manager** – Leads the EOC Policy Coordination Group when the Mayor is not present. Oversees all City of Austin government operations.
- **Director, Homeland Security and Emergency Management** – Functions as the EOC Director. Manages EOC operations, and provides emergency management policy and procedure guidance to the EOC Policy Coordination Group.
- **EOC Policy Coordination Group** - also consist of City department heads, subject matter experts, and decision makers from other key County and non governmental agencies.
  - Room 317 across the hall from the EOC is designated and used for the EOC Policy Coordination Group to meet and make decisions.

# **Director, Homeland Security and Emergency Management**

- Maintain and manage the emergency operations center (EOC).
- Coordinate emergency preparedness activity within the City.
- Coordinate preparedness response activities with County, Regional, State and private stakeholders.
- Perform duties as assigned by the City Manager.

# **The City Manager's Role**

- Under the City Charter, the City Manager is the Chief Executive and Administrative Officer with executive responsibility and authority for the administration of the City government subject to oversight by the City Council.

# Mayor's Role

- **At the EOC:**
  - The Mayor is typically “The face of the City” at news conferences relating to emergencies.
  - Lead spokesperson at EOC related incidents involving multiple jurisdictions and agencies, during “Joint Information Center” media events.
- **Disaster Declaration or State of Emergency:**
  - The Mayor is responsible to approve and sign a Disaster Declaration or State of Emergency on behalf of the City.
  - A Disaster Declaration and State of Emergency provides the Mayor with additional powers.
- **Requests for Outside Assistance:**
  - According to the National Incident Management System (NIMS), all requests are coordinated through the EOC and forwarded to the County, State and Federal Government.

# City Council's Role/Communication

- Must consent to the continuation or renewal of a declaration of local disaster for a period of more than seven days.
- Local Policy Decisions
- Contact the City Manager to attend the Policy Coordination Group meeting (quorum).
- Contact City Manager for specific updates.
- City Manager or designee contacting Councilmembers.
- PIO/EOC updates sent to Council.
- Specific requests from Council sent to City Manager.