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**September 23, 2005**

## Los Angeles City Council

**BERNARD C. PARKS**

Councilmember, Eighth District

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Mervin Evans  
P.O. Box 71351  
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Dear Mr. Evans,

I am responding to the fax that you sent to my office earlier this month.

To address to one of your issues, I have enclosed Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa's latest information on how the City of Los Angeles is dealing with the effects of Hurricane Katrina.

In response to the other issue regarding the New Orleans Saints, it seems more likely that the Saints will either play at Louisiana State University or San Antonio, Texas for the remainder of the season. It is apparently the wish of the National Football League to keep the team as close to New Orleans as possible, perhaps as relief to the fans there who are dealing with the horrible tragedy resulting from Hurricane Katrina.

However, our push to get an NFL team has not slowed. We remain in negotiations and may receive an indication from the league during the NFL Owners' Meetings in late October.

Respectfully,

BERNARD C. PARKS  
Councilmember

**Enclosure**

**MAYOR ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA**  
**HOMELAND SECURITY AND PUBLIC SAFETY TEAM**

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**HURRICANE KATRINA SITUATION REPORT**  
**SEPTEMBER 15, 2005**

Below is the current status of Mutual Aid Requests, Evacuees, Housing, Transportation and Social Services involved in **Operation LA Reaches Out**:

**I. MUTUAL AID REQUESTS**

**Total Number of Personnel Deployed by LAFD: 22**

**A. STATUS OF CATEF-1 (Team – 3 Swift Water)**

14 personnel deployed from this team. They were demobilized on September 13<sup>th</sup> and are expected to arrive in Los Angeles on September 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm.

**B. STATUS OF CATEF-1 (Team – 1 USAR)**

80 personnel deployed from this team. They were demobilized and returned to Los Angeles on September 13<sup>th</sup> at 3pm.

**C. INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM ASSIGNMENT**

LAFD's Assistant Chief Richard Warford, as part of an Incident Management Team, has been assigned to the FEMA Program Office in Washington DC. He will assist FEMA management personnel in overseeing response and recovery efforts throughout the region.

**D. INCIDENT SUPPORT TEAM ASSIGNMENT**

LAFD's Battalion Chief Mark Saxelby and Captain Wade White, as part of an Incident Support Team, are currently deployed to Gulfport, Mississippi.

**E. CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS DEBRIEFING TEAM DEPLOYMENT**

On September 8<sup>th</sup>, the LAFD deployed a Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Team (CISD) to the Baton Rouge area. The 5-member team (4 CISD team members and a representative from UFLAC) is led by Dr. Scott and will be returning on September 15<sup>th</sup>.

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**F. FEMA REQUEST FOR 1,000 FIREFIGHTERS**

FEMA requested an additional 1,000 firefighters to assist in their efforts in the Gulf Coast. California Office of Emergency Services asked that responses to this request be coordinated through their office. On September 8<sup>th</sup>, California OES withdrew their request until concerns about maintaining sufficient resources are addressed.

**G. FEMA REQUEST FOR AN INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM**

LA County sent an Incident Management Team (IMT) to New Orleans on September 8<sup>th</sup> to conduct an assessment of what is needed to restore government services providing law enforcement, fire and emergency management. Currently, no City of Los Angeles personnel have been deployed as part of this request.

**H. EMAC REQUEST FOR A 2<sup>nd</sup> INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM**

The Governor of Louisiana has requested an additional IMT through the Emergency Mutual Aid Compact (EMAC) to establish a continuity of government operation. The County of Los Angeles deployed an IMT but cancelled their request for 2 DWP personnel. They left on September 10<sup>th</sup> for a 14-day deployment.

**I. NEW ORLEANS PORT POLICE EQUIPMENT REQUEST**

On September 9<sup>th</sup>, the New Orleans Port Police requested a 34-foot RV from the Los Angeles Port Police to provide shelter for their officers. The Port of LA is loaning the equipment and expects it to be delivered on September 19<sup>th</sup>.

**II. OTHER CITY ASSISTANCE**

**A. CITY EMPLOYEE VOLUNTEERS**

Approximately 500 City employees responded to the Mayor's memoranda requesting up to 1,000 volunteers to assist the ARC in the Gulf Coast. Department managers and the Personnel Department are reviewing the list to determine eligibility.

**B. CRA FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

On September 15<sup>th</sup>, the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board of Commissioners will consider allocating \$300,000 to assist evacuees in securing

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temporary or long-term housing. The CRA already has authority to expend up to **\$25,000 and has been evaluating modular housing or trailer facility options.**

**C. LA'S BEST AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM ASSISTANCE**

On September 13<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Villaraigosa sent a letter to the Mayor of Baton Rouge, Louisiana offering to deploy staff from LA's BEST to assist in establishing after-school programs for evacuees in his city. No response to this offer has been received yet.

**III. EVACUEES**

**A. EVACUEE STATISTICS**

1. **Government/FEMA Sponsored:** None
2. **Non-Governmental/Charitable Registered with ARC:** 3,530 individuals\*
  - i. The Dream Center – 250 individuals
  - ii. Housed with friends, relatives or hotels – 3,280 individuals

\* The number of evacuees staying in Los Angeles likely exceeds this number due to individuals and families not voluntarily registering with the Red Cross.

**B. CITY OF LA RESETTLEMENT PLAN STATUS**

A comprehensive resettlement plan has been developed through the EOC and was approved by the Mayor's Office on September 8<sup>th</sup>. The County of Los Angeles is in the process of adopting this document as the countywide response plan.

**C. STATUS OF FEMA-SPONSORED EVACUEES**

The California OES reports that FEMA requested that all state and local evacuee planning efforts be suspended as of September 14<sup>th</sup>. No further flights are expected out of the Gulf Coast area.

**D. CITY OF LOS ANGELES' EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER**

The City EOC was mobilized on Wednesday September 7<sup>th</sup> at a level one response. It was deactivated on Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 6pm and converted to a duty status officer. The primary purpose of the activation was to develop a Katrina Resettlement Plan, which has been completed.

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#### **IV. HOUSING**

##### **A. SHORT-TERM SHELTERS**

###### **1. ACTION PLAN**

The Westchester Recreation Center will serve as the Regional Reception Center for all evacuees arriving in Los Angeles County. After processing through the Westchester Recreation Center, the evacuees will be disbursed to the appropriate short-term shelter by the Red Cross.

###### **2. SHORT-TERM SHELTER LOCATIONS**

The County of Los Angeles, in partnership with its 88-member cities, has committed to hosting 2,000 evacuees. To date, ten shelter locations have been identified and prioritized. The total capacity of these first ten sites is 1,332. Six of the ten sites are within the City of Los Angeles and provide the ability to house 934 evacuees in total. The ten shelter locations are listed below:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>1. McClaren Hall</b><br>4024 N. Durfee Ave.<br>El Monte, CA 91732<br>Capacity: 100                     | <b>4. EPICC Center</b><br>3980 South Menlo Avenue<br>Los Angeles, CA 90037<br>Capacity: 400         |
| <b>2. Griffith Park Boys Camp</b><br>4730 Crystal Springs Drive<br>Los Angeles, CA 90027<br>Capacity: 110 | <b>5. Carmelitos</b><br>1000 Via Wanda<br>Long Beach, CA 90805<br>Capacity: 100                     |
| <b>3. Friendship Lodge</b><br>3201 Riverside Drive<br>Los Angeles, CA 90027<br>Capacity: 140              | <b>6. Harbor Hills Housing Community</b><br>26607 Western Ave.<br>Lomita, CA 90727<br>Capacity: 150 |

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- |   |   |
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| <p>7. <b>Maravilla Housing Community</b><br/>4919 Cesar Chavez Ave.<br/>Los Angeles, CA 90022<br/>Capacity: 100</p> | <p>9. <b>Bienvenidos Group Home</b><br/>183 E. Palm Street<br/>Altadena, CA 91001<br/>Capacity: 48</p>    |
| <p>8. <b>Camp Hollywood Land (Girls Camp)</b><br/>3200 Canyon Drive<br/>Hollywood, CA 90068<br/>Capacity: 144</p>   | <p>10. <b>Hollygrove Group Home</b><br/>800 N. Vine Street<br/>Los Angeles, CA 90038<br/>Capacity: 40</p> |

**3. SECURITY AT CITY OF LOS ANGELES SHELTERS**

Park Rangers and LAPD will provide security for short-term sheltering facilities.

**V. TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

**A. PHASE I: AIRPORT TO WESTCHESTER PROCESSING CENTER**

FEMA designated airports in San Diego, San Francisco and San Jose as the evacuee arrival locations in California. For evacuees coming to Los Angeles, FEMA and OES will provide ground transportation to the Westchester Reception Center.

FEMA may designate an additional airport in the Los Angeles area. If a local facility is used, MTA and LADOT will provide transportation to the Westchester Reception Center. California OES will provide notification of arrival information for evacuees. Crisis Response Team personnel will meet evacuees at the airport and escort them via ground transportation to the Westchester Reception Center.

**B. PHASE II: WESTCHESTER RECEPTION CENTER TO SHELTERS**

DOT will establish taxicab and bus zones around the Westchester Reception Center. A voucher program to provide taxicab services will be implemented upon identifying funding sources. MTA and DOT will provide bus services.

**C. PHASE III: LOCAL TRANSPORTATION (AFTER SHELTER PLACEMENT)**

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MTA will provide 5,000 EZ or monthly bus passes, along with schedules and route maps, for local transportation needs. LADOT has agreed to accept EZ monthly passes for passengers. DOT will provide information at the Westchester Reception Center to register for specialized transportation services (senior and disabled).

## VI. SOCIAL SERVICES

### A. HEALTHCARE SERVICES

Evacuees will be informed of the healthcare services available through the Contact Information package provided to them at the Westchester Reception Center. During the processing at the Reception Center, Los Angeles County Health will also be screening evacuees for communicable diseases. More extensive physical examinations may be conducted in the future.

Evacuees will be provided with medical monitoring and referrals to appropriate medical facilities, if necessary. In some cases, evacuees will be provided medical evaluations to receive new prescriptions for medications. Dental and pediatric referrals will be provided for evacuees remaining in facilities for extended periods of time. The Los Angeles County Health Department is coordinating donations of vaccines and medical supplies to assist in this effort.

### B. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Mental health services will be provided to evacuees during resettlement. Los Angeles County Health Services will provide mental health screenings, with an **emphasis on identifying severe mental disorders that may be a danger to the individual or others. Less severe cases will be provided with written information** concerning the availability of counseling and case management services.

### C. PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

Evacuees will be provided access to information about public assistance programs. Los Angeles County Department of Social Services will provide case managers at the Westchester Reception Center. These programs include food stamps, welfare checks, welfare-to-work programs, Social Security and senior citizen assistance.

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**D. ASSISTANCE FOR NON-FEMA SPONSORED EVACUEES**

The American Red Cross (ARC) and County Department of Social Services are registering non-FEMA sponsored evacuees. The ARC is providing debit cards for \$300-\$1,500 and hotel vouchers for up to 2 weeks. As of September 13<sup>th</sup>, ARC had spent \$575,000 on relief efforts in Los Angeles County.

**VII. BUDGET IMPACTS**

**A. CITY OF LOS ANGELES COST ESTIMATES**

Based on LAFD cost data, the Office of the City Administrative Officer estimates that the City of Los Angeles will spend \$3.6 million for the entire LAFD mutual aid (swift water and USAR teams) deployment. The LAPD has purchased approximately \$5,000 of equipment in anticipation of a mutual aid response.

**B. FUNDING SOURCES FOR EVACUEE-RELATED COSTS**

The CAO has identified potential funding sources for rental and permanent housing for evacuees, including: \$95 million in Consolidated Plan funding from CDBG, HOME or HOPWA grant funds, \$12 million from the Municipal Housing Finance Fund, Section 8 tenant vouchers or a Section 108 Loan from the federal government. If the financial need arises, each of these sources will be further evaluated.

**VIII. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**A. DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

On September 13<sup>th</sup>, President Bush approved a federal declaration of emergency for the State of California to allow for reimbursement of Hurricane Katrina-related costs. The County and City of LA are evaluating the need for a declaration of local emergency.

**B. EVACUEE WELCOME PACKET**

The County and City Administrative Offices jointly developed a welcome packet for newly arriving evacuees. The County of LA will print the final version of the packet for distribution at evacuee reception centers, DPSS offices and ARC shelters.

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**C. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE COMPACT (EMAC)**

Governor Schwarzenegger announced that AB 823 has been signed and will make California a party to EMAC. EMAC is the primary legal tool that states use to immediately send and receive emergency personnel and equipment during a major disaster.

**D. LOS ANGELES PRO BONO COUNCIL**

The Los Angeles Pro Bono Council has volunteered to be responsive to the legal needs of evacuees, including negotiating benefits from FEMA and non-profit organizations. The Los Angeles Pro Bono Council has already recruited volunteer lawyers and paralegals to assist in this endeavor. Evacuees needing legal assistance should contact Ted Zapeda at [tzapeda@publiccounsel.org](mailto:tzapeda@publiccounsel.org).

**E. LAUSD EVACUEE ENROLLMENT PLAN**

The Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) has prepared a plan to allow students from the impacted areas to enroll in local schools without birth certificates, immunization records or other required documentation.