



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

VISION

The City of Bainbridge Island will be a recognized leader in preparedness in Washington State

STRATEGIC MISSION

In alignment with the above vision, we will strive to achieve the following:

- All households will equip themselves to survive without access to electricity, running water, or access to the grocery store for 14 days' minimum
- All neighborhoods will be covered by a neighborhood plan
- All businesses will be covered by a continuity plan
- All non-profit and faith-based organizations will be covered by an emergency plan
- The City will update the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) to ensure:
 - Memorandum of Agreement/Understanding are in place with strategic businesses and response agencies
 - Authority is clearly defined
 - Role of Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) is clearly defined
- Every agency, organization, business, and individual will know what is expected of them at such time an Emergency Proclamation is made
- The City will supply and maintain an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) which will be fully functional within 30 minutes of an Emergency Declaration and capable of sustained 24-hour operations for a minimum of 4 weeks

VALUES

- Active practice: The processes, plans, procedures, and support elements we develop as part of this program will be regularly used, evaluated, and continually improved.
- Embedded in island culture: Preparedness is essential for communities to be resilient and able to withstand and recover from crisis. Due to the level of risk and potential complications associated with being an island community in the Pacific Northwest, it is critical that the concept of preparedness is embraced as a value by every person in our community.
- Institutionalized in response agencies: Emergency Management is a foundational concept for our local response agencies, such as the City, Fire Department, and Parks District. We are striving to build this principle into our organizations so that each member of our staff understands their respective responsibility and is prepared to perform their role during an emergent event.
- Flexible: We incorporate progressive methods to create adaptable, evolutionary frameworks which enable our program to be agile and responsive.
- Inclusive: Emergency Management is not a "cool kids" club - it's for everyone! We embrace the differences each of us brings to the table and recognize that this is what make us strong!
- Positive: Our program is dedicated to promoting preparedness through empowerment and positive action.

- Collaborative: We love to partner! Our approach to Emergency Management is based on developing and sustaining relationships through mutual respect, collective ownership, trust, and open and honest communication.

FOUNDATION

Our program is based on FEMA's Whole Community Doctrine. One of the key concepts identified in this approach is empowering local action. According to FEMA, this is defined as follows:

Recognition that government at all levels cannot manage disasters alone means that communities need the opportunity to draw on their full potential to operate effectively. Empowering local action requires allowing members of the communities to lead – not follow – in identifying priorities, organizing support, implementing programs, and evaluating outcomes. The emergency manager promotes and coordinates, but does not direct these conversations and efforts. Lasting impacts of long-term capacity building can be evident in an evolving set of civic practices and habits among leaders and the public that become embedded in the life of the community. In this regard, the issue of social capital becomes an important part of encouraging communities to own and lead their own resilience activities. Furthermore, community ownership of projects provides a powerful incentive for sustaining action and involvement.