

# **Annex G: Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) Response Plan**

## **Nature of the Hazard**

The City of South Portland is subject to large-scale hazardous materials events. According to the Maine Commodity Flow Study of Hazardous Materials (Greater Portland Council of Governments publication, July 2002), the vast majority of hazardous materials (hazmat) and extremely hazardous substances (EHS) either enters Maine through South Portland, or traverses Maine through South Portland, via road, our port and railway networks.

There are several facilities in South Portland where EHS is stored, including: Texas Instruments Semiconductor, ON Semiconductor, CMP Cape generating station, Hannaford Distribution Center. Rigby Rail yard sees dozens of rail shipments of hazmat and EHS through South Portland en-route to paper mills and other locations on a weekly basis. The major oil company pipelines and tank farms also contain millions of barrels of crude oil, jet fuel, #2 heating oil and other petroleum based products destined for delivery to the state of Maine and to Canada.

In addition to the major hazmat and EHS facilities listed above and discussed elsewhere in this Plan, the Maine Turnpike and Interstate 295 traverse South Portland. Hundreds of shipments of hazmat occur weekly via these major truck routes.

## **Risk Area**

The entire city is subject to the effects of a hazmat event.

## **Direction and Control**

Small hazmat events are handled by city departments without any emergency assistance through assignment of an Incident Commander (IC), typically from the Fire Department. If a large hazmat event occurs, then the Emergency Operations Center should be activated to support emergency response direction and control at the incident scene.

The Emergency Management Director (City Manager) may designate a senior department head or the EMA Director to manage EOC operations in response to hazmat events.

## **Communications**

Normal city radio communications channels will be used to manage response to hazmat events. Such events are not likely to overload telephone, cell phone and two-way radio systems.

## **Warning**

Hazardous material events typically occur with little or no advance warning. Areas of the city that may be in danger because of the short term or long term effects of a hazmat incident will be warned via methods described in the All Hazards Emergency Plan, including use of the EAS system, use of police officers and firefighters using bullhorns and other devices, using the

emergency warning system designed for the hard of hearing and other means. Warning messages and methods will be coordinated by the EOC staff, if activated.

### **Emergency Public Information**

Emergency Public Information (EPI) will be issued as necessary by the EOC staff, through the Public Information Officer (PIO). Methods of EPI dissemination include using the TV camera mounted in the Joint Information Center (JIC). This JIC camera is connected to the SPC TV broadcast studio at City Hall, allowing emergency instructions to be broadcast through SPC TV to about 12,000 households in South Portland and Cape Elizabeth.

News releases will be developed as needed by the PIO, approved by the EOC Manager and the Incident Commander, and then disseminated to the public through Portland area radio, TV and print media outlets as well as city website and social media sites.

### **Evacuation**

EOC staff would determine, based on current hazmat conditions, forecast weather conditions, road conditions, and other factors such as probable duration of the event, if evacuation of the public were necessary. Appropriate evacuation routes would be developed in the EOC, approved by the EOC Manager, and then broadcast to the public via the EPI system described above. A combination of police officers, firefighters, public works staff, and appropriate barricades and other traffic control devices would be employed to effect the evacuation in an orderly and timely manner.

### **Mass Care**

EOC staff will determine if mass care facilities should be opened and manned. The primary mass care facility in South Portland is the Community Center on Nelson Street, behind the South Portland High School. Approximately 1,000 evacuees can be processed in this mass care facility. Other city facilities, including the High School, and both Middle Schools can be used as mass care shelters.

### **Health and Medical Concerns**

The Portland Water District may be contacted to ensure the safety of the drinking water supply. Area hospitals will be placed on standby at the first hint of a hazmat event that may require EMS response. Local and regional medical resources are deemed to be adequate to deal with small to medium sized hazmat events.

### **Resource Management**

Local resources may not be adequate to deal with medium to large hazmat events. If additional resources are needed, mutual aid agreements would be invoked by the Incident Command, and the Cumberland County Office of Emergency Management will be contacted by the South Portland EOC and requested to facilitate the procurement of additional needed resources.

South Portland Fire Department maintains a substantial amount of equipment in a 26-foot trailer and elsewhere designed to be immediately available to respond to a hazmat incident. All full time-uniformed members of the South Portland Fire Department are trained to the hazmat technician level and are fully capable of responding to and mitigating the effects of hazmat events.

### **Specific Actions for Hazmat Events**

#### **Fire Department Actions**

- Respond to the event and implement appropriate SOG related to Hazardous Materials and Weapons of Mass Destruction events.
- Isolate the area and establish a perimeter.
- Establish cold, warm and hot zones.
- Provide victim assistance.
- Provide sampling to determine nature and scope of hazmat events.
- Provide decontamination services to public safety personnel and members of the public affected by the event.
- Assign a Captain or higher to serve as the Fire/EMS/Hazmat function in the EOC

#### **Police Department Actions**

- Work with the Fire Department to provide perimeter / site security.
- Assign the Chief or Deputy Chief to serve as the Law Enforcement function in the EOC.

#### **Public Works Actions**

- Provide assistance as needed to the Incident Commander and/or the EOC staff, including Water Resources Dept. assistance (confined space rescue team and equipment), barricades for perimeter security and other help as requested.

#### **EOC Actions**

- Assist the Incident Commander with resources as needed.
- Provide updates to the community, including emergency public information as needed, and provide updates to county and state EOC officials as requested.

Coordinate and implement protective actions, such as hazmat scene and area evacuation.