

Annex T: Response to Civil Disturbances

Nature of the Hazard

Demonstrations and Civil Disturbance (riots) are a potential threat to the safety of the City of South Portland.

A DCD/Riot incident involves an unlawful assembly and criminal actions, and may create a climate of fear and intimidation by means of threats or violent activities causing a sustained fear of personal safety towards a particular goal. Such events can be planned or spontaneously evolve from demonstrations or other crowd events, oftentimes associated with, or ignited by, a sensitive political, economic, ecological, employment (labor/management) or governmental issues, and fueled by media coverage and exposure. It is, however, essential to recognize that all members of a demonstration or civil disturbance are not the same. Even when some members of a crowd engage in criminal acts, such as violence or destruction of property, other members of the crowd are likely not participating in those acts.

This plan is not public and considered **FOUO** (For Official Use Only) as it provides response plans that could be used by planners to plan countermeasures or circumvent response plans.

Requests to review this Annex will be handled on a case by case basis.

