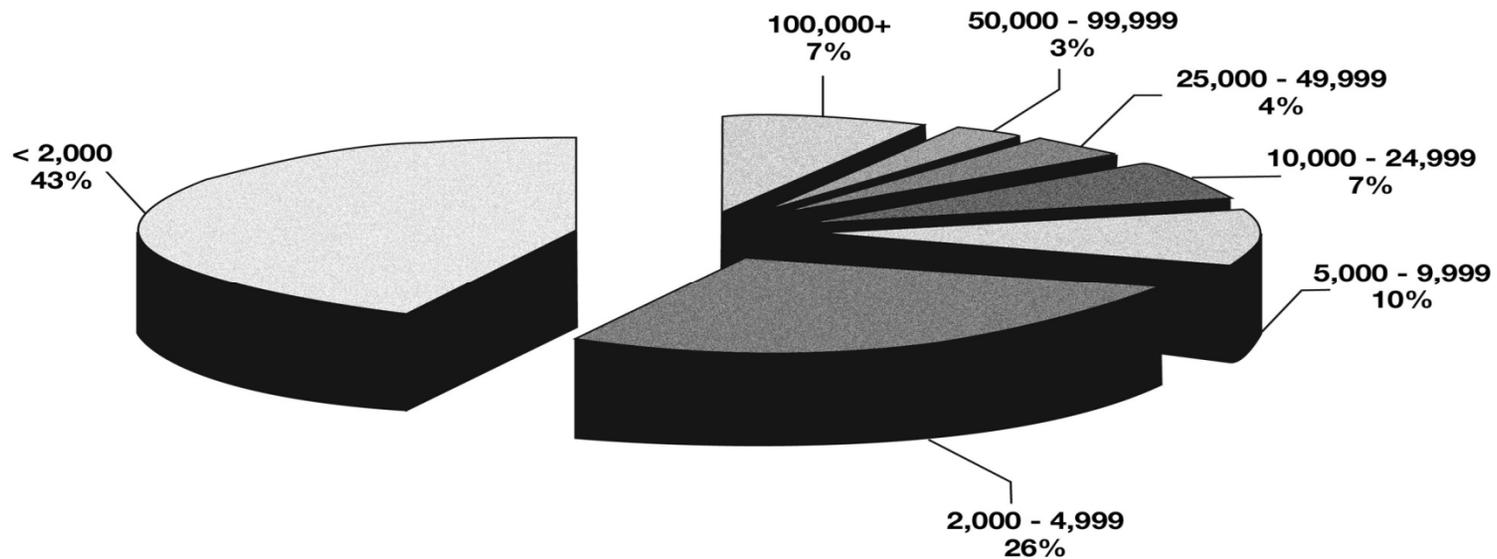

Planning and Preparing for Mass Evacuations

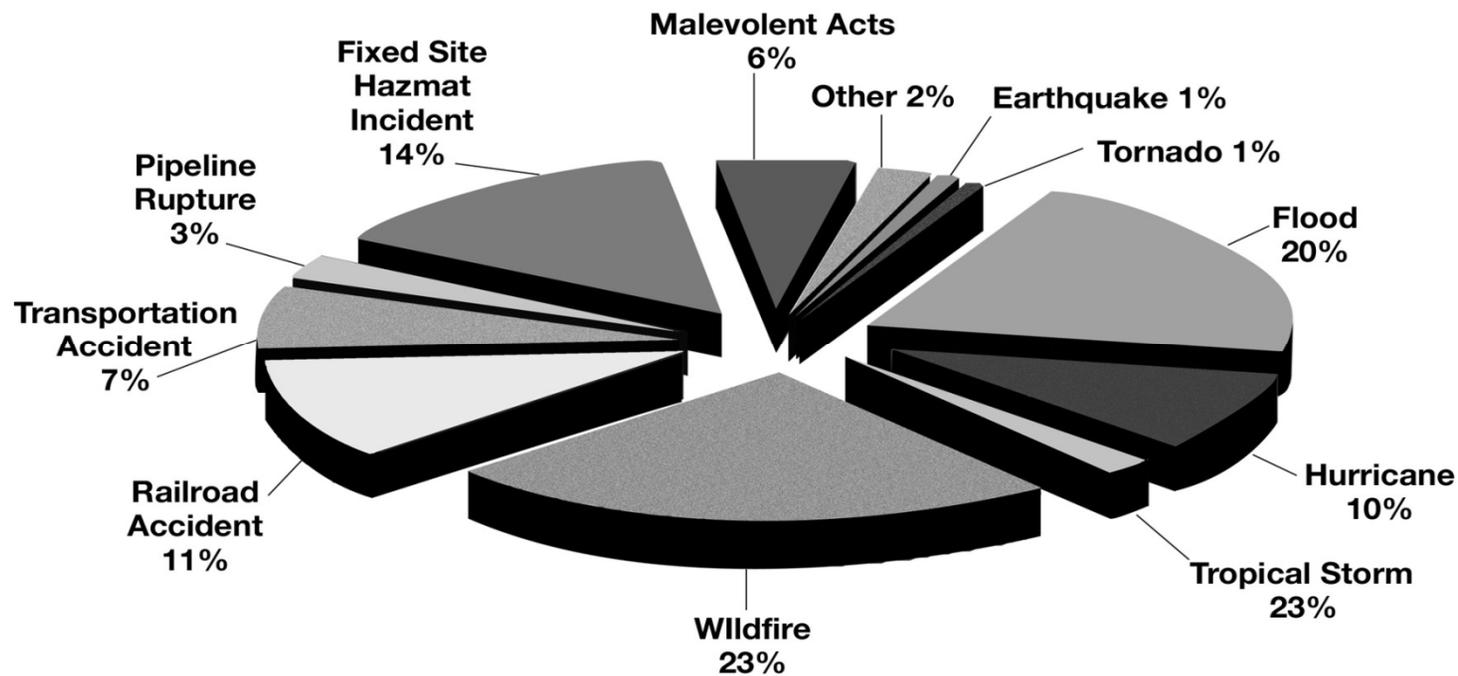
2009 National Conference on
Community Preparedness:
The Power of Citizen Corps
10 August 2009
Laurel J. Radow



Size Distribution of Large-Scale Evacuations in the United States 1/1/1990 - 6/30/2003



Principal Causes of Large-Scale Evacuations in the United States 1/1/1990 - 6/30/2003



FHWA Emergency Transportation Operations Team – Who we are

We manage

- ❑ Traffic Incident Management**
 - ❑ Planned Special Events**
 - ❑ Emergency Transportation Operations including Evacuations**
-

FHWA Evacuation Primers

- Routes to Effective Evacuation Primers Series
 - Using Highways during Evacuations Operations for Events with Advance Notice
 - Using Highways for No-Notice Evacuations
 - Evacuating Populations With Special Needs



Transportation Evacuation Planning and Operations Workshops

- **During 2007-2008, FHWA hosted four regional workshops designed to help State and local authorities use the primer series in developing their evacuation plans.**
 - **The four workshops -**
 - **Tallahassee, FL - May, 2007**
 - **Long Beach, CA - January 2008**
 - **Richmond, VA - June 2008**
 - **Chicago, IL - September 2008**
-

FHWA ETO Publications

- Best of Public Safety and Emergency Transportation Operations CD
- Results of the FHWA Preparedness & Response Workshops
- Communicating with the Public using ATIS During Disasters
- Simplified Guide to the Incident Command System (ICS) for Transportation Professionals
- Managing Travel for Planned Special Events: Executive Summary



FHWA Evacuation Activities

- **FHWA Office of Planning in concert FHWA Office of Operations is working with the National Association of Regional Councils in the development of evacuation workshops for their members.**
 - **FHWA continues to work with DHS and FEMA on disaster transportation operations issues, including evacuation planning for State and local governments.**
 - **January 26-29, 2009 Gulf Coast Contra-flow Evacuation Workshop.**
-

National Security Special Events

- **Purpose:** To aid State and local highway authorities operate within the national security special events environment.
 - **2009 Presidential Inauguration**
 - **Democratic National Convention**
 - **Republican National Convention**
 - Document will complement the highly successful “Simplified Guide to the Incident Command System for Transportation Professionals.”
-

Federal Reports

- Robert Davis
 - Director, Ext. Affairs, DHS
 - Tuesday Session, “Surviving Nuclear and Radiological Events,” will discuss *Improvised Nuclear Devices Risk Communication and Preparedness*”

Planning Guidance for Response to a Nuclear Detonation

First Edition
January 16, 2009

Developed by the Homeland Security Council
Interagency Policy Coordination Subcommittee
for Preparedness & Response to
Radiological and Nuclear Threats

Traffic Technology International

- Article in the June/July 2009 issue
- Website
http://www.ukipme.com/mag_traffic.htm

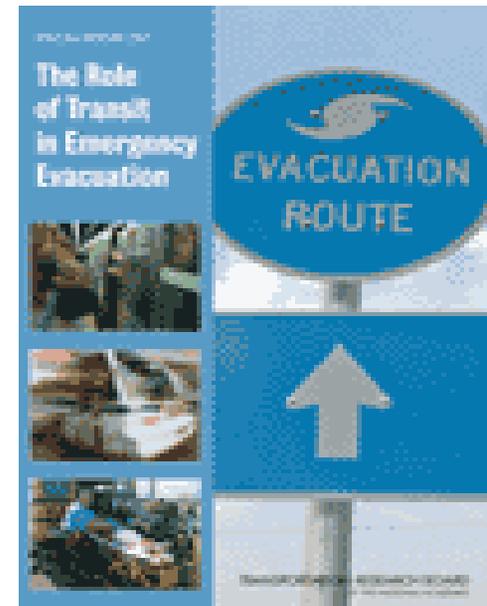


Evacuation: On-Line Training

- **Objective:** Planning level education tool which brings all stakeholders together in a cooperative effort using an all hazards approach to address emergency evacuations.
 - These Elements among others are included in the training
 - Incident Command System/National Incident Management System and the need to be NIMS compliant
 - Special Needs
 - Pets
 - Host/Receiving Jurisdictions (States/Counties)
-

Transportation Research Board

- **The Role of Transit in Emergency Evacuation**
- **Communication with Vulnerable Populations: A Transportation and Emergency Management Toolkit**



Tools for Practitioners

- **Evacuation Primers**
 - **Traffic Management Tactics**
 - **Checklists (phase based)**
 - **Explains roles of Key Stakeholders**
 - **Tabletop Exercise Instructions for Planned Events and Unplanned Incidents/ Emergencies**
 - **General Guidelines for Conducting Table Exercises**
 - **Explains Roles and Responsibilities**
-

Best Practices: Preparation and Activation

- **Coordination for Emergency Preparedness**
 - Safeguard Iowa Partnership
 - Chicago's Building and Managers Association (BOMA)
 - Texas's Point-to-Point Shelter Designation
 - **Fuel Equipment and Supplies**
 - Houston's Fuel Availability for Transit Agencies
-

Best Practices:

Preparation and Activation

- **Public Information and Education**
 - **Chicago's Text Alert to the Public**
 - **Los Angeles Police Department's Multilingual Communications**
 - **Gulf States' Public Education on Evacuations**
 - **Mississippi's Accommodation of Families of First Responders**
-

Best Practices:

Preparation and Activation

- **Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)**
 - Illinois DOT's Text Alerts
 - Gary-Chicago-Milwaukee's Transportation Management Center's Information
 - Virginia's Mobile Video and Data Collection Units
 - California DOT's (Caltrans) Regional Integration of ITS
 - Virginia's Pre-positioning of ITS Resources
-

Best Practices: Response

- **Coordination for Emergency Response**

- Florida's Multi-disciplined Evacuation Coordination Team

- **Communications Systems Use and Coordination**

- 511 Systems to Provide Emergency Information
 - Chicago's Transit Alert Network (TAN)
 - Statewide Agency Radio System (STARS)
-

Best Practices: Response

- **Information Sharing**
 - Caltrans' Media Monitoring
 - **Emergency Operations Center Practices**
 - Florida's Logistics Center
 - Florida's Site Emergency Operations Center
-

Best Practices: Response

- **Emergency Traffic Management and Evacuations**
 - Chicago's Assembly and Transfer Centers
 - **Personnel and Resource Management**
 - Iowa's Incident Management Teams
 - Virginia's use of Tiger Teams
 - Common Credentialing
-

Best Practices: Re-entry and Return to Readiness

■ Emergency Documentation

- Illinois' Debris Removal
- Mississippi's Damage Assessment
- Virginia's Damage Documentation

■ Public Information

- Florida's Multiple Means of Communications
-

Federal Transit Administration Office of Civil Rights

- **University of New Orleans (UNO)**
 - **Mid-Ohio Regional Planning
Commission (MORPC)**
 - **Arlington County**
-

Univ. of New Orleans (UNO)

- **National Study on Carless and Special Needs Evacuation Planning: A Literature Review**
 - <http://planning.uno.edu/docs/CarlessEvacuationPlanning.pdf>
 - ***National Study on Carless and Special Needs Evacuation Planning: Government and Non-Profit Focus Group Results***
 - http://planning.uno.edu/docs/Focus_Group_Final_Report.pdf
 - ***National Study on Carless and Special Needs Evacuation Planning: Case Studies***
 - <http://planning.uno.edu/docs/CASE%20STUDY%20March%2018th.pdf>
-

University of New Orleans

■ **Current Activities - Guidebook**

- Focus is on evacuating vulnerable populations who for various reasons have limited mobility and therefore require special support before, during and after the emergency event.
 - A community's ability to provide such practical support to vulnerable people during their time of greatest need is a true test of the community's skill and compassion.
-

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

Regional Assisted Evacuation Plan

- **Work to date:**
 - Created a steering committee and held a kickoff meeting with the project team and steering committee
 - Compiled existing evacuation plans to analyze existing gaps in planning among counties (and other jurisdictions)
 - Established an outreach plan outline listing the outreach activities and audiences over the course of the plan
 - Reached out to the EMA, planning and health agencies in all counties to engage them in the project
-

Arlington County, Virginia

- **Goals for this first year of funding are to:**
 - Integrate Safety Net system with at least two integrated human service transportation databases.
 - Link Arlington ALERT communication system with Safety Net system for evacuation information dissemination.
 - Conduct workshops and community meetings through Arlington County Office of Emergency Management in collaboration with other community groups, including the Citizen Corps Council to promote stakeholder participation and input.
-

Citizen Corps in Action: Cert and Transportation

- **Washington Metro (WMATA) understands they cannot be in all places at all times.**
 - **WMATA also recognizes that trained citizens could make a life or death difference in a disaster in the transit system.**
 - **Partnered with area CERTs in 2003 to offer rail safety training to CERT-trained citizens.**
 - **To-date, more than 100 CERT members completed Metro Citizen Corps training in Arlington County alone.**
-

Contact Information

- Questions?
 - Thank you.
 - Laurel Radow
 - Laurel.Radow@dot.gov
 - **202/366-2855**
 - **Publication requests – ETO@dot.gov**
-