



SOUTH FLORIDA LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

TRAINING SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, November 17, 2011 at 1:00 p.m.

**South Florida Regional Planning Council
Hollywood, Florida**

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order by Manny Cela at 1:12 pm.

2. Introductions

In attendance were Bob Christensen, George Colson, Training Subcommittee Chair Mike DiGiovanni, Vice Chair Gary Koen, Nick Kontax, Ray McDonald, Jose Tovar and Manny Cela. Also in attendance were Sparky Thomson and Sharon Denton-Gow.

3. Training Courses Offered Last Year in the District

Manny Cela distributed a handout listing all training courses offered by the South Florida LEPC over the last nine years. Mr. Cela pointed out the increase in students from 277 last year to nearly 400 this year. An additional 132 persons were also trained in six non-LEPC funded classes.

Mr. Cela went on to explain the process followed in South Florida to select training courses each year. Initially, an email blast is sent to all members, our training notification list and other interested parties inviting all to attend a Training Subcommittee Meeting. For those unable to attend in person, they can forward their training recommendations directly to Mr. Cela. At the meeting, all recommendations are discussed and a Training Package of recommended courses voted on for submission to the LEPC at its next full meeting.

4. Training Recommendations

Several suggestions were submitted for discussion, either via email or during this meeting. These include: HAZWOPER, Chemical Compatibility and Storage, ToxMedic, HazMat Operations (the next step up from HazMat Awareness), Wildland/Urban Interface, Chemical Suicide Response and HazMatIQ.



5. **Training Needs in Miami-Dade, Broward and Monroe Counties**

The participants engaged in a long discussion regarding what constituted “HazMat Operations” or “Enhanced HazMat Awareness” vs. standard HazMat Awareness. As the standard class has already been offered in the Keys the last three years, a request was made to offer the next level up class. Some wanted to add Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP), though Mr. Cela indicated that was tried a year ago and FDEM staff rejected the module as not consistent with DOT/HMEP guidelines.

In an effort to include Monroe County hospitals, Sharon Denton-Gow and George Colson agreed to discuss our training during their next conference call with the hospitals and report back. Jose Tovar indicated an interest in bringing DOT Hazardous Materials Training to his agency. It appeared that their needs centered on identification, classification, labeling, marking, placarding, packaging, etc., which may be satisfied via HazMat Awareness or HAZWOPER classes. Mike DiGiovanni indicated his agency was very interested in the Chemical Suicide Response class for their deputies and should be able to provide the necessary number of students.

6. **Additional Comments**

The group also discussed HazMatIQ, which, although a very expensive class, is highly sought by our eight regional hazmat teams. The consensus favored offering the course once again.

7. **Subcommittee Recommendations**

A motion was made to recommend to the Committee a Training Package for FY1112 that includes Chemical Compatibility and Storage, “Enhanced” HazMat Awareness, Chemical Suicide Response, HAZWOPER and HazMatIQ. Additional classes may be added pending some inquiries. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

8. **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm.