

CORE
Citywide Emergency Response
Functional Exercise

Saturday, April 25, 2015

After Action Report

Published: December 2015



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to the following individuals whose enthusiasm and dedication to emergency preparedness helped to make the CORE Citywide Emergency Response Functional Exercise a successful event:

Oakland City Council Members & Staff

Libby Schaaf, Mayor
Dan Kalb, District 1
Patricia Kernighan, District 2
Lynette Gibson McElhaney, District 3
Libby Schaaf, District 4
Noel Gallo, District 5
Desley Brooks, District 6
Larry Reid, District 7
Rebecca Kaplan, At Large

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Darin White, Deputy Fire Chief
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Oakland Fire Department, Emergency Management Services Division

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Dena Gunning, CORE Program
Coordinator
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Oakland Amateur Radio Communications Planning Team

ARES/RACES/ORCA

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ARES Coordinator – N6SSB
David Otey – WB6NER
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Josh Kaplan – KK6PNS1)
Dena Gunning, EMSD liaison – KF6KOU

Participating ORCA Amateur Radio

Operators

Robert KG6IUE	Carole KJ6NGN
Tom KG6MAC	Robert K6KJR
Michael KB6MP	Mischelle KK6QPZ
Mike KB9EWP	Albert KG6VMA
Roland KI6IJF	Gil KJ6HKD
Joe KJ6NGT	Vicky KG6DXR

CORE would like to extend a special thank you to all of the neighborhood groups, their leaders and the numerous individual participants who contributed to the success of the 2015 CORE Citywide Exercise. A list of participating CORE Groups can be found in the Executive Summary.



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Executive Summary

On Saturday, April 25, 2015, the City of Oakland Fire Department, Emergency Management Services Division conducted its tenth annual CORE Citywide Emergency Response Exercise. The CORE Citywide Exercise is an opportunity for residents of the Oakland community to test their disaster preparedness. The scenario commenced on Saturday, April 25 at 9:00 a.m. with a simulated 6.4 earthquake on the Hayward fault.

Forty-Seven (47) neighborhood groups representing over 1,000 community members from all over the city participated in this exercise, including City staff, graduates of the CORE training program, individuals with lesser amounts of CORE training, and spontaneous volunteers with no CORE training at all. This exercise demonstrates that many members of the Oakland community take their safety seriously and are putting forth considerable effort to be prepared for emergencies.

The goal of the 2015 CORE Citywide Exercise is to improve understanding of the CORE response team model and the role of each individual within that model immediately following a major disaster.

The objectives of the 2015 CORE Citywide Exercise for participating neighborhood groups are:

1. Demonstrate understanding of how to adapt the neighborhood's response activities starting with a small number of volunteers and growing to a larger number of volunteers emphasizing Neighborhood Command Post Operations.
2. Demonstrate understanding of the distinction between, and documentation of, the triage and treatment processes conducted by Light Search and Rescue and Disaster First Aid teams.
3. Demonstrate effective communication at all levels: with neighborhood response teams; with nearby neighborhood groups; and relaying vital information via the Oakland CORE Neighborhood Situational Awareness EOC Report Form (Appendix C) through participating Amateur Radio Operators at designated Fire Stations.

This year, in addition to the City-Wide Neighborhood Exercise, CORE staff and lead instructors hosted a neighborhood simulation exercise for individuals to gather and have an opportunity to participate as members of a simulated neighborhood in the Citywide Exercise. This event was held at the Oakland Fire Department Training Division located at 250 Victory Court in Oakland.

Individual participants had the opportunity to set up a neighborhood incident command center, reception area, disaster first aid station and an assembly area. Some of the participants were made up with moulage and role played as victims.



Another added component this year was the participation of the Oakland Radio Communications Association (ORCA) amateur radio operators with the Oakland Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) group that staffed six base stations at selected anchor fire stations and the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), and the training division with a total of seventeen amateur radio operators. Neighborhood Incident Commanders collected reports to have communications teams and amateur radio operators relay to the EOC using the CORE to EOC situational awareness form to report a variety of messages.



Amateur Radio Operators Josh K. and Jim D.
Training Division Communications

Oakland firefighters were scheduled to visit fourteen CORE neighborhood groups that registered for the exercise, to the extent possible given available staff and calls for emergency services on the morning of the exercise. Upon arrival, the Neighborhood Incident Commander was expected to provide the firefighters with a summary of critical issues in the neighborhood requiring professional assistance. This simulates what the Neighborhood Incident Commander would be expected to do upon firefighters' arrival on the scene in a real disaster.

The exercise objectives for participating neighborhood groups included:

- Command Post Operations
- Disaster First Aid Station Procedures
- Communicate effectively at all levels: within the neighborhood, with nearby neighborhood groups and relay situational awareness reports by way of ORCA amateur radio operators staffed at six participating anchor fire stations to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Extensive, detailed feedback was received from participants.

Highlights from the feedback include:

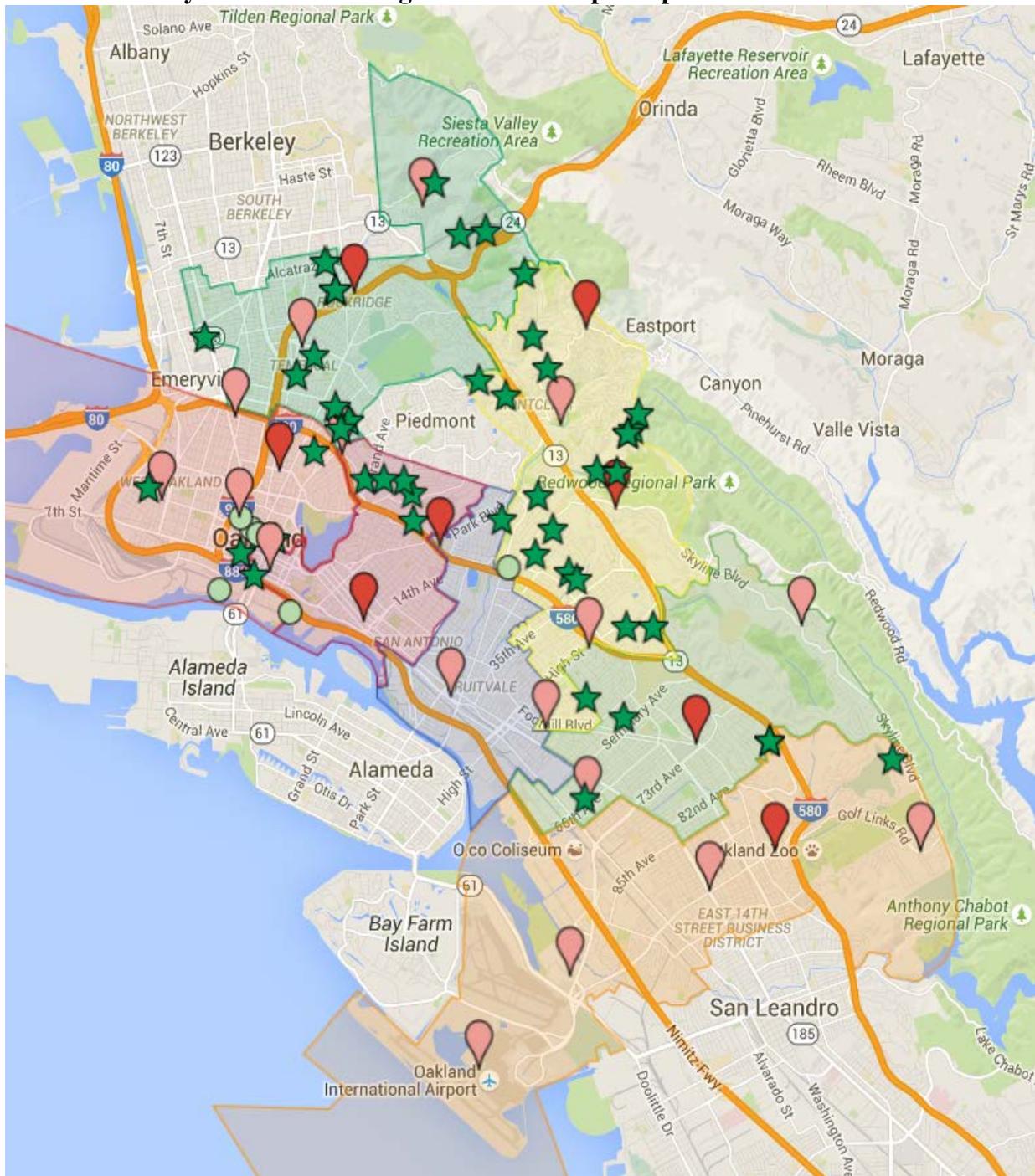
- CORE exercise related materials and training were useful assets for group leaders.
- Exercise publicity was better this year.
- The exercise provided valuable training for neighborhoods.
- Some groups used the exercise scenarios from the planners and liked that the exercise was broad enough to allow for customization.

Suggested Actions

- Want to know where other existing CORE groups are located

The annual exercise continues to provide unique opportunities for neighborhood groups and individuals to demonstrate and build on their preparedness and response skills. It is the hope of the Emergency Management Services Division that CORE training levels will remain high, and that participation in future annual exercises will continue to grow.

CORE 2015 Citywide Exercise Neighborhood Groups Map



MAP KEY

-  CORE Neighborhood Groups
-  Anchor Fire Stations
-  Fire Stations
-  Fire Admin/Training Division
-  District 7
-  District 6
-  District 1
-  District 3
-  District 5
-  District 4
-  District 2

List of Participating 2015 CORE Neighborhood Groups

CORE Neighborhood Group	Council District
Temescal NCEE	1
Upper Alvarado	1
One Kelton Court HOA	1
Regent Street CORE	1
Temescal CORE	1
Piedmont Avenue	1
Hiller Highlands IV	1
Golden Gate 1	1
Chabot CORE	1
Parkwoods HOA	1
Rio Vista Ave	1
Lower Calmar CORE	2
Lower Lakeshore	2
Oakland Chinatown	2
Fountain Estates	2
Elwood Neighborhood	2
Warfield (Joined Lower Lakeshore)	2
Cluster D - Lakeshore HOA	2
Swan's Market Co-Housing	3
West Oakland Community	3
Harrioak	3
Burlington Street	4
Harbord/Lane/Marr	4
Laguna Hearst Madeline Neighbors	4
MASH	4
Montclair CABS	4
Montclair CPW	4
Moongate Skyline Group	4
Oakview Drive	4
Redwood Ridge Neighborhood	4
Thornhill Court Irregulars	4
Davenport Neighborhood Watch	4
Top of Broadway Terrace	4
Melville Waldeck	4

Castle Courts Association	4
California Laurel	4
Fairview Park	4
Larry Ln./Mastlands (LAMASNA)	4
Benevides/El Centro	5
Lower King Estates	6
Palo Vista Apartment	6
5801 Picardy Drive	6
Maxwell Park	6
Sequoyah Heights	7

SECTION I – EXERCISE PLANNING

A. Pre-Exercise Activities

The exercise planning process began in August 2014 with the CORE Citywide Exercise Planning Team (CCEPT) volunteers, Oakland Radio Communications Association (ORCA) and Oakland EMSD staff. CCEPT volunteers, ORCA amateur radio operators and Oakland EMSD staff planned details of the exercise, including identifying the exercise objectives, scenario, event outreach, recruiting strategies, trainings, meetings, and other exercise materials.

The 2015 Citywide Exercise Plan was published and shared with CORE members in January 2015. The Citywide Exercise Plan supplements the information in the Neighborhood Guide (a general information guide covering many aspects of neighborhood exercise activity for use throughout the year). The Citywide Exercise Plan was designed to assist CORE Neighborhood Groups with specific 2015 planning steps. The plan included suggested activities to meet each objective unique to the neighborhood group's proficiency level. To enhance the participants' ability to meet the objectives, EMSD staff and volunteer CORE instructors delivered a series of CORE exercise related workshops that included: Command Post Operations, Disaster First Aid and Communications in the months preceding the Citywide Exercise. A special Citywide Exercise Skills Workshop was held on March 28, 2015 to help prepare participants for the simulated exercise in April. The workshop provided volunteers with hands-on two-way radio practice, classroom and hands-on refresher training in Disaster First Aid and other exercise specific topics. The workshops were designed to provide training directly related to the objectives of the exercise and provided ample opportunity for Q&A on the 2015 Exercise Plan.

The official Exercise Plan, recruitment flyers, neighborhood incident signs, sample forms, as well as the Neighborhood Exercise Guide were posted on the CORE website in December 2014.

Registration for unaffiliated individuals participating in the simulated neighborhood event was handled through the online CORE class registration system.

The Citywide Exercise was advertised in mass emails, flyers, posters, handouts and on the official CORE website, www.oaklandcore.com. The event was promoted in public and neighborhood-level CORE classes, advanced training workshops. Posters were placed in businesses, all libraries and recreation centers, colleges and businesses throughout Oakland. Participants and volunteers were recruited from CORE and the Oakland Radio Communication Association (ORCA).

EMSD staff worked with the OFD Operations Division to coordinate use of selected Oakland fire stations by ORCA amateur radio operators during the exercise, and planned visits from several fire engine companies to participating neighborhoods.

Notices and reminders were sent out with the weekly tip to CORE membership, program graduates, CORE group leaders, volunteers and subscribers to CORE emergency preparedness via govdelivery.

B. Exercise Purpose, Goal and Objectives

The purpose of the exercise is to provide an opportunity for CORE-trained volunteers to practice disaster response activities and enhance the skills associated with operating a neighborhood level disaster response organization. Participants who are not CORE trained have an opportunity to become more familiar with disaster preparedness principles.

The overall goal of the 2015 CORE Citywide Exercise was to improve the neighborhood's capabilities to respond and to communicate during times of disaster.

The objectives of the 2015 CORE Citywide Exercise for participating neighborhood groups were:

1. Demonstrate understanding of how to adapt the neighborhood's response activities starting with a small number of volunteers and growing to a larger number of volunteers emphasizing Neighborhood Command Post Operations.
2. Demonstrate understanding of the distinction between, and documentation of, the triage and treatment processes conducted by Light Search and Rescue and Disaster First Aid teams.
3. Demonstrate effective communication at all levels: with neighborhood response teams; with nearby neighborhood groups; and relaying vital information via the Oakland CORE Neighborhood Situational Awareness EOC Report Form (Appendix C) through participating Amateur Radio Operators at designated Fire Stations. Each neighborhood group determined which of the exercise objectives they would attempt. They could expand the exercise to include additional response activities, or scale back and practice fewer objectives. Table top exercises were an option for smaller or less skilled groups.



CORE Search and Rescue in Action!



CORE Disaster First Aid Station





CORE Simulated Neighborhood Incident Command Center



The objectives for individuals not part of an organized neighborhood were:

1. Connect with neighbors to promote starting your own CORE Neighborhood group; OR

2. Individual participants participated in a Simulated Neighborhood Drill facilitated by CORE and the Oakland Fire Department at the Oakland Fire Department Training Division. This drill also counted for CORE training recertification.

3. For Individual Preparedness, make it a day to improve personal disaster preparedness. Have a Plan, Build a Kit, Get Involved.

Any of these objectives improve personal disaster preparedness.

Individual participants also volunteered as Station Monitors, Safety Officers, Moulage Artists or role-played as victims.



**CORE Volunteers
Role play as Victims**

SECTION II – ARTIFICIALITIES AND ASSUMPTIONS

- It is likely that the 911 system will be overwhelmed during the initial hours (perhaps even days) during an event of this magnitude. For the purposes of this exercise we are operating under the assumption that the 911 system is unavailable. Lack of 911 availability activates CORE group response.
- This was a functional exercise, not a full-scale exercise. No emergency response agencies or hospitals participated in the exercise.
- Exercise time is real time from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- Weather for the exercise is the actual weather occurring on April 25, 2015 .A full scenario and pre-scripted scenario updates are located in Appendix A. The Neighborhood Incident Commander (or other designated person) read the scenario and the scenario updates at the times indicated to guide the flow of the exercise.
- Neighborhood Incident Signs (were made available for download from the CORE web site www.oaklandcore.com to be posted throughout participating neighborhoods to simulate individual incidents requiring emergency response during the course of the exercise.
- **"Stop Exercise"** is the phrase used to stop the exercise should a real emergency, injury, or safety hazard occur. The exercise may be stopped by the Neighborhood Incident Commander, the Safety Officer or any participant who observes a real emergency situation.
- Participating groups focus was on the primary exercise objectives outlined in the Exercise Plan. Groups are encouraged to modify their objectives as necessary based on their size, level of experience and geographic location of their neighborhood.

SECTION III – EXERCISE SCENARIO AND PRE-SCRIPTED UPDATES

The Neighborhood Incident Commander (or other designated person will:

- Read the scenario aloud on April 25, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. Communications Team Leader read the radio broadcast portions.
- Read the scenario updates at the specified times indicated to guide the flow of the exercise.

9:00 a.m. Scenario

A 6.9 earthquake occurred just a few minutes ago on the Rodgers Creek and northern Hayward Faults near Richmond. Strong shaking occurred throughout the Bay Area and as far away as Fairfield.

Many trees have been damaged or knocked down, blocking roads and creating major access problems for first responders.

Electricity is out in most areas of Oakland. There are many downed power lines. Sporadic, small natural gas pipeline leaks are a hazard in many areas. Some water and sewer distribution lines have broken, disrupting service in those areas.

Landline telephone and internet service is unavailable throughout the East Bay. Cell phones may or may not work depending on which wireless providers' cell towers have been damaged. The 9-1-1 system is overwhelmed.

Radio broadcast

This is breaking news on KCBS 740. We are covering the impact of the earthquake that occurred at 8:59 a.m. in the Bay Area.

Based on calls from listeners and social media reports, there is major damage around the Bay Area region and particularly in Richmond, Berkeley, and Oakland. There are numerous reports of injuries, some of them serious.

CalTrans advises that it will take at least 4 days to inspect freeways and overpasses. Bridges and tunnels are closed indefinitely. CalTrans says to use surface streets only. However, there are also some reports of road closures due to fallen trees and power lines.

Our next report will be at the top of the hour.

9:45 a.m. Update

In your neighborhood

Your neighbors may have skills, tools, or supplies your CORE team needs to identify and respond to victims and hazards. Some neighbors may need help but cannot reach the Neighborhood Command Post. Depending on the size of your group, prioritize the following:

- Identify victims and hazards on a neighborhood map.
- Triage victims, treat the "immediate/red" victims prior to the "delayed/yellow" victims, and transport them to your neighborhood Disaster First Aid Station.
- Mitigate hazards in your neighborhood.
- Change out Command Post staff (goal is to have the most people familiar with ICP operations).

10:00 a.m. Update

Radio broadcast:

At KCBS 740, we continue our coverage of the major earthquake on the Hayward and Rodgers Creek faults. There have been several aftershocks in the 4.5 to 5.5 range. Drop, cover and hold on whenever you feel an aftershock.

We have reports of major gas leaks and fires in the Richmond area. The Chevron refinery followed emergency shutdown procedures, but there is a large fire at the refinery. Richmond and Hercules residents should follow shelter-in-place procedures. We will update you on this as details come in.

Alameda County hospitals are asking that only severely injured persons come to the hospital at this time. Triage areas are being set up in hospital parking lots until the hospitals can be inspected for damage.

East Bay MUD issued an urgent warning that drinking water may be contaminated. Use bottled water or boil tap water for 20 minutes to purify it for drinking.

Oakland is the first East Bay city to declare an official state of emergency and asks Disaster Service Workers to activate in their CORE neighborhoods, if they have not already done so. The Oakland Emergency Operations Center is accepting CORE neighborhood status reports.

Stay tuned to KCBS for additional official announcements.

In your neighborhood

Check on the location and status of your neighborhood response teams via FRS or GMRS radios, if available. Note the time of check-in, their status, and location on your neighborhood map. If your neighborhood urgently needs items or skills you do not have on hand, communicate with neighboring groups to see if they can help you or if you can help them.

Assume there is conflicting traffic on your neighborhood FRS radio channel. Change the channel used by your neighborhood radio net to your pre-arranged alternate FRS radio channel.

10:30 a.m. Update

In your neighborhood

Earthquake!! Drop, Cover and Hold On!! A major aftershock has occurred in the 6.0 range. Remember to re-check for victims and hazards (i.e., do Damage Assessment) whenever a significant aftershock occurs.

Also check on the safety of your neighborhood response teams. More power lines may be down, more natural gas leaks may have occurred, new fires may have sprung up, and more water mains may have broken.

Change out Command Post staff (goal is to have the most people familiar with NICP operations).

11:00 a.m. Update

Radio broadcast

This is KCBS 740.

Following the major 6.0 aftershock at 10:31, there are reports of several landslides in the East Bay hills, particularly along Highway 13. Unconfirmed reports say several homes have been damaged or destroyed. The status of those homes' occupants, if any, are unknown.

Hospitals again ask that only the most severely injured be taken to the hospital at this time. There is an overwhelming number of people requiring treatment. Oakland's Emergency Operations Center asks CORE neighborhoods to send neighborhood status reports.

In your neighborhood

If you have not already done so, relay the Oakland CORE Neighborhood Situational Awareness EOC Report Form for your neighborhood via Amateur Radio Operators at a designated Fire Station. Use a GMRS radio or send a runner on foot or via bicycle to deliver the Oakland CORE Neighborhood Situational Awareness EOC Report Form to the nearest designated Fire Station.

11:30 a.m. End of Exercise

Gather for a neighborhood debrief/hot wash until 12:00 p.m. designate a team member to complete the Neighborhood Group Debrief/Hot Wash Form and send or fax it to the CORE office or submit it at the CORE Citywide Debriefing after the Citywide Exercise.

SECTION IV – EXERCISE EVALUATION

Immediately after each group concluded their neighborhood exercises, they were asked to conduct a short “hot wash”, or feedback session. Participants shared comments about what went well, what needs improvement and lessons learned, along with recommendations for CORE groups and the CORE Citywide Exercise Planning Team for next year. Forms designed to capture information from the hot washes were submitted to the Emergency Management Services Division. Saturday, April 25, 2015, CORE Group Leaders and representatives from several of the participating groups gathered at Oakland Fire Department Training Division from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. to share their experiences at the official Exercise Debriefing.



Neighborhood Simulation Drill Debriefing

CORE 25th Anniversary Celebration

This year the Debriefing commenced with a special celebration of the CORE Program's 25th Anniversary.

Introductions Ms. Dena Gunning

Remarks and presentations from: Mayor Libby Schaaf, Council President Lynette Gibson McElhaney, Deputy Chief Mark Hoffmann, Deputy Chief Darin White

Recognitions for the CORE Program establishment to Deputy Chief Mark Hoffmann

Assistant Fire Chief Don Parker (Ret.), Mr. Henry Renteria (former Director of OES) and CORE Volunteers, Instructors, CORE staff and OFD Staff

Acknowledgements/Closing Remarks by Deputy Chief Mark Hoffmann followed by the CORE Program Anniversary Celebration and Citywide Exercise debriefing.



Mayor Schaaf declares April 25, 2015 CORE Day

Photo from left to right: Deputy Chief Mark Hoffmann, Mayor Libby Schaaf, Don Parker Retired Assistant Chief, Council President Lynette Gibson McElhaney, Deputy Chief Darin White

CORE 25th Anniversary Celebration



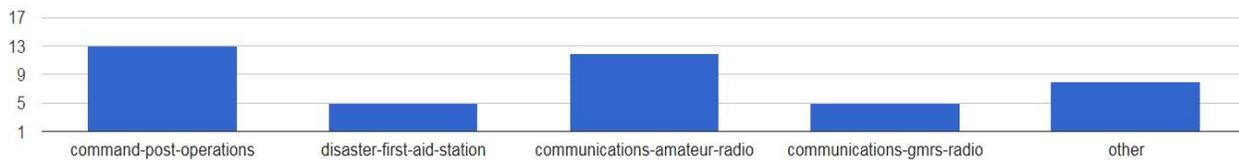
A. CORE Debriefing Feedback

This year CORE neighborhood Group Leaders and participants had the opportunity to provide feedback in several ways:

1. Participation in the Exercise debriefing held at the training division following the exercise and CORE 25th anniversary celebration.
2. Fill out the hot wash form provided in the exercise plan documents.
3. Provide responses and feedback via Speak Up Oakland online survey.

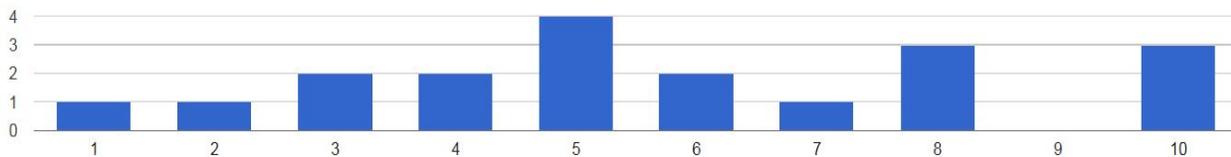
Representatives from over twenty participating groups shared their most significant lessons learned, general comments and recommendations for the 2016 CORE Citywide Exercise in an informal presentation format. A summary of the feedback received is shown below.

19 total respondents Type: multiple select



How many exercises has your neighborhood participated in?

19 total respondents Type: single select



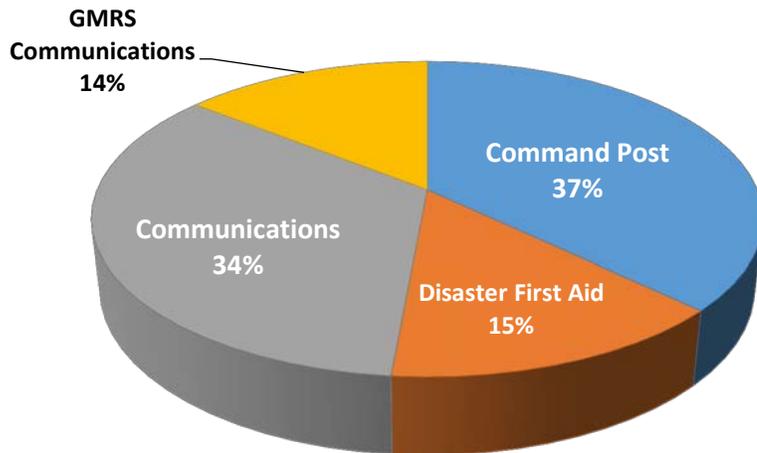
Rate the value of your overall experience

19 total respondents Type: single select



■ excellent
■ good

2015 Citywide Exercise Objectives Neighborhood Participation



D. Oakland Amateur Radio Communications Planning Team Summary

We had a total of 16 RACES Amateur radio operators (AROs), with three located at EOC, WB6NER-David, KE6IUE-Robert and KG6DXR-Vicky. We had two ARO's at the fire training center, KK6PNS-Josh. Located at Station 6 was KJ6NGN-Carol and KJ6DXR Joe. At Station 15, KI6IZQ-Gary, Station 19, the ARO was KB9EWP-Mike. At Station 23, the ARO's were KG6VMA Albert and KK6QPZ-Micshlle, and Station 25 was KG6MAC Tom.

We also had three GMRS contacts from the Montclair CABS Neighborhood to Fire Training Division Communications Station.

A total of 25 emergency messages were handled from neighborhoods to the EOC.

This year for the first time we practiced a concept where a Convergent ARO, (Neighborhood ham) contacted Net Control through the "Resource Net" and was then directed by Net Control to relay Emergency Neighborhood traffic to an anchor fire station via a tactical frequency. **This protocol is possible when we have sufficient ARO's located at the fire houses.**

Sixteen Amateur Radio Operators participated in the exercise and staffed eight facilities that covered seven council districts, they included:

City of Oakland Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

Oakland Fire Department Training Division

Fire Stations:

**6
12
15
19
23
25**

WHAT WORKED WELL

Throughout the exercise twenty situational reports were passed:

- 6 – Emergency
- 7 – Priority
- 4 - Routine
- Embedded hams that worked through the neighborhoods and not part of RACES worked well as this was the first time that was tested.

WHAT NEEDS IMPROVEMENT

- GMRS communications can be strengthened
- CORE neighborhood communications groups would like to connect with one another ahead of the exercise to determine what frequencies/channels everyone is operating on
- Identify more GMRS operators within the neighborhoods

IDEAS AND RECOMMENDATIONS for 2016 CORE Citywide Exercise

- Add the communications component description to the exercise guide

- Staff anchor stations with two operators. One for GMRS/FRS and one for amateur radio so all neighborhoods can relay messages not just those with amateur radio operators



CORE Incident Command Communications Unit



Oakland Firefighter Exercise Support Team

SECTION V – FOLLOW-UP

A. CORE Advisory Task Force Volunteer Feedback

The CORE ATF members who participated in the planning effort offered the following feedback and recommendations for next year's planning team.

WHAT WORKED WELL

- Planning materials
 - Using past years' exercise plan as a template made the update much easier.
- Exercise promotion - the new look of the posters and post cards made a great difference
- Donations from local vendors for the refreshments at the training division were well supported. Providing water, fruit, bagels and cake for the drill and the 25th anniversary celebration event.
- Conducting the debriefing at the training division following the exercise was well received.
- Videoing the debriefing
- Using the SpeakUp Oakland survey tool for neighborhood group leaders allowed for more quantitative data collection

WHAT NEEDS IMPROVEMENT

- Identifying individual skill levels for participants at the simulated neighborhood exercise at OFD Training Division.
- Pair experienced CORE graduates with non-trained participants.
- Utilize the communications team to pass messaging through the simulated anchor fire station using GMRS radios.

IDEAS AND RECOMMENDATIONS for 2016 CORE Citywide Exercise

- Promotion of the exercise to begin January 2016
 - Expand use of all available media venues
- Review the CORE Neighborhood Exercise Guide and the Citywide Exercise Plan for duplication of information and inconsistencies.

B. Corrective Action Plan for 2015 Citywide Exercise

Based on feedback and suggestions from exercise participants, the CORE Citywide Exercise Planning Team identified a Follow-Up Corrective Action Plan to help address what needs improvement. Below are the action items with results.

Action Item	Description	Whom	Result
Support ongoing Group Leader feedback by hosting an appreciation dinner	Invite identified Group Leaders' suggestions about how CORE can enhance their experience and better support their activities	Oakland Fire Department, led by CORE Coordinator and CORE Advisory Task Force	December 2, 2014 Hosted an appreciation dinner. Conducted an online survey to CORE Group Leaders to identify suggestions to be utilized for the 2015 Citywide Exercise.
Formation of CORE Citywide Exercise Planning and Outreach Committee	CORE 2015 Citywide Exercise was the 10 th Anniversary and the 25 th Anniversary of the CORE Program. Formation of an Exercise Planning and Outreach committee was established in August 2014. The CCEPT committee met on a regular basis and developed the exercise plan and supporting documents. Revised the CORE logo to include the establish year and designed new outreach materials to promote the exercise.	CORE staff, CPOC members, ATF Members' and CORE neighborhood group leaders.	Increased neighborhood participation by 52%.
Provide training opportunities tailored to the 2015 Citywide Exercise Objectives	Following identification of the 2015 Citywide Exercise Objectives, training topics were developed to support neighborhood groups' capabilities to meet the exercise goals and objectives.	CORE staff and CORE Advisory Task Force	January – April 2015

C. Conclusion

The April 25, 2015 CORE Citywide Exercise generated excitement and interest among Oakland residents around the subject of emergency preparedness. Forty- Seven (47) CORE neighborhood groups representing over 1,000 community members from all over the city participated in this exercise, including City staff, graduates of the CORE training program, individuals with lesser amounts of CORE training, and spontaneous volunteers with no CORE training at all. Individuals unaffiliated and affiliated with a CORE neighborhood groups participated in the neighborhood exercise simulation drill conducted at the Oakland Fire Department Training Division.

The annual exercise continues to provide unique opportunities for neighborhood groups to demonstrate and build on their preparedness and response skills. It is the hope of the Emergency Management Services Division that CORE training levels will remain high, and that participation in future annual exercises will continue to grow.



Neighborhood Emergency Supply Pack Winners



APPENDICES

A. Glossary of Terms

ARES	Amateur Radio Emergency Service – A nationwide part of the Amateur Radio Relay League, ARES consists of licensed amateur radio operators who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes. ARES members can help in widespread disasters and can operate before and after government declared disaster times.
ATF	CORE Advisory Task Force
CERT	Community Emergency Response Team
CORE	Communities of Oakland Respond to Emergencies
DFA	Disaster First Aid
EMSD	Emergency Management Services Division
EOC	Emergency Operations Center - A facility dedicated for coordinating citywide emergency response activities
FRS	Family Radio Service – A low power FM handheld walkie-talkie that uses 14 dedicated channels and up to 38 “privacy codes”
GMRS	General Mobile Radio Service – A higher power FM handheld walkie-talkie with a wider geographical range for transmission that uses 15 channels, 7 of which are shared with FRS radios and have up to 38 “privacy codes” The FCC requires purchase of a license to use the GMRS radio channels.
NCP	Neighborhood Command Post
NIC	Neighborhood Incident Commander
OFD	Oakland Fire Department
ORCA	Oakland Radio Communication Association – ORCA is Oakland’s amateur radio club originally formed to provide supplemental communication during emergencies. ORCA member interests include new technology, member training, special projects, equipment maintenance and exercises.
RACES	Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service – RACES is a radio communication service, conducted by volunteer licensed amateur radio operators, designed to provide emergency communications to local or state civil-preparedness agencies. RACES operation is authorized by emergency management officials only, and this operation is strictly limited to official civil-preparedness activity in the event of an emergency-communications situation. RACES is administered by local, county and state emergency management agencies, and supported by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).



City of
OAKLAND
California

News from: Oakland Fire Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 25, 2015

City of Oakland 10th Annual CORE Citywide Exercise and 25th Year Anniversary Event

Oakland, CA — On Saturday, April 25, 2015, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, the City of Oakland Fire Department, Emergency Management Services Division will conduct its 10th Annual CORE Citywide Emergency Response Exercise. This event also coincides with the 25th Anniversary of the CORE Program.

Media Contact:

Cathey Eide
510-238-6069
ceide@oaklandnet.com

OR

For the Day of Exercise
Contact:

Dena Gunning
CORE Program Coordinator

(650) 291-4051 mobile

Communities of Oakland Respond to Emergencies (CORE) is among the first community preparedness public education programs in the nation; established in April of 1990 following the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake.

The anniversary celebration takes place following this year's 10th Annual CORE Citywide Exercise at the OFD Training Division, Saturday, April 25, 2015, at 2:00 p.m. Please join us for this noteworthy occasion and celebrate the accomplishments of the CORE Program and its volunteers.

Schedule of the Day

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Exercise simulation
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Exercise debriefing for simulation drill
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	25th Anniversary and Media Event
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	CORE Neighborhood Exercise Debriefing

The Annual CORE Citywide Exercise provides an opportunity for Oakland residents to test their disaster preparedness skills and capabilities at a neighborhood level. On Saturday, April 25th from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, a simulated major earthquake on the Hayward fault will provide over 500 individuals representing neighborhoods throughout Oakland with an opportunity to practice their skills in responding to a major earthquake or other significant disaster. Other exercise participants will include local amateur radio operators, City of Oakland staff and firefighters. Individuals who are not part of an organized CORE neighborhood group will have the opportunity to participate in a simulated exercise at the Oakland Fire Department Training Division located at 250 Victory Court.

“Neighbors may have to rely on each other for at least the first 72 hours of an emergency; therefore, we must constantly grow resident preparedness that starts in the home and expands to neighborhoods. Oaklanders are encouraged to have a plan, know your plan, work your plan, and share your plan. Our

department is here to help and support these efforts so all residents are trained, capable and ready.’ said Fire Chief Teresa Deloach Reed.

The goals of the 2015 Exercise will focus on neighborhood incident command post operations, practicing disaster first aid skills, strengthening coordination between active neighborhood CORE groups, Oakland Radio Communications Association (ORCA), and the City’s Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Interested media should come to the Fire Training Center located at 250 Victory Court in Oakland between the hours of 10:00 am and 11:00 am, for an opportunity to see community members in action.

About CORE

CORE is a free emergency and disaster prevention, preparedness and response training program for individuals, neighborhood groups and community-based organizations in Oakland. CORE teaches self-reliance skills and helps neighborhoods establish response teams to take care of the neighborhood until professional emergency personnel arrive. A major disaster will overwhelm first responders, leaving many community members on their own for the first 72 hours or longer after the emergency. Since its inception in 1990, the CORE program has provided free, community-based training to more than 25,000 residents. Oakland residents who are interested in signing up for free CORE training or who would like help forming CORE groups in their own neighborhoods can contact CORE at (510) 238-6351 or core@oaklandnet.com.

Exercise plans, exercise guides, individual participant activity lists and other educational and information resources are available for download from the CORE website at www.oaklandcore.com.

For more information contact Cathey Eide at (510) 238-6069 or ceide@oaklandnet.com.

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