



June 13, 2023 | Issue 70

# Resilience Report

Brief insights and the latest innovations in emergency management and health security.

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## California's Approach to Emergency Planning: A Spotlight



While FEMA's [Comprehensive Preparedness Guide \(CPG\) 101 Version 3](#) provides guidance from FEMA "on the fundamentals of planning and developing emergency operations plans," it is meant to provide a foundation for SLTT emergency planning across the U.S. This means that many states also publish standards for emergency planning and some identify a specific Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) format or checklist for use by local governments. This includes the State of California, whose [EOP Crosswalk](#) integrates the State's Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), the National Incident Management System (NIMS), and California-specific legislation.

California is one of the largest states in the U.S., hosts a complex hazard environment, and is considered one of the leaders in emergency management across the U.S. This month we spotlight CONSTANT's home state by outlining legislation specific to California's local (County) EOPs. Here's what the State is doing to strengthen the content and planning process for County EOPs and what legislation could be coming your way (if outside of California) as best practices for EOP development continue to evolve.

- **What should you know:** California has had [seven \(7\) Assembly Bills or Senate Bills](#) passed between 2016 and 2022 that have impacted the County EOP submission and review processes as well as the content and planning process. Notably, this includes strengthening integration of access and functional needs (AFN) and cultural competence within a County EOP and setting clearer stipulations for what is reviewed within an EOP, content wise, by the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) in accordance with Government Codes.
- **Why this matters:** Within California, socialization of these requirements, particularly those most recently published amidst COVID-19 response and recovery like [AB 2968](#), [AB 2386](#), [AB 580](#), and [AB 2645](#) is continuing. As your County approaches an EOP update, it is critical that decision-makers understand these legislative requirements and incorporate them accordingly within the update process. This will include actions such as "providing a forum for community engagement in geographically diverse locations to engage with culturally diverse communities" within a jurisdictions as stipulated by [SB 160](#) and including "representatives from the AFN population when updating the emergency plan to integrate AFN needs" as per [AB 2645](#). If contracting the update process out, it is also critical that your jurisdiction hires a

consultant who understands the requirements and has presented a scope of work that includes them accordingly.

- **Resources you should know about:** Cal OES's [Community Planning Unit](#) focuses on emergency planning at the County or Operational Area level. Keep abreast of news, reviews, and Whole Community Planning resources on its page, such as the [EOP Review Process Fact Sheet](#) and the Draft [Planning Best Practices for County Emergency Plans](#).
- **For our non-California readers:** We've shared what California is doing, but it is important to note that understanding your State's legislation and requirements is critical. Seeing other States' legislative requirements can also provide foresight for what may be required in the future in your own State. California's approach is reflective of industry best practices that could eventually impact every State.

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## What's New on Our Site

- CONSTANT published a blog about the [Outlook for the 2023 Atlantic Hurricane Season for Emergency Management](#). The blog integrates lessons learned from Hurricane Ian to provide tips as emergency managers prepare for the peak of the season in upcoming months.

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## In the News



### **New Local Mitigation Planning Handbook**

The updated [Local Mitigation Planning Policy Guide](#) went into effect on April 19, 2023. FEMA has crafted a companion document, the Local Mitigation Planning Handbook, to give advice to local governments who are developing



or updating their LHMPs. The Handbook is organized around the four (4) steps and nine (9) recommended tasks for LHMP development.

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### **Countering Extremism and Active Threats**

DHS published its latest [National Terrorism Advisory System Bulletin](#) on May 24. It describes how the U.S. remains in a heightened threat environment due to lone offenders and small groups motivated by a range of ideological beliefs. A day after the bulletin was published, the White House released the first U.S. National Strategy to Counter Anti-Semitism.

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### **National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility Debuts**

DHS has finished building and commissioning a National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility in Kansas as of last month. It is the only U.S. lab with biosafety level-4 containment that can house large livestock. It took 17 years

and \$1.25B in funding to complete. The facility will be owned by the USDA, and the transfer from DHS to the USDA is in progress.

[Read More](#)

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## The Fun Stuff



### [Honoring Juneteenth](#)

Juneteenth National Independence Day celebrates the end of slavery in the U.S. and became a federal holiday in [2021](#). Learn more about the historical legacy of Juneteenth [here](#).

### [Celebrating Pride Month](#)

June marks Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex Pride Month. Read more about this month from the [White House](#) or ways to celebrate via the [Human Rights Campaign](#).

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## We're Here to Support You

If you need help with disaster preparedness, COVID-19 AARs, or anything in between, send us an email at [donna@constantassociates.com](mailto:donna@constantassociates.com). We are here to help.

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