

Village of Oak Park  
Emergency Operating Plan

## **ANNEX N - HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - HAZARD SPECIFIC ANNEX**

### **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

In light of today's technology, the threat of an emergency involving the release of hazardous materials into the air, water, or land is increasing. In an incident where contamination has occurred, emergency procedures must be implemented as rapidly as possible to ensure the safety of the population.

The purpose of this Annex, from the Mobile Alarm Box Alert System (MABAS) Hazardous Materials SOPs and the Cook County EOP, is to define the roles of various agencies responsible for responding to and coordinating response and recovery efforts in the event of a hazardous materials incident.

This Annex is consistent with the Annex developed by the Cook County Local Emergency Planning Committee as part of the SARA Title III Regulations and MABAS. It is intended that this Annex developed for the Village EOP will dovetail with the countywide plan, thereby ensuring effective coordinated efforts in the event of an incident involving the release of a hazardous material.

The Village does not have a nuclear plant within ten miles from the Village limits and is not required by IEMA to have a nuclear/radiological annex. However, on a daily basis we do have radioactive material being transported through the Village. We have medical and manufacturing locations that store some radioactive material for usage. This material will fall under this hazardous material unit and will be handled as HazMat.

### **SITUATION**

The Village has the potential of experiencing the effects of floods, tornadoes, fuel storage accidents, nuclear fallout, hazardous materials, pipelines, trains, plane, and transportation accidents.

All emergencies/disasters place extraordinary strain on all levels of government. The demand for governmental services expands, while the ability to provide those services, in most cases diminishes.

### **ASSUMPTIONS**

Many MABAS fire departments and hazardous materials teams are available to respond to hazardous materials incidents in the Village. Mutual Aid Agreements (MAA) between departments is already in place and functioning throughout the State of Illinois.

It is assumed that the majority of people will realize the dangers of and the necessity of evacuation or to protect in place. However, residents must be provided a high level of awareness of the need for a safe and timely evacuation, which is realistic, to prevent injury or death to any citizen.

### **CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS, ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES**

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Under Illinois law, the Village government is ultimately responsible for the protection of life and property. The Oak Park Village Manager is also responsible for ensuring that disaster response and recovery operations are effective. Providing for an effective response to a hazardous materials incident is one of those critical functions. Within Oak Park, the Fire Department has been identified as the “lead agency” for coordinating responses to such emergencies.

Additionally, the Fire Department has been identified as the “lead agency” for responding to and mitigating a hazardous materials incident. Therefore, under NIMS, a fire officer from the Oak Park Fire Department will become the “Incident Commander” responsible for directing operations at the scene of the incident. Depending on the severity of the incident, a number of departments may also respond and provide a variety of primary services (i.e., law enforcement, EMS, fire and rescue, public works, etc.), or support services (i.e., shelter and welfare, public health, and mortuary). The provision of these services shall be in accordance with the Oak Park and Cook County EOPs. Additionally, various State and Federal agencies, as well as private agencies and/or organizations may become involved in response and recovery operations. The Fire Chief, or designee, and the Incident Commander with the support of the EOC will coordinate these organizations.

Immediately after an incident occurs, if possible, the owner/operator of the building or vehicle will conduct an initial assessment of the situation. Following this assessment, the owner/operator will classify the incident in accordance with the “Accident Classification System”. The owner/operator will be responsible for notifying the Oak Park Fire Department, and the State Emergency Response Commission in accordance with SARA Title III - Section 304. As soon as practical following the incident, the facility owner/operator will file a written report with the Cook County Emergency Planning Committee and the State Emergency Response Commission, and provide the Oak Park Fire and Police Departments and Village Manager with a copy of this report.

Upon arrival at the incident scene, the Incident Commander will be responsible for initiating a follow-up assessment to determine the resources necessary to manage the situation. Based on this second assessment, the Incident Commander may reclassify the incident to a higher or lower level. MABAS Division XI has a hazmat response team and resources, including a vehicle and trailer that may be activated at this time. Additionally, the Incident Commander will activate a site-specific Incident Command System (ICS). All operating departments having a primary or secondary role in the emergency will be represented in the ICS. The representatives from these departments should be visually identifiable to ensure recognition by Incident Command Staff.

The Incident Commander will also appoint a “Safety Officer” who will be responsible for the overall maintenance of site safety. Specifically, the Safety Officer will be responsible for identifying and evaluating hazards and providing direction to the Incident Commander with respect to the safety of operations for the emergency.

Based on the incident assessment, protective actions maybe recommended. These protective actions are broken into two categories: “Shelter-in-Place” or “Evacuation.” See Evacuation and Mass Care Functional Annex for further information.

Shelter-in-Place means area residents are directed to go indoors and close off outside ventilation systems. Residents would remain indoors until it is determined that it is safe to go outdoors.

Evacuation requires the physical movement of an affected population from an area of danger to one of safety, and requires the commitment of considerable resources and time. Implementation of an evacuation protective action requires the Declaration of a State of Emergency by the Village President of Oak Park, or a Disaster Declaration by the President or the County Board Chairman, or

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both, or their designated alternate(s). If time allows, the Village President or designee will issue the Declaration prior to the commencement of the evacuation; however if time does not permit, the Incident Commander will initiate the evacuation to ensure the preservation of safety and life. The Village President or designee will be notified immediately of the situation and the Declaration issued. Procedures for conducting an evacuation can be found in the Evacuation Functional Annex of this Plan. Public notification of these protective actions will be accomplished through the following methods:

- A. Rapid Notify Mass Communication System
- B. Public Address Systems in Emergency Vehicles
- C. Bullhorns
- D. Door-to-Door Notification
- E. Mass Media (Radio and/or Television)
- F. Cable Television Announcement
- G. Public Address System via Outdoor Warning Siren Speakers.

Activation of an Oak Park Mass Care System capable of temporarily housing the affected population will be accomplished by the Public Health Department with the support of the American Red Cross as specified in the Mass Care Functional Annex of this Plan.

Following the initial response phase in which life safety is the primary concern, a secondary response phase will commence. During this phase, primary considerations will center on detecting the presence of a material that is harmful to the environment, analyzing its intensity and effect, recommending appropriate continued protective actions, and supervising the containment, cleanup, and disposal of the material.

To accomplish these tasks listed, the Oak Park Public Health Department and the Oak Park Public Works Department, with assistance from the Cook County Department of Public Health, assisted by the Illinois EPA, as well as appropriate Federal agencies will be responsible for inspecting and monitoring water supplies and food providers. The Oak Park Public Health Department, Public Works Department and Cook County Highway Departments, assisted by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, Illinois EPA, and appropriate Federal agencies will be responsible for monitoring and controlling the materials entering the sewer systems and waste water treatment facilities, as well as waterways.

Both Illinois EPA and U.S. EPA have the responsibility for assisting local health officials in monitoring, analyzing, and enforcing environmental regulations.

After the incident has been brought under control, the determination to recommend suspension of protective actions will be made by the Incident Commander in cooperation with appropriate governmental and private agencies. The final decision to suspend protective actions, however, will be made by the Village Manager in conjunction with the Incident Commander.

Further operational procedures are confidential and kept in the Oak Park Fire Department and MABAS Division 11 SOPs/SOGs.

### **DIRECTION AND CONTROL**

The Incident Commander for hazardous materials incidents shall be the highest trained member (to the level of the incident) from the Oak Park Fire Department. The Incident Commander will be located at an Incident Command Post determined by the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ).

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Each department with response, support, or coordination responsibilities will have a representative at the Incident Command Post or EOC. The Incident Command Post comprises the Incident Commander and immediate staff and may include other designated officials from Federal, State, local, private-sector, and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs).

The Incident Command Post is typically located at or in the vicinity of the incident site, and is the focus for the conduct of direct, on-scene control of tactical operations. The incident Command Post may perform local EOC-like functions.

The Incident Command Post must also be dynamic in nature and therefore must have flexibility in relocating/maintaining command based on the developing nature of the incident. It may initially be the Oak Park Fire Department Mobile Incident Command Van/Cook County Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Command Vehicle, as applicable or may be moved to the EOC if the location is sufficiently close to the incident. If this is not possible, another building may be used.

The Emergency Operations Center will be activated in accordance with this EOP on a type 3, 2 and 1 Haz Mat incident to coordinate municipal emergency operations. Upon activation of the Oak Park EOC, communications will be established between the Village's EOC, Cook County and IEMA EOC when necessary. In the event that protective actions are implemented, the County's or State's EOC will respond appropriate to coordinate inter-community operations and emergency public information.

### **MAINTENANCE, REVIEW AND UPDATING THIS ANNEX**

It is the responsibility of the Fire Chief for the maintenance, review and update of this Annex.