EMERGENCY RE-ENTRY

Teller County Emergency Operations Plan - Annex E

November 18, 2021

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this Annex is to provide direction to local and state agencies for an event that has caused a large scale evacuation of Teller County and the return of those citizens in an orderly and efficient re-entry process. This Annex is to be used to quickly evaluate and assess the immediate human needs and the operational status of vital community infrastructure; to assist impacted localities with the restoration of essential services and to plan for and implement the return of evacuees to their homes as needed.

SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

Each municipality is responsible for conducting its own rapid needs assessment to determine re-entry restrictions. This assessment will determine if the locality is safe to permit re-entry of residents, property/business owners. However, state and federal assistance may also be available to assist or to conduct such an assessment. State participation will be coordinated by COEM and federal participation by DHS/FEMA. This plan is designed for the return of residents following any all hazard event and may be modified to address other large evacuations as needed.

CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

Return to the Risk Area

Once the threat has passed, county re-entry policy may be based upon one of three (3) scenarios.

1. Incident has passed and there are little or no damage that affect the communities.
2. Effects are isolated to a localized area, operational area, or region of the county with minimal or isolated significant damages.
3. Total devastation with significant infrastructure damages over a wide spread area.

The decision of when to permit residents to return to the affected area will be made cooperatively between the Sheriff, EM, County Administrator, EOC and/or Unified Command. The decision to allow reentry will be based on an overall evaluation of the situation, including the following major factors:

1. Access - Following a major event an aerial survey of the impacted areas should be conducted immediately to identify and prioritize the most seriously damaged areas of the locality. This can determine the level of damage to major routes into the area and help to determine the time needed for debris clearance from those routes.
2. Essential Emergency Services – Emergency Services agencies that have been moved to a safe haven prior to an evacuation need to return back to their service areas.
3. Water Levels – Floodwaters have receded from most of the area.
4. Public Health - Water and sewer services are operating.
5. Subsistence - Food is available or made available in the impacted area.
6. Utilities - Electricity, potable water, sewer services, telephone, and natural gas services are operating or when they are made available in the affected area.
7. Existing services can support the people already in the impacted area as well as an additional influx of people.

Reentry Teams

Once the decision to permit re-entry has been established, law enforcement personnel shall set up checkpoints and roadblocks as needed based upon the level of damage that has occurred. Re-entry can proceed as recommended based upon a Phased Re-entry. This can limit primary access to essential personnel and help to manage the number of people entering the disaster area.

Reentry Phases

Phase 1

Phase 1 allows the re-entry of agencies and groups that play key roles in restoring normal operations in the impacted area following a disaster. Law enforcement personnel should restrict access during this phase to provide for area safety and security. Phase 1 agencies and groups may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Law Enforcement and security agencies (including private security for facilities and residential communities-if applicable):
2. Search and Rescue Responders
3. Facility/Industry Emergency Response Teams
4. Debris clearing and removal crews
5. Infrastructure and Utilities Repair Personnel
6. Official Damage Assessment Teams
7. Other personnel at the direction of the County/Municipal Emergency Operations Center's

Phase 2

Phase 2 allows for the limited re-entry of other critical groups as well as residents and business owners. The local EOC in coordination with public safety personnel should determine when it is safe to begin Phase 2 entry. These groups may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Resident and Business Owners
2. Relief Workers
3. Commodities, Points Of Distribution (POD) Teams
4. Health Agencies
5. Insurance Agents
6. COVOAD if applicable

Phase 3

Phase 3 allows for the re-entry of only those residents and business owners who can prove they live, own, rent, lease or otherwise have a need to be allowed into the affected areas. Entry should still be limited to the public until deemed safe and back to normal day to day operations within the affected area.

If the impacted areas cannot support the return of evacuated residents, temporary housing may be established in non-impacted areas near the disaster area. State and County authorities in accordance with the State Disaster Recovery Plan will make decisions on the location and operation of temporary housing facilities.

In the event of a major disaster declaration, a Disaster Assistance Center (DAC) will be established in or near the affected area. Federal and State officials will work from this facility to support disaster response and recovery operations.

Checkpoints and Routes

Evacuees will return to the area following primary routes. Residents must have proper identification to obtain a ID Badge to enter restricted areas. These credentials will be available at the Disaster Assistance Center through the EOC.

Traffic Control Points (TCPs) will be used to verify residents or workers have a need to re-enter a restricted area and serve as a road block to deny enter of those looking to site see or other undesirable intent. TCPs will be established when and where they are needed according to the Sheriff/EOC/Unified Command. Every effort should be made to ensure that residents return to their homes as soon as safely possible. Law enforcement may limit the flow of returning traffic to better manage the checkpoints.

Identification Procedures

Identification procedures are intended to provide guidance for law enforcement personnel who may be directing access to disaster-impacted localities. Residents should have proper identification, such as a driver's license, voter's registration, utility bills, property tax receipts, etc.; a document that proves residence within the disaster area. Relief workers and business owners should have a company ID card, and/or Dash Pass with agency information to enter an impacted area.

Roadblocks

The strategic location of roadblocks is an important part of the reentry process. Roadblocks can be utilized to seal entry points into devastated areas for two main reasons. Roadblocks can be used to prevent mass entry of the civilian population, which can clog rescue routes for people in the impacted areas who may require medical attention. Roadblocks are a method to help curtail acts of unlawfulness such as looting.

Curfews

Curfews may be initiated as a crime prevention measure depending on the intensity of the disaster and the level of damage sustained. The decision to implement a curfew and the duration rest with the local governing body, but said curfews should be coordinated between appropriate law enforcement agencies and governing bodies to insure continuity among jurisdictions. Curfews may be implemented county wide, regionally or within a municipality depending on the impact of the emergency.

Re-Entry Public Information

The Public Information Officer working with the Sheriff's Office/EOC/Unified Command will provide information to assist residents and businesses to plan for re-entry procedures back into Teller County. Utilizing the communication methods set out in the Public Alert and Warning Guide Annex A, The PIO will issue press releases to media outlets to inform the public of Teller County's re-entry policy.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Emergency Management

1. Activate the Re-Entry Plan.
2. Communicate with municipalities and the State EOC on all re-entry issues.
3. Organize damage assessment teams.
4. Coordinate all other agencies.
5. Deactivate the Re-Entry Plan.

County Sheriff's Office/Police Operations

1. Establish and monitor checkpoints and set up roadblocks, as specified by UC, the County EM and County Public Works.
2. Provide security.
3. Enforce curfews within identified areas, if required.
4. Monitor road conditions and report traffic flows and counts.
5. Conduct aerial surveys of the impacted areas of the City/County.
6. Provide mutual aid to municipal law enforcement through County EOC.

County Public Works

1. Provide signage for re-entry, if needed.
2. Provide resources for debris removal for primary routes.
3. Ensure roads are safe and clear for the type and weights of expected traffic.

County Public Health and Environment Department
Provide guidance on re-entry standard to the following if needed:

1. Asbestosis
2. Household Hazardous Materials
3. Water Quality Standards
4. Potable Drinking Water
5. Safe Clean-up
6. Health Masks
7. Tetanus and First Aid Guidance
8. Food Safety Guidance

Municipal Law Enforcement Agencies

1. Establish and monitor checkpoints and set up roadblocks in their jurisdictions.
2. Provide security within their jurisdictions.
3. Enforce curfews, if required, in their jurisdictions.
4. Take on other duties as assigned.

Colorado State Patrol

1. Monitor traffic conditions on interstate highways and State highways and report to County EOC.
2. Take on other duties as assigned

County Search and Rescue

1. Conduct search and rescue in impacted areas as requested by the Sheriff or the EM.
2. Take on other duties as assigned.

Fire Protection Districts

1. Conduct fire and urban search and rescue operations in impacted areas within their jurisdictions.
2. Act as hazardous material response throughout the county
3. Take on other duties as assigned.

Public Information Officers / Joint Information Center

1. Ensure that the public is informed about the identification required for re-entry.
2. Ensure that the public is notified once re-entry begins.

Community Development Services Department

1. Ensure that the impacted area has been reviewed for Damage Assessment and Recovery Operations.
2. Ensure that the public is notified of any changes/modifications in the building permitting process.

PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

This Annex is the principle source for direction concerning re-entry to Teller County following an event that forced a significant evacuation of citizens from Teller County. Overall coordination of this plan will be administrated by the Teller County Sheriff's Office and the Director of Emergency Management.

ATTACHMENT A RESIDENTIAL ACCESS PASS REGISTRATION

(INCIDENT NAME)

RESIDENTIAL ACCESS PASS REGISTRATION

Address:_____

Names of all household Residents:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Cell Phone #: _____

Temporary Address: _____

Vehicle #1: Make:_____ Model:_____ Color:_____

Plate #:_____ State:_____

Vehicle #2: Make:_____ Model:_____ Color:_____

 Plate #:_____ State:_____

 Vehicle #3: Make:_____ Model:_____ Color:_____

 Plate #:_____ State:_____

Emergency Contact Information:

_____

Pass# _____

Pass# _____

Pass# _____

(INCIDENT NAME)

Teller County Sheriff's Badge

RESIDENTIAL
ACCESS PASS

Pass #