



**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**



Special Meeting of Emergency Services Council

Note: The regular agenda item for Public Comments, Correspondence, and Announcements has been removed, as this is a Special Meeting.

****IN-PERSON WITH REMOTE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AVAILABLE****

January 29, 2026 5:30PM – 7:00PM

**Regional Operations Center
501 Winslow Street, Redwood City CA 94063**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://smcgov.zoom.us/j/98495271126?pwd=Rqdqnl7xk7lqgaCcoaBKbzvdlUir.1>

Meeting ID: 984 9527 1126

Passcode: 6503634790

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

AGENDA

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 1) Roll Call (2 minutes) | Vice Chair |
| 2) Action to Set Agenda and Approve September 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes (2 minutes) | Vice Chair |
| 3) Sheriff’s Office Presentation (15 minutes) | Guest |
| 4) 2026 Super Bowl LX Readiness (10 minutes) | Guest and Staff |
| 5) 2025 SFO Full-Scale Exercise Presentation (15 minutes) | Guest |
| 6) Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement Update (2 minutes) | Director |
| 7) Updated Recommended 2026 Meeting Calendar – VOTE REQUIRED (10 minutes) | Director |
| 8) Recommended 2027 Meeting Calendar – VOTE REQUIRED (10 minutes) | Director |
| 9) Director’s 2026 Outlook (15 minutes) | Director |
| 10) Adjournment | Vice Chair |

Meetings are accessible to people with disabilities. Individuals who need special assistance or a disability-related modification or accommodation (including auxiliary aids or services) to participate in this meeting, or who have a disability and wish to request an alternative format for the agenda, meeting notice, agenda packet or other writings that may be distributed at the meeting, should contact the Agenda Administrator of the Emergency Services Council at least 2 working days before the meeting at (650) 363-4790 and/or DEM_Info@smcgov.org. Notification in advance of the meeting will enable the County to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting and the materials related to it. Attendees to this meeting are reminded that other attendees may be sensitive to various chemical-based products.



**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**



Emergency Services Council Committee Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2025

This meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Council Chair Lisa Gauthier.

I. Roll Call

Atherton	Council Member Hawkins-Manuelian	Not Present
Belmont	Council Member McCune	Present
Brisbane	Council Member Lentz	Present
Burlingame	Council Member Pappajohn	Present
Colma	Council Member Slaughter	Not Present
Daly City	Council Member Sylvester	Present
East Palo Alto	Council Member Barragan	Present
Foster City	Council Member Niederhofer	Present
Half Moon Bay	Council Member Jonsson	Present
Hillsborough	Council Member Chuang	Not Present
Menlo Park	Council Member Combs	Not Present
Millbrae	Council Member Rainaldi	Present
Pacifica	Council Member Boles	Present
Portola Valley	Council Member Flynn	Present
Redwood City	Council Member Eakin	Present
San Bruno	Council Vice Chair Medina	Present
San Carlos	Council Member Dugan	Present
San Mateo	Council Member Newsom	Not Present
South San Francisco	Council Member Flores	Present
Woodside	Council Member Goeld	Present
County of San Mateo	Council Chair Gauthier	Present

Attending County Representatives:

- Deputy County Executive Ely, County Executive’s Office
- Director Dhapodkar, Department of Emergency Management
- Program Services Manager II Passey, Department of Emergency Management
- Clerk of the Committee Jen, Department of Emergency Management
- Secretary of the Committee Haddad, Department of Emergency Management

- II. Public Comments, Correspondence, Announcements
 - No public comment
- III. Action to Set Agenda and Approve June 11, 2025, Meeting Minutes
 - Approved without objection or abstention
- IV. Glenwood Camp Update – CALFIRE Presentation
 - Assistant Chief Norwine presented an update on the Glenwood Fire Center. California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) and San Mateo County are working in partnership to transform the aging Glenwood Boys Ranch into a modern facility capable of housing and supporting CAL FIRE hand crews to benefit both wildfire preparedness and community safety. At the Glenwood Fire Center, CAL FIRE will increase capacity to respond to emergencies, allow crews to perform vital fuel-reduction and vegetation-management projects, and improve fire roads in San Mateo County. Glenwood Fire Center strategically sits in San Mateo County to directly support communities.
 - The lease was executed in August 2025. November 1 is tentatively the target date for completion. Drainage issues pushed back the target date by one month.
 - CAL FIRE has been allotted funding for two peak fire seasons. Fire seasons in California have now been extended to almost a year. (March 15 – December 15).
 - Funding for Glenwood Fire Center covers 80 seasonal firefighters, 6 engineers, 1 Battalion Chief, and 1 Division Chief to oversee the program, in addition to seasonal staff. Approximately 40 people will be on duty daily. CAL FIRE cited retention challenges for permanent crews because of salary and commuting considerations. County Service Area No. 7 (CSA 7) water restrictions were cited as a limiting factor for the facility.
- V. Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement (JPA) Update
 - Director Dhapodkar reported that every city and town in San Mateo County has finalized the process to approve the joint exercise of powers agreement (JPA). Following technical approval, the San Mateo County Department of Emergency Management (SMC EM) will send the JPA to each city and town for signage and as a permanent record. Director Dhapodkar will inform the ESC upon completion of the JPA's final signing by all cities and towns.
- VI. Director's Year in Review
 - Director Dhapodkar described the year as remarkable and thanked the Emergency Services Council (ESC) for supporting SMC EM on alert and warning, community outreach, and all-hazard evacuation planning.
 - Alert and Warning
 - San Mateo County is building capabilities for alert and warning that have been recognized by national and international news. Director Dhapodkar stated that we are working towards a countywide policy on alert and warning, supported by a world-renowned researcher who assisted SMC EM in developing 40 alert and warning templates. The action-oriented templates speak to parts of the brain that are activated during an emergency.
 - SMC EM has prioritized socializing the templates across agencies and providing training and resources to ensure we get alerts and warnings right. This week,

SMC EM is hosting another alert and warning training exercise for operators and policymakers, and the outcomes will be shared with city managers for their sign-off. There is much work to be done on alert and warning in the next year.

- Community Outreach
 - From August 2024 – July 2025, SMC EM hosted 32 outreach events to increase emergency preparedness in the community.
 - Director Dhapodkar stated SMC EM looks at the community as a whole and is meeting communities where they are – in their languages. SMC EM used to be mono-lingual, and now staff speak more than 5 languages to engage with our county effectively. At minimum, SMC EM materials are offered in Spanish, Chinese, and English.
 - SMC EM designed a survey to inform the development of a roadmap that identifies what is needed before, during, and after disasters. The survey will help SMC EM better understand gaps in community preparedness and build bridges.
- Training Exercises
 - From August 2024 – July 2025, SMC EM hosted 17 training exercises with partners, covering a multitude of hazards, including wildfires, weapons of mass destruction, flooding, and earthquake scenarios. Regular training with partners has built capabilities and executive-level critical thinking skills.
 - Director Dhapodkar reported that community-based organizations (CBOs) were included in training exercises this year as SMC EM has prioritized CBO relationship building.
- No public comment.

VII. Recommended 2026 Meeting Calendar

- San Carlos motioned to approve; South San Francisco seconded the motion.
- Motion to approve with 10 Ayes and 6 Nays.

VIII. Alert & Warning Presentation and Discussion

- Dr. Sutton stated that the County of San Mateo’s alert and warning system demonstrates an evidence-based approach and is better than most. Dr. Jeanette Sutton recommended five elements (source, hazard, location, guidance, time) that should be included in alert and warning messages. The five elements are captured in the SMC EM templates available on the county website.
- Dr. Sutton affirmed that SMC EM has built a strong foundation for its alert and warning system, and refining these systems is a continuous improvement process. SMC EM provides office hours and technical assistance, and recently released a training video for the SMC alert system.
- Dr. Sutton presented findings from her 25 years of research on alert and warning messages. Her research found that ineffective, or “bad,” messages are often incomplete, lack sufficient detail, contain jargon that leads to misunderstanding, or fail to specify geographic areas. Other types of bad messages include false alerts, threats irrelevant to individuals, and alerts issued at times when the public cannot take action. Such ineffective messaging erodes public trust in alert and warning systems, leading people to seek information through alternative channels or to ignore future alerts altogether. In some cases, recipients may even disable alert notifications entirely.

Dr. Sutton emphasized that these issues can be addressed with templates, improved training, and stronger policy guidance.

- Dr. Sutton recommended that alert and warning messages be constructed with clear, consistent language and that when the communication language has been opened, it must be closed. Alert and warning systems must inform the public when it is safe to resume and provide guidance on how to return.
- The Woodside Council Member summarized the town's recent experience and lessons learned with the SMC alert during an August 2025 fire. The Council Member encouraged further training and exercises regarding the SMC alert, as it is a critical system for the County. In the case of the August Woodside fire, the Portola Valley and County of San Mateo Council Members recommended a post-incident "all clear" message to close the loop and help the ESC respond to questions.
- The San Carlos Council Member asked if SMC alerts have a filter to prevent messages from being sent with brackets. SMC EM responded that it is working with the vendor to stop messages from being sent with brackets, as part of the lessons learned from the recent Woodside fire.
- As a lesson learned from a recent tsunami warning, the Half Moon Bay Council Member said that after sending an SMC alert, everyone fled to Highway 92 and did not know where to go. Director Dhapodkar shared that SMC EM responded to this public concern by creating a tsunami viewer to provide more information about affected and safe areas, with over 78,000 people visiting the website. To supplement the National Weather Service (NWS) information, SMC EM aims to provide the public with more nuanced information. Some coastal areas have also been identified as temporary evacuation centers in hazard evacuation plans. Following the recent tsunami advisory, SMC EM received no complaints.
- Director Dhapodkar confirmed that the 32 local agencies have sending rights for SMC alerts. Further, she explained that SMC alerts reach subscribers even in areas without cell reception, even when they are connected to Wi-Fi, unlike a wireless emergency alert (WEA), which relies on a connection to a cell tower. Director Dhapodkar underlined the strategy for redundant systems to maximize emergency communication capabilities.
- Public comment from Dena Gunning, Emergency Manager at Central County Fire Department and President of San Mateo County Emergency Managers Association (SMC EMA), encouraged ESC members to foster relationships with local emergency managers who serve as the points of contact for alert and warning training and messaging for jurisdictions. SMC EMA meets bimonthly and is available to answer questions and support public preparedness efforts.
- Public comment from Ann Schneider, former Mayor of Millbrae, who requested an update on pre-COVID efforts to register everyone in the county. She expressed concern that Millbrae was being exposed to chemicals from San Francisco International Airport (SFO) and asked about SMC EM coordination with SFO on alert messages regarding chemical spills and evacuations. Director Dhapodkar responded that SMC EM has explored purchasing resident lists for the county, which would yield 10% more names and require several privacy waivers. In case of emergency, SMC alerts, the Integrated Public Alert & Warning System (IPAWS), TV messages, and radio will publicize alerts. Director Dhapodkar confirmed SMC EM partners with SFO emergency management.

- IX. Report Outs Related to Emergency Services Council
- The South San Francisco Council Member provided that the city police and fire departments of South San Francisco, Redwood City, San Bruno, and the U.S. Coast Guard performed a simulated emergency response rehearsal for a plane crash and expressed interest in a lessons learned briefing. Director Dhapodkar confirmed SMC EM's participation and willingness to provide a briefing.
- X. Adjournment
- The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 pm.



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Dr. Shruti Dhapodkar
Director

County Government Center
501 Winslow Street
Redwood City, CA 94063
(650) 363-4790
www.smcgov.org/dem

Date: January 29, 2026
To: Emergency Services Council (ESC)
Cc: Nicholas Calderon, Deputy County Executive
From: Dr. Shruti Dhapodkar, Director
Subject: Sheriff's Office Presentation

The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office works collaboratively with San Mateo County Emergency Management (SMC EM) to plan, prepare, and respond to emergencies throughout the County.

Through the Emergency Services Bureau (ESB), which is comprised of specialized sworn units and highly skilled volunteer units, the Sheriff's Office plays a key role in coordinating and responding to emergency law enforcement activities, including search and rescue missions, evidence searches, and requests for mutual aid.

For major events, including the upcoming Super Bowl and FIFA World Cup, the Sheriff's Office and SMC EM work together on planning, resource allocation, and operational coordination to ensure a seamless response.

In preparation for the Super Bowl, the Sheriff's Office and SMC EM teams have been meeting, often on a daily basis, to ensure our County is well-resourced and prepared. The Sheriff's Office will activate and staff the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for the Super Bowl. This includes partnering with SMC EM on monitoring throughout the operational period.



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Date: January 29, 2026
To: Emergency Services Council (ESC)
Cc: Nicholas Calderon, Deputy County Executive
From: Dr. Shruti Dhapodkar, Director
Subject: 2026 Super Bowl LX Readiness

Super Bowl LX is scheduled for Sunday, February 8, 2026, at Levi’s Stadium in Santa Clara. The event will generate significant regional impacts across the Bay Area. San Mateo County Emergency Management (SMC EM) is supporting coordinated, multi-jurisdictional public safety response, with focused attention on major associated events in the County. The Super Bowl requires integrated planning among local, regional, state, and federal partners across law enforcement, fire, public health, emergency medical services, public safety dispatch, and emergency management. Preparations also build readiness for future high-profile regional events.

Ongoing meetings and briefings with the Operational Area, adjacent counties, NFL security, and federal partners maintain situational awareness and disciplinary alignment. Three large-scale, consecutive events at the Cow Palace in Daly City from February 6-8, 2026, are expected to draw substantial crowds, increasing demands on traffic, public safety, and emergency response resources.

SMC EM will activate the Emergency Operations Center to support regional efforts and County-specific needs. The operational period runs from February 6–8, 2026, including the pre-event, event day, and post-event phases. On February 8, the EOC will physically activate during designated hours in coordination with the San Mateo County Sheriff’s Office (lead agency). SMC EM will actively track law, fire, and emergency medical services activities, with an emphasis on the Cow Palace vicinity and key transportation corridors, to detect and address emerging needs promptly.

This framework provides a proactive, coordinated response to protect public safety and ensure operational continuity during this high-impact regional event.



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Date: January 29, 2026

To: Emergency Services Council (ESC)

Cc: Nicholas Calderon, Deputy County Executive

From: Dr. Shruti Dhapodkar, Director

Subject: 2025 SFO Full-Scale Exercise Presentation

Improving Preparedness Through Collaborative Training and Exercise

Annually, the San Francisco International Airport (SFO) Emergency Management team conducts a full-scale multi-agency exercise of its emergency plans. In the 2025 exercise, the focus was on responding to an aircraft accident at sea involving more than 100 passengers. This scenario required water rescue, triage, hospital transport, mass-casualty management, patient tracking, and activation of regional mutual aid plans.

The six exercise objectives were:

1. Rescue, account for, and track 100+ passengers in a water accident
2. Establish and maintain Incident/Unified Command within 10 minutes of response, and transfer command as appropriate
3. Execute a coordinated Communications Plan with all responding agencies
4. During the exercise, responding agencies successfully navigate to and from the designated fueling point
5. Airline establishes and staffs the Passenger Gathering Area with support from partners
6. Activate a Friends and Family Reception Center within one hour, utilizing supporting airlines and partners, to provide timely information and resources to family members and friends of affected passengers.

Thanks to incredible support from mutual aid partners and community, more than 500 participants from over 40 agencies and organizations were involved with the event. The SFO Emergency

Management team demonstrated many strengths, especially around strong partnerships and rescue coordination. The team found opportunities for improvement in standardizing equipment and procedures, communication efforts, and response requests.

Airports of SFO's class are required by the FAA to hold a full-scale emergency training exercise at least once every 36 months. However, SFO opts to plan one every year, exceeding the compliance standard as part of their commitment to maintaining the highest level of preparedness and leading the industry in best practices. In addition to fulfilling an FAA requirement, organizing an exercise on this scale provides them with an invaluable opportunity to collaborate with their partner agencies, which provide a great deal of assistance in responding to airport incidents. Operational familiarity, response, and communications are practiced and strengthened before, during, and after every inter-agency exercise.



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Date: January 29, 2026
To: Emergency Services Council (ESC)
Cc: Nicholas Calderon, Deputy County Executive
From: Dr. Shruti Dhapodkar, Director
Subject: Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement Update

On September 19, 2024, the Emergency Services Council voted to approve and formally adopt the Revised and Restated Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement (ESC-JPA MOU).

Subsequently, the city or town council of each Member Agency approved the ESC-JPA MOU, and the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors discussed and unanimously approved the ESC-JPA MOU at its meeting on August 12, 2025.

In the final phase of the ESC-JPA MOU adoption process, SMC Emergency Management facilitated the signature process by sending a DocuSign email to the city or town manager of each Member Agency. This process consolidated each Member Agency's approval documentation into a single record. A complete copy of the ESC-JPA MOU, with all collected signatures, was sent to ESC council members and city or town managers for their records on November 13, 2025, concluding the ESC-JPA MOU update.



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Date: January 29, 2026

To: Emergency Services Council (ESC)

Cc: Nicholas Calderon, Deputy County Executive

From: Dr. Shruti Dhapodkar, Director

Subject: Revised Recommended 2026 Meeting Calendar – VOTE REQUIRED

San Mateo County Emergency Management (SMC EM) is proposing a revised 2026 meeting calendar. The first 2026 ESC meeting will be on Thursday, January 29, 2026, with remaining meetings being held on the 5th Thursdays of 2026.

We recommend all Member Agencies approve the proposed 2026 ESC meeting calendar.

Meeting	Date	Time
Finance Committee Meeting	Monday, April 13, 2026	1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
ESC Meeting	Thursday, April 30, 2026	5:30 PM – 7:00 PM
Finance Committee Meeting	Monday, July 13, 2026	1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
ESC Meeting	Thursday, July 30, 2026	5:30 PM – 7:00 PM
Finance Committee Meeting	Monday, September 21, 2026	1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
ESC Meeting	Thursday, October 29, 2026	5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

2026 Emergency Services Council Calendar

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1/20 ESC Onboarding (3:00PM-4:00PM)						
1/22 Finance Committee (1:00PM-2:00PM)						
1/29 ESC Meeting (5:30PM-7:00PM)						

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4/13 Finance Committee (1:00PM-2:00PM)						
4/30 ESC Meeting (5:30PM-7:00PM)						

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7/13 Finance Committee (1:00PM-2:00PM)						
7/30 ESC Meeting (5:30PM-7:00PM)						

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10/29 ESC Meeting (5:30PM-7:00PM)						

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2026 Holidays

Jan 1	New Year's Day	Mar 31	Cesar Chavez Day	Sept 7	Labor Day	Nov 27	Day After Thanksgiving
Jan 19	Martin Luther King Day	May 25	Memorial Day	Oct 12	Columbus/Indigenous People's Day	Dec 25	Christmas Day
Feb 12	Lincoln's Birthday (Floating Holiday)	Jun 19	Juneteenth	Nov 11	Veterans Day		
Feb 16	President's Day	July 4	Independence Day	Nov 26	Thanksgiving Day		



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Date: January 29, 2026
To: Emergency Services Council (ESC)
Cc: Nicholas Calderon, Deputy County Executive
From: Dr. Shruti Dhapodkar, Director
Subject: Recommended 2027 Meeting Calendar – VOTE REQUIRED

San Mateo County Emergency Management (SMC EM) proposes the following 2027 meeting calendar, maintaining a similar cadence to the 2026 meeting calendar: the first meeting in January, with remaining meetings held on the 5th Thursdays of 2027.

We recommend all Member Agencies approve the proposed 2027 ESC meeting calendar.

Meeting	Date	Time
Finance Committee Meeting	Thursday, January 21, 2027	1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
ESC Meeting	Thursday, January 28, 2027	5:30 PM – 7:00 PM
Finance Committee Meeting	Monday, April 5, 2027	1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
ESC Meeting	Thursday, April 29, 2027	5:30 PM – 7:00 PM
Finance Committee Meeting	Monday, July 12, 2027	1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
ESC Meeting	Thursday, July 29, 2027	5:30 PM – 7:00 PM
Finance Committee Meeting	Monday, September 20, 2027	1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
ESC Meeting	Thursday, September 30, 2027	5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

2027 Emergency Services Council Calendar

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1/21 Finance Committee (1:00PM-2:00PM)						
1/28 ESC Meeting (5:30PM-7:00PM)						

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4/5 Finance Committee (1:00PM-2:00PM)						
4/29 ESC Meeting (5:30PM-7:00PM)						

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7/12 Finance Committee (1:00PM-2:00PM)						
7/29 ESC Meeting (5:30PM-7:00PM)						

August						
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9/20 Finance Committee (1:00PM-2:00PM)						
9/30 ESC Meeting (5:30PM-7:00PM)						

October						
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2026 Holidays	
Jan 1	New Year's Day
Jan 18	Martin Luther King Day
Feb 12	Lincoln's Birthday (Floating Holiday)
Feb 15	President's Day
Mar 31	Cesar Chavez Day
May 31	Memorial Day
Jun 19	Juneteenth
July 4	Independence Day
Sept 6	Labor Day
Oct 11	Columbus/Indigenous People's Day
Nov 11	Veterans Day
Nov 25	Thanksgiving Day
Nov 27	Day After Thanksgiving
Dec 25	Christmas Day



**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT**

Dr. Shruti Dhapodkar
Director

County Government Center
501 Winslow Street
Redwood City, CA 94063
(650) 363-4790
www.smcgov.org/dem

Date: January 29, 2026
To: Emergency Services Council (ESC)
Cc: Nicholas Calderon, Deputy County Executive
From: Dr. Shruti Dhapodkar, Director
Subject: Director's 2026 Outlook

In 2026, San Mateo County Emergency Management (SMC EM) will pursue resilience through focused efforts on community readiness, operational integration, comprehensive planning, training and exercises.

Community readiness efforts will center on community outreach, community-based organization (CBO) collaboration, the formation of community resilience centers (CRCs), and effective public and crisis communication. SMC EM will continue to focus on delivering accessible information to diverse audiences, including non-English speaking communities.

SMC EM will continue to deliver alert and warning training, tools and technical support to operational area partners and regular testing will ensure reliability during emergencies. These improvements will provide residents with timely information to support safety and decision-making.

We will finalize an updated Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) that includes all 20 cities and towns, the unincorporated areas of the county, and 17 special districts. The Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) will be finalized and include tools to strengthen coordinated response. SMC EM will deliver an all-hazards evacuation planning framework to help operational area partners safely and efficiently move residents at risk during emergencies. Exercises will test plans and personnel and help identify improvements, while lessons implemented from past incidents will inform ongoing development.

Success requires close collaboration between jurisdictions and partners. We will continue to bring law enforcement, fire, EMS, Health, Public Works, Public Safety Dispatch and other critical partners together, and we will convene each community's emergency management leaders quarterly to reinforce the importance of interdisciplinary preparedness and response across San Mateo County.



Special Emergency Services Council Meeting

January 29, 2026





Agenda

- 01 Roll Call
Vice Chair
- 02 Action to Set Agenda and Approve
September 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes
Vice Chair
- 03 Sheriff's Office Presentation
Guest
- 04 2026 Super Bowl LX Readiness
Guest & Staff
- 05 2025 SFO Full-Scale Exercise
Presentation
Guest
- 06 Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement
Update
Director
- 07 Updated Recommended 2026 Meeting
Calendar – VOTE REQUIRED
Director
- 08 Recommended 2027 Meeting Calendar
– VOTE REQUIRED
Director
- 09 Director's 2026 Outlook
Director
- 10 Adjournment
Vice Chair



01

Roll Call

Vice Chair



02

Action to Set Agenda and Approve September 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Vice Chair



03

Sheriff's Office Presentation

Sheriff Binder





SAN MATEO COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Plan. Prepare. Respond.
San Mateo County Sheriff's Office
Emergency Services Bureau

Presented by
Sheriff Ken Binder
Lieutenant Will Young

What is the Emergency Services Bureau? (ESB)

The Sheriff's Office Emergency Services Bureau (ESB) is comprised of specialized sworn units and 12 highly skilled volunteer units.

ESB coordinates and responds to emergency law enforcement activities, including search and rescue missions, evidence searches, and requests for mutual aid.

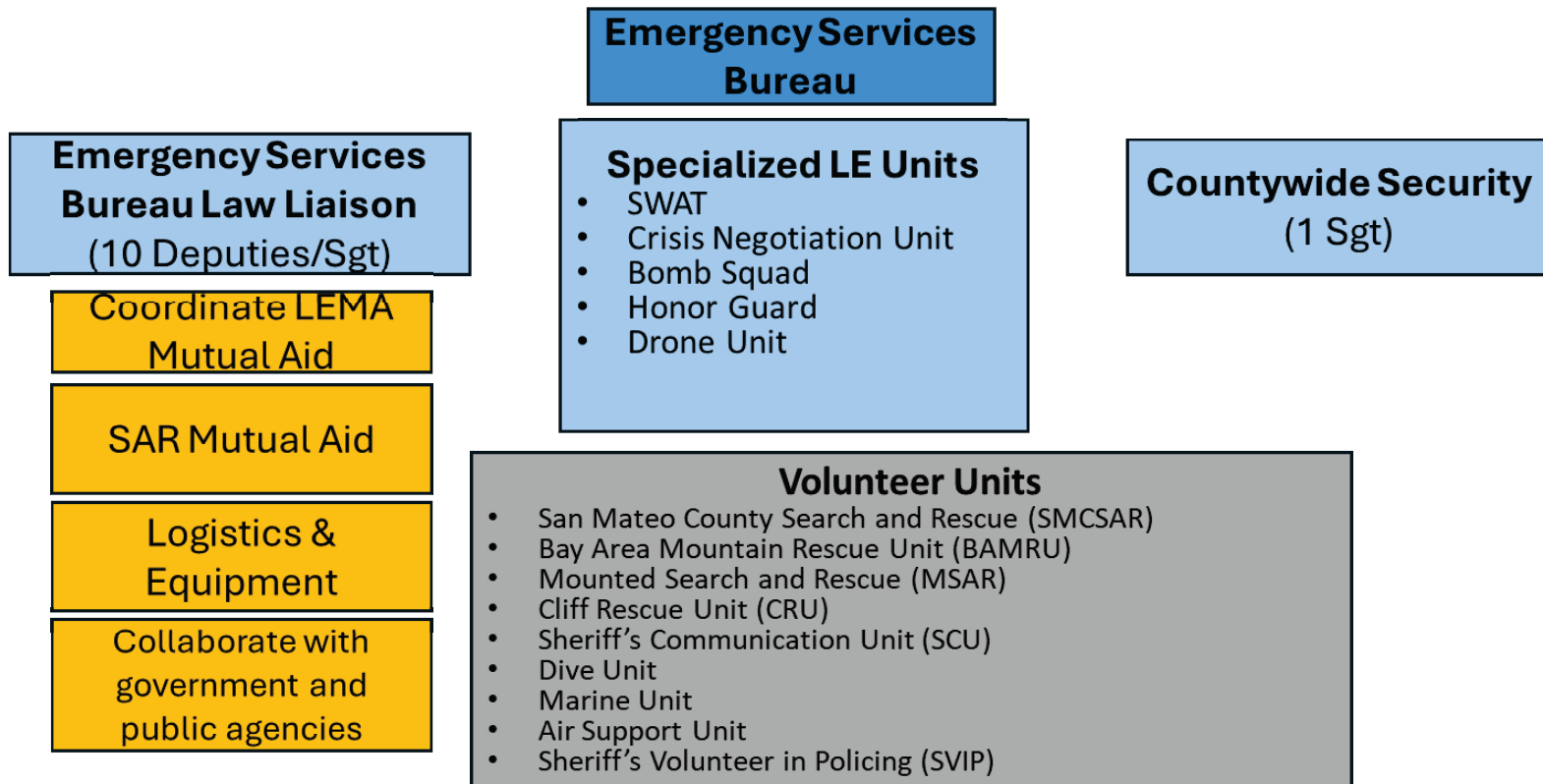
All units are available to respond to mutual aid requests throughout San Mateo County and the State of California on a 24-hour basis.

The goal of the Emergency Services Bureau is to coordinate resources and respond swiftly and safely to requests for assistance to enhance community safety.



ESB Mission & Overview

Safeguard lives and property by coordinating law enforcement resources and equipment to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the effects of disasters and critical incidents.





ESB & Emergency Management Coordination

- ESB works hand-in-hand with the San Mateo County Emergency Management Department before, during and after emergencies
- Coordinate and share operational plans
- Share resources during emergencies
- Elevate and share timely, consistent and accurate preparedness information with the community
 - SMC Alert
 - Weather alerts and emergency messaging
 - Support community events and education opportunities
 - Annual Disaster Preparedness Day



Plan & Prepare: Super Bowl LX and FIFA World Cup

- Coordination with federal, regional and local partners
- Assess local needs and the needs of the event location
- Monitor, activate and staff Emergency Operations Center (EOC) during operational periods
 - Super Bowl: February 1 through February 9
 - FIFA: June 11 through July 1
- Bring in Sheriff's Office resources for larger security footprint focused on mass-transportation needs
- Provide specialty unit support as needed (Bomb Unit, K-9 Unit, Motorcycle Unit, etc.)
- Utilize regional intelligence partners at the Northern California Regional Intelligence Center (NCRIC)
- Work closely with the San Francisco Police Department at the San Francisco International Airport (SFO)



Past Large-Scale Event Coordination & Response

APEC 2023







THANK
YOU!

04

2026 Super Bowl LX Readiness

Lieutenant Young, Sheriff's Office
Nelson Corteway, SMC EM Staff





Super Bowl LX Regional Coordination

San Mateo County Emergency Management has been coordinating extensively for the past year with NFL security teams, federal law enforcement partners, and multi-county stakeholders to ensure seamless operations and public safety throughout the event weekend.

Coordination efforts have included regular briefings in San Jose bringing together multi-discipline teams from across the region, facilitating real-time information sharing and unified command protocols.



Cow Palace Event Operations

The Cow Palace in San Mateo County will host three major off-site Super Bowl events requiring heightened monitoring and coordination. These high-profile gatherings present unique public safety challenges with anticipated surges in attendance, transportation demands, and potential incident volume.

Shaq's Fun House

Friday, February 6 | 8:00 PM – 2:00 AM

Carnival-style music festival featuring Tiësto, T-Pain, and DJ Diesel. Expected large crowds with extended late-night hours.

01

Sports Illustrated The Party

Saturday, February 7 | 9:00 PM

Premium nightlife event with performances by The Chainsmokers and Ludacris. High-profile attendees anticipated.

02

Guy Fieri's Flavortown Tailgate

Sunday, February 8 | 11:30 PM – 3:30 AM

Free family-friendly event immediately preceding kickoff. Potential for high volume traffic and pedestrian flow.

03



SMC Emergency Management Activation

OPERATIONAL PERIODS	EM POSTURE	COORDINATION & MONITORING
<p>Full Operational Period: Feb 6–8</p> <p>Enhanced Watch: Feb 6–7</p> <p>Physical EOC Level III: Feb 8, 0900-2200</p>	<p>Enhanced Watch: Two Duty Officers and a Manager</p> <p>Physical EOC Level III: Supporting Sheriff's Office: ESB, field operations; SMC EM; SamTrans; PIOs.</p>	<p>Staff Embedded: San Jose EOC/RCC</p> <p>Staff Monitoring: FBI Virtual Command Center --Threat monitoring for mass casualty incidents, severe weather, transit disruptions, public safety incidents and active tracking of Law/Fire/EMS call surges.</p>



05

2025 SFO Full-Scale Exercise Presentation

Alice Hsieh,
SFO Emergency Management Coordinator





2025 Full-Scale Exercise Overview

San Mateo County Emergency Services Council
29 January 2026

SFO Emergency Management



14 CFR Part 139 Certification of Airports



Section 139.325: Airport Emergency Plan

Develop and maintain Airport Emergency Plan
Document training for personnel with responsibilities in plan

Class I Airport Operating Certificate

Full-scale airport emergency plan exercise at least triennially

Water Rescue

Response Assignments
Support Inventory
Incident Command



Exercise Scenario



Aircraft in the Water

Narrow-body aircraft makes contact with a drone during takeoff, resulting in a hard landing in San Francisco Bay

The aircraft sustains fuselage damage and the event triggers an on-water rescue response

More than 100 souls onboard, a mix of severely injured to minor non-injured passengers

At the airport, the airline activates local emergency response plans, and TSA and law enforcement conduct a drone investigation

SFO EOC response is simulated



Exercise Objectives



Rescue, account for and track 100+ passengers in a water incident

Aligns to: Mass Search and Rescue Operations, Public Health, Healthcare and EMS

Establish and maintain Incident/Unified Command within 10 minutes of response, transfer command as appropriate

Aligns to: Operational Coordination

Execute coordinated Communications Plan with all responding agencies

Aligns to: Operational Communication

During the exercise, responding agencies successfully navigate to and from the designated fueling point

Aligns to: Logistics and Supply Chain Management

Airline establishes and staffs Passenger Gathering Area (PGA) with support from partners

Aligns to: Operational Coordination

Activate a Friends and Family Reception Center (FRC) within one hour, utilizing supporting airlines and partners, to provide timely information and resources to family members and friends of affected passengers

Aligns to: Operational Coordination

Exercise Support

350+ Volunteers Registered

Airport employees, Bay Area CERTs / NERTs

50 High School Students

Donated by Vacaville High School Medical Science

40+ Responding Agencies

Local fire and police support, State and Federal support, private sector

5 Volunteer Photographers

SFO staff, SFFD staff, volunteers from the community

3 Dogs

SFO Wag Brigade

2 Helicopter Crews

Stanford Life Flight, US Coast Guard Air Station





Photo caption goes here onto two lines as needed, but that should be it, otherwise, we need to do a different treatment for the text





Photo caption goes here onto two lines as needed, but that should be it, otherwise, we need to do a different treatment for the text









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Aligns to: Operational Coordination



Exercise Evaluation – Strengths

- Effective collaboration with mutual aid resources, medical transport providers, hospitals, San Mateo County Health
- Oyster Point Harbor proved to be an ideal patient drop off point
- All passengers were rescued and accounted for
- Incident command and on-scene coordinator established immediately
- Effective water rescue coordination
- On-scene coordinator role
- Interoperability between the airport and local responders demonstrated



Exercise Evaluation – Areas for Improvement

- SFFD and SMC Co Health not aligned– triage tags and procedures not standardized
- Oyster Point drop-off points not identified to responders, docks were inaccessible
- MEDCOM role and other ICS assignments not clearly defined and vests were not worn
- USCG first on scene, SFO MERF not staffed and emergency channel 16 not monitored by SFFD-AD
- USCG SF Sector Command Center temporarily unreachable by landline
- SAR deployment





2025 Full-Scale Exercise Overview

Thank you!

Alice Hsieh
Emergency Management Coordinator, SFO
alice.hsieh@flysfo.com



06

Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement Update

Director Dhapodkar



07

Updated Recommended 2026 Meeting Calendar (VOTE REQUIRED)

Director Dhapodkar



2026 ESC Meeting Calendar

We recommend all Member Agencies approve the proposed revised 2026 ESC meeting calendar.

Meeting	Date	Time
Finance Committee Meeting	Monday, April 13, 2026	1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
ESC Meeting	Thursday, April 30, 2026	5:30 PM – 7:00 PM
Finance Committee Meeting	Monday, July 13, 2026	1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
ESC Meeting	Thursday, July 30, 2026	5:30 PM – 7:00 PM
Finance Committee Meeting	Monday, September 21, 2026	1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
ESC Meeting	Thursday, October 29, 2026	5:30 PM – 7:00 PM



08

Recommended 2027 Meeting Calendar (VOTE REQUIRED)

Director Dhapodkar



2027 ESC Meeting Calendar

We recommend all Member Agencies approve the proposed 2027 ESC meeting calendar.

Meeting	Date	Time
Finance Committee Meeting	Thursday, January 21, 2027	1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
ESC Meeting	Thursday, January 28, 2027	5:30 PM – 7:00 PM
Finance Committee Meeting	Monday, April 5, 2027	1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
ESC Meeting	Thursday, April 29, 2027	5:30 PM – 7:00 PM
Finance Committee Meeting	Monday, July 12, 2027	1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
ESC Meeting	Thursday, July 29, 2027	5:30 PM – 7:00 PM
Finance Committee Meeting	Monday, September 20, 2027	1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
ESC Meeting	Thursday, September 30, 2027	5:30 PM – 7:00 PM



09

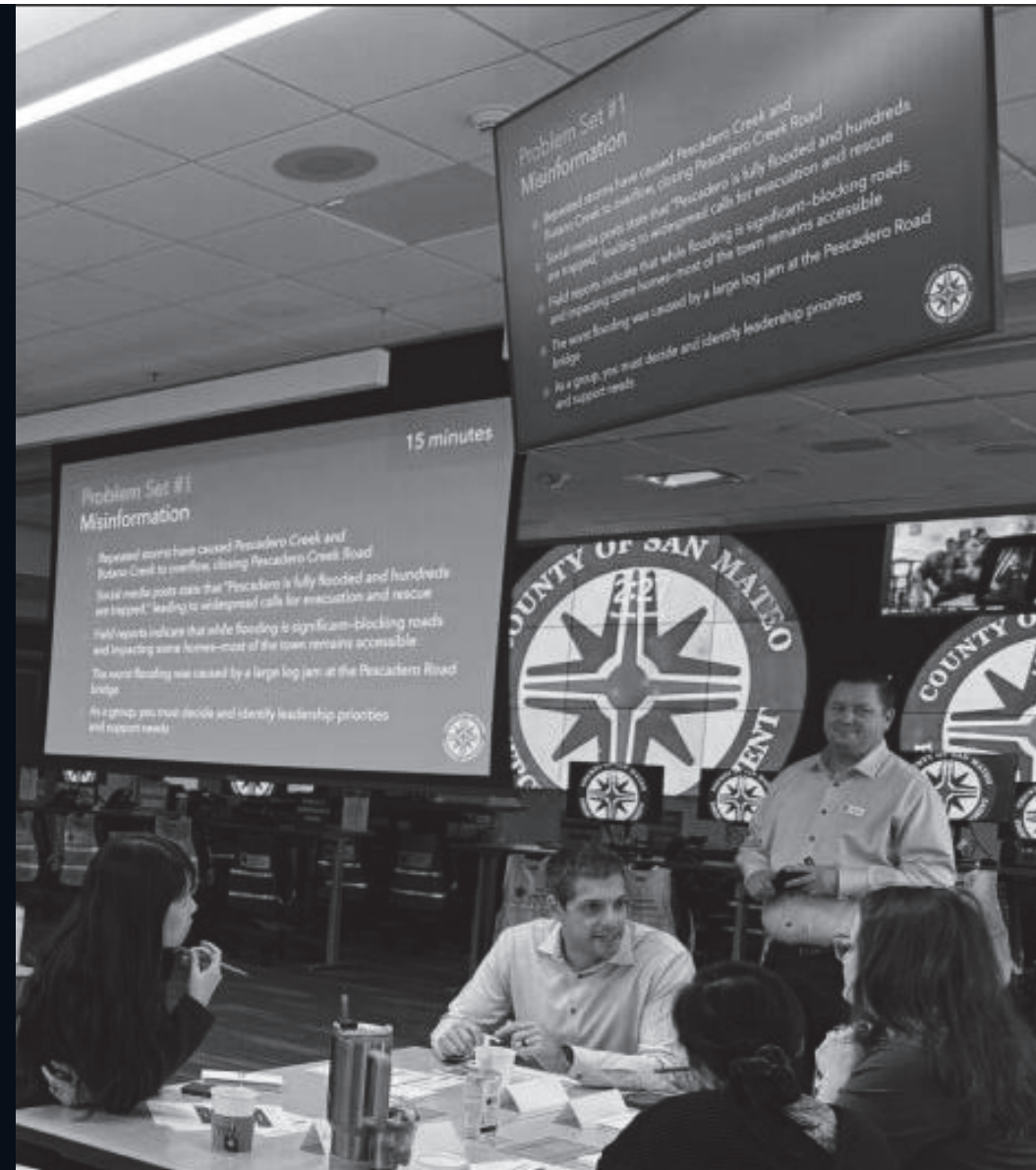
Director's 2026 Outlook

Director Dhapodkar



Our Top Five Emergency Management Challenges

- Multi-Jurisdictional coordination
- Crisis communication consistency
- Public complacency
- Misperceived risk priorities
- Equity gaps in preparedness



How will we champion making
an impact together?



Community Readiness

- Public Information
- Community Outreach
- Community-Based Organization (CBO) Collaboration
- Community Resilience Centers (CRCs)



Planning

- Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)
- Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)
- All-Hazards Evacuation Planning Framework (AHEP)



Training & Exercises

- Alert & Warning
- Trainings
- Exercises



Strategic Plan: Five Commitments by 2030



Comprehensive Planning Excellence

Updating our Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP) to create dynamic playbooks that integrate current risks with proven protocols. We will also develop an Evacuations Plan to establish clear procedures.



Emergency Communication Systems

Standardizing and translating alerts for most common hazards and creating redundant emergency communication and community warning systems. We will develop a Crisis Communications Plan to align our communication efforts with our mission and vision.



Workforce Readiness

Training at least 85% of county employees DSWs and Emergency Operations Center (EOC) staff to enhance readiness.



Training and Operational Integration

Conducting 10 annual trainings and exercises to test our capabilities, strengthen partnerships, and refine our coordinated response. We will also develop just-in-time training for new EOC assignments and refreshers for EOC operators during ongoing



Community Resilience Network

Establishing 13 Community Resilience Centers (CRCs) through local libraries as a trusted touchpoint during emergencies. CRCs will create physical hubs that serve both as daily community anchors and emergency response nodes.



How will you champion
making an impact?



10

Adjournment

Vice Chair





Thank You

