

Continuity of Operation Planning / Continuity of Government Newsletter

Edition No. 10 May 2008

This newsletter is developed to inform employees of the State of Colorado on the efforts being performed to ensure the recovery of critical functions and the safety of employees in the face of man-made, or natural disaster.

Introduction

Welcome to the tenth edition of the COOP/COG newsletter. This newsletter is intended to keep employees informed about this important effort which could affect us all as employees and also residents of Colorado. This newsletter will be produced on a regular basis to show the progress being made and benefits to citizens, employees, and State government itself. Feel free to ask questions and provide feedback as this is a collaborative effort that affects everyone.

COOP Table Top Exercises

The COOP Table Top Exercise period has begun and continues through June. I have booked a few agencies already for their exercise. Please contact me on 303 866 3830 or kent.smiley@state.co.us about scheduling your agencies exercise while the good spots are still available.

COOP Planners Meeting

Earlier this month I held the first group meeting of all Agency and Division COOP Planners. I did not hold one of these earlier because I believed people were at different places with their plans and it would be difficult to present something topical for everyone. Given the response to the session and requests from the attendees, I will be organizing others going forward. The next one will be primarily on the DNC and held in late July based on the schedule of the presenter.

DNC Update

Many of you I am sure are being asked questions of you co-workers about DNC impacts to their work schedules and travel arrangements. At the moment, there isn't a lot of information being released on road closures, RTD schedules, etc. This is normal for such an event and this information will be available during August.

The Main Message

I always think it's important to re-state the message and goal as often as possible. So here it is again in bullet form.

- The immediate focus will be on functions in the Denver Metro area in phase 1, prior to August 2008,
- The goal is to have a workable plan that is understood by those who will use it,
- The review of the plans is to provide some constructive suggestions on how the plan can be improved prior to exercising,
- It is more important for the planner to be comfortable with the plan vs. holding the template format,
- Exercises will be scheduled beginning the second quarter of 2008

- Mitigation of plan assumptions or directions will take place after the exercise as well as mitigation of any processes, practices, equipment, facilities or staffing issues found during the exercises to the extent possible.

For more information

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