

**San Antonio
Office of Emergency Management
and
Disability Access Office**

**DEVELOPING AN EMERGENCY PLAN
FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
SPRING 2018**



Thank you and welcome to our meeting. We are here to discuss developing an emergency plan for people with disabilities. My name is Deborah Scharven and I am the Accessibility Compliance Manager and oversee the City of San Antonio's Disability Access Office. My name is James Mendoza and I am the Assistant Emergency Manager with the San Antonio Office of Emergency Management.



FROM GOOGLE MAPS/COURTESY LOGAN VINCENT



Photo by Alex Zellinski



Image via Getty/Erich Schlegel

Why are we here today? We are here for several reasons. First, 2017 was an active year for emergency situations and natural disasters. We had hurricanes Harvey, Maria and Irma. We had tornadoes in San Antonio and a nearby mass shooting in Sutherland Springs. And we had community members telling us we need more information.



Emergency Plan

An emergency plan is a good action plan to mitigate plan for and coordinate all mitigate the effects of disaster emergency planning should be the emergency

The City is developing an written emergency plan for people with disabilities. It will be released to the public and used by emergency management personnel.



The plan will include all the pieces emergency plans need to include. This means it will cover mitigation or how to lessen the effects of an emergency situation. This could be by purchasing flood insurance. The plan will cover preparedness. How can we as an agency help citizens prepare and what does a citizen need to do to prepare. It will cover response—how the City can save lives during the emergency situation. And the plan will include recovery. How does a person get back to their normal, daily life.



- Phase 1 – Community Engagement
 - February through April
- Phase 2 – Draft and Community Input
 - May through August
- Phase 3 – Second Draft and Community Review
 - September through October
- Phase 4 – Final Draft and Community Review
 - November
- Phase 5 – Emergency Plan Released
 - December 15, 2018

We are currently in the first phase—gathering community input so we can put together what is called a critical issues list to be turned into the City Manager’s office and City Council. The second phase will include meetings with area organizations to get their input on the issues and we will be writing a rough draft and releasing it to the public. We will also hold more community meetings. Then we do this again for a second draft—release it to the public for review. Then we will release a final draft in November for public comment and end up with the FINAL plan released on December 15, 2018.



- Introduction – 15 minutes
- Small Group Discussions - 1 hour 15 minutes
- Questions and Answers - 30 minutes

So how will today go? We will have a short presentation and then there are several questions we need more input on from you. We will break up into small groups to discuss and then we will have time at the end for questions and answers.



- 20 minute time limit
 - 10 minutes for discussion
 - 10 minutes for sharing
- Choose someone to take notes. These notes will be picked up at the end of each round.
- Groups will pick a speaker to share thoughts with larger group

We have 4 questions to discuss and we will take about 20 minutes per question. 10 minutes to discuss in our small groups and 10 minutes to share with the larger group. I ask that you look at each question from an individual perspective—yourself, your family member or your neighbor. We are looking for all thoughts and ideas. I ask that you take notes on the index cards provided so we do not miss any thoughts. We will pick these notes up at the end of the day. Your group will also need to choose a speaker to share thoughts with the rest of us. Are there any questions?



- What are the challenges you face in receiving information about emergency situations and natural disasters?
 - Digital
 - Print
 - In person
 - Media
 - Phone

- How can these challenges be solved?

(read the questions and give 20 minutes for discussion)



- What are the challenges you face if you were asked to leave your home within 15 minutes?
- What if you were asked to leave your place of employment within 15 minutes?
- How can these challenges be solved?

(read the questions and give 20 minutes for discussion)



- What are the challenges you face if you had to leave your home and stay in a shelter ?
- What would you need access to in the first 3 days?
- How can these challenges be solved?

(read the questions and give 20 minutes for discussion)



- The immediate crisis is over and you need to stay out of your home longer than expected.
- What are the challenges you face to keep your daily life going?
- How can these challenges be solved?

(read the questions and give 20 minutes for discussion)



We are now at the end of the activities. We want to answer any questions you may have.



www.sanantonio.gov/DAO/EmergencyPlan

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We want to thank you for coming today. Here is our contact information. Please feel free to get ahold of us at any time if you have any questions.

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