

January – February 2016 Update

2015 Achievements (Highlights):

- **Regional Multi-Agency Coordination System (RMACS) Development:** a [concept of operations](#) was accepted by all five counties in early 2015. The regional task force, working with a contractor, has recruited and trained around half of the members of the new Regional MAC Group and its support organization and strengthened the existing Health-Medical (H-M) MAC Group, H-M MACG Support Organization and Incident Management Teams. The task force produced the [RMAC Group Handbook](#), which outlines, among other things, the roles and responsibilities of the members and provides tools to enhance their work. The current UASI FY2014 project will be extended to April 30, 2016 to complete the recruitment and training of additional RMAC Group and Support Organization members. Next phase of this initiative is funded under UASI FY2015 and will commence in June 2016.

- **Regional Disaster Debris Management Planning:** with funding from UASI FY2014 and Metro, this project has now completed the implementation of two (2) regional planning workshops and a table-top exercise. The last event was held on January 26, 2016 and engaged more than 40 stakeholders from local, regional, state and federal agencies with roles in disaster debris management planning. Metro's leadership on this project has been pivotal in bringing greater clarity on roles and responsibilities among local, regional, state and federal partners in key phases of the debris management cycle, such as the establishment and management of



Enhancement of Regional Search and Rescue and Interdiction Capabilities: Multnomah County Sherriff's Office purchased a new dive team support vehicle with UASI FY2014 funds through the RDPO. See the attached article for more information.

- temporary debris management sites and the management of household hazardous waste. There remain many areas of clarification, decision-making, and regional collaborative learning and exploration ahead. Next steps are expected to be developed through the work of the Regional Disaster Debris Management Planning Task Force led by Metro's Daniel Niboaur, Debris Planning Coordinator.
- **Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) 2015 Update:** This year marked the third year the RDPO has updated our region's [THIRA](#). The THIRA is a complex and adaptable tool for identifying gaps in 31 [Core Capabilities](#) under prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery mission areas. Resource needs and gap identification is driven by the anticipated impacts of human-caused, technological and natural hazards of greatest concern coupled with aspirational performance outcomes and targets. The THIRA 2015 Update, which was coordinated by the RDPO Planning Coordinator and engaged dozens of subject matter experts from partner agencies, built on the THIRA 2014 by completing additional

work on resource requirements and initial gap identification for many of the Core Capabilities. The results will feed into the RDPO strategic planning process.

- **Regionalization of the Public Health and Hospital Preparedness Programs:** RDPO contributed \$31,550 towards the cost of a contractor to help public health and health system partners within and just outside our region develop a governance, program, funding and staffing model – i.e., one regional health preparedness organization – that integrates the Hospital Preparedness Program (and NW Oregon Health Preparedness Organization), county Public Health emergency preparedness programs, and the Cities Readiness Initiative. The project yielded a proposed multi-phased organizational change model. A regional work plan is one of the next products that will help public health agency administrators and health system partners decide the type and level of organizational and program consolidation/integration.

2016: Launch UASI FY 2015 and RDPO contributing partners' contributions (combined resources of around \$2.7 million)

- **Emergency Management Program Disability, Access and Functional Needs Compliance Assessment:** a contractor is nearly in place to assess the emergency management programs of the City of Portland and Clackamas, Clark, Multnomah, and Washington Counties in regard to meeting the needs of people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs in preparation for and during major emergencies and disasters. The contractor will provide recommendations for program enhancements in these and other areas: notification/warning, sheltering, evacuation and transportation. (This \$106,000 project is funded under both UASI'14 and '15, with additional funds provided by Metro.)
- **Regional Water System Interconnections Study (RWSI) Update:** The Regional Water Providers Consortium, an RDPO member, completed a regional water system interconnections study in 2010. The project created an ArcGIS geodatabase of regional water system facilities including water system interconnections and a pipe system overlay. This update will: 1) identify critical water supply and distribution points as recommended in the Oregon Resilience Plan; and 2) rate interconnections for their level resiliency. At the conclusion of the update the water providers will participate in a table top exercise.
- **Citizen Corps Programs in the Region:** The project will help increase the capacity of Citizen Corps Programs around the region to recruit, train, and manage volunteers in Community Emergency Response Teams, Volunteers in Police Service, and Medical Reserve Corps programs (complete list in the project proposal).
- **Disaster Sanitation Planning:** the project will hire a contractor to support a multi-discipline regional task force in developing preliminary strategies for disposing of solid human waste if/when sewer infrastructure is not functional, due to earthquake, terrorism, or other natural disaster causes.
- **Text-to-911 Public Education:** 911 Center/Public Safety Answering Points in the Portland Metropolitan Region are in the process of transitioning to accepting texts, photos and video feeds from the public. To complement this process, the RDPO is funding the Portland Dispatch Centers Consortium (A.K.A., RDPO Public Safety Communications Work Group) to develop public service announcements and other messaging to educate the public on how to use these new communication features.

In addition, the RDPO is in the process of developing a set of projects in anticipation of UASI FY2016. Local partner contributions will be applied to some of these projects as well.

Finally, the RDPO will spend the next year developing a strategic plan for the period 2017-2021, to replace the existing strategic priorities document, which expires at the end of 2016.