

On 01/26/2024 from 1 PM to 2:15 PM we had an LEPC meeting in the Community room of the Unalaska Library.

In attendance were the following people: Greg Peters, Ruth Marquez, Ferdinand Lopez, Zach Schasteen, Cameron Dean, Shari Coleman, Curran Chapman, Rachel Alinsunurin, Erica Aus, Heidi Lucking, Tyler Justus, Kerry Mahoney, Lauren Adams (Zoom), and Kathy Shea (Zoom).

Thank you very much for all who were able to attend! Prior to providing the meetings details, I would like to relay information on 2 important projects that Fire Chief Knowles has been working on with National Weather Service rep and LEPC Member Aviva Braun. Chief Knowles recently completed the Storm Ready application and Unalaska is now registered with the National Weather Service and NOAA as a Storm Ready community. This is an important accomplishment for Unalaska from an emergency preparedness standpoint. Thank you to Chief Knowles for working hard to get this done and to Aviva Braun for assisting with the process. Additionally, Chief Knowles has begun the Tsunami Ready certification process and we should regain our Tsunami Ready Community status prior to our next LEPC Meeting.

Below is a breakdown of the topics discussed in our meeting:

1) Introduced Greg Peters as the new Project Manager / Information Coordinator for the Aleutian & Pribolof Islands LEPC

a. EPCRA (Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act) requires the LEPC to appoint an information coordinator. In Alaska the duties associated with this position are normally filled by the LEPC project manager. The project manager/information coordinator's job is to process requests from the public for information under EPCRA-section 324, including Tier II information under EPCRA-section 312. The project manager can also assist other committee members.

b. Greg Peters will be an asset to us in this capacity as he has a great deal of knowledge regarding Tier 2 reporting guidelines and regulations.

2) Greg Peters provided an update on Tier 2 Chemical reporting for Unalaska and other islands in the Aleutians.

a. Companies that have filed their Tier 2 reports for 2023 are as follows: CMA Terminals, Alyeska Seafoods, and Westward Seafoods

b. Companies / entities that LEPC has reached out to but have not yet filed Tier 2 reports include: American Seafoods, Delta Wester, GCI, Petro Star, Unisea, Kloosterboer, Matson, Alaska Propane, City of Unalaska, North Pacific Fuel, and Northern Victor. The deadline for Tier 2 submission is March 1, 2024.

c. Greg outlined Alaska specific requirements for Tier 2 reporting that are more stringent than EPA. Based on the Alaska requirements, there are probably quite a few more companies

locally that should be filing. See attached Alaska specific reporting thresholds.

3) Secretary Report: LEPC Secretary Ruth Marquez provided information as to the LEPC budget.

a. Advised there are \$5,000 in available funds for LEPC under the Police FY24 budget.

b. Purchase request items must be submitted prior to May of 2024. Emergency kit supplies and promotional items have been previously discussed.

c. LEPC Chairperson will be attending LEPCA/SERC Conference this April. Will be a good opportunity to network and develop new ideas for our committee.

4) Website update: Website was shared with committee members in its entirety spotlighting areas added, updated or improved since our last meeting. Below is a link to the site:

<https://aleutian-and-pribilof-islands-lepc-unalaska.hub.arcgis.com/>

Special thanks to Cameron Dean for all of his assistance with ArcGIS website design and formatting; we could not have built the site without him. Additionally, thank you to Heidi Lucking for conducting a very thorough review of all of the different sections of the website. Heidi has pointed out numerous faulty links and several grammatical errors which we are now working to correct. This has been a big help!

I am hoping to have the website ready to be put out to the community sometime in February. Please feel free to provide any feedback you have regarding how to improve the site. Thanks!

5) House numbering project update: We had previously discussed a house numbering project. The goal would be to make it easier for emergency response personnel to find accurate locations in emergency situations. Although this item was previously tabled due to funding concerns, I'm pleased to report the Planning Department is interested in funding this project.

LEPC's role would be to get the word out to the community and help with house number dispersal. The issue that we have run into is the size of the numbers; most reflective house numbering sign/number combinations that we have found are 4 inches in height. The city code requires that house numbers be 5 ¼ inches in height. We are currently looking to see what options may be available in this size.

6) 2024 Homeland Security Grant Program: Talked with the Unalaska City School District regarding a security system they have been looking into. School administration did polling among community members and staff regarding their thoughts pertaining to installing video surveillance and an access control system at the schools in Unalaska; the response they received was favorable. School admin proposed to the school board a purchase of

approximately \$84,000 towards a security framework that would be installed by an Alaska company called LONG. The school board was in favor of the security software but had budgetary concerns regarding unforeseen expenses such as wiring of the buildings, etc.

This topic was discussed with LEPC membership in the meeting and the members were in favor of the project. LEPC plans to assist the school in obtaining the desired security framework through the State Homeland Security Grant Program which is due on February 12, 2024. Per SHSP & NSGP Project Manager Tiffany Peltier, "the video cameras and access control system for the school would be perfect projects for the SHSP grant."

7) Roundtable: All attendees were given a chance to speak on matters of importance to them. One idea that was brought up after the meeting was to have a community wide logo competition with the goal of updating our current LEPC logo to a more aesthetically pleasing version that best represents our objectives. I think this is a great idea as it could help get the word out about LEPC and it would give us a chance to personalize our logo so that it best represents our community / area. Another idea that was submitted to me after the meeting was to have a scavenger hunt in which community members who chose to participate would be tasked with finding items around town listed on the 7-14 day emergency kit/supply lists. They could note where they were able to find different items (Three Bears, Safeway, online, USAFV, etc.) and it could give us some feedback of how to assist people in developing their own emergency supply / kits. I think this is an interesting idea and worth discussing further.

Our next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday, March 8, 2024 at 1 PM. I will send out a meeting invite with corresponding agenda a few weeks in advance of the meeting. Let me know if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas for consideration.