

COMMITTEE ON PORT SAFETY AND SECURITY (COPSS) MEETING MINUTES 3/28/06

PRESENT: Lonna Calhoun, Chair. Florence Brown, 632 E. 77th St., LA 90001, Wanda Campbell, 323 971-14118, tunnycampbell1182@hotmail.com ; George Cumming 732-3474 gcummings@portla.org; Gloria Daniels, 751 E. 78th St., goldcharm@sbcglobal.net; Pat Herrera Duran 831-5202 dakotahpat@sbcglobal.net Christine B. Edward, 650 E. 82nd St. LA 90001; Mary Porter Goode 323 750-6279; Mike Graychik 732-3534; J L Hughes, P.O. Box 73135 LA 90003; Elsie Larriva, 519-6091, elarriva@co.la.ca.us; Horace Penman, 736 1/2 74th, LA, CA hpenman@sbcglobal.net; Loretta Randell, PO Box 514586, LA 90051; Rob Simpson, 562 997-0794, robertsimpson@asm.ca.gov; Richard Smith, 265-9797 uksmith@webtv.net; Tony Torres 514-494, Beacon House; Joe Turner, 7600 Avalon Blvd., jitteach@sbcglobal.net; tomvillger 521-8117 tomvillger@aol.com

PROPOSE STATE LEGISLATION: Rob Simpson of Karnette's Office discussed AB2237...similar to AB 1406 which passed but not signed by the Gov. Bill requires the CA Dept of Homeland security to file an annual plan on policies and funding to protect the state's harbor, port and marine facilities from a terrorist attack. A second bill, AB 2274 would require the harbor/port authority to prepare a report on emergency response plans with a five mile radius. Port staff suggested the bill be modified to clarify that this is not just the port's responsibility but the city (which includes the ports). Bills may be heard on April 3rd. ***Support letters from individuals and groups should be sent to Assemblywoman Karnette.***

MARITIME COMMITTEE: A draft of proposed Evacuation Plan is going before the Committee to be followed by a testing phase. COPSS reps are welcome to the April 26th meeting. Elsie Larriva, Director of a County Senior Center advised that their Center could be a shelter sight in an emergency. Safety officials pointed out that the type of emergency would dictate whether shelters would be used. For example, the best plan might be for people to stay in their homes. The Evacuation Plan may give options for sheltering based on the different types of potential emergencies. It is important to acknowledge that citizens want to know now how they should prepare for an emergency.

EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLANNING:

Horace Penman of the 9th District in LA of CAN DO, CERT, etc. along with several 9th District citizens gave an excellent presentation about their developing strategies for an emergency. With the development of neighborhood councils in their district, citizens came together to work on issues and emergency planning was one of those. Serious flooding gave impetus to planning along with a realization of the 9/11 tragedy, and their location near LAX. Citizens started asking... "What If" "What do We Need to Prepare For" questions. A list of needed emergency supplies was noted, focus was given to emergency assistance to seniors, the handicapped and children, communication and transportation networks were started, citizens began attending CERT and Ham Radio training sessions. Horses were identified as one source of emergency transportation. MOU'S were developed with schools and other potential resource or shelter sights.

NEXT STEPS FOR C.O.P.S.S.: Get more citizens and power players involved, get the word out by better use of the media, start training with the COPSS committee, then go to our neighbors and involve them, prepare information about water and gas turnoffs at home, participate in the neighborhood council Ambassador Training program, link with the ACS...Auxillary Communication Systems. We can also utilize fire districts locations to focus our initiatives, seeks funds from the Mayor's emergency planning program, conduct a media blitz (***send a letter to the Daily Breeze supporting what they published recently***), get candidates running for elections to commit to program and \$ for emergency preparation, "start simple and get people to prepare their own family and home for an emergency", "think out of the box", Get on the Gas Com, DWP, etc on community agendas of E planning,

NEXT MEETING: April 28th!