

Finding #1: The Vallejo Emergency Plan has not been revised since 2002.

Response: The City agrees with the finding.

Recommendation: The plan needs to be updated regularly and made more accessible to the general public, by being available on the City's website.

Response: The City partially disagrees with the finding. It should be noted that due to staffing shortages and cutbacks in funding, adequate staff does not exist to continually update the EOP. However, the staff is scheduling a plan update and "table top" exercise as part of this fiscal year's goals. The current version of the EOP was placed on the City's website on August 15, 2006.

Finding #2: The City of Vallejo should establish a CERT – Community Emergency Response Team.

Response: The City agrees with the finding.

Recommendation: The City should undertake training of CERT immediately.

Response: The City partially disagrees with the finding. While there is no legal mandate for the City to provide CERT training to its residents, we clearly see the value of this training. However, as mentioned above, staffing issues make planning and implementing this training difficult. The City will pursue grants and other funding sources to offset the costs of providing on-going CERT training to our residents. In addition, the City Council has expressed its desire to formally endorse a private volunteer effort within the community to implement CERT and has directed City staff to support their activities.

Finding #3: The EOP did not address the utilization of specific educational institution, industrial, medical and transportation facilities in the immediate or surrounding area as a resource to provide critical assistance in the event of a disaster or terrorist incident.

Response: The City agrees with the finding.

Recommendation: the EOP should incorporate procedures to utilize the resources of specific educational institutions, industrial, medical and transportation facilities in the immediate or surrounding area, in the event of a disaster or terrorist incident.

Response: The city partially disagrees with the finding. While there is no specific mention of the utilization of specific educational institutions, meetings have been held with a variety of agencies in the city since the creation of this document to address that specific concern. Similarly, meetings have been held with members of the American Red Cross, which is the agency responsible for emergency sheltering and other aspects of emergency response. The City owns and operates a bus system with over 60 vehicles in its fleet, which could and would be utilized if necessary. We also own and operate 4 ferry boats that would also be a valuable part of our emergency response and would be utilized, if necessary.