Emergency Operations Plan

Executive Summary

The Town of Springdale Emergency Operations Plan guides the Town leaders and employees. It has been prepared to assess the vulnerabilities potentially faced by our citizens and then defining the response mechanisms that the Town could employ in a rational response. This emergency operations plan encompasses natural, technological and terrorism-based emergencies and disasters or combinations thereof that may be reasonably expected to impact the Town.

Of course, it is not possible to foretell the nature and extent of events of this type. Care must be taken not to limit the variety of our response by dictating an exact order of events our local leaders of government and on-scene incident commanders must make. The variability of large-scale disasters and emergencies make it almost impossible, if not irrational, to make many decisions in advance. One can, however, draw from past experience of events and history to help decide what actions are generally appropriate for various situations.

This plan identifies resources, and outlines mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery actions that Town officials and responders may take.

> **Mitigation** - reducing or eliminating the effects of hazards on the community.
> **Preparedness** - actions taken to prepare the community for hazards.
> **Response** - the community's response to the effects of hazards
> **Recovery** - returning the community to healthy, viable, and economically sustainable environment after a disaster.

The plan is not designed to supplant individual, family and neighborhood preparedness plans or actions. It is intended for use by Town officials in emergencies, conducting drills and exercises and to strengthen Town preparedness. One of the obligations of government is in assuring that the functions of government continue, especially in times of difficulty following a disaster when such needs may be most acute.

This plan may be activated at any time under the direction of the mayor, council, emergency services director or designee of the Town of Springdale. It has been coordinated with plans of most of the larger towns and cities surrounding Springdale and with the Washington County Emergency Operations Plan.

This plan requires fair and equal treatment for all, regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, age, or ability. In any emergency where prioritizations must occur, the goal will always be to achieve the greatest good for the greatest number of people. The primary priority will always be to save lives, with damage mitigation to property coming second.

The Town of Springdale administration and those departments having emergency assignments shall undertake an annual review of this plan. The Town will intend to use the Incident Command System (ICS) as provided by the National Incident Management System whenever possible.

There may, at times, however, exist exigent circumstances which might require a different management technique or for a single person to assume multiple roles under the ICS. Certain conditions, such as hazardous material incident responses, must use the ICS system because of OSHA requirements. This plan, including updates, remains in effect from the time it is adopted until the Springdale Town Council issues an Order stating it is no longer valid.

Plan Development and Maintenance

The Emergency Operation Plan will be reviewed annually by the Town of Springdale Emergency Services Director. The Emergency Service Director will forward any updated sections to the organizations and individuals having copies of the Emergency Operation Plan.

Limitations

The Town will make every reasonable effort to respond in the event of an emergency or disaster. However, Town resources and systems may be overwhelmed. The responsibility and functions outlined in the Plan will be fulfilled only if the situation, information exchange, actual agency capabilities, and resources are available at the time. There is no guarantee implied by the Plan that a perfect response to emergency or disaster incidents will be practical or possible.

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Emergency Operation Basic Plan

Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to identify what actions may be taken by the Town of Springdale to prepare for, and reduce the vulnerability to residents stemming from natural disasters, technological (man-made) disasters and homeland security emergencies in, or affecting Springdale. This plan attempts to accomplish this goal through a combination of mitigation (prevention) and response-oriented mechanisms.

This plan is a guide for Town and community leaders to use if and when an emergency of significant magnitude arises. The philosophy behind the plan is to identify resources within and without the Town that may be employed by the Town in responding to different and varying emergencies. It also attempts to define the responsibilities of different town departments as well as describe the manner in which other organizations such as the American Red Cross might work effectively with the Town in emergency response.

The writing or existence of this plan is not intended to unjustifiably arouse fear or spark alarm, but by the same token, neither should it be a cause of individual complacency. This plan attempts to incorporate a common-sense approach to community preparedness that encourages action, not reaction. This plan does not take the place of personal, family or neighborhood preparedness.

This plan accomplishes the following:

- Establishes the emergency management organization required to mitigate any significant emergency.

- Identifies the policies, responsibilities, and procedures required in such an emergency.

- Establishes the operational concepts and procedures associated with field response to emergencies, Town Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activities, and the first steps of the recovery process.

This document is operational in design. It serves an additional use as a planning reference. Departments within the Town of Springdale that have roles and responsibilities identified by this plan are encouraged to develop their own emergency operations plans for their departments, integrated with and consistent with this master plan. It is the responsibility of each department within the Town to develop their own detailed standard operating procedures, and emergency response checklists based on their vital missions and consistent with the provisions of this plan.

Springdale Information

The Town of Springdale is located in the southwestern corner of the State of Utah, within Washington County. It serves as a gateway community located at the west entrance of Zion National Park, which receives in excess of 4.5 million visitors per year. Springdale has an approximate population 514 residents (2020), and spans a land area of 4.63 square miles.

The Town is bounded by Zion National Park to the north, south and east, and Rockville to the west. Situated within a canyon, Springdale's terrain includes high desert landscapes, midlevel plateaus and steep canyon walls. Elevations range from a low of 3800 to high of 4000 feet above sea level. The Town is approximately 27 miles from Interstate 15, a major north to south highway through Utah. State Road 9, which runs through Springdale, serves as the main access way to Zion National Park.

Springdale experiences a high desert climate, characterized by hot, dry summers and mild, moderately wet winters. Average annual precipitation is about 15 inches.

Airport Services

St. George, a neighboring city, does have scheduled flights into and out of St. George on a regular basis from the St. George Municipal airport. Other communities with developed landing fields include Hurricane and the Hildale / Colorado City field in neighboring Mohave County, Arizona.

Emergency Services

Law enforcement is provided by the Springdale Police Department, with additional support available through mutual aid agreements with Zion National Park, the Washington County Sheriff's Office, the Utah Highway Patrol, and other nearby agencies.

The Washington County Sheriff's Office maintains the region's only certified bomb squad, in addition to a fully functional drug task force, gang task force, and two tactical teams.

Fire protection is provided by the Hurricane Valley Fire District. Fire services throughout Washington County operate under mutual aid agreements and memorandums of understanding. The Hurricane Valley Fire District also provides ambulance services for the Town of Springdale.

Medical Services

Family Health Care is a small medical clinic, located near the Springdale Town Hall. The clinic is open daily during the week for the spring/summer/fall months and once a week during the winter. Although Springdale does not have a major medical facility to treat a large number of casualties, the St. George Regional Hospital (IHC) in St. George is 40 minutes away.

The Hurricane Valley Clinic (IHC) houses an Insta-Care and an Emergency Room facility, located about 20 minutes away in Hurricane. These facilities assist in treating and triage multiple patients for preparation for transport to the St. George Regional Hospital.

Public Utilities and Infrastructure

The public works department provides water, irrigation and sewer services. Rocky Mountain Power supplies electrical power throughout the town.

The Town of Springdale is potentially subject to a number of natural and technological hazards, including floods, earthquakes, urban and wildland fires, landslides, high winds, fixed site and transportation hazardous materials incidents, aircraft accidents, power outages, and in some areas, severe winter storms.

Hazard Analysis

Delineation

The Springdale Emergency Planning Committee thorough assessment of potential threats and hazards in the area. The committee included representatives from the Springdale Police Department, Public Works Department, Community Development Department, and the Hurricane Valley Fire District. Input was gathered from a wide range of expertise.

While this plan does not identify every possible hazard, the group focused on those hazards that pose a significant threat to residents, property, and the Town's critical infrastructure.

These identified hazards serve as a foundation for:

- Emergency response planning and preparedness
- Development of response capabilities
- Reducing vulnerabilities through mitigation efforts

Evaluation

Each identified hazard was evaluated using the following factors:

- **Likelihood of Occurrence:** How probable the hazard is over a 100-year period.
- **Vulnerability:** The potential number of people impacted, damage to infrastructure, and destruction of property.
- **Cascading Effects:** The chance of multiple hazards occurring in succession, worsening the overall impact.

This list is an incomplete assessment of all the risks and hazards which could possibly inflict loss of life and, or property damage on the population of the Town of Springdale. Recognition of and preparation for the incidents listed below will better allow the responders and agencies within Springdale to effectively deal with other unforeseen or unpredicted occurrences.

Based on this evaluation, hazards were ranked highest to lower risk:

HAZARD RANKING	
1	Drought
2	Flooding
3	Landslides/Rockfall
4	Fire
5	Earthquake
6	Terrorism
7	Transportation Accidents
8	Utility Interruption
9	Hazardous Materials
10	Epidemic

This list is not exhaustive but offers a prioritized framework for preparedness and response planning. Addressing these high-priority hazards will strengthen the Town's capacity to manage additional, unforeseen emergencies.

Hazards, Natural and Technological

Drought

Drought is a cyclical event marked by below normal precipitation. Every climate region can experience drought, but because a drought is below normal precipitation for a region, the amount of annual rainfall that would be considered a drought in one climate region may be completely different in another.

There are four types of droughts that consider several components and natural and human functions in their measurement. All can accurately define drought, although they relate to the moisture condition of several factors in our environment, including agriculture, water sources, and economies.

- Meteorological Drought is measured by recent precipitation and is easiest to gauge drought conditions. When recent precipitation is below normal levels, meteorological drought conditions exist.

- Agricultural Drought is the circumstances where soil water deficits no longer meet the demands of a specific crop during all stages of development.

- Hydrological Droughts are tied closely to the amount of precipitation there is, but it is referred to on the hydrological level, such as streams, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs. A hydrological drought period usually follows a meteorological, or agricultural drought by at least a few months.

- Socioeconomic Drought occurs when the amount or lack of precipitation negatively affects economic goods and resources.

Drought is connected to other natural hazards, primarily wildfire. Dry fuels can increase the severity of wildfire risk and wildfire events. Changes in the vegetation in an area due to lack of water can lead to invasive species and bare soils which can result in flooding, debris flow, and landslide events when water does flow on drought impacted areas.

Weather, climate, and environmental components which may influence drought include, but are not limited to runoff, percolation, ground water recharge, temperature, wind, humidity, evapotranspiration, and streamflow into larger bodies of water.

Previous droughts in Washington County have raised concerns about water usage, both for drinking and agriculture, which is crucial in this rural area.

Flooding

Since the Virgin River runs through Springdale, flooding and debris flows are considered a high hazard. Flooding is typically caused by heavy rain and seasonal thunderstorms, by rapid snowmelt, or by a combination of both heavy rain and snowmelt. These events are most common in late winter, spring, and early to late summer. Events may be compounded by wildfire, or any activity that alters the landscape.

Debris flows happen when rapidly moving floods carry away soil, trees, and rocks, particularly along slopes, washes, canyons, or channels. These can be especially destructive. Springdale has experienced damaging floods in the past.

Our earliest recorded modern history chronicles the struggles that were faced by early settlers. In December of 1860, as the first major encampment in St. George arrived, continuous rains spanning a period of 40 days hampered and challenged the new settlers.

The severe winter storm caused major flooding with the newly settled communities of Atkinville, Tonaquint, Harmony, Grafton, and Fort Clara (Santa Clara). Repeated attempts to conquer the Virgin and divert its water to irrigation of the adjacent land proved futile as floods repeatedly destroyed structures and diversion attempts on the river.

In December of 2010, a swollen Virgin River caused severe flooding and property damage in Springdale, Rockville, Virgin and other communities in Washington County. This occurred after days of continual rain and snow.

In June of 2021 heavy rains caused flooding in Black's Canyon Wash in Springdale and several other smaller washes in and near Zion National Park. The heavy wall of debris and fast-moving water flooded Town-owned properties. Additionally, other homes and businesses were structurally damaged by rushing water and debris. No injuries or deaths were reported. Those washes and areas of the Virgin River have since been significantly modified.

Floods most typically seen in Springdale can generally be classified into one of three scenarios:

- Long periods of rain or snow, throughout the year, from areas "upriver" (Zion National Park and northeast), causing the Virgin River to rise and swell over its banks.

- Long periods of rain, most generally in the January – March timeframe, which may include rain on snow events, i.e. El Nino type storms or associated weather patterns.

- Localized, heavy rain events are often associated with either frontal activity or monsoonal moisture flows or both simultaneously. These occur mostly, but not limited to, the late spring to early fall of the annual cycle. This affects the Virgin River, as well as side washes.

Flood risks can be increased by certain natural hazards, like wildfire or drought, which can burn or kill vegetation, reducing the amount of water absorbed by the ground, which can in turn result in landslides or debris flows. Long-term climate trends indicate that severe weather events are expected to become less frequent but increase in magnitude, which will influence flooding locally.

Landslides and Rockfall

Due to the canyon geography and steep terrain of Springdale, the town is susceptible to landslides and rockslides. These events can be triggered by seismic activity, sever weather, flooding, wildfire, or slope instability and may block roads, damage structures, or result in injury or loss of life.

Rockfall is a type of landslide where large boulders detach from a hill or cliffside and fall to the ground. As the rock falls, it can fragment into smaller rocks and boulders. Rockfall is a known risk in Springdale and the surrounding area, as several large rockfall events have been reported in the past several years.

The Town of Springdale is situated in a canyon area. Steep canyons that have significant slough, have also been known to shift. This type of incident occurred as the result of settling as seen in the 1992 St. George Earthquake with the Balanced Rock Subdivision. A large landslide occurred below the affected subdivision. A huge amount of debris consisting of dirt, rocks, shrubs, telephone poles and wire shifted and slid onto State Road 9, prohibiting access to eastern Springdale and Zion National Park.

Crews were able to clear the slide to the shoulder of the road and subsequently installed cement barriers at the base of the slide to prevent debris from further spilling back into the road. Another section of this same mountain shifted and slid into a field northeast of the Town Hall.

The Town of Rockville has been the site of several large rock falls over the past 10 years. The latest in December of 2013 which destroyed a home and killed its two occupants. Development below and near steep slopes has created a significant threat of potential damage and injury.

In 2009, a landslide occurred across the Virgin River from the Post Office and a nearby subdivision. In other cases, excessive moisture from wet seasonal periods has been attributed as the cause of slope failure. This was the case on April 12, 1995 when a massive landslide in Zion Canyon temporarily impounded the Virgin River. All road access to Zion Park Lodge was severed and large downstream areas had to be evacuated in the middle of the night.
In nearby Rockville in 2001, in the early morning hours, a boulder the size of a house shifted and slid into a residence, totally demolishing the home and narrowly missing the lone resident. Additionally, a 2013 rockfall in Rockville resulted in two deaths after a boulder destroyed a home. Other boulders from the fall destroyed a garage and a car in the driveway. According to the Utah Geologic Survey, it is a matter of time until future rockfall impacts homes in the area.

Contributing Factors:

- **Canyon walls and steep slopes:** Natural sloughing and slope failure are common.
- **Soil saturation from rain or snowmelt:** Can weaken slopes, increasing the risk of collapse.
- **Development near unstable slopes:** Increases danger to lives and property.

Springdale is actively monitoring geological risks and promoting responsible development practices to reduce exposure to landslide-prone areas.

Future Risks:

Experts predict that a magnitude 7.0 or greater earthquake could occur on the Hurricane Fault within the next 100 years. Such a quake could produce shaking rated IX (Violent) on the Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale, leading to extensive damage and posing significant risks to life and infrastructure.

Liquefaction Risk:

Liquefaction occurs when seemingly stable soils become unstable due to earthquake ground shaking. When soil liquefies, it loses strength and behaves like a viscous liquid (similar to quicksand) instead of a solid. This can cause buildings to sink into the ground or tilt, buried tanks to rise to the surface, and slope failures, among other issues. Research on the 1992 St. George Earthquake indicated some potential for liquefaction in areas near the Virgin River. Although the magnitude of this event is generally viewed as too weak to have significant liquefaction implications.

While the 1992 earthquake was not strong enough to trigger widespread liquefaction, studies indicated some potential near the Virgin River. The Hurricane fault, which runs parallel to I-15, is located just west of the Town of Springdale. This fault poses a potential threat to Springdale and its surrounding communities. There are almost certainly other large and potentially hazardous unknown fault systems.

An earthquake with a Richter magnitude of 7.0 or greater could occur on the Hurricane Fault within the next 100 years. Such an earthquake might threaten individuals and cause damage rated up to IX on the Mercalli Intensity Scale in Springdale.

Several factors contribute to the potential or increased risk of landslides. Landslide events can trigger or be triggered by other natural hazard events. Earthquakes, drought, flooding, wildfire, and severe weather can cause or worsen landslide events as the soil content and vegetation is destroyed during these events. Landslides can likewise lead to flooding as ground materials can block or change flood and drainage areas.

Fire

Springdale faces risks from both urban and wildland fires, especially during the hot, dry, and windy summer months. Both human activities and natural causes, such as lightning, can trigger fire events. Fires pose significant threats to life, property, infrastructure, and the environment, and will continue to challenge the Town and the Hurricane Valley Fire District.

In the summer of 2006, a large wildfire which started near Virgin burned north and east and threatened the towns of Rockville and Springdale. State Road 9 was shut down in the late afternoon and didn't reopen until early the next morning.

On July 4 of 2007, errant embers from the annual fireworks display/show sparked a fire near the Canyon Community Center, Town Hall, Zion Canyon Medical Clinic, Town Park and OC Tanner Amphitheater.

The fireworks show and these buildings are situated up a narrow canyon with only one entrance/exit road.   Approx. 1000 people were in attendance at the show. Fear and panic spread through the patrons and confusion interrupted the evacuation from the area.

The fire burned west and threatened residences along its route. Although fire protection and law enforcement units were on scene at the time the fire started, a breakdown in communications led to some of the confusion.

  On June 7, 2024 a homeowner in the Town of Rockville was burning rubbish. Because of windy conditions and the temperature exceeded 100 degrees, the fire quickly spread out of their control. Fire protection and law enforcement quickly responded. The wind spread the fire east, into Springdale, onto BLM land, and threatened several structures along its path. Traffic on State Road 9 was re-routed to Zion Park and La Verkin. Officers also engaged in evacuations of multiple residences.

During the incident, the Town lost power. As a result, first responders lost radio communications. The Fire District called in many resources including aircraft assets. The fire was eventually extinguished. No deaths or injuries were reported. There was a medical emergency that required an ambulance to respond, but it was unrelated to the event.

Ongoing Risks:

Each summer, wildfires threaten the region. Areas such as the Anasazi Plateau, where homes are adjacent to wildland vegetation, are particularly vulnerable due to:

- Dense fuel loads
- Limited access for responders

Wildfires can cause and have heightened risks depending on other ongoing climate, weather, and geologic conditions. Wildfires can cause or exacerbate flash flooding, landslides, debris flows as burned areas do not have vegetation to secure the soil, allowing it to wash away in a flood or landslide. Drought hazards can contribute to conditions which lead to heightened wildfire risk, with excessively dry vegetation and low water levels.

Earthquake

Springdale is located near the Hurricane Fault, which runs parallel to Interstate 15, just west of the town. This fault—and possibly other unidentified ones—poses a seismic risk to Springdale and the surrounding areas.

Springdale experienced a damaging earthquake in "the St. George Earthquake", which struck on September 2, 1992. It had a Richter magnitude of 5.8 and occurred on the Hurricane Fault, approximately 2.5 miles east of St. George. The quake struck at 4:30 AM. The Balanced Rock subdivision in Springdale suffered the greatest damage, with 3 homes totally destroyed and resulting in landslides, one of which partially blocked State Road 9. The subdivision was subsequently uninhabitable. Other damage was widespread and generally light. There were no deaths, and only one injury reported as a result of the quake.

Washington County has been subject to several large (greater than magnitude 5) earthquakes in its history. There was a Richter magnitude 5.0 in St. George in 1891, followed by a 6.5 event in Pine Valley in 1902. There have been other significant but less studied quakes in the Goldstrike area near the Nevada border. Earthquakes of this magnitude could cause damages up to VII on the Mercalli Intensity Scale (This is an official measurement of intensity of the earthquake; quantifying the effects of the earthquake on the earth's surface, humans, objects of nature and man-made structures).

Earthquakes are generally not triggered by other natural hazard events prevalent in the Southwest, although they can be caused by human activities like drilling or mining or volcanic eruptions. Several hazards can be caused by earthquakes, including flooding, landslides, and wildfires.

Terrorism

Though Springdale may appear remote from the main targets of terrorism, attacks in nearby cities like Salt Lake City, Las Vegas, or Denver could have immediate consequences for the town. Springdale's closeness to major cities such as Los Angeles also increases the risk of being affected by any attack on the West Coast. A terrorist attack on a significant urban area could result in a wave of refugees fleeing to rural regions, including Springdale.

There is also a risk of terrorism involving biological or chemical agents. Due to Springdale's location near the I-15 corridor, it is possible that the town could be affected by infectious agents or other hazardous substances. The effects of such an attack may not be immediately apparent, making it difficult to detect and respond quickly.

Although not a primary target, Springdale or Zion National Park could be vulnerable to attacks aimed specifically at its population or infrastructure. Essential infrastructure, such as power lines running through the town, is at risk. Experts believe that attacks on utility grids in rural areas may be easier to execute than targeting more densely populated metropolitan regions.

Springdale's critical infrastructure such as roads, bridges, utilities, and other economic assets plays a vital role in the community's daily functioning. Loss or damage to any of these infrastructures could hinder emergency response efforts and disrupt normal life, especially if utilities or other essential services are impacted.

Transportation Accidents

Transportation accidents in Springdale can overwhelm local resources, particularly in the case of major incidents like multi-vehicle crashes, bus accidents, or aviation events. As a gateway to Zion National Park, Springdale experiences a high volume of tour buses each day.

St. George Regional Hospital, situated on River Road in St. George, is prepared to treat numerous patients in its emergency room. However, the Hurricane Valley Fire District ambulance capacity continues to be a limiting factor in transporting patients.

Utility Interruption

Utility interruptions, including loss of electrical power, running water, and sewage treatment, can significantly impact the community. These utilities are interconnected, and disruptions to one can affect the others.

Rocky Mountain Power supplies electrical distribution in Springdale. Although the specific locations of critical substations and system mechanics are not outlined in this document, they are thoroughly documented in the SOPs of the agencies responsible for maintenance.

A loss of electrical power would impact the pumping and delivery of water, as well as sewage treatment. In extreme heat or cold, these disruptions can become life-threatening, particularly if they continue for an extended period. Springdale does not possess its own power generation capabilities and would need to depend on neighboring communities or portable generators.

Hazardous Materials

Springdale, situated along State Road 9, regularly sees the transportation of hazardous materials such as gas, propane, and other flammable liquids. While commercial traffic is generally prohibited from entering Zion National Park, these materials are nevertheless delivered to Springdale, Rockville, and Zion for operational purposes.

Hazardous materials are transported through Springdale regularly, via tankers and other vehicles. The potential for a hazardous materials transportation incident is possible. Although the volume of transported hazardous materials is significantly less on smaller state highway systems, the life-safety, environmental and economic implications should not be underestimated.

A past incident involving a propane-powered shuttle bus in Zion National Park highlighted the risks associated with hazardous materials. A mechanical failure resulted in a fire that endangered both people and property. Although these propane buses have now been replaced with electric ones, similar risks could still be present due to the high volume of traffic in Springdale.

The hazard classifications are listed as follows:

HAZARD CLASSIFICATIONS	
Class 1	Explosives
Class 2	Gases
Class 3	Flammable Liquid
Class 4	Flammable Gases
Class 5	Oxidizers
Class 6	Toxic or poisonous
Class 7	Radioactive
Class 8	Corrosive
Class 9	Miscellaneous

Hazardous Response Team

In the event of a hazardous materials incident, the Southwest Regional Response Team, consisting of agencies from Washington, Iron, Kane, Beaver, and Garfield Counties, will respond. This collaborative response system aims to enhance capabilities in rural areas where dedicated HAZMAT teams may not be available.

The concept of cooperative mutual aid has gained significance in the post 9-11 era. A planning group regularly convenes to promote effective cooperation among agencies, aiming to enhance community protection by offering assistance across jurisdictional lines.

Teams are formed from responders within the Five County area. The teams are mobile and allocate resources as necessary. These responders and their sponsoring agencies constitute the Southwest Regional Response Team. The development of this team is ongoing.

Once immediate life-safety concerns have been addressed, clean-up is typically the responsibility of the party accountable for the incident or their insurance. If a responsible party is identified, a specialized HAZMAT firm will manage clean-up with costs covered by the accountable party.

Epidemic/Pandemic

Epidemic Definition
An epidemic is a sudden increase in disease cases that exceeds what is usually expected. Typically, epidemics involve infectious diseases, but they can also apply to other health-related events that strain available resources. The effects of an epidemic can cause significant personal and economic stress within the community.

Pandemic Definition
A pandemic occurs when a new strain of disease spreads globally, affecting people with little or no immunity. While some diseases may not cause death, they can incapacitate individuals, rendering them unable to function. During an epidemic or pandemic, the demand for medical care increases, overwhelming an already strained healthcare system.

Epidemic and Pandemic Causes
An epidemic or pandemic can emerge naturally through the mutation of existing diseases or from intentional acts such as terrorism. The impact on the community would remain similar regardless of the cause. For instance, the global outbreak of COVID-19 in early 2020 revealed how swiftly a disease could spread worldwide. COVID-19 overwhelmed healthcare facilities, led to the establishment of testing sites, discouraged travel, and resulted in business closures.

Bioterrorism Definition
Although Springdale is unlikely to be a direct target of bioterrorism, residents may unknowingly introduce diseases from other areas. Some diseases can be contagious before symptoms appear, meaning an individual could carry and spread the illness without realizing it. This poses a risk if a disease enters Springdale through travelers exposed to a bioterrorism attack elsewhere.

Asymptomatic carriers may pass through Town and develop symptoms, often after they have become contagious. Without proper diagnosis, treatment, and isolation, these individuals could transmit the disease to others.

The Southwest Utah Public Health Department, local clinics, and the St. George Regional Hospital collaborate to reduce the spread of disease in Washington County. Vaccination is a key strategy for preventing and controlling disease outbreaks.

Additionally, good health practices and early detection through epidemiological surveillance help minimize disease transmission. The sooner a disease is detected, the sooner countermeasures can be implemented to control its spread. This applies to both naturally occurring diseases and those introduced through bioterrorism.

Springdale is not immune to epidemics or pandemics. Approximately 5 million tourists visit the Town of Springdale and Zion National Park every year, which increases the potential disease outbreaks. Previous outbreaks like influenza, measles, and hepatitis, including the 2009 H1N1 flu pandemic have impacted Washington County. Quick response strategies, including contact tracing, rapid vaccination, and isolation, can help minimize the spread of such diseases. To date, Springdale has experienced only a few isolated incidents of outbreaks.

Severe Weather

Severe weather often affects a region or county at large and can be difficult to accurately document, as coverage often relies on local documentation and reporting to NOAA or other weather agencies. There is not GIS data to show where or how severe weather will impact Springdale, however our analysis assumes that severe weather events will impact the whole of the community, residents, facilities, infrastructure, businesses, and property.

Springdale sees summers marked by high heat, dry weather, and rapid downfalls of monsoon rains. Thunderstorms frequently impact Washington County, which can produce hail, high winds, rain, and lightning. Winters in the high elevation areas can produce snow and rain fall.

Severe weather is frequently occurring throughout the region and can cause damages to structures and infrastructure. Severe weather events have the potential to trigger other natural hazards in the area, which can include flooding or landslides from severe rain, fires from lightning strikes, and blowing sand with high winds, for example.

Tornado

Historically, large tornadoes have not posed a major concern in the Town of Springdale. However, tornadoes have been recorded in Utah in recent years, including in Salt Lake City and Manti. While a tornado in Springdale is unlikely, it would have a devastating impact if one were to strike the town.

Water Pipeline Infrastructure

The Town of Springdale operates a system of large, high-pressure water pipelines that supply water to Springdale, Zion National Park and Rockville, particularly during summer. The destruction of these pipelines, whether accidental or intentional, could lead to significant flooding and water damage. Furthermore, the loss of these pipelines would severely impact the town's ability to meet drinking and irrigation needs. The town also provides sewer services to Springdale, Zion National Park, and Rockville

Emergencies and Coordination

This emergency response plan is designed to be flexible, accommodating the unpredictable nature of emergencies. Not every emergency will require a full-scale response. The plan follows an escalating approach, where the response increases in scale according to the severity of the emergency. The basic assumptions of this plan are directed to meeting the needs of disaster victims and the community in an emergency.

Individuals and families need to prepare to survive for the first 72 to 96 hours after any disaster with minimal assistance. Business and industry are responsible for development of their own disaster plans. They should be prepared to survive the consequences of disasters ensuring they can continue operations during a crisis.

Town's Response Coordination

In the event of an emergency, various personnel will be mobilized. The Town of Springdale's emergency response will be guided by elected officials, vested with the ultimate responsibility for the response and recovery effort. The response team will consist of department heads, full-time employees, and local volunteers. The on-scene incident commander will manage the immediate response and closely coordinate with the Town's administrative group.

The mayor has the authority to delegate responsibilities as needed, and the Incident Command System (ICS) outlined in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) will serve as the primary response framework. ICS will operate 24 hours a day until the emergency is resolved or the mayor determines it is no longer necessary. The primary Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for The Town of Springdale will be the Town Hall located at 118 Lion Blvd., Springdale Utah.

Coordination with Other Jurisdictions

The Town of Springdale Emergency Operations Plan is designed for emergencies within Springdale's boundaries. However, many emergencies impact areas beyond the boundaries of the Town. These larger events will be managed by the county, state or federal agencies with the Town of Springdale supporting their efforts as necessary.

Emergency Activation Process

When a significant emergency arises in Springdale, the following measures will be implemented to ensure effective coordination and support.

- An emergency is identified, leading to a disaster declaration.

- The local Emergency Response Plan and Emergency Operations Centers are activated.

- Washington County Emergency Service is notified.

- A *Local Government Initial Disaster Report* is filed with the State Division of Emergency Services and Homeland Security.

- An emergency cost record-keeping system is implemented.

- Officials conduct an initial damage assessment and prepare a *Preliminary Damage Assessment Report.*

- A determination is made regarding the kinds and quantities of State and Federal assistance to be requested, if necessary.

- Issue Local "State of Emergency" Declaration.

Actions Before an Emergency

- Individuals and families need to prepare to survive for the first 72 to 96 hours after any disaster with minimal assistance.

- Businesses must develop their own emergency survival plans.

- Identify available resources, such chain saws, construction materials, batteries, emergency generators, portable toilets, etc.

- Maintain mutual aid and interlocal agreements with organizations, agencies, and other jurisdictions, to ensure support during emergencies.

- Identify and address any gaps in emergency response resources.

- Establish facilities for emergency supply shortage and distribution points to include cold storage.

- Identify volunteer groups and organizations to manage emergency storage and distribution points.

Actions During an Emergency

- Evaluate resource needs and prioritize their distribution to assist the greatest number of people and properties.

- Utilize both public and private resources for emergency response.

- Establish and secure potable water supply points, emergency relief storage, and distribution points.

- Inform the public about the locations and operating hours of emergency relief distribution points.

- Request additional assistance from appropriate organizations as needed.

Actions After an Emergency

- Support recovery operations, including damage assessment, with available resources.

- Request additional resources from FEMA as necessary.

- Continue emergency response activities until no longer required

Effects of Emergencies

- Evacuation
- Isolation of affected area
- Poor communications
- Limited access to affected areas
- Disruption of utilities and essential services
- Emergency sheltering needs
- Debris and infrastructure damage
- Resource shortages
- Spread of Rumors
- Lack of resources or capabilities within the community.

Communication

The St. George Emergency Communications Center functions as the 911 emergency and dispatching center for Washington County. This facility operates twenty-four hours a day year-round. This center manages multi-agency dispatch for the entire county. Residents are strongly encouraged to sign up for Reverse 911 notifications.

Emergencies or disasters whether natural, man-made, technological, or terrorist-related events can cause significant damage, and lead to an increase in requests for life-saving assistance.

Communication may be disrupted, and the demand for communication resources will likely rise. Initial efforts will concentrate on lifesaving activities while also working to restore damaged communications.

Accurate and timely information is crucial for an effective response and recovery. However, initial reports are often incomplete, making it necessary to coordinate communication efforts efficiently. According to FEMA's NIMS, all communication will utilize plain language (clear text) and common terminology to promote clarity and mutual understanding.

Priority communication during an emergency includes:

- Warnings
- Protective actions
- Evacuation progress
- Decontamination requirements
- Emergency sheltering and supply needs
- Route operations and public information

Evacuation

Evacuation plans must be adaptable since each emergency is unique and requires different strategies. This plan prioritizes early action, clear communication, and orderly movement.

Protective measures such as emergency evacuations, sheltering, quarantine, isolation, and emergency vaccination/inoculation might be necessary. In certain situations, these measures may apply to humans and animals, both domestic and wild.

Localized protective action implementation could be necessary as the result of a natural disaster such as a flood, major fire, or a man-made or technological incident such as a hazardous materials incident.

Blocked routes, flooding, fire, hazardous materials may hinder evacuations. If evacuation is not possible, sheltering in place may be required until conditions improve. Emergency responders and law enforcement personnel will close affected areas to protect public safety. The safety of emergency personnel will always be prioritized.

Evacuations may be ordered due to wildfires, severe flooding forecast or observed, hazardous material incident blocking access or threatening health, or a geological instability incident. Precautionary evacuations conducted before the public faces any risk, are the preferred protective course of action. Evacuations may be ordered through phases listed below:

Pre-Evacuation Advisory:

- Notify residents to prepare for possible evacuation.
- Emergency services may initiate door-to-door notifications.
- Schools, businesses, and vulnerable populations alerted.

Mandatory Evacuation

- All residents are required to leave.
- One-way outbound traffic implemented on the single access road, if feasible.
- Checkpoints established to direct traffic and assist evacuees.
- Evacuation shelters opened outside the evacuation zone.

Post-Evacuation/Re-Entry

- Access restricted until the area is deemed safe.
- Return authorized by local authorities.
- Damage assessments and cleanup initiated.

Special Populations

- **Elderly and Disabled:** Maintain contact info for assistance.
- **Schools and Daycares:** Buses on standby; staff trained in evacuation.
- **Tourists/Visitors:** Signage and notification systems in lodging and parks.

Transportation and Traffic Control

- **Primary Evacuation Route:** SR-9 East and West
- **Staging Areas:** Town Hall, Community Center, Town Park, River Park, LDS Church.
- **Traffic Flow:** Law enforcement to manage traffic and ensure constant outbound flow.
- **One-Way Use:** Road may be converted to outbound-only traffic to increase capacity.

Communication Methods

- Emergency Alert System (EAS)
- NOAA Weather Radio
- Town Website and Social Media
- Reverse 911 or mass notification system
- Flyers/door-to-door if tech fails

Shelter Locations

Shelters will be established in coordination with the Washington County Emergency Management and the American Red Cross. Shelters will be placed in areas that are deemed safe and outside of the immediate hazard zone. Each shelter will provide basic necessities, medical triage, and pet accommodations if possible.

Mass Care

In extreme emergencies, a mass evacuation may be necessary. The type and location of mass care shelters will depend on the nature of the emergency and the number of evacuees. Special needs groups, such as nursing home residents, will be housed in facilities equipped to meet their specific needs.

Mass Care Shelters will offer basic necessities, including emergency medical care, food, water, and recreational activities. Individuals who are not sheltered in public facilities may need emergency supplies of food and water.

Health and Medical

The Southwest Utah Public Health Department serves as the Washington County Health Department. The Town of Springdale is home to a small medical clinic, Family Health Care, which is open daily in the spring, summer, and fall and once a week in the winter. St George Regional Hospital (IHC), IHC Insta-Care Facility and the Hurricane Emergency Room are located nearby. The Hurricane Valley Fire District, located in Springdale, provides ambulance services.

The Town of Springdale faces various health hazards, particularly in mass-casualty situations such as disease outbreaks, resource contamination, and water and sewage issues. While the town can manage most emergencies, assistance from county, state, and federal agencies will be necessary during large-scale disasters. Public health agencies and private medical services will collaborate to provide comprehensive care.

Fire and Rescue

Fire prevention, suppression, control, and rescue are daily concerns for fire service personnel. These problems become more significant during emergencies and disasters, requiring close coordination of limited resources in some extreme cases.

Fire prevention, suppression, control and rescue in the Town of Springdale is provided by the Hurricane Valley Fire District. Existing fire and rescue personnel and equipment are able to handle most emergencies; however. additional support may be needed through mutual aid agreements or state and federal agencies. Fire communications and resource management will be adhered to procedures established by the Hurricane Valley Fire District.

Disaster Magnitude Classification

The Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) categorizes disasters into five levels of response:

- **Normal Response** – Emergencies that can be handled through a normal response without impacting normal operations.

- **Local Emergency** – Limited emergencies requiring substantial resources but are limited to a single jurisdiction.
- **Minor Disaster** – Local emergency needing limited outside assistance from county, state or federal agencies.
- **Major Disaster** – Multi-jurisdictional events requiring broad local, state and federal support. FEMA is notified, with federal assistance focused on recovery.
- **Catastrophic Disaster –** Events requiring immediate state and federal assistance, including military support. Federal assistance is needed for both response and recovery.

Continuity of Government

The Town of Springdale's Ordinance Title 1, Chapter 6A-3 (Appointment of Acting Town Manager) and Ordinance Title 1, Chapter 5-3 (Mayor Pro Tem) outline the order of succession in case the Mayor or Town Manager is unavailable during an emergency.

Declaration Process

The Town of Springdale serves as the primary responder in any disaster or emergency within its boundaries. However, during widespread incidents, local resources may be overwhelmed and unable to handle the situation effectively. Declaring a local "State of Emergency" fulfills three purposes:

- Acknowledges the disaster or emergency and ensures that local resources are fully utilized.

- Alerts Washington County and the State of Utah Division of Emergency Services that state assistance may be needed.

- Empowers local officials to take necessary actions to protect life, property and the environment, with safeguards against legal liability.

The declaration of a local "State of Emergency" by the Mayor, or Mayor Pro-Tempore, shall be valid for a period not to exceed 30 days. If the emergency exceeds 30 days, it must be declared by the Town Council. (Utah Code 53-2a-208)

Emergency or Disaster Occurrence

At the onset of a disaster or emergency, the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) should be activated. The Emergency Services Director will lead the coordination of resources and operations. A briefing with elected officials and emergency response personnel will establish the necessary course of action and assess whether additional resources from the state or neighboring local governments are required.

The declaration must be issued before State or Federal assistance is requested and is necessary as justification for such assistance. This declaration must be filed with the Town Clerk, and the following notifications should be made:

- The Washington County Emergency Operations Center (435-634-5734).
- The Utah Division of Emergency Services (801-538-3400).
- Coordination with county and state officials.

Damage Assessment

Damage assessment is crucial for determining the financial impact of a disaster and securing state or federal disaster declarations. The local emergency director, in collaboration with county authorities, will evaluate the situation and assess the damage in terms of:

- Magnitude
- Impact on people, property and the economy
- Dollar amount of damage
- Local response efforts

Sending timely and accurate reports to the county emergency director is essential for assessing the need for disaster assistance.

Requesting County Assistance

If the county and its municipalities resources are insufficient, the county should contact the Utah Division of Emergency Services (DES). DES will help conduct a preliminary assessment. If the damage is severe enough, DES will recommend:

- Declare a "State of Emergency" or a "Declaration of Disaster" and
- Request state assistance to provide specific types of equipment or services.

Requesting State Assistance

If the disaster surpasses local capabilities, the county may declare a State of Emergency and request assistance from the State of Utah. The Governor may activate state assistance through the Utah Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management, if the situation necessitates.

To qualify, a county must have exceeded its capabilities to financially handle the disaster or emergency to include:

- All expenses over the normal
- This total should include the county costs, the towns and cities costs, and other eligible applicants within the county.

Requesting Federal Assistance

Where response is beyond the capability of the State and County, the Governor may request assistance from the Federal Government. The Emergency Services Director on behalf of Washington County and/or any of its municipalities will make requests for State assistance through the Utah Division of Emergency Management.

Presidential Disaster Declaration

If the County receives a Presidential Disaster Declaration, a Recovery Team (CEOT-R) based on the County Emergency Operation Team (CEOT) will be implemented to address long-term issues in recovery. Disaster Field Office (DFO) locations will be identified. The DFOs will be established as soon as possible to expedite recovery. The EOC will interface with the DFO. The transition from response to recovery may be seamless, and recovery activities must begin as soon as possible.

Emergency Operation Center (EOC)

The primary Town Emergency Operations Center EOC is located at 118 Lion Blvd., Springdale, Utah. In the event of an emergency, a police vehicle may act as a mobile command post. If any Emergency Operations Committee member is absent, their position will be filled by the next available representative.

An alternative EOC is situated at the Canyon Community Center (CCC) located at 120 Lion Blvd. Springdale Utah. The CCC may also be used for a shelter, reunification center, or other support facility.

Notifications and Warnings

In the event of an emergency requiring public alert, notifications will typically be managed by the St. George City Emergency Dispatch Center. Alerts may be communicated via social media, email, the Town's website, Reverse 911, or mass media (radio and television). Law enforcement and emergency personnel will aid in delivering notifications through various channels such as vehicles, door-to-door outreach, or aircraft-mounted public address systems.

Other various sources, including private citizens, responding emergency services personnel, the National Warning System, the National Weather Service, Emergency Alert System (EAS), major news wire services, government agencies, industries, and utilities may also be utilized.

Additional support will be from the Washington County Sheriff's Office, Washington County Emergency Management, other local police departments and the Utah State Department of Public Safety (UHP).

All notifications and messages received will be verified. When these notifications and messages refer to emergency classification levels, protective action recommendations or other serious emergency matters, following those procedures outlined for the appropriate hazard-specific material.

The Town Council / Mayor or the Police Chief, or their designated representatives may direct additional warnings and protective actions be disseminated to the public.

Concept of Operation

General

Emergency service dispatching is accomplished by the St. George Emergency Communication Center, on a 24-hour basis. The Shift Supervisor on duty is likely to be aware of, and initially respond to any emergency within the Town of Springdale, dispatching response agencies accordingly.

The Town of Springdale should develop a call out list of all employees. The Emergency Services Director will ensure the list is provided to the St. George Emergency Communications Center.

Emergencies vary markedly in speed of onset and in their potential for escalation. The extent to which emergency facilities, such as the EOC or sheltering facilities are activated and begin operations depends heavily on the type of emergency, its escalation potential, the geographical extent, and other aggravating or mitigating factors.

The EOC ordinarily will be activated in any emergency of such magnitude as to require mobilization of elements of local government other than those normally involved in emergency services on a day-to-day basis.

Incident Command Post (ICP)

An Incident Command Post is established at the scene to manage operations using the Incident Command System (NIMS). The Incident Command System provides for effective and efficient management of facilities, equipment, personnel and communications operating with a common organizational structure. The use of the Incident Command System is the preferred method for emergency response personnel to operate during any emergency.

The first responder at the scene typically acts as the Incident Commander (IC). If required, a higher-ranking official may command as the situation unfolds.

When the event involves a crime with no other personal threats involved, the IC would normally shift to the first law enforcement officer arriving at the scene and then follow the above stated protocol.

When fire or other hazard to personal, property or the environment is involved, the initial IC will normally be associated with the responding fire services and follow their standard procedures.

The members at the Incident Command Post (ICP) will be determined by the on-scene Incident Commander depending on the nature of the incident, resources needed and available and any other factors deemed pertinent by the Incident Commander at that time.

Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

Direction and control in most tactical emergencies will be exercised by the on-scene Incident Commander. The occasion may arise where there are multiple incidents at widely separate locations that may require that the overall direction and control be assumed by the Town Council in concert with department heads and or their designated representative(s) at the EOC.

The EOC will provide support to one or more on-scene Incident Commander(s) in such areas as communications, alert and warning, transportation, evacuation, shelter, and in providing any other additional resources requested by or needed in the response effort.

The EOC plays an integral role in the successful emergency response and recovery operation. It provides a vital link for centralized direction and control for local, State, and Federal government organizations. The EOC will be activated as directed and staffed to the extent and duration required. The decision to activate the EOC may be made at the direction of the:

- Mayor
- Town Council
- Police Chief/Emergency Services Director
- Official Designee

Alternate Emergency Operations Center

If the primary Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is unavailable or unsuitable, an alternate EOC may be activated. Additional locations throughout the Town may also be utilized as necessary, based on the situation. Effective emergency response requires flexibility, and this plan supports command initiative when needed. Alternate sites may include fire stations, public buildings, or privately owned facilities.

State Government

The State of Utah is responsible for establishing a comprehensive emergency management organization involving all government levels, private entities, non-profits, and volunteer organizations.

- Creating and executing public awareness, education, and preparedness programs, including resources for non-English-speaking and other special-needs populations.

- Supporting county emergency management efforts through mutual aid agreements within Utah and neighboring states and coordinating assistance from FEMA.

- Leading a statewide response and recovery organization that includes state agencies, private partners, and volunteer organizations in alignment with federal operations.

- Creating and enforcing policies, standards, and regulations to reduce or mitigate the impact of hazards.

Federal Government

The federal government is responsible for:

- Providing emergency services on federally owned or controlled property, such as military installations and federal prisons.

- Offering federal assistance when authorized by the President, coordinated by FEMA and in accordance with federal emergency plans.

- Coordinating additional assistance under applicable federal laws.

Organization Responsibilities

Emergency Operations Committee

The Emergency Operations Committee for the Town of Springdale comprises the Town Manager, Police Chief/Emergency Services Director, and designated staff.

Local emergency operations align with the Utah Emergency Management Act Title 53 Chapter 2a, of Utah State Code, as amended.

Mayor and Town Council

- Holds ultimate responsibility and authority for public safety in the Town of Springdale.

- Provides policy guidance on emergency management mitigation.

- Declares and rescinds local State of Emergency declarations as needed.

- Consults with the Town Attorney regarding legal aspects of emergency powers in a disaster.

- Represent the Town of Springdale in coordinating with Washington County, the State and Federal officials.

Town Attorney

- Ensures maximum legal protection for the Town and emergency responders.

- Assists in damage assessments of Town property in preparation of applications for Federal Public Assistance funds.

- Supports the Town Mayor and Council with emergency declarations.

Emergency Services Director/Springdale Police Department

- The Chief of Police is the Emergency Services Director.

- Implement and manage the Emergency Management Notification System (EMINS), a warning and notification system, composed of the following systems:

    o Everbridge Emergency Alert System
    o Emergency Alert System
    o Social Medial

- Coordinates of all phases of emergency management, including review and revision of this plan with the Emergency Operations Committee.

- Oversee law enforcement operations during emergencies.

- Directs all small and large-scale evacuation and assists other agencies as prudent and advisable.

- Manage evacuations, access control, and public safety coordination.

- Liaise with county, state, and other law enforcement agencies.

- Represent the Town at the Washington County EOC if necessary.

- Complete and submit required disaster reports to the state.

- Identify evacuation routes, pick-up points, traffic control points, reception centers, and access control points.

- Coordinates with the Washington County Public Schools, Department of Community Services, and other organizations for the use of transportation resources to support evacuation plans.

- Selects temporary public reception/shelter areas for small-scale evacuations, in coordination with the Incident Command.

- Ensure security for evacuated zones and other sensitive areas.

- Maintains contact with the Washington County Division of Emergency Services and Homeland Security before, during, and after an emergency.

- Coordinate Mutual Aid Agreements and emergency training programs.

- Keep the Town Council informed of emergency preparedness status.

- Supervise volunteers and delegate responsibilities as needed.

Town Manager / Public Information Officer (PIO)

- Ensure staff assigned are trained and capable.

- Prepares budgets to support emergency operations.

- Direct public information policy and directs the dissemination of information to the public.

- Serves as liaison between the Mayor and Town Council during emergencies, in order to include guidance in the protective action decision making process.

- Designates a single point of contact for public and media communication (Public information Officer, PIO).

- Develop and release public information and emergency instructions.

- Answers general questions from the public about the declared emergency.

- Coordinates with county and state PIO's and the American Red Cross to establish Public Inquiry Centers.

- Disseminate maps, evacuation routes and warnings.

- Oversee procurement in collaboration with the Emergency Service Director.

- Verify and distribute accurate public information.

- Serve as the Town's chief public relations officer during emergencies.

- Draft and release EAS messages with key emergency communications to those in affected areas and actions to be taken. Such information and instructions will include evacuation routes, pick-up points for those without transportation, reception center locations, sheltering information, and other details related to the emergency.

Town Clerk

- Assists with public education and emergency communication.

- Provide critical records and contact lists to the Emergency Operations Committee.

- Update the community through the Town-wide email list.

- Protect and manage official documents and records during emergencies.

- Coordinate emergency polling locations if needed.

Public Works Department

- Maintain and clear transportation routes.

- Supply traffic control material and equipment.

- Work with UDOT and the County Road Department on debris removal and road access.

- Establishes plans which allocate resources needed before, during, and after an emergency.

- Manage debris cites and burn areas.

- Provide emergency power, water, and fuel services.

- Coordinate recovery with utility companies.

- Coordinate flood control measures.

- Provide emergency repair to equipment operating in support of the response.

- Conduct infrastructure assessments and temporary repairs.

- Develop damage assessment procedures and reports in compliance with state and federal guidelines.

- Support structural assessments and safety markings.

- Oversee emergency repair to equipment operating in support of the response.

- Identify and secure unsafe structures in collaboration with the building inspector.

- Collaborate with other Town departments for the repair or demolition of hazardous structures and public improvements in accordance with established procedures.

Parks and Recreation

- Support the clerk's office with public communication through social media.

- Assists with damage assessment.

- Assist in traffic control.

- Provide support to the public works department.

- Provide support to the community development department.

Community Development / Building Inspector

- Assess structural safety of public improvements in a disaster area.

- Collaborate with the Public Works Department to identify and secure hazardous structures.

- Conducts and assists in safety inspections and damage assessment operations.

- Conduct shelter inspections for safety.

- Coordinate repair permitting of damaged structures.

- Prepare damage assessment estimates for public building infrastructure losses.

- Provide mapping and property data for disaster assessments.

- Assists in submitting official damage reports to the state.

- Ensure town ordinance compliance and support.

Town Treasurer / Human Resource

- Track all emergency-related expenditures and recoverable costs.

- Coordinate the acquisition of required items supporting emergency operations.

- Manage financial documentation for state and federal relief applications.

- Oversee procurement and resource acquisition for emergency operations.

- Maintains the Purchase Resource List.

- Provide clerical support to the Emergency Operations Center.

- Monitor and analyze incident costs.

- Administer employee assistance programs and crisis support programs.

- Coordinate crisis counseling and stress debriefings.

- Ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

- Handle worker's compensation claims for disaster-related injuries.

Information Technology Services

- Provide network and PC support to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC0.

- Protect the Town's computer systems, networks, and data files during a disaster and ensure timely restoration of data support to Town departments post-disaster.

- Maintain telecommunications support to the EOC via the Town's phone system.

American Red Cross

Emergency Mass Care

Immediately following a disaster, the American Red Cross provides emergency shelter, food, medicine, and first aid to provide for basic human needs. They register evacuees and displaced persons, and establish a 1-800 helpline and Safe and Well system to help locate missing individuals. In major disasters, the American Red Cross distributes food and aids with home clean-up and crisis counseling in affected areas.

Emergency Assistance

The Red Cross helps disaster victims regain independence by enabling them to purchase essential items, such as groceries, clothing, temporary shelter, emergency repairs, transportation, medicines, and basic household tools.

Long-Term Recovery

When other resources such as insurance benefits or government assistance, are unavailable or are insufficient, the Red Cross provides individualized assistance based on verified disaster-related needs at no cost to recipients.

Additional Services

- Support for emergency workers.

- Referrals to additional assistance resources.

- Handling inquiries from concerned family members outside the disaster area.

- Providing blood and blood products to disaster victims.

- Mental health and specialized disaster-related counseling.

- American Red Cross disaster assistance is provided free of charge.

Southwest Utah Public Health Department

- Evaluate data and assist in forming protective recommendations for large-scale shelter operations.

- Coordinate all health services in Washington County, including field hospitals and aid stations.

- Monitor drinking water sources and advise the Community Emergency Operations Team (CEOT) on testing and delivery systems.

- Conduct health and sanitation inspections at shelters and food service areas.

- Publicize and enforce health safety measures.

- Lead investigation and control efforts of communicable diseases.

- Oversee community outreach and coordination with healthcare providers.

Southwest Region IV Response Team

The Southwest Region IV Response Team assists local agencies with hazardous materials and Urban Search Rescue (USAR) incidents in Washington County. In coordination with local responders, they will:

- Ensure compliance with the County Hazardous Materials Code during response and recovery, adjusting strategies as needed for environmental safety and response effectiveness.

- Provide technical guidance to emergency responders during HazMat and USAR incidents.

- Coordinate cleanup and remediation of contaminated sites.

- Assist in creating safe reentry guidelines following hazardous materials incidents.

- Support other response efforts as needed.

Washington County School District

In the event of an emergency the School District Director may:

- Provide bus transportation to assist with evacuee transport.

- Coordinate overall mass transit requirements.

- Facilitate the use of school facilities as emergency shelters.

- Support shelter operations housed in school.

- Supply equipment for meal preparation in partnership with the American Red Cross.

Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)

CERT members receive training in fire suppression, light search and rescue, and basic medical care. Their responsibilities are to protect their families and assist their neighbors.

CERT volunteers may be deployed within the scope of their training to support the law enforcement, search and rescue, firefighting, medical aid, and logistics during emergencies.

CERT programs improve Town emergency preparedness and promote individual self-reliance. The Town of Springdale actively supports this initiative.

Volunteers

Springdale values its trained, pre-registered volunteers who dedicate their time and specialized skills in times of need. The Town of Springdale relies on residents, local churches, business organizations such as the American Red Cross, Amateur Radio Clubs, and CERT for effective emergency response.

Resource Management

General

In a disaster, Town and community financial resources may be quickly strained. The Town must be able to fulfil its legal responsibilities while documenting disaster-related expenses and losses thoroughly. The Town Treasurer manages the fiscal response and monitors emergency costs.

Responsibilities

Washington County is a signatory of the Utah Inter-local Mutual Aid Agreement. When local resources are insufficient, neighboring counties may request mutual aid first.

If further assistance is needed via the County EOC, requests will be escalated to the Utah Division of Emergency Management. The state can then coordinate additional resources or request support from other states and the federal government.

Accounting

Accurate records of all emergency-related expenditures, including personnel and equipment costs, must be maintained. These records are essential for distinguishing expenses eligible for federal reimbursement under major emergency project applications from those that are not.

If FEMA provides public assistance under the Disaster Relief Act, all approved local projects are subject to state and federal audits. The Town Treasurer will coordinate all reimbursement documentation for Public Assistance (PA) during a disaster declared by the President.

Fiscal Agreements

Agreements should clearly define reimbursement and payment responsibilities for all agencies involved in emergency response, including personnel costs, equipment usage, and material expenditures.

Contact Numbers

TOWN OF SPRINGDALE

Town Hall	(435) 772-3434
Canyon Community Center	(435) 772-3434
Springdale Police Department	(435) 772-9096
Springdale Mayor	(435) 772-3434 (Office)
Barbra Bruno	(801) 243-5861 (Cell)
Emergency Management Director/ Police Chief	(435) 772-9096 (Office)
Garen Brecke	(435) 619-8497 (Cell)
Public Information Officer (PIO)/Town Manager	(435) 772-3434 (Office)
Rick Wixom	(435) 619-8500 (Cell)
Public Works Superintendent	(435) 772-3434 (Office)
Rob Totten	(435) 619-8496 (Cell)
Washington County Emergency Manager	(435) 301-7360
Jason Whipple	

OTHER AGENCIES

Washington County Sheriff's Office	(435) 656-6500
Washington County Dispatch	(435) 634-5730
Zion National Park Dispatch	(435) 772-0178
Hurricane Valley Fire District	(435) 635-9562
Southwest Utah Health Dept.	(435) 673-3528
Family Healthcare Zion Canyon Clinic	(435) 986-2565
American Red Cross (St. George)	(435) 674-4440
American Red Cross	(800) 733-2767

STATE AGENCIES

Utah State Department of Emergency Services	(801) 538-3400
	(800) 753-2858
Utah Department of Public Safety - Utah Highway Patrol	(435) 673-9651
Utah Department of Transportation - District 5	(435) 628-1311
	(435) 673-4542
Utah Department of Human Resources	(435) 652-2960
Utah State Dept. of Health Southwest Health District	(435) 673-3528
Utah National Guard	(435) 986-6784
Utah State University Extension Service	(435) 634-5706

U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Zion National Park Headquarters	(435) 772-3256
U.S. Department of Agriculture ASCS	(435) 673-2381
Bureau of Land Management	(435) 688-3200
Forest Service (Pine Valley Ranger District)	(435) 652-3100
Interagency Fire Task Force	(435) 688-3200
National Weather Service, Salt Lake City	(800) 882-1432
Soil Conservation Service	(435) 673-4896
US Fish & Wildlife	(435) 865-0861
Bureau of Indian Affairs	(435) 674-9720
FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation)	(435) 628-7499
FBI (Salt Lake City)	(801) 579-1400
FEMA	(303) 235-4800