

Catastrophic hurricane impacts may over extend counties' capabilities to evacuate substantial numbers of local residents who do not possess the means to evacuate themselves. Residents without access to personal transportation rely on their government (local, State, or federal) to provide the means to move them out of harms way.

The Situation

The *State of South Carolina* is susceptible to the impact of tropical systems. These systems produce four (4) major hazards: storm surge, high winds, rainfall-induced flooding, and tornadoes.

Concept of Operations

The transportation of local populations out of an evacuation zone is the responsibility of the county. The State will assist the counties in locating assets to help reduce identified shortfalls. Individuals will be transported to destinations in or out of the county, and will be offered return transportation when reentry has been approved for that jurisdiction. County plans are summarized as follows:

Beaufort County – will use local rapid transit authority assets to move 1,500 individuals per trip, and has the increased capacity to 1,700 per trip to Hampton County.

Berkeley County – school district transportation department serves as the lead agency to coordinate and execute transportation resources to move up to 10,000 individuals.

Charleston County – education transportation service provides evacuation services on pre-designated routes. "Special needs" transport will require assistance from outside the county. County EM works with medical care facilities and SCDHEC to solidify requirements and resources to meet the needs of the critical care population.

Colleton County – County School District and the *Veolia Transportation Company* to provide evacuation transportation to "special needs" personnel and other citizens needing transportation to designated shelters.

Dorchester County – will use five (5) handicapped capable buses from the regional transit authority to provide "on call" bus service as coordinated through the county EOC. An additional 4-8 handicapped buses are available from the two (2) schools districts if needed.

Jasper County – county plans include use of school and church buses for transport to shelters.

Counties will pre-coordinate known mass transportation shortfalls with State ESF-I, who in turn will pre-identify State-owned transportation assets to fill county mass transportation needs. State government will assist counties through pre-impact loss estimation modeling to identify population segments and areas potentially in need of mass transportation.

Response

Prior to the execution of mass transportation plans, counties will coordinate transportation needs with State ESF-I. ESF-I will ensure assets are in place at county destinations prior to or coincidentally with county plan execution, monitor county mass transportation operations, and assist with additional assets as requested. Transportation assistance will continue into reentry and recovery as required.

Recovery

State ESF-I monitors county mass transportation operations (if ongoing), and provides assistance as requested.

Responsibilities

SC Emergency Management Division (SCEMD)

1. Maintain and operate the Web-EOC or other similar system to assign and monitor the status of requests from the counties.
2. Through application of loss estimation software, assist counties in identifying population segments and/or areas 'potentially requiring emergency transportation.
3. Annually coordinate with county agencies updates/enhancements to county mass transportation plans.

SC Department of Education (SCDGE)

1. Through ESF 1, will maintain lists of sources of additional transportation assets and drivers to meet the shortfall requirements identified by the counties.
2. Coordinate additional transportation resources on a pre-planned basis to meet pre-identified needs from counties experiencing shortfalls.
3. Coordinate, dispatch, and monitor mass transportation resources during response and recovery operations as requested.