



To: Honorable Mayor and City Council
From: Tim Bush, Fire Chief and Emergency Manager
Date: April 14, 2023
Subject: Work Session – Emergency Management Presentation

On April 17, 2023, Hennepin County Emergency Management Director, Eric Waage will provide an executive-level introduction to emergency management concepts and principles during the council work session. It will present material similar to that previously presented to directors.

During disasters and large-scale emergencies, the Senior Official (Administrator, Elected or Appointed Official, Department Head, etc.) is responsible for the incident. In most jurisdictions, responsibility for the protection of the citizens rests with the chief elected official. Having the responsibility does not mean that the Senior Official assumes a command role over the on-scene incident operation. Rather, the Senior Official:

- Provides policy guidance on priorities and objectives based on situational needs and the Emergency Plan.
- Oversees resource coordination and support to the on-scene command from the Emergency Operations Center.
- Provides delegation of authority to an Incident Commander or Unified Command to manage the on-scene tactical operations.

Director Waage’s presentation is intended to help familiarize elected officials with their role in supporting incident management before, during, and after disasters. Topics will include:

- Introduction
- National Incident Management System
- ICS Organizational Structure and how it is used
- Concepts of Unified and Area Command
- The Role of the Senior Official