



Agenda Action Form Overview

The Board is requested to approve the membership roster as presented and accept the report of the past year's activities for the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC).

The LEPC is authorized by Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) and the Emergency Planning & Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) was enacted by Congress as the national legislation on community safety. This law is designed to help local communities protect public health, safety, and the environment from chemical hazards. To implement EPCRA, Congress requires each state to appoint a State Emergency Response Commission (SERC). The SERCs are required to divide their states into Emergency Planning Districts and to name a Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) for each district. In North Carolina, the SERC identifies a county, or group of counties, as the Emergency Planning District.

Locally the LEPC is group of concerned individuals from different local agencies and groups within Durham County who assure that our community has the emergency planning and response capabilities to effectively prevent and mitigate emergencies and disasters. LEPCs must develop an emergency response plan, review it at least annually, and provide information about chemicals in the community to citizens. Plans are developed by the LEPC with stakeholder participation.

The bylaws of the Durham County LEPC require that its activities are reported to the Durham County Board of Commissioners and that it presents a roster of members to the Board for approval following its January meeting of the current year.

Background/Justification

The intent of the letter is to meet these requirements in addition to compliance with the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), and the EPCRA (Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-know Act), section 301(c). A letter from the LEPC Chair is attached to this request and it includes the membership that includes the individuals name and organization they represent.

Policy Impact

Approving this agenda item is consistent with past actions.

Procurement Background

There is no procurement requested as part of this action.

Fiscal Impact

Approving the membership roster of the LEPC provides evidence that Durham County has an active LEPC and positions it for state grant funding.

Recommendation

The County Manager recommends that the Board approve the membership roster as presented and accept the report of the past year's activities for the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC).