

County Executive
of
Howard County, Maryland

Executive Order: 2015-09
Dated: July 1, 2015
Subject: Continuity of Government
and Continuity of Operations (*amends*
and supersedes Executive Order 2006-
***03*)**

WHEREAS, emergencies and disasters occur that threaten the public health, safety, and lives of the residents of Howard County and that there has been an increase in the size and impact of such disasters; and

WHEREAS, emergencies and disasters, both man-made and naturally occurring, can interrupt government functions and hinder the ability of County departments to deliver essential services to the people of Howard County; and

WHEREAS, the security and well-being of the people of Howard County depend on the County government's ability to provide leadership and essential government services during emergencies and disasters; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the community, residents, and citizens in Howard County to adopt Continuity of Government (COG) Planning and continue Continuity of Operations (COOP) Planning as its system to ensure continued performance of critical government functions during a wide range of emergencies and during the recovery from all disaster incidents; and

WHEREAS, effective COG Planning will preserve Howard County leadership and enable it to maintain direction and control of the County; and

WHEREAS, effective COOP Planning will enable a department to restore essential functions and essential services to the public; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the community, residents, and citizens in Howard County that the County government has a viable COG Plan and that each County department has a viable COOP Plan for responding to and recovering from all disaster incidents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED that:

1. The Howard County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) shall develop a Continuity Program comprising COG and COOP.
2. OEM shall be the lead department in administering the Continuity Program.
3. The Howard County government shall take any and all reasonable, necessary, and proper actions to adopt COG and to further carry out the intent and purposes of this Order.

4. Each County department shall take any and all reasonable, necessary, and proper actions to establish or modify operational procedures to continue COOP, to train their personnel on COOP, to provide interagency/departement cooperation and training exercises on COOP, and to further carry out the intent and purposes of this Order.
5. OEM shall guide and assist the County departments in the development and maintenance of their COOP Plans in accordance with the Continuity Program.
6. Each County department shall keep its COOP Plan updated and maintained in accordance with the Continuity Program.
7. To assist County departments with COOP Plan maintenance, OEM shall audit departmental COOP Plans in accordance with the Continuity Program.
8. The Howard County government shall keep the COG plan updated and maintained in accordance with the Continuity Program.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Allan H. Kittleman, as County Executive of Howard County, Maryland have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Howard County to be affixed this 15th day of July, 2015.

This Executive Order amends and supersedes Executive Order 2006-03.



Allan H. Kittleman
County Executive

