



Homeland Security  
and Emergency Services

Emergency  
Management

# LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ACCREDITATION CONCEPT

# EM Accreditation Concept

- An accreditation program for County and other local Emergency Management Offices.
- Would be similar to the national Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) but would be for local EM agencies in New York State.
- Would be voluntary in nature with no cost to the agency seeking accreditation (other than your time).

# EM Accreditation Concept

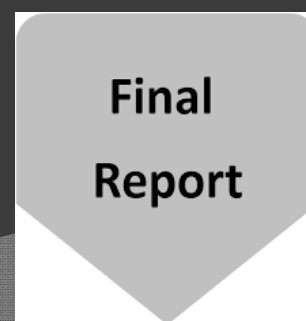
- A partnership between NYSEMA and NYS (DHSES/OEM), to include an Advisory Council made up of State and local reps.
- EM Offices would need to meet a series of standards as endorsed by the Council.
- Would leverage a variety of resources to develop standards that are relevant and realistic for local EM agencies.

# EM Accreditation Concept

- Would also work to ensure alignment with current initiatives (e.g., CEPA, EMC & T).
- A joint NYSEMA/NYS work group or committee would develop the standards for review and approval by the Council.
- Accreditation would be for a certain timeframe (e.g., 5 years) with an opportunity for reaccreditation.

# EM Accreditation Concept

- Process would likely include:
  - Application
  - Plan review/development
  - Site visits/reviews (done by State/local EMs)
  - Submit report to the Council for review/approval
  - Annual recognition (locally and at NYSEMA Conf.)



# EM Accreditation Concept

- ◎ Local EM Role (examples):
  - Serve as site reviewers (outside of your region)
  - Serve on Advisory Council
  - Participate in workgroups or sub-committees
  - Provide subject matter expertise





# EM Accreditation Concept

- ◎ DHSES/OEM Role (examples):
  - Assist with coordination of the Council
  - Scheduling/coordinating of the reviews
  - Outreach/training
  - Technical assistance
  - Other administrative duties



Homeland Security  
and Emergency Services

Emergency  
Management

# Possible Standards (examples)

- ✓ Formally recognized EM Office and EM Director
- ✓ Required training (e.g., NIMS, ICS, EMC & T)
- ✓ Formal adoption of ICS
- ✓ Advisory or Planning Committee (e.g., LEPC)
- ✓ Hazard/Capability Assessment Process (e.g., CEPA)
- ✓ Hazard Mitigation Plan/process
- ✓ Updated CEMP (and associated plans/annexes)
- ✓ COOP/COG Plan
- ✓ Mutual Aid Plans (as appropriate)
- ✓ Emergency Communications
- ✓ Emergency Operations Center
- ✓ Public Information and Warning
- ✓ Exercises and AARs
- ✓ ETC.....





# Setting the bar in the right spot.....



# Primary Benefits

- ◎ Improve the overall preparedness posture in NYS as agencies become accredited.
  - NYS has one of the most dynamic risk profiles of any state in the Country
  - We face a variety of man-made and natural hazards, and its only getting more intense
  - Constantly need to advance our preparedness efforts
  - Further promote collaboration and sharing of ideas and best practices (plans, etc.).

# Secondary Benefits

- Help to further professionalize EM by placing it on par with other public safety disciplines that have state accreditation (e.g., LE, 911).
- Formally recognize progressive local EM agencies that are willing to meet the standards.
- Another chance to be a leader and model for others.

# EM Accreditation Concept

## ◎ Next Steps:

- Appoint Advisory Council
- Formalize a work group or committee to develop the program and standards
- Develop/approve standards
- Explore legislation to authorize the program
- Begin accreditation process
- You have done a lot already – lets share our plans and resources - <http://www.nysema.org>

# **Feedback & Suggestions**

## **Thank You!**