

PPROEM EVACUATION PLAN

NOVEMBER 2021



**PIKES PEAK REGIONAL
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

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ADOPTION

PPROEM’s mission includes risk reduction, education, emergency response coordination, and disaster recovery support and coordination for large-scale all-hazard emergencies and disasters; natural, technological, and human-caused, for the citizens of the Pikes Peak Region for the purpose of saving lives and preventing and limiting property and environmental damage.

This document provides planning and program guidance for implementing the PPROEM Evacuation Plan, supporting plans, guidelines, and processes, as well as supporting emergency management programs to ensure the organization can conduct its essential missions and functions under all threats and conditions.

This plan is developed in accordance with guidance found in Standard Operating Guidelines documents.

This PPROEM Evacuation Plan has been approved for PPROEM implementation by:

Jim Reid, PPROEM Director

Date

SUPERSESSION

This plan supersedes all previous El Paso County and City of Colorado Springs Evacuation Plans.

IMPLEMENTATION

This plan is officially implemented with PPROEM Director adoption for implementation.

CONTACTS

Contact the Pikes Peak Regional Office of Emergency Management (PPROEM) if you have questions regarding this document.

PPROEM

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DOCUMENT DEVELOPMENT

This document was developed collaboratively by PPROEM staff and community volunteer organizations. It has been reviewed by stakeholders and internally by PPROEM staff and leadership.

Stakeholder involvement:

Pikes Peak Regional Office of Emergency Management

El Paso County HazMat

El Paso County Sheriff's Office

City of Colorado Springs Fire Department

City of Colorado Springs Police Department

Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region

PLAN MAINTENANCE, REVISION AND EVALUATION

The Pikes Peak Regional Office of Emergency Management (PPROEM) is responsible for this plan and for conducting an annual review of its content. This plan will be evaluated, maintained, and revised according to the current PPROEM Standard Operating Guidelines. The plan will be reviewed annually by PPROEM Coordination Section leads and undergo a full stakeholder review every five years. The full stakeholder review will result in amendments to the plan based on input received from a range of stakeholders including PPROEM staff, regional partners, and the community.

RECORD OF MAINTENANCE, REVISION, AND EVALUATION

Date	Summary of Activity	Entry Made By
12/3/20	Added Stakeholder involvement under Document Development	Bart Evans
11/5/21	REMOVED SECTION Q: MUNICIPAL AND AGENCY EVACUATION PLANS ON FILE WITH PPROEM-PPROEM IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE UPDATING AND MAINTENANCE OF MUNICIPALITY AND AGENCY EVACUATION PLANS	

INTRODUCTION

A. Purpose

The Pikes Peak Regional Office of Emergency Management (PPROEM) Evacuation Plan defines the expected responsibilities of El Paso County (EPC) and the City of Colorado Springs (COS) during evacuation situations. It builds an all-hazard framework for coordinating and supporting evacuation, sheltering, and re-entry operations with partner agencies keeping a whole community perspective. The plan outlines the response to incidents requiring evacuation which occur in areas supported by the county. It details anticipated evacuation requirements, needs, and progression along with the means to activate various support functions through the appropriate organizations.

B. Scope

This plan applies to evacuations within El Paso County for which coordination support has been requested from the Pikes Peak Regional Office of Emergency Management (PPROEM). “El Paso County” as referenced in this plan refers to all unincorporated areas of the county as well as any incorporated municipalities within the borders of the county. PPROEM hopes to facilitate a collaborative planning environment for evacuations in which all authorities having jurisdictions (AHJ) within El Paso County operate from this common evacuation plan.

The plan is designed to be used in conjunction with the PPROEM Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and supporting annexes, and unless otherwise stated, all other roles and responsibilities listed in the EOP are applicable during evacuation situations.

This plan is not intended to supersede existing plans of local municipalities or jurisdictions where evacuation plans already exist. Local jurisdictions may use this plan as a guide for evacuations or template to establish their own plans as needed.

As outlined in this plan, in most cases, the Law Enforcement agency having jurisdiction (AHJ) for the area impacted by the event will have primary responsibility for executing evacuations for civilian populations and domestic animals from the hazardous area, determining the level of closure, and staffing traffic control points. This plan is not intended to limit or supersede the authority of Law Enforcement to execute or plan evacuations.

Agencies listed by name throughout the plan have been identified as being primary partners in their respective evacuation roles. Through the planning process, representatives from those agencies have been asked to provide feedback, guidance, and agreement as to the information contained in this plan.

C. Authorities and References

- C.R.S. Sec 24-33.5-707 (1-2) – El Paso County Office of Emergency Management serves the entire county unless otherwise provided by statute; or for municipalities with emergency management personnel.
- C.R.S. Sec 24-33.5-707(3) – El Paso County OEM shall cooperate with the disaster agencies of municipalities situated within its borders but shall not have jurisdiction within a municipality having its own disaster agency.
- Local governments are also empowered under C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709 to declare a "local disaster." Upon that declaration, the response and recovery aspects of any and all local and interjurisdictional disaster emergency plans are activated. The El Paso County Emergency Operations Plan ("EOP") authorizes evacuations, which furnishes the legal power to the County to issue evacuation orders.
- Sheriffs in Colorado draw authority to order evacuations independent of the EOP as an implied power necessary to fight wildland fires; via C.R.S. § 30-10-512; (in addition to express powers, sheriff's implied powers "which are reasonably necessary to execute those express powers"). Additionally, the sheriff's authority to order evacuations during fires and other disasters is reflected in his/her broad statutory authority to keep the peace.
- The authority to order an evacuation is outlined in Colorado Springs City Code 8.7.107, **Authority for Emergency Evacuations** which reads:
 - A. In the event of an emergency, the Mayor the Fire Chief, the Office of Emergency Management, and the Chief of Police shall each have the authority to order any person to evacuate any premises, vehicle or other real or personal property located within the City limits, or in any area under the control of the City in its home rule capacity, for any period of time up to and including the duration of the emergency.

- B. For purposes of this section, an "emergency" is defined as:
 - 1. Any emergency formally declared by the City Council, El Paso County, the State of Colorado, or the Federal Government, including inclement weather and other disaster situations, in which human life is at risk;
 - 2. Floods, fires, accidents involving hazardous material spills, active and actual confrontations between police and criminal elements, terrorist activity or activity believed to be terrorist based and acts of God which place a person's life at risk.
- C. Emergency evacuation is only authorized within the specific area, to be determined by the person ordering the evacuation, within which life safety is at risk.
- D. It shall be unlawful for any person to refuse to or fail to immediately evacuate an area upon receipt of a verbal or written order to evacuate under this section. It shall be unlawful to re-enter an evacuated area without permission of the evacuating authority. Any person violating this section shall be subject to immediate arrest and removal by police, fire or any emergency management personnel deployed to assist the City during any emergency. (Ord. 02-47)
- Authorities for local municipalities that have evacuation plans in effect take precedent for those jurisdictions.

D. Situation and County Profile

El Paso County encompasses 2,130 square miles and is the most populous county in the state of Colorado with more than 688,000 residents. The Pikes Peak Region also can draw upwards of 40,000 tourists during high travel seasons. In addition to the City of Colorado Springs, the second largest city in the state, El Paso County contains fourteen incorporated and unincorporated cities and towns, as well as five military installations.

El Paso County has identified threats for which mass evacuations might be necessary. Wildfires, HAZMAT incidents, and flooding are high likelihood, high impact hazards which could require rapid evacuation of homes, businesses, healthcare facilities, public areas, and schools.

The major and consistent threats which face El Paso County, according to the 2015 El Paso County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP), 2016 City of Colorado Springs Hazard Mitigation Plan, and 2016 South-Central Region Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) are below. Included is the likely response needed:

Hazard	Action
Winter Storm	Shelter-in-place (primary) Emergency sheltering may be required
Flood	Evacuation likely
Severe Storm	Shelter-in-place
Wildfire	Evacuation likely
HAZMAT Spill/Train Derailment	Shelter-in-place (primary outside hot zone) Evacuation possible (see HAZMAT plan for procedures)
Acts of Terrorism/Active Shooter	Shelter-in-place (primary) Evacuation likely for immediate area
Landslide/Avalanche	Evacuation likely
Pandemic	Shelter-in-place likely (see Public Health Pandemic Plan for more info)

Table 1: Hazard Table

E. Planning Assumptions

The following assumptions were made while developing this plan:

- Response operations will be managed according to Incident Command System (ICS) and National Incident Management System (NIMS) principles. The Evacuation Plan uses these principles to coordinate actions with other response and recovery functions.
- Depending on the size, location, and scope of the evacuation, (local, county, state, and federal) resources may be limited due to significant impacts on local first response and emergency management agencies. Prioritization of efforts will be given to immediate life safety and health needs.
- Evacuation may be required at any time of day or night and in any kind of weather thus confusion and traffic congestion should be expected.
- Research and behavioral analyses suggest that approximately 10-15% of displaced populations normally seek the support of a public shelter facility.
- The lead first responder on-scene or the Incident Commander (IC) is responsible for initial, life-safety evacuations until Incident Command has been formally established.
- Evacuations in El Paso County are likely to occur without warning, providing only minutes to hours of warning or preparation before evacuating becomes necessary for life safety.
- Sheltering-in-place will be the first option for the majority of weather related events within El Paso County.
- Life safety situations are described as any situation for which the delay of the normal approval process could result in loss of life.
- Life safety situations compromise the safety of the public or individuals and present a significant threat of serious injury or death.
- Life safety evacuations may be uncontrolled and chaotic.

- El Paso County, in conjunction with local partners, has the capability of sheltering a large number of evacuees locally. No current threats listed in the EPC HMP or THIRA are expected to require a county-wide evacuation.
- Local cities, towns, and fire districts are capable of initial response to incidents and are capable of making operational life safety decisions prior to coordination support from PPROEM.
- El Paso County towns, cities, and fire districts will likely request EPC Emergency Coordination Center (ECC) support when coordinating evacuations of any significant size.
- When faced with an obvious, confirmed threat, evacuation from the affected area will likely start before an official evacuation order is issued.

CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. General Policies

It is the policy of Pikes Peak Regional Office of Emergency Management (PPROEM) to respect the authority of local jurisdictions over an incident until a time when the incident has exceeded the local response capabilities, support has been requested, or control has been formally transferred by delegation of authority.

- The Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) will coordinate evacuation operations from the Incident Command Post (ICP).
- The AHJ will request assistance from other first response agencies through established mutual aid agreements.
- PPROEM will provide coordination and resource support through the Emergency Coordination Center (ECC) when requested.
- PPROEM may activate support agencies as necessary to support evacuation operations.
- IC may request, either through dispatch or through the ECC, the activation of partner agencies to support evacuations.

If the area which has been evacuated was damaged or otherwise impacted by the incident, reentry and recovery functions must coordinate closely to ensure critical infrastructures and utilities are safe prior to allowing reentry. PPROEM will coordinate with the law enforcement AHJ to facilitate an orderly repopulation or reentry of an evacuated area. It is the policy of PPROEM ECC to establish a Recovery Group as soon as a mass evacuation has been declared to coordinate potential damage assessment and recovery operations.

B. Organization and Authority

During a mass evacuation, evacuation operations will be placed under the direction of the Law Enforcement Branch or Group within the Incident Command organization in the AHJ. In the ECC, this function will be coordinated by the Law Enforcement Group within the ECC Coordination Section. The Law Enforcement Group is responsible for initiating and carrying out

evacuations within the incident area. Their tactics should be coordinated with other incident response activities through the ECC Coordination Section. For pre-planning evacuations, an Evacuation Group may be formed under the ECC Information Section. This function may also be delegated to the PPROEM ECC.

When the PPROEM ECC is activated to coordinate evacuation resource requests, the ECC Director will assign an Evacuation Group Supervisor as needed.

C. Shelter-in-Place

Depending on the incident type and location, evacuation may not be required or recommended. Residents may be advised to shelter-in-place instead.

Shelter-in-Place:

- The majority of hazards in El Paso County can be safely weathered by sheltering-in-place.
- When sheltering in place, people generally feel safer, are better prepared, and recover faster from incidents.
- The consequences of putting people on the road during an event often far outweigh the risks of ordering them to shelter in place.
- Shelter-in-place orders should be communicated through the normal channels as in any disaster event. Incident PIOs may request assistance from the JIC to facilitate this.
- The ECC may assist with dissemination of information to the public in accordance with the public information and warning annex of the EOP.
- Shelter-in-place events may not require the assistance of the ECC to coordinate.

When sheltering in place is not enough to ensure the safety of residents and the public, evacuation orders may be issued. It is the responsibility of the AHJ to determine the best course of action depending on the scope of the incident, type, time, and location.

D. Evacuation Decisions

Evacuations are recommended when one or more of the following conditions are met:

- Citizen safety is under continuing threat.
- First response agencies cannot adequately address the needs of the residents while also responding to the incident.
- Public health concerns are significant and not sufficiently mitigated by shelter-in-place measures.
- Infrastructure cannot support residents, i.e. no food, clean water, power for an extended period of time.
- The risks of sheltering in place outweigh the risks of evacuating.

El Paso County encompasses a large number of smaller towns, municipalities, cities, and unincorporated areas. Responsibility for any evacuation rests primarily with the authority

having jurisdiction (AHJ). The AHJ may, through mutual aid, request assistance from other agencies or jurisdictions to support evacuation operations and incident management needs.

Evacuation decisions should not be delayed if the time it would take to obtain the proper approvals would endanger lives. The PPROEM Duty Officer should monitor all incidents which may result in evacuations and activate if it is anticipated that ECC support may be needed. Any AHJ may request ECC support during evacuation incidents.

When activated, the ECC Director or Situation Unit Leader will collect information from the Incident Commander, on-scene lead, or PPROEM Liaison regarding evacuation decisions and begin to coordinate resource requests per ECC policies and procedures. In addition to managing immediate requests, the ECC Director should also monitor the situation to determine if recovery operations and support may be needed and make notifications as appropriate.

For slow developing or pre-planned situations, evacuations may be planned and coordinated ahead of time. In anticipation of mass evacuation needs within the county, the PPROEM may activate the ECC to help coordinate evacuation support.

Personnel (or their identified designee) who can order a mandatory evacuation in El Paso County or the City of Colorado Springs independent of life safety or non-immediate life safety situations are the following:

- El Paso County Sheriff
- Mayor(s)
- Board of County Commissioners
- Governor of the State of Colorado
- Fire Chief
- Chief of Police
- Incident Commander of the Event

E. Evacuation Alert and Warning

Primary life safety evacuation information will be disseminated by the various Alert and Warning Systems at the request of the Incident Commander through the appropriate dispatch centers. It is the responsibility of the AHJ through IC to notify their dispatch center of any evacuation orders and provide geographic boundaries, evacuation instructions, as well as any route directions.

Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS)

EPSO Dispatch, the Colorado Springs Public Safety Communications Center, and El Paso/Teller E911 are designated IPAWS authorities for the region and so have the capability to send out emergency messages (including evacuation notices) to a variety of different systems. Per policy, the IC or the PPROEM may request EPSO Dispatch, the Colorado Springs Public Safety Communications Center, or El Paso/Teller E911 to issue an IPAWS notification but the message

must be approved by the IPAWS authority prior to being disseminated. It is not the policy of the IPAWS authority to unilaterally issue IPAWS messages.

F. Public Information

Regardless of the initiating event, the decision to evacuate must be rapidly communicated. For complex incidents or when applicable, EPSO Public Information Officer (PIO), the Colorado Springs Public Safety Communications Center, COS Chief Communications Officer, EPC PIO, and other partner PIOs will coordinate public information by forming a Joint Information Center (JIC) to ensure that all messaging is accurate and timely. The PIOs will work to execute a public information plan which includes appropriate and reasonable accommodations for residents with access and functional needs (AFN). At the minimum, they should engage appropriate translators (American Sign Language (ASL), Spanish, etc.) so any press briefing information will be compliant with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

Refer to the PPROEM Communications Plan or the PPROEM Alert and Warning Plan for further PIO and mass communication policies and procedures, including techniques for reaching populations with AFN.

G. Evacuation Maps

El Paso County and the City of Colorado Springs Information Technology (IT) Departments have the ability to rapidly produce accurate maps of evacuation zones which can be disseminated to the IC, the ECC, and PIO(s). It is important to incorporate GIS early into evacuations and ensure that the information is coordinated between the IC and the ECC. The IC should place all map requests through the ECC who will activate the appropriate IT department.

H. Evacuation Routes

El Paso County has numerous major thoroughfares, including multiple Interstate and U.S. Highways, which provide critical access to rural and urban areas. Control of the roadways rests primarily with the law enforcement agency having jurisdictional authority. During a mass evacuation event, decisions on traffic flow and evacuation routes are controlled by the IC in conjunction with the local law enforcement having jurisdiction. Traffic control operations will be coordinated from the ICP. All decisions on road closures, evacuation routes, or other traffic control functions should be communicated from the IC to the ECC. A pre-identified OEM Liaison could be used to accomplish this.

During an emergency, clearing the roads for emergency response, evacuation, and movement of resources becomes critical to response and recovery operations. El Paso County Department of Transportation and COS Public Works in conjunction with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) and the Colorado Traffic Incident Management System (TIMS), shall coordinate emergent road clearings and maintenance with partner agencies through aid agreements.

I. Evacuation of Animals

Evacuation of pets up to and including large animals is primarily the responsibility of the pet owners. During an evacuation, responders should expect animals to be one of the first concerns raised by residents.

As soon as the need is identified, the IC should request Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region's (HSPPR) support in evacuating animals. Relevant dispatch centers should forward this request to HSPPR dispatch who then dispatches appropriate resources to the scene. If HSPPR's dispatch is not open, then the relevant dispatch center dispatches HSPPR resources directly. Animal Law Enforcement (ALE) is a department of HSPPR that responds and assists in the evacuation of animals, small and large, from a hazard zone. ALE responds under a mutual aid agreement with EPSO and is placed under the Law Enforcement Branch of IC. For safety reasons, ALE teams should be escorted into the hazard area by IC-designated resources.

Once ALE is activated, the Community Animal Response Team (CART) – a volunteer group coordinated by HSPPR – is automatically activated to aid in the sheltering of evacuated animals. Animals evacuated from the area by ALE can be transferred to CART for sheltering, taken directly to an animal shelter, or returned to owners.

PPROEM may activate CART resources as needed for smaller events or pre-evacuation planning. In the event of a large scale or extended evacuation, PPROEM will coordinate with CART for continued accommodations for evacuated animals.

Spontaneous volunteers often arise during evacuations, specifically to assist in the evacuation of large animals. The IC should be hesitant to officially deploy these volunteers into active hazard zones as private citizens.

Owners are encouraged to have evacuation plans in place and utilize available resources when evacuating large animals. Any pet evacuation plans should also include any food and medication needed for the duration of the evacuation. Refer to the HSPPR for information on evacuating with animals and for recommended items.

Recovery of animals "let loose" during an evacuation, either by private citizens or response agencies, is primarily the responsibility of the animal owners.

J. Access and Functional Needs (AFN) Evacuation

El Paso County residents with access and functional needs may require additional support when evacuating. In addition to the population traditionally designated as having access and functional needs, other residents requiring assistance may include assisted living and skilled nursing residents, high-risk populations, isolated elderly with significant health concerns, or residents without transportation. It is the responsibility of the AHJ to rapidly identify any such evacuation needs. Often residents who need assistance evacuating are asked to call 911 for help. Dispatch then relays the information to the IC who dispatches appropriate resources. When activated, the ECC can assist in coordinating those requests with available local, state, and federal (military) resources.

The ECC should also coordinate closely with local AFN advocacy groups such as the Independence Center to ensure that populations with AFN are being properly considered in all planning and tactical decisions. This can be done either through email/phone communications

or by requesting a representative respond to the ECC. Any recommendations from AFN advocacy groups should ultimately be coordinated by the ECC communicated to the IC.

Assisted living and skilled nursing facilities are mandated to maintain evacuation plans for their residents. To ensure residents are safe, staff responsible for those facilities should not delay implementing their evacuation plans. It is recommended to issue evacuation notices early to healthcare facilities to allow time for evacuations to take place. The South Central Healthcare Coalition (SCHCC) maintains a list of member facilities and can coordinate regional resources to assist in evacuations. They have also developed a Healthcare Facilities Evacuation Annex which provides guidance for jurisdictions when evacuating healthcare facilities. It is recommended to request a representative from either SCHCC or EPC Public Health to staff Emergency Support Function (ESF) 8 (Public Health and Medical) in the ECC and provide evacuation information on AFN or healthcare populations in the incident area.

During a potential evacuation, the AHJ/PPROEM/EPC/COS Chief Communications Officer or the JIC shall coordinate public information to include instructions for residents to keep their neighbors in mind and be vigilant about ensuring they are well-informed and safe. This information should be coordinated with guidance from AFN advocacy groups to ensure the information is accessible through a variety of means including written, verbal, visual, and appropriate translators. Refer to the PPROEM Communications Plan for additional strategies for communicating emergency information to residents with AFN.

A key to successfully evacuating people with AFN is neighborhood preparedness. It is understood that the first and best option for evacuating those who live at home without familial support will be concerned neighbors and friends. Neighborhoods should be encouraged to identify such residents prior to disasters through programs such as Ready and Resilient Neighborhoods.

Evacuation of homeless populations or those without transportation should be considered. Evacuee collection points may be required and should be close to high-risk housing areas and significant homeless populations. In the event collection points are needed, the ECC shall coordinate resource requests from the IC to manage those evacuees and transport them to the nearest emergency shelter.

K. School Evacuation

There are seventeen public school districts and numerous private education providers within El Paso County, as well as multiple colleges. In accordance with city and state requirements, schools maintain emergency plans which outline their response to natural and manmade disasters. Due to the highly complex nature of evacuating a school while it is in session, the policy of most school districts is to shelter their students in place whenever possible. The school districts may order their schools to shelter-in-place independently or at the recommendation of the IC or the ECC.

In the event a school must be evacuated, staff shall follow school policies and procedures and manage their evacuation operations in accordance with those plans. Most school districts have

evacuation plans in place that identify secondary and tertiary locations to which students may be transported. Schools are responsible for activating any emergency notification procedures for parents and staff. In the event of a school evacuation, schools are advised to notify appropriate authorities, law enforcement or emergency management to begin coordinating operations.

The PPROEM may activate the ECC to assist when needed or requested by the school districts.

Local emergency leaders are encouraged to actively review, and coordinate evacuation plans for schools within their jurisdictions.

L. Emergency Sheltering

The American Red Cross (ARC) is the primary partner for emergency sheltering in El Paso County. During life-safety evacuations, it is imperative that an evacuation center be opened as soon as possible so evacuees may go there for information and assistance. Evacuation centers may be helpful when the following conditions are present:

- The area being evacuated is densely populated
- Evacuees are spontaneously gathering in areas which inhibit response operations
- It is necessary to share information with evacuees
- Evacuees need any support; food, mental health, recovery, etc.

If it is determined that an evacuation center is needed, the IC can request the ARC through dispatch or by phone to the ECC. Once a center has been established, the ARC will assess the need for overnight sheltering and decide whether to open such a shelter for their clients. Often the overnight shelter will be at the same location as the evacuation center.

The ECC shall coordinate requests for sheltering during evacuations with the ARC, who will assess requests to determine priority and availability of resources. Accessibility to an ARC shelter shall be in compliance with all Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations. The ARC, in accordance with the PPROEM Mass Feeding Plan, will coordinate food and shelter logistics with the ECC.

Locations of emergency shelters, including animal shelters, should be communicated back to all relevant dispatch centers as soon as possible. During evacuations, the public often utilizes 911 to ask questions regarding incident information, evacuation boundaries, and shelter/support locations. If the Tactical Dispatch Unit (TDU) has been activated within the ECC, this can be relayed face-to-face. If not, then the ECC shall provide the information to all relevant dispatch centers via phone call.

El Paso County Public Health may activate the El Paso County Medical Reserve Corp (MRC) to support any medical sheltering needs in coordination the ARC. All sheltering operations shall be compliance with the MRC's Access and Functional Needs Support Services (AFNSS) in a Mass Care Shelter Plan. EPC Public Health is the lead agency for coordinating all disaster-health and

mental-health services during an evacuation. The ARC will provide health and mental health services within ARC shelters, with the assistance of MRC, if requested.

Locations of designated shelters will be determined largely by the type and location of the event. Shelter location information shall be widely disseminated by the incident PIO with support from the JIC utilizing the PPROEM Alert and Warning Plan.

Service animals will be allowed to enter shelters with their owners in compliance with ADA regulations. All other evacuee pets will be managed by the Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region's (HSPPR) Community Animal Response Team (CART), which will work with the Red Cross to establish co-located pet shelters.

During large scale events, unaffiliated independent shelters may open spontaneously. The American Red Cross and PPROEM are not responsible for establishment of these shelters or their compliance with ADA or other governmental regulations.

M. Large Animal Sheltering

Sites for housing large animals will be coordinated by the HSPPR through the CART. Due to the highly specialized needs for these locations, the HSPPR has predetermined sites that can accommodate livestock needs. Locations of large animal sheltering will be determined by size, type, and location of incident.

N. Evacuation Area Security

Following an evacuation, the law enforcement AHJ will coordinate security of the evacuation area with a combination of local law enforcement agencies including the El Paso County Sheriff's Office (EPSO), the Colorado Springs Police Department (CSPD), and the Colorado State Patrol (CSP). Coordination of those efforts may also be managed by Operations at Incident Command.

- Officers and deputies should be briefed on evacuation plans, notices, and their responsibilities.
- Any officers or personnel responding from outside agencies are under the operational control of the IC and the AHJ while conducting operations for the incident.
- Access control points (ACP) will be established to ensure only properly identified and credentialed personnel have access to the evacuation area.
- Patrols of the evacuated areas, when appropriate, will be coordinated by the above agencies.

The AHJ, the EPC PIO, the COS Chief Communications Officer, and the JIC shall ensure that public information regarding the evacuation zone security is communicated appropriately.

O. Evacuee Accountability

Accountability of evacuated persons is essential to accurate situational awareness and determining the incident's impact on local communities. The PPROEM Evacuee Accountability Plan focuses on the timely and accurate accounting of evacuees to achieve clear

communication, activation of appropriate and sufficient support resources, and eventual safe reentry of the affected public to an area impacted by a natural or manmade disaster. Through the use of a pre-established evacuee registration system, PPROEM expects to ease the process of identity verification and accountability of evacuated residents, increase evacuation area security, as well as reduce congestion at ACPs. Evacuee accountability can be done either through the use of an online form or physical registration sites. Activation of the plan can be requested by either the IC or by the PPROEM.

Refer to the PPROEM Evacuee Accountability Plan for additional information.

P. Reentry and Recovery

PPROEM's Recovery Plan outlines three phases for recovery; short-term, intermediate-term, and long-term recovery. The short-term phase of recovery concentrates on damage assessment, restoration of basic infrastructure, and the mobilization of recovery organizations and resources to address these needs; all of which are vital to ensuring the safety of an area prior to allowing reentry.

Reentry and recovery planning should incorporate input from the IC, the ECC and the law enforcement AHJ. The status of the incident will weigh heavily on returning residents and the public to the impacted area. The need for damage assessment and reestablishment of basic infrastructure may affect the ability to reoccupy an area. The law enforcement AHJ should be consulted to address access limitations, traffic flows and accountability as the area is repopulated.

When an evacuation has been ordered, it is recommended that the IC and the ECC establish appropriate and respective recovery functions. Planning for reentry into an evacuated or affected area should be started early during an operation to ensure all hazards have been mitigated and there is no continuing threat to the public.

Once an incident has stabilized and the IC has coordinated with the ECC, the PPROEM Recovery Section will deploy Disaster Assessment Teams (DAT) to conduct an Initial Damage Assessment (IDA) of the area and provide recommendations on reentry timeframes and characteristics. Any incident that results in enough damage to necessitate a formal damage assessment should delay public reentry until the IDA is complete. The IC should consider information from all recovery partners when determining whether it is safe for the public to reenter the affected area and how it will be done.

Once an IDA has been completed, the IC will determine how reentry of the public into the affected area will take place. The IC will often control reentry into the impacted area for short period of time to ensure residents are able to access their properties without the area being open to the public.

A pre-established credentialing and reentry process will allow the IC to control entry into the area, maintain scene and site security, and disseminate public information to media and evacuees in a timely manner. The IC may decide to activate the PPROEM Evacuee

Accountability Plan to ease the credentialing process. If the plan has not already been activated, PPROEM shall coordinate its activation and ensure public messaging is consistent. For more information, see the PPROEM Evacuee Accountability Plan.

More information on reentry, short-term, and long-term recovery can be found in the Evacuee Accountability Plan and the PPROEM Recovery Plan.