

FOREWORD

Hazardous conditions and situations exist in all communities and East Baton Rouge Parish is no exception. They range from such natural hazards as hurricanes and flooding to chemical spills and nuclear accidents, to the ultimate threat of a terrorist event. Ordinary citizens generally give little thought to these potential hazards until they occur or threaten our community. The East Baton Rouge Parish Mayor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (MOHSEP) has the responsibility of identifying real and potential hazards and to the greatest extent possible, prepare plans for coping, when and as they occur. The East Baton Rouge Parish Emergency Operations Plan represents a concerted effort by the consolidated government of East Baton Rouge Parish to provide resources and assistance in an expeditious manner to save lives and to protect property for all hazards.

The East Baton Rouge Parish All Hazards Emergency Operations Plan sets forth appropriate actions to be taken in response to a disaster; to include the potential or imminent threat of any event. Further, this plan facilitates the coordination for the delivery of parish resources and services necessary to deal with the consequences of a disaster. The plan outlines planning assumptions, policies, concept of operations, organizational structures and specific assignments of responsibilities to the departments and agencies tasked with local response efforts.

The Emergency Operations Plan for East Baton Rouge Parish conforms to the basic plan as set forth in the Federal Emergency Management Agency guidelines for the Integrated Emergency Management System and is consistent with the accepted standards and principles of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Emergency Operations Center concept.

The East Baton Rouge Parish Mayor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (MOHSEP) appreciates the cooperation and support from all of the parish departments and agencies which have contributed to the development and publication of this plan. MOHSEP has worked with these groups to provide a forum for the departments and agencies with responsibilities identified in the plan to participate in planning and exercise activities in order to develop, maintain and enhance the parish's response capabilities.