

IMPLEMENTING THE NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

WHEREAS, in Homeland Security Directive (HSPD)-5 the President of the United States directed the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to develop and administer a National Incident Management System (NIMS), which would provide a consistent nationwide approach for federal, state, local and tribal governments to work together more effectively and efficiently to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size or complexity; and

WHEREAS, the City of Philadelphia has the primary responsibility for preventing, responding to, and recovering from emergencies in the City and an overwhelming majority of the emergency incidents in the City are handled by local incident response organizations of the City primarily under the Managing Director's Office (including, but not limited to, the Office of Emergency Management, Fire Department, Emergency Medical Services, Police Department, Hazardous Materials Task Force, Department of Health, Water Department, and Department of Public Property), as well as the Division of Aviation and other such departments that the Director of Emergency Management may identify in the future; and

WHEREAS, it is essential that all City of Philadelphia incident response agencies and personnel coordinate their efforts to effectively and efficiently provide the highest levels of incident management; and

WHEREAS, to facilitate the most effective and efficient incident management it is critical that all City of Philadelphia incident response agencies utilize standardized terminology, organizational structures, interoperable communications, consolidated action plans, unified command structures, uniform personnel qualification standards, uniform standards for planning, training, and exercising, comprehensive resource management, and designated incident facilities during emergencies and disasters; and

WHEREAS, the Emergency Preparedness Review Committee (EPRC) has recommended that the Incident Command System (ICS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS) be adopted as formal City policy, and that focused training be completed within all organizations and departments that have a role in emergency management and incident response; and

WHEREAS, the NIMS standardized procedures for managing personnel, communications, facilities and resources will improve the City of Philadelphia's ability to utilize federal funding to enhance local and state readiness, maintain first responder safety, and streamline incident management processes;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John F. Street, by the power vested in me as the Mayor of the City of Philadelphia, do hereby order as follows:

Section 1. Implementation of National Incident Management System

The Managing Director's Office, acting by and through the Office of Emergency Management, shall ensure that the focused NIMS and ICS training recommended by the EPRC be completed within all organizations and departments that have a role in emergency management and incident response, and that NIMS principles are incorporated into the City's emergency plans. The Office of Emergency Management shall ensure that once fully implemented local incident response agencies City-wide will be able to perform the following functions set out at:

http://www.fema.gov/pdf/emergency/nims/nims_tribal_local_compliance_activities.pdf

- A) Ensure common and proven incident management doctrine, practices and principles are used to plan for, protect against, respond to, and recover from emergency incidents and preplanned events;
- B) Maintain a response operation capable of expanding to meet an escalating situation and the ability to integrate resources and equipment from intrastate and interstate mutual aid agreements, state provided assistance, and federal government response;
- C) Order and track response assets using common resource typing and definitions, and draw on mutual aid agreements for additional assistance;
- D) Establish staging and allocation plans for the re-distribution of equipment, supplies and aid coming into the area from other localities, states and federal government through mutual aid agreements;
- E) Conduct situational assessments and establish the appropriate ICS organizational structure to effectively manage and incident;
- F) Establish communication processes, procedures and protocols that will ensure the effective interoperable communications among emergency responders, 911 centers, and multi-agency coordination systems (Emergency Operation Centers).

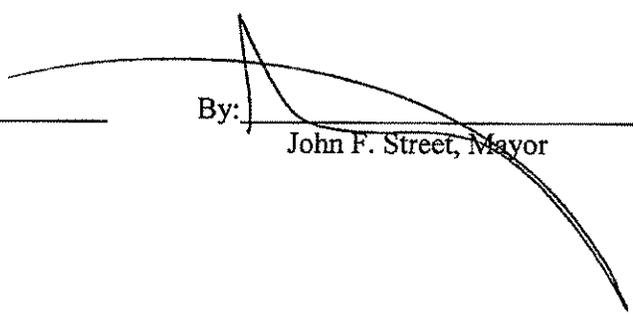
Section 2. Completion of NIMS Training

The Managing Director's Office, acting by and through the Office of Emergency Management, shall require all incident response agencies of the City and their personnel to complete the federally mandated NIMS compliance activities, including training and incorporation of NIMS principles within the emergency plans as required by the Department of Homeland Security and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, and provide certification to that effect. Thereafter, NIMS shall be the official City of Philadelphia incident management and incident command systems employed by all incident response agencies and their personnel to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size or complexity.

Section 3. Effective Date.

This Order shall take effect immediately upon execution.

Date: 9/20/06

By: 
John F. Street, Mayor

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
OFFICE OF THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

September 15, 2006

TO : Honorable John F. Street, Mayor

FROM : Pedro A. Ramos, Managing Director 

SUBJECT : National Incident Management System (NIMS) Executive Order

Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD-5) requires all federal departments and agencies to adopt and implement the NIMS, and requires state and local jurisdictions to implement the NIMS to receive federal preparedness funding. To that end the Governor issued a Proclamation on December 20, 2004 mandating that the NIMS be utilized for all incident management in the Commonwealth.

The City of Philadelphia is required to certify to James R. Joseph, Director of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency that it has complied with the NIMS standards. The certification requires that all City first responders receive the NIMS training in incident command. Mr. Joseph has also requested that you issue an Executive Order mandating that NIMS be utilized for all incident management in the City. In addition, implementation of the NIMS was identified as a recommendation in the EPRC report. I have attached the Executive Order for your execution.

Please sign the attached Executive Order by the requested implementation deadline of September 30, 2006.

Thank you.

Attachment

cc: Joyce Wilkerson, Chief of Staff
Loree D. Jones, Secretary, External Affairs
Romulo L. Diaz, Jr., City Solicitor