

15 Critical Considerations To Add to Your Municipal Emergency Response Plan

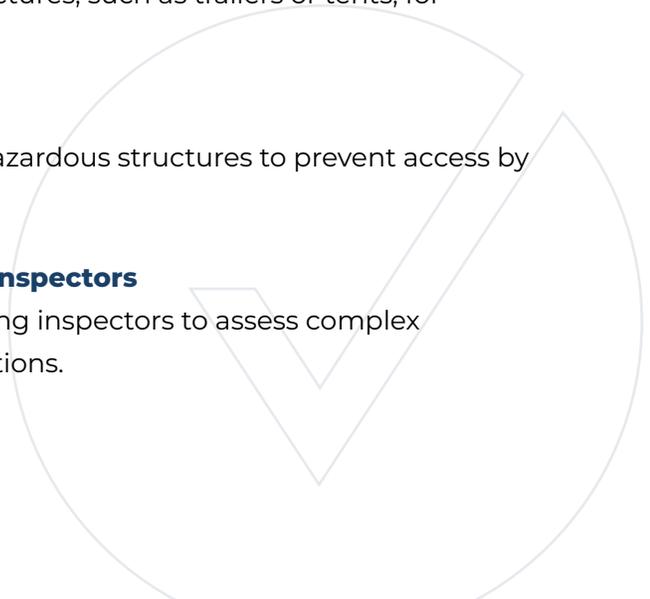


In preparation for increasingly devastating disasters like hurricanes, wildfires, floods, and tornadoes, municipal leaders must ensure their emergency response plans are not only up-to-date but account for everything.

We understand just how complicated short- and long-term recovery can be. That's why we've collected this checklist of considerations to add to your plan and help your community recover with expediency and resilience.

IMMEDIATE RESPONSE

- Temporary Structures Approval**
Review and approve the use of temporary structures, such as trailers or tents, for emergency purposes.
- Safety Signage and Barricades**
Install safety signage and barricades around hazardous structures to prevent access by the public.
- Coordination With Engineers and Building Inspectors**
Collaborate with licensed engineers and building inspectors to assess complex structural issues and propose appropriate solutions.

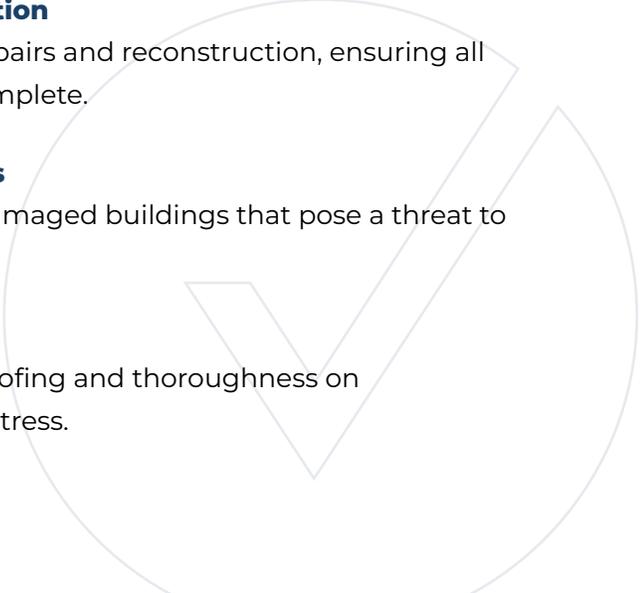


- Identify and Meet Staffing Needs**
Scale existing building department staff, fill talent vacancies caused by displacement, and outsource short- and long-term support.
- Establish Remote Support**
Establish a relationship with a disaster relief partner located outside your municipality to provide remote support during and after the disaster.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Designate a Primary Contact**
Designate a primary contact for all media questions, responsible for broadcasting public announcement, updates and resources. This should include creating backup communication methods, considering potential digital media access limitations in the community during a disaster.
- Check Systems and Alerts**
Verify that public announcement systems and emergency alerts are still operational and unaffected following any disaster or emergency incident.

DOCUMENTATION

- Identify Necessary Permitting and Documentation**
Find, gather, and organize all disaster-related permits, plans, and documentation as appropriate for your municipality.
 - Expedite the Right Permits and Documentation**
Ensure the permitting process is smooth for repairs and reconstruction, ensuring all necessary documentation is prioritized and complete.
 - Unsafe Building Demolition or Repair Orders**
Issue demolition or repair orders for severely damaged buildings that pose a threat to public safety.
 - Added Layer of QA/QC**
Put in place supports that can ensure extra proofing and thoroughness on documentation during periods of heightened stress.
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INSPECTIONS



Structural Safety Inspections

Assess the structural integrity of buildings and properties to determine if they are safe for occupancy or require repairs.



Inspecting Fire Safety Measures

Verify that fire protection systems, such as sprinklers and fire alarms, are functional and up to code.

COMPLIANCE



Elevated Floodplain Compliance

In flood-prone areas, ensure that buildings or temporary structures are elevated to the required level to minimize future flood damage, especially if additional inclement weather is forecasted.



Building Code Compliance

Ensure that any reconstruction or repairs adhere to building codes and regulations, especially in high-risk areas prone to disasters.

Most municipalities aren't equipped to take on all aspects of disaster relief without help. The key to the most expeditious recovery is having the right partners in place **before** disaster strikes. SAFEbuilt has provided day-to-day support of essential operations to dozens of municipal clients recovering from natural disasters. We can provide the support you need to maintain resilience in a post-disaster state.

Get a closer look at [SAFEbuilt Disaster Recovery](#)

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