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2024 Hurricane Season Update and Emergency Management Status Report

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND:

The Office of Emergency Management is providing a briefing update to the 2024 Hurricane season along with the heightened risk of Excessive Heat the next few months. There will also be and update on the city's mitigation program, preparedness activities and programs and special projects.

Discussion:

The briefing will provide an update to the 2024 Hurricane season along with the heightened risk of Excessive Heat the next few months. There will also be and update on the city's mitigation program to include projects completed to date and planned projects.

There will be discussion on our preparedness activities and programs. Emergency Management is hosting Community Preparedness Days where residents can come learn about being prepared along with getting some supplies to start their emergency disaster supply kits. The Emergency Management team is working on building Community Lighthouses throughout areas in the city. The concept is that after a major disaster/event that there will be pre-staged disaster supplies, provide means of charging devices and a trusted place within the community to get official information. These sites can provide power resilience to residents and also be used as cooling and warming centers if needed. Another initiative that is being re-energized is our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) to build trained citizenry and volunteers who can assist during emergencies. Then there are special projects that Emergency Management is coordinating and leading both locally and regionally to build resilience within the city and region. Should there be a need for additional support from the region we would be able to reach out and request additional resources and support.

Future state and federal funding to support Emergency Management initiatives are being cut next year and into future years. We are still apply for grants, but with the requirement for it to be regional we are partnering with the Peninsula localities on some grants and the entire Hampton Roads region

on others. This will allow the city to be more competitive in funding projects that will help serve our residents.

Impact:

The efforts of the Office of Emergency Management will allow the city to continue to be prepared to respond, recover and mitigate against future natural and man-made disasters/emergencies.

Recommendation:

None