“...disaster aware and disaster prepared.”

The Commodity Flow Study: Challenges, Tips, and Best Practices
Session Overview

• What is a Commodity Flow Study?
• Why you should do one
• Data use
• Getting it done
• How often
• Best Practices/Good ideas!
EM Functions

- Day-to-Day Activities
- Management challenges
- Transportation accidents/incidents
- The next “case study?”
- Adding to the “pile”
Commodity Flow Survey

• What it is?
  – A Hazardous materials commodity flow Study identifies the types and amounts of hazardous materials transported into, out of, within, and through a specified geographic area...
Commodity Flow Study

• Why do a flow Study?
  – Evaluating safety risks
  – Analyzing trends
  – Forecasting demands for movement of goods
  – Determining needs for infrastructure
Commodity Flow Study

• Why should you do one?
  – Practical preparedness!
  – ?

[Image of burning truck]
Common uses of the data

- analyzing trends in goods movement over time;
- conducting economic analysis;
- developing models for management and investment decisions;
- forecasting future demand for goods movement and associated infrastructure and equipment needs;
- analyzing and mapping patterns of commodity and vehicle flows.
Commodity Flow Study

• Who can use it?
  – Emergency Management
  – First Responders
  – First Receivers
  – LEPC
  – Public Works
  – Community Stakeholders
  – Others?
Commodity Flow Study

• For what purposes?
  – Planning
  – Training
  – Exercise
  – Equipment purchases
  – Other?
The Study
Commodity Flow Study

• Getting it done, “The Basics:”
  – The Outcome (The Product)
  – The Bid (RFP)
  – The Evaluation
  – Repeat?
Commodity Flow Study

• The Outcome:
  – Overview of the jurisdiction including transportation infrastructure
  – Planning recommendations regarding the transportation of hazardous materials
  – Traffic counts including the type and amount of hazardous materials moving within or through each jurisdiction
Commodity Flow Study

• The Outcome (cont.):
  – List of sources, purchasers, producers, storage facilities of hazardous materials
  – Maps of traffic of hazardous materials movement representing routes, modes, specific types of materials, fixed handling facilities
  – List of data sources used as the basis of the analysis
Commodity Flow Study

• The Bid Process (RFP)
  – Talk to other EM’s who have done flow Study (pitfalls, vendors, etc.)
  – Include the stakeholders in the decisions
  – Involve policymakers

• Grant Assistance...
Commodity Flow Study

• Grant Assistance
• How to...
• Grant application contains guidance for spec to include final product
Commodity Flow Study

- Evaluating the product:
  - Did it meet the scope of work?
  - Understandable format designed for the receiver
  - Have finished product reviewed by local trusted experts
Commodity Flow Study

• How often should it be done?
  – Every five years (recommended)
    • New transportation routes/ methods
    • Population/geography changes
    • Product changes (new products/hazards)
    • Compare, with earlier versions, trends (training, equipment, planning, grants)
Commodity Flow Study

• The Great Reveal:
  • What’s actually coming through our jurisdiction
    – Volume was unbelievable!
    – The Study process was very time consuming
    – Surprising locations affected by the flow of materials
    – Exposure of vulnerable population
Best Practices/Great Ideas!

Before,
During,
and After
Commodity Flow Study

• Before
  – Select your team of stakeholders
  – Review guidance for conducting flow studies
  – Review
    • Changes to zoning, new facilities, etc.
    • Population/residency shifts
    • Changes to infrastructure
Commodity Flow Study

• Before (cont.)
  – Consider, if you use volunteers...!
    • Commitment
    • Training
    • Liability
    • Other
Commodity Flow Study

• During
  – Get frequent progress updates from contractor
  – Share progress reports with stakeholders
  – Assure grant reporting requirements are met
Commodity Flow Study

• And, After
  – Include LEPC’s in flow Study results
  – Check and verify demographic information
    • Census.gov
  – Verify traffic counts (smell test?)
    • /hr. vs /day
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Questions?

Comments?