

Davison County FSE-POD

After-Action Report/Improvement Plan

October 13, 2020

The After-Action Report/Improvement Plan (AAR/IP) aligns exercise objectives with preparedness doctrine to include the National Preparedness Goal and related frameworks and guidance. Exercise information required for preparedness reporting and trend analysis is included; users are encouraged to add additional sections as needed to support their own organizational needs.

EXERCISE OVERVIEW

Exercise Name	Davison County Point of Distribution (POD)
Exercise Dates	October 13, 2020
Scope	This exercise is a Full-Scale Exercise, planned for 1500-1900 at the Mitchell Corn Palace. Exercise play is limited to the SD Department of Health, Davison County Emergency Management, Aurora County Emergency Management, Davison County Search & Rescue, Davison County Auditor's Office, Davison County Sheriff's Office, National Weather Service, Mitchell Corn Palace, Mitchell Police Department, Mitchell Fire Department/EMS, Avera Queen of Peace, and State Office of Emergency Management.
Mission Area(s)	Prevention, Protection, Mitigation
Core Capabilities	Planning Operational Communications Operational Coordination Public Information and Warning Operational Coordination Mass Care Services On-scene Security, Protection, and Law Enforcement Operational Communications Public Health, Healthcare & Emergency Medical Services, including Healthcare capabilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Foundation for Healthcare & Medical Readiness• Healthcare & Medical Response Coordination Situational Assessment
Objectives	Accountability of all participants Successful communication with multiple agencies Scene safety and security Recognition of the event Knowledge of roles Establish medical response On sight Incident Management

	<p>Accurate and timely release of information Recovery and Termination of the event Recovery of victims (if any negative side effects) Coordinate with healthcare & first responders</p>
<p>Threat or Hazard</p>	<p>Social distancing, crowd control, mass evacuation (if applicable).</p>
<p>Scenario</p>	<p>The Scenario utilized for this exercise is an actual event, which is the yearly Davison County Point of Distribution (POD). Residents will enter the Corn Palace in an orderly fashion, maintain social distance, be required to wear a mask at all times, have the consent form completed, and will receive an influenza vaccination. Residents will be recommended to remain in the soft seats for 15 minutes post vaccination. Several agencies (EM, Search and Rescue, MPD & EMS, Sheriff’s Office, and SDHP) will assist in monitoring the crowd for compliance. Any with serious negative effects will be referred to Avera Queen of Peace or transported by ambulance. Mitchell EMS will be on ground for transports.</p>
<p>Sponsor</p>	<p>Davison County Emergency Management.</p>
<p>Participating Organizations</p>	<p>SD Department of Health, Davison County Emergency Management, Aurora County Emergency Management, Davison County Search & Rescue, Davison County Auditor’s Office, Davison County Sheriff’s Office, National Weather Service, Mitchell Corn Palace, Mitchell Police Department, Mitchell Fire Department/EMS, Avera Queen of Peace, and State Office of Emergency Management</p>
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ANALYSIS OF CORE CAPABILITIES

Aligning exercise objectives and core capabilities provides a consistent taxonomy for evaluation that transcends individual exercises to support preparedness reporting and trend analysis. Table 1 includes the exercise objectives, aligned core capabilities, and performance ratings for each core capability as observed during the exercise and determined by the evaluation team.

Objective	Core Capability	Performed without Challenges (P)	Performed with Some Challenges (S)	Performed with Major Challenges (M)	Unable to be Performed (U)
1. Accountability of all participants and On sight Incident Management	Mass Search and Rescue Operations	P			
2. Successful communication with multiple agencies and Coordinate with healthcare & first responders	Operational Communication and Operational Coordination		S		
3. Scene safety and security	On-scene Security, Protection, and Law Enforcement	P			
4. Knowledge of roles	Operational Coordination	P			
5. Establish medical response and Recovery of victims (if any negative side effects)	Mass Care Services	P			
6. Accurate and timely release of information	Public Information and Warning		S		

Objective	Core Capability	Performed without Challenges (P)	Performed with Some Challenges (S)	Performed with Major Challenges (M)	Unable to be Performed (U)
<p>Ratings Definitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performed without Challenges (P): The targets and critical tasks associated with the core capability were completed in a manner that achieved the objective(s) and did not negatively impact the performance of other activities. Performance of this activity did not contribute to additional health and/or safety risks for the public or for emergency workers, and it was conducted in accordance with applicable plans, policies, procedures, regulations, and laws. • Performed with Some Challenges (S): The targets and critical tasks associated with the core capability were completed in a manner that achieved the objective(s) and did not negatively impact the performance of other activities. Performance of this activity did not contribute to additional health and/or safety risks for the public or for emergency workers, and it was conducted in accordance with applicable plans, policies, procedures, regulations, and laws. However, opportunities to enhance effectiveness and/or efficiency were identified. • Performed with Major Challenges (M): The targets and critical tasks associated with the core capability were completed in a manner that achieved the objective(s), but some or all of the following were observed: demonstrated performance had a negative impact on the performance of other activities; contributed to additional health and/or safety risks for the public or for emergency workers; and/or was not conducted in accordance with applicable plans, policies, procedures, regulations, and laws. • Unable to be Performed (U): The targets and critical tasks associated with the core capability were not performed in a manner that achieved the objective(s). 					

Table 1. Summary of Core Capability Performance

The following sections provide an overview of the performance related to each exercise objective and associated core capability, highlighting strengths and areas for improvement.

Objective #1: Accountability of all participants and On sight Incident Management

The strengths and areas for improvement for each core capability aligned to this objective are described in this section.

Core Capability: Mass Search and Rescue Operations

Strengths

The full capability level can be attributed to the following strengths:

Strength 1: Have current plans in place.

Strength 2: Have knowledgeable volunteers on the team, who respond as needed.

Strength 3: Have pre-identified roles and responsibilities.

Areas for Improvement

The following areas require improvement to achieve the full capability level:

Area for Improvement 1: Exercise the POD more often, to allow participants to learn from each other.

Area for Improvement 2: Move some participants into different roles, to expand their capabilities.

Reference: Planning/Training.

Analysis: Bringing several volunteers/agencies together will continue to have better results using existing plans. People taking ICS courses will help grow understanding of the overall processes, and allow them to feel more comfortable working in a new position.

Objective #2: Successful communication with multiple agencies and Coordinate with healthcare & first responders

The strengths and areas for improvement for each core capability aligned to this objective are described in this section.

Core Capability: Operational Communication and Operational Coordination

Strengths

The full capability level can be attributed to the following strengths:

Strength 1: Have knowledgeable people involved to succeed at their assigned roles.

Strength 2: The staff/volunteers worked well together within the POD.

Strength 3: Good communication with other agencies such as DOH, PD, FD/EMS, Avera, etc.

Areas for Improvement

The following areas require improvement to achieve the full capability level:

Area for Improvement 1: Involve some of the actual responders, rather than the FD leadership, who can actually assist during a training exercise (due to budget constraints first responders were at work).

Area for Improvement 2: Move some participants into different roles, to expand their capabilities.

Reference: Training/Real Word Events.

Analysis: We practice the POD once per year. Considering the current COVID-19 situation we find ourselves in, the POD should be exercised more, and on a larger scale.

Objective #3: Scene safety and security

The strengths and areas for improvement for each core capability aligned to this objective are described in this section.

Core Capability: On-scene Security, Protection, and Law Enforcement

Strengths

The partial or full capability level can be attributed to the following strengths:

Strength 1: Several Volunteers from the Davison County Search and Rescue Team participated in the event.

Strength 2: Scene Security addressed family members/media (simulated) who were near the incident area.

Areas for Improvement

The following areas require improvement to achieve the full capability level:

Area for Improvement 1: Presence of additional Law Enforcement Officers.

Reference: Scene Security Procedures

Analysis: Although Search and Rescue Members were wearing official "Security" shirts, having Law Enforcement Officers staged in and around the building would deter most disruptive citizens. In the event of a large POD, we would request additional security.

Objective #4: Knowledge of roles

The strengths and areas for improvement for each core capability aligned to this objective are described in this section.

Core Capability: Operational Coordination

Strengths

The partial capability level can be attributed to the following strengths:

Strength 1: Communication-Considering we had very limited in person communication prior to the POD, the event went well.

Strength 2: Resources-We did our best to ensure we had everything we needed prior to the event. It did not appear we were short on any items.

Strength 3: Roles-Most volunteers have been participating for several years and complete their responsibilities fine.

Areas for Improvement

The following areas require improvement to achieve the full capability level:

Area for Improvement 1: Again, move some participants into other positions.

Area for Improvement 2: Look outside the box for resources. What do we need that would make the POD run even more efficient?

Reference: Planning

Analysis: For the most part, everyone knows what to do and they just do it. As stated above, moving people (some) into different roles will allow us to have more people to fill open positions. Obviously some positions can't be filled by a volunteer, but for those that can we should have volunteers cross trained.

Objective #5: Establish medical response and Recovery of victims (if any negative side effects)

The strengths and areas for improvement for each core capability aligned to this objective are described in this section.

Core Capability: Mass Care Services

Strengths

The full capability level can be attributed to the following strengths:

Strength 1: First responders were on scene to address the scenarios.

Strength 2: EMS assessed the patients, triaged, called for an ambulance and evacuated patient to Queen of Peace Hospital.

Strength 3: Great coordination between POD Director, Security, EMS, dispatch, and the hospital.

Areas for Improvement

The following areas require improvement to achieve the full capability level:

Area for Improvement 1: Early identification of potential issues.

Reference: Training

Analysis: A simulated incident allowed the EMS staff to get involved in a situation, by responding to a resident who was feeling ill after the vaccination. The patient was transferred to the hospital and later died of COVID-19. The Duty Officer was notified.

Objective #6: Accurate and timely release of information

The strengths and areas for improvement for each core capability aligned to this objective are described in this section.

Core Capability: Public Information and Warning

Strengths

The partial or full capability level can be attributed to the following strengths:

Strength 1: The POD was advertised in several media outlets.

Areas for Improvement

The following areas require improvement to achieve the full capability level:

Area for Improvement 1: The low turn out for the event was disappointing.

Area for Improvement 2: Dedicated PIO at the event.

Area for Improvement 3: PIO taking an active role in what can be done immediately to make the event better.

Reference: Courses such as IS-242.b Effective Communication and G290 Basic Public Information Officers.

Analysis: We made several adjustments to allow for social distancing. However, many citizens decided to not attend the POD. We do hope they were able to access a FLU shot elsewhere, to alleviate the possibility of contracting influenza. It would be beneficial to have a trained and dedicated Public Information Officer to ensure the public is being informed in a timely manner. We attempted to post information on social media during the event, in hopes of citizens attending, but the participation was less than anticipated.

APPENDIX A: IMPROVEMENT PLAN

This IP has been developed specifically for Davison County as a result of the Davison County Full Scale Exercise conducted on October 13, 2020.

Core Capability	Issue/Area for Improvement	Corrective Action	Capability Element ¹	Primary Responsible Organization	Organization POC	Start Date	Completion Date
1. Accountability of all participants and on sight Incident Management	Lack of Exercise of the POD. Lack of cross trained staff/volunteers.	Plan for another mass POD to distribute the COVID-19 Vaccine. Possibly find additional volunteers and cross train.	Planning/ Training	Emergency Management and DOH.	Emergency Manager/Deputy and County Health Nurse.	11-1-20	12-1-20
2. Successful communication with multiple agencies and Coordinate with healthcare & first responders	Lack of actual first responders, Lack of cross trained staff/volunteers.	Meet with local EMS Chief to see how we can build the POD into the actual work schedule. Solicit and cross train additional volunteers.	Planning/ Training	Emergency Management and DOH.	Emergency Manager/Deputy and County Health Nurse.	11-1-20	12-1-20
3. Scene safety and security	Lack of Law Enforcement Officers.	Presence of additional Law Enforcement Officers.	Scene Security Procedures	Emergency Management	Emergency Manager/Deputy	11-1-20	12-1-20

¹ Capability Elements are: Planning, Organization, Equipment, Training, or Exercise.

4. Knowledge of roles	Lack of resources to make the process run better.	Due to the current COVID-19 Pandemic, now is the time to evaluate the POD and purchase any resources that would make the POD more efficient.	Planning	Emergency Management, POD Director and DOH.	Emergency Manager/Deputy and County Health Nurse.	11-1-20	12-1-20
5. Establish medical response and Recovery of victims (if any negative side effects)	Need more people participation and trained first responders.	Meet with local EMS Chief to see how we can build the POD into the actual work schedule. Solicit and cross train additional volunteers.	Training/ Funding/ Policy	Emergency Management /MPD	Emergency Manager/Deputy and EMS Chief	11-1-20	12-1-20
6. Accurate and timely release of information	Low turnout for the POD.	Train additions PIO staff to work prior to the event on recruiting citizens to attend the event.	Training/ Real Word Events	Emergency Management and Community	Emergency Manager/Deputy	11-1-20	12-1-20

APPENDIX B: EXERCISE PARTICIPANTS

Participating Organizations
Federal
National Weather Service
State
South Dakota Office of Emergency Management
South Dakota Department of Health
Local
Davison County Emergency Management
Davison County Search & Rescue
Davison County Auditor
Davison County Treasurer
Davison County Commissioners
Avera Queen of Peace
Mitchell Public Safety (included Police and Fire/EMS)
Mitchell Corn Palace
Aurora County Emergency Management