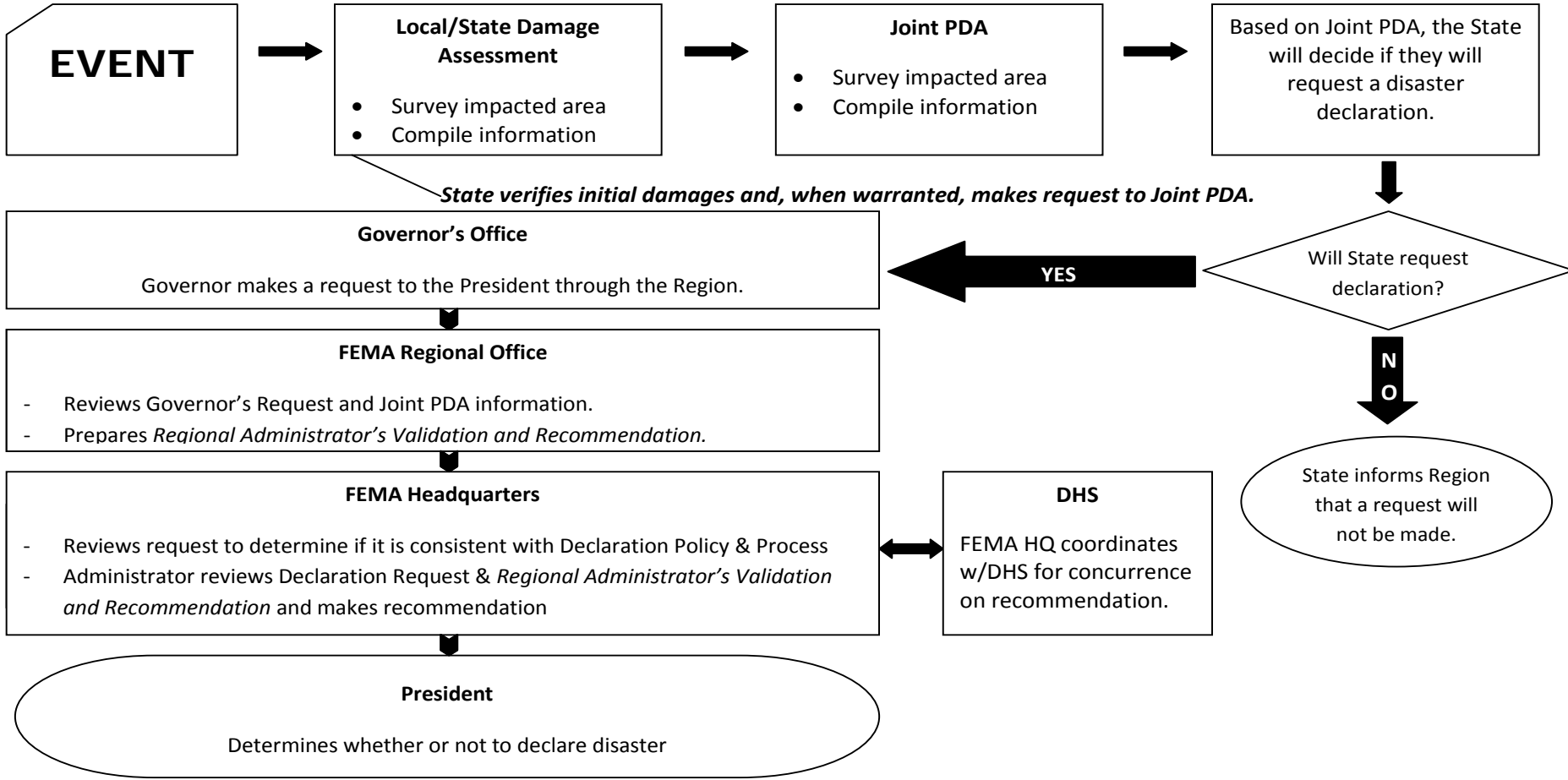




PUBLIC ASSISTANCE DAMAGE REPORTING



This discussion provides information related to the damage assessment process and discusses the roles and impact of local and county government.










GOVERNOR'S REQUEST:

Must explain why the response to the disaster is beyond the capabilities of the state and affected tribal and local governments and why supplementary federal assistance is needed.

A new form and cover letter developed and must be used by the **State**.



During the crucial initial local damage assessment, responders determine:

-  Incident events and extent of impact
-  Hardest hit areas
-  Locations that need the fastest response
-  Impact to businesses, residents, and property
-  Unmet needs






DAMAGE ASSESSMENT IN PENNSYLVANIA



Damage assessment is defined as: “the appraisal of the effects of any disaster.”

Damage assessment is used to determine:

-  Whether local resources are capable of handling the disaster
-  The urgency, priority, and need for additional resources
-  If a disaster declaration is required



Damage Assessment in Pennsylvania




Program Assistance Areas:

 Individual Assistance (IA)

 Public Assistance (PA)



Disaster Declaration

-  Each level of declaration activated provides for additional aid to the incident
-  Required when applying for aid from state and federal agencies
-  Allows the lifting of certain regulatory requirements (ex. Procurement Process)



The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act) authorizes the President to issue major disaster, emergency, and fire management declarations, which in turn enables federal agencies to provide assistance to state and local governments overwhelmed by emergencies, disasters, and catastrophes.







Stafford Act defines the following:

- **Major Disaster**- “any natural or man-made catastrophe” including storms, earth movements and high water and “regardless of cause, any fire, flood or explosion.
- **Emergency** - “any occasion or instance” when federal aid is needed by state or local governments to save lives property or to address the threat of a major emergency



County Disaster Declaration



Declaration

-  Declaration made based on severity
-  Provides additional response and recovery assets to the local jurisdiction
-  Can be declared even if the local jurisdiction has not yet declared
-  Each county has different internal thresholds to meet for a declaration



State Disaster Declaration

Gubernatorial Declaration

-  State may declare in the absence of the county or municipality
-  Additional response and recovery assets are made available upon declaration



State Disaster Declaration




Gubernatorial Declaration (Continued)

 No additional monies made available upon declaration

 General assistance available from various state agencies










Presidential Disaster Declaration

-  Opens the availability of funding to state, county, and municipal jurisdictions
 -  Individual Assistance Programs
 - AND / OR
 -  Public Assistance Programs



Types of incidents that may warrant damage assessment:

-  Fires
-  Floods
-  Wind Storm / Tornado
-  Snow / Ice / Blizzards
-  Earthquakes
-  Hazardous Materials Spill
-  Civil Unrest / Terrorism



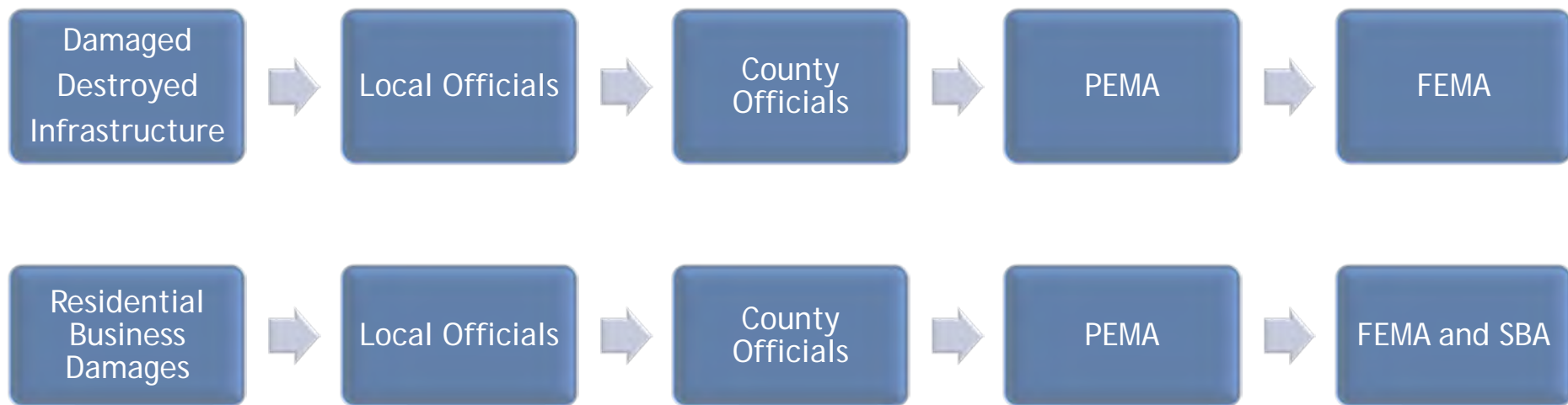
When to do Initial damage Assessment?

- * As soon as possible and practical
- * A continual process, with updated assessment reports to include significant changes





PA Damage Reporting is a collaborative process that engages local, county, state, and federal agencies.










Damage Reporting:

Damage is reported at the local level to the county.

Information reported includes:

-  Details of the incident
-  Location of damage
-  Extent of damage
-  Resources needed to respond
-  Situation report



Emphasis is on the overall effect of the event:

- Concentration of damages
- Trauma, deaths, injuries
- Special needs populations affected
- Critical facilities affected
- Voluntary agencies involved and their role
- Insurance



Continued:

- Economic conditions of the affected area
- Financial impact
- Mental health impact
- Available housing resources
- Primary and secondary homes affected
- Damage to and loss of Business
- Other Federal Assistance Programs (i.e. SBA, etc.)
- Impact on Non-profit Organizations



Suggested Field Equipment

Personal Protective Equipment

 Tyvek suits, cotton jumpsuits, rain gear

 Proper footwear

 Proper hand and eye protection

Recording equipment

 Digital cameras

 Laptops

 Global Positioning System (GPS)



PUBLIC ASSISTANCE (PA)



Federally supported recovery program



Designed to provide supplemental assistance to state, tribal, and local governments



Federal shares of funding is 75% with a 25% non-federal match required



Grants available for:



Emergency work



Permanent work



DAMAGES TO PUBLIC PROPERTY

Recreation and parks

Public Utilities

Roads / Bridges

Public Buildings and Equipment including vehicles

Water Control Facilities

Water Treatment Facilities

Sewage Treatment Facilities

Private Non-Profit



Public Assistance Declaration

Based on monetary loss Via a Per capita of \$3.50 per person based on the county population.

Must meet the state Per-capita as well, which is around 17.6 m. or \$1.39 per resident.

(Per Capita figures as of October 2013)







Emergency Work vs. Permanent Work





Emergency Work

 Debris Removal (Category A) - eligible removal activities include:


-  Tree and wood brush
-  Building wreckage
-  Sand, mud, silt, and gravel
-  Vehicles and other recovery-related materials



 To be eligible, the debris removal must meet one of the following criteria:

-  Eliminate immediate threat to life safety, public or private property preservation
-  Ensure economic recovery




Emergency Work (Continued)

 Emergency Protective Measures (Category B) - activities undertaken by a community prior to, during, and following a disaster. These include actions to:

-  Eliminate or reduce an immediate threat to human life
-  Eliminate or reduce and immediate threat of significant damage to public or private property


 Common actions include:

-  Search and rescue, emergency medical care, mass sheltering, security, food/water/ice provisions, temporary facilities, state or local EMC activations




Permanent Work

 Roads and Bridges (Category C) - eligible items include:

 Surfaces, bases, shoulders, ditches, decking, piers, girders, abutments, slope protection


 Only repairs to disaster-related damage are deemed eligible



 Water Control facilities (Category D) - eligible items includes:


 Dams, reservoirs, levees, drainage channels, pumping facilities, irrigations facilities




Permanent Work (Continued)

 Buildings and Equipment (Category E) - include content, utility systems, consumables, and debris removal

-  Consideration may be given to any existing insurance policies prior to funding.
-  If damaged greater than 50%, authority is given to FEMA to replace with a pre-disaster capability structure.


 Utilities (Category F)

-  Water treatment plant and delivery systems, power generation, and sewage collection systems



Permanent Work (Continued)

 Parks, Recreation, and Other Areas including (Category G):

 Playground equipment, swimming pools, bathing houses, tennis courts, docks and piers, picnic and gold areas

 Per capita per county + Commonwealth

\$17,656,307 as of OCT 1, 2013




Six Steps of Public Assistance

Step one

 Local emergency management conducts a windshield survey

 Provides an estimate of damage totals

 Needs to meet threshold of loss

 Data collected is submitted to county emergency management agency to be combined with other jurisdictions' data

 Per capita loss must meet state threshold

 Information is transmitted to PEMA



Six Steps of Public Assistance (Continued)

Step two

 PEMA provides a review of data to determine:

 Unmet needs

 Threshold limits met

 PEMA submits to the Governor a request for a Federal Declaration

 FEMA / PEMA Preliminary Damage Assessment teams confirm findings through on-site assessment



Six Steps of Public Assistance (Continued)



Step three

 Presidential Declaration approved

-  Public notification of declaration and types of awards available

Step four




 PEMA arranges for an applicant briefing

-  Explanation of how the program will work
-  Invitations to all eligible agencies impacted by the event




Six Steps of Public Assistance (Continued)

Step five

-  Applicant briefing followed by a kick-off meeting
-  Paperwork compiled and submitted from local agencies to the state/federal government for consideration
-  All documentation and supporting materials submitted prior to closeout date

Step six








-  FEMA reviews final documentation and allocated funding to the state for approved reimbursements



Public Assistance Damage Assessment

 Windshield survey - What is the local impact?

 Conducted by local officials, includes the following information:

-  Scope of damage - Size of the areas that have been impacted
-  Severity of damage - Minor, Major, Destroyed
-  Impact to the local jurisdiction - Impact on government functions
-  Roadways
-  Utilities
-  Buildings
-  Historic or environmental locations



FEMA 9500 Series Policy Publications: Contains all Public Assistance Policies formatted for printing.

www.fema.gov/9500-series-policy-publications

- Debris
- Eligibility requirements
- etc.




Eligible :

- Force Account LABOR
- Equipment /hr. FEMA equipment rates
- Materials / Includes use of stock

Federally Funded Highways are not eligible under the Public Assistance Program



pennsylvania  Module 4: Damage Categories: Public Assistance (PA)



City of Bradford, Flood Damage 8/20/1999





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pennsylvania 

QUESTIONS

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