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Subject: Long Term Recovery Situation Report (SITREP #4)

Governor - this week's SITREP for your review and comments.

1. We will consolidate in the JFO next week as FEMA's five supporting long-term Recovery Support Functions (RSFs) arrive in the JFO. The SCDR will fully integrate with the RSFs consisting of: Community Planning and Capacity Building; Economic; Housing; Infrastructure Systems; Natural and Cultural Resources. Bob Haywood, FEMA's long-term disaster recovery manager, is fully onboard and supportive of our collective efforts.
2. We are prepared for your discussion with the County Administrators and County Council Chairperson for the 24 Individual Assistance declared counties on Monday. Like the brief we presented to you and your staff, we will focus on the Social Vulnerability Index (SoVI) and Disaster Recovery priorities to reinforce the criticality of the VOADs and Long-Term Community Recovery Committees (LTRC) to prioritize local recovery efforts.
3. Just prior to Monday's brief to the administrators and council chairpersons, we will present our complete Common Operating Picture (including the full SoVI brief) to One SC's Grant's Committee so that we are all on the same sheet of music regarding vulnerable populations.
4. We will be sending three SCDR leaders to FEMA's Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, MD to attend the National Recovery Framework Leadership Course. Additionally, we have teamed with SCEMD to bring the FEMA course, "Local Community Recovery from Disaster" to South Carolina in January 2016. This is a Train-the-Trainer Course designed to educate our collective teams on Local Community Recovery.
5. We provided briefings to the Meridian Institute's executive director and the Senior Program Director regarding our vulnerability analysis and recovery prioritization efforts for individuals. The Meridian Institute is based in Washington, D.C., and is FEMA's "lessons learned" contractor for disaster recovery. They described our use of SOVI and subsequent prioritization

analysis as innovative, and will continue to monitor our progress in this area.

6. On Thursday, we will send members from the SC Disaster Recovery Office as well as FEMA's Federal Disaster Recovery Office to the SC Economic Outlook Conference hosted by the University of South Carolina's Darla Moore School of Business. The conference will focus on the state's recovery from historic flooding, the 2016 presidential primaries and the future impact of robotics on manufacturing and other industries. Jay Bryson, a managing director and global economist for Wells Fargo Securities, will discuss the Federal Reserve's expected increase in interest rates and how South Carolina businesses and consumers should prepare.
7. Remote Area Medical (RAM™) is still postured to support provide free medical care (dentistry, vision care with eye glasses and medical consultations) for SC residents affected by the floods. I know the long pole in the tent is going to be the legal review – as I am to understand the issue, they just need two things from us to progress -- a temporary waiver of the SC licensing regulations and a formal request to provide the service.
8. When we last met, I shared the possibility that the South Carolina Student Loan Corp would make a large contribution to the South Carolina Baptist Convention Disaster Relief efforts as we launch RebuildSC. Well, that possibility has become a reality. Therefore, I am requesting your help in our making this a win for the Governor and for our efforts to promote the need for additional partnerships in order for us to meet the large need for rebuilding across the state.
9. At your convenience, I would ask your support for a photo opportunity with Chuck Sanders, President of the SC Student Loan Corporation – he would like to present a check in the amount of \$250,000 to support building operations by the South Carolina Baptist Convention. They are also going to provide another \$250,000 in the next calendar year. They will be available either Monday the 14th or Tuesday the 15th if your schedule has an available time slot.
10. A member of our team came up with a great idea for fund raising if you are interested – his suggestion was to make a request that the entire SC Faith Community to ask each of their members to give \$1 (or more) to help local communities with their recovery efforts. Ideally this campaign would be most effective if done prior to or during Christmas (but could be done after if more lead time is required). It could be modeled after the "Souper Bowl of Caring Campaign" which raises money for hunger relief each year on Super Bowl Sunday. In fact, Brad Smith, the Souper Bowl of Caring Board President and Founder, is the Pastor of Eastminster Presbyterian Church in Columbia. He could use his current communication structure to conduct a special Flood Disaster Relief solicitation. The different faith organizations could be given the options of sending their contributions to: 1) their local disaster relief efforts (such as

those of the Baptist and Methodist), 2) the One SC Fund, or 3) to adopt one of our prior local communities. However, in order to pull this off before Christmas, we would have to move quickly.

11. We requested information on crop claims through two channels. Unofficially through Clemson U. Extension Service and officially through USDA.

The Clemson source reports that data is being compiled for the Commissioner of Agriculture will give it to the Governor. They reportedly have information by county, by commodities, by farm size, etc. that includes insurance claim information. Due to the perceived political sensitivities, release approval for any of this information must come from Dr. Tom Dobbins – Clemson U. Extension Service Director. I have not personally talked with Dr. Dobbins just yet, but will hope to get release from either he or Hugh. We also reached out, but unfortunately did not connect with the Regional USDA Risk Management Agency in Valdosta, GA. We left our contact info and have not gotten a response back yet. We will follow up first thing Monday morning. FEMA's experience has been that the USDA is hesitant to share this information openly, due to the risk of influencing the commodities futures markets. I find this tough to appreciate given that I would have to believe that withholding this information would be more destructive to futures, but that may be just too much to process for an old Infantryman.

12. It appears that once we know how much money is being allocated to the CDBG-DR, we will have to work hard on the Action Plan to authorize spending. I am led to believe that there is very little room for spending that money once the action plan is approved. Discussions on our priorities, distribution, and execution will have to be in sufficient detail to provide the broadest use of the money. FEMA is suggesting that it is going to be difficult to create a disaster related nexus to pre-existing conditions. If accurate, we will have a large "vulnerable" population to deal with post recovery. The draw back in dealing with pre-existing conditions (even with money) is going to be how to define which conditions will be covered and which will not – it does not appear that there will be enough money to get this entire population to habitable.

13. A piece of good news -- our Baptist friends provided the following update: Hoping to have around 65-70 students from Clemson, USC Aiken, & Spartanburg area campuses working about 5 days. They will be followed by a second group from other campuses working till Dec 22. Preparing to start Jan 4 in the Hemingway area but sure have a bunch of hoops to go thru on the Florence county side of things.

14. We are exploring options with Brian Stirling that would allow us to use skilled, supervised prison labor on select refurbishing projects in support of accelerating recovery or some of SCs more vulnerable populations. Think our target set would be houses that have been completely "gutted" and have no personal property remaining on site. In a perfect world, it would be several homes on the same block. Hoping we can target sites within 45 minutes of one of his facilities. If we can conceptually agree

that we have a feasible option, we will start to explore options for the future.

15. I completed discussions with a company who made an unsolicited offer to assist us in building the business case to recommend and RFP for requesting, administering and accounting for grants that are not currently being pursued. He would have several members of his team fly to Columbia on Wednesday to begin the process. Hoping to provide you a framework of our discussion during next week's SITREP.
16. Finally, a request passed to me from a farmer that appears to have merit. Even if you did nothing more than request it and make a press release, it would provide a positive message to the farming community. Ask the federal government to expedite the annual appropriation payment received by the farmers under the Farm Bill. As you may know, these subsidies are made the October following the year in which they are intended. For example, the payment for 2014 was received in October 2015. Since the majority of the farmers are obligated by annual operation and equipment notes that are currently due and payable, the emergency loans offered by USDA are not helpful. An accelerated payment would provide an influx of non-obligated funds that would provide the cash flow needed to help the farmers get back on their feet and begin planting in 2016. To make this happen, legislation would need to be introduced to amend the Farm Bill so that a payment earlier than October 2016 can be allowed – preferably paid in March of 2016. It would appear that it would not cost the government more money, although it would change the fiscal year of payment. Again, we have an opportunity to demonstrate support to the farmers without costing the state a penny.

Respectfully,

Kevin

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