

Fiscal Year 2022 Performance Oversight Questions
Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency

A. ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS

1. Please provide a complete, up-to-date **organizational chart** for the agency and each division within the agency, including the names and titles of all senior personnel. Please include an explanation of the roles and responsibilities for each division and subdivision within the agency.
 - Please include a list of the employees (name and title) for each subdivision and the number of vacant, frozen, and filled positions. For vacant positions, please indicate how long the position has been vacant.
 - Please provide a narrative explanation of any changes to the organizational chart made during the previous year.

Please see attachment Q1 for the current organizational chart and employee listing. No organizational changes were made during the previous year.

Director's Office:

Provides executive leadership and administrative authority over HSEMA.

Office of the General Counsel:

Provides legal counsel and policy advice to the HSEMA Director. Supports the work of the Homeland Security Commission.

Office of Special Events:

Provides a portfolio of services in support of the interagency planning and coordination of special events.

Office of External Affairs:

Manages external and internal communications, as well as the legislative and policy initiatives for HSEMA.

Mission Support Division:

Manages HSEMA's day-to-day enterprise activities. Key roles and responsibilities include:

- Grants Bureau: Manages the federal homeland security grant programs awarded to the District and the National Capital Region.
- Administration Bureau: Manages HSEMA's finances in accordance with District policies and priorities. Also manages, in coordination with DCHR, the recruitment and hiring of new HSEMA staff and contractors. Manages personnel issues across the agency.

- Information Technology (IT) Bureau: Manages, in coordination with the Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO), HSEMA's IT systems and other technology needs.
- Resilience Bureau: Manages the District's long-term recovery program. Administers and oversees the District's Hazard Mitigation Program. Within this Bureau, the Disability Integration Coordinator ensures the District's emergency management program effectively meets the needs of people with disabilities and those with access and functional needs.

Preparedness Division:

Manages HSEMA's resilience and emergency preparedness activities. Key roles and responsibilities include:

- Emergency Preparedness Bureau: Provides training and exercise opportunities to the District and develops the District's corrective action program. Creates planning products to meet the needs of HSEMA and key stakeholders within the District. Provides regional and sub-regional expertise to enhance preparedness capabilities, programs, and initiatives in the National Capital Region (NCR).
- Outreach Bureau: Provides public awareness of emergency preparedness information to District residents, businesses and visitors through a wide array of community engagement opportunities.

Strategic Intelligence Bureau (District of Columbia Fusion Center):

Manages HSEMA's homeland security and intelligence activities. Key roles and responsibilities include:

- Cyber Security Bureau: Collects, analyzes, responds to, and disseminates timely cyber threat information to and among the federal, state, local, and private sector agencies within the National Capital Region (NCR).
- National Capital Region Situational Awareness (NCR SA) Bureau: Provides around-the-clock alert notifications and develops a common operating picture supporting coordination and collaboration on emerging incidents across the NCR.
- Analysis Bureau: Focuses on unclassified production related to terrorism, crime, and public health for the public. Maintains the baseline capabilities of the fusion center and provides support to law enforcement, first responder, and critical infrastructure partners.
- Intelligence and Threat Prevention Bureau: Coordinates with DC and Federal partners to ensure real-time information sharing and intelligence needs are met by stakeholders. The Protect DC Initiative comprises a multidisciplinary team that supports and empowers our partners in law enforcement, schools, government, and other public and private sector organizations to combat the evolving threat of targeted violence impacting communities across the District of Columbia.

Operations Division:

Manages HSEMA's steady-state and emergency operations activities. Key roles and responsibilities include:

- Situational Awareness (SA) Bureau: As the District's watch center, the Situational Awareness Bureau maintains 24/7 coverage of the District. Provides situational awareness of and coordinates resource requests for security and other incidents within the District.
- Readiness and Response Coordination Bureau (RRCB) : Manages the District Emergency Operation Center, oversees the District Qualifications System¹, provides field-based incident management and support, and processes Emergency Management Assistance Compact requests.
- Interoperable Bureau: The Interoperable Bureau supports the advancement of communications interoperability by coordinating and collaborating with emergency response leaders across all levels of government and emergency response disciplines to implement a statewide strategic vision for interoperability.
- Facility and Logistics Bureau: Manages building and personnel security, access to Agency facilities, HSEMA's vehicle fleet, and the Agency's warehouse.

2. Please list each **new program** implemented by the agency during FY 2022 and FY 2023, to date. For each initiative please provide:

- A description of the initiative, including when begun and when completed (or expected to be completed);
- The funding required to implement the initiative;
- Any documented results of the initiative.

Prioritize community outreach activities in high-risk neighborhoods

In FY22, HSEMA increased the preparedness of residents in neighborhoods at disproportionately higher risk of impact from natural and man-made hazards. Specifically, HSEMA conducted 47 community outreach events in wards 7 and 8 to advise residents of the specific risks to their communities and provide access to preparedness resources. Events may be conducted virtually or in person to support COVID mitigation measures. The program is funded through the Federal Emergency Management Performance Grant program and local funding.

Center racial equity in the District's Community Risk Assessment

In FY22, HSEMA began updating the Community Risk Assessment (CRA), which is a foundational report that describes the primary threats and hazards facing the

¹ The District Qualification System (DQS) is a method for qualifying, credentialing, and certifying competent and capable incident response and support personnel for District and interstate deployment to emergencies. The DQS is based on the FEMA National Qualification System, a guideline for jurisdictions to build or refine qualification, certification, and credentialing processes for nationwide consistency.

District, how those impact our community, and what capabilities we need to respond. The update was completed in FY23.

HSEMA centered racial equity in the CRA, with every section/chapter specifically considering how racial equity influences our risk profile and community needs. This will help ensure that racial equity is at the foundation of all HSEMA planning assumptions and priorities. The program was funded through the federal Homeland Security Grant Program.

Racial Equity Work Plan

In FY23, HSEMA will complete a racial equity agency plan as a member of the inaugural racial equity pilot cohort through the Office of Racial Equity (ORE) and will develop a District-wide workplan for incorporating racial equity considerations in emergency management operations.

HSEMA's Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Officer has been collaborating with various bureaus for input on the plan. The plan will be delivered in Q2 FY23. The program is funded through the federal Emergency Management Performance Grant and local funding.

Transition to Half Street SE

In FY21, HSEMA began the process to build a new state-of-the-art emergency operations and intelligence center at 1015 Half St SE to serve as the hub for situational awareness, information sharing, and intelligence analysis for the District. The investments in technology and innovation will provide HSEMA with the space and tools to better coordinate with District, regional, and federal partners, and improve the District's ability to forecast and manage the cascading impacts and consequences of new and evolving threats and hazards. Construction began in FY22 and the buildout will be completed in Q2 FY23.

In FY23, HSEMA will transition day-to-day operations to its new facility at Half Street SE and will begin transitioning its emergency operations capabilities to include the 24/7 Joint All Hazards Operations Center, the District's Emergency Operations Center, and the District's Fusion Center. The program is funded through local capital funding and the federal Homeland Security Grant Program.

UCC EOC Renovation

In FY21, HSEMA initiated the process to renovate District's Emergency Operations Center located at the Unified Communications Center at 2720 Martin Luther King Jr Ave SE, to serve as the backup EOC to the new facility at Half Street SE. This will allow the District to more effectively and efficiently respond to and recover from emergencies.

By the end of FY23, HSEMA plans to ratify the contract for Title II (construction) services. Construction is set to take place in FY24 following the full operationalization of the Half Street SE facility. The program is funded through local capital funding.

Update and reestablish the District's training program for EOC and field response staff

In FY22, HSEMA began using lessons learned from the District's emergency response throughout the last three years (e.g., COVID-19, demonstrations, Capitol insurrection, presidential Inauguration, bridge collapse, residential displacements, etc.) to re-baseline training requirements for the staff responding to or supporting the response to these events. In FY23, HSEMA will roll out a new training curriculum and begin training to the updated standards.

The plans that will support the training program are still in development and will be completed in FY23. This includes the Incident Management Guide, Emergency Operations Center Manual, Emergency Operations Plan, etc. Supporting programmatic and policy documentation for a District Qualification System (DQS) are in development. Development of supporting learning management system (LMS) infrastructure has also begun. The program is funded through the federal Homeland Security Grant Program.

Implement and continue investments in resilient infrastructure and communities

In FY22 HSEMA coordinated with District agencies to implement funded mitigation activities that support Resilient DC and coordinated with agencies to apply for additional funding for new initiatives through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA's) hazard mitigation programs including the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC), and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA).

FEMA announced that the District was selected for over \$23 million in BRIC grants to help address flooding at Blue Plains, improve access to community emergency services at resilience hubs, and providing financial assistance to homes in high-risk areas. Additionally, HSEMA collaborated with District partners and agencies including DC Water, the Department of General Services (DGS), the DC Housing Authority (DCHA), and the Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) to develop projects regarding hazard mitigation funding opportunities for HMGP and upcoming funding of BRIC.

Mitigation Project Implementation

In FY23, HSEMA began the design phase for the St. Elizabeths campus microgrid and complete the underlying strategy for the blue-green infrastructure project in SW DC. These two projects are high priority objectives in the Resilient DC strategy that will increase the District's resilience to power disruptions and flooding events, respectively.

In Q1, a bidder was selected for the St Elizabeths campus microgrid, and pending final DGS review, the contract will be awarded. This will allow the Microgrid Partner to kick-off the design phase. Similarly, the SW DC project is making sustained progress. The District hosted outreach events to solicit feedback on design priorities.

The program is funded through the federal BRIC program.

School Safety Program Development

In FY23, HSEMA will continue ongoing support to the DC Public Schools (DCPS) for the development and socialization of school safety plans, and will develop and begin implementation of a workplan to expand this support to other education sector stakeholders including charter and private schools and higher education campuses.

In Q1, HSEMA convened an inter-agency task force consisting of representatives from the Office of the State Secretary of Education (OSSE), Deputy Mayor for Education (DME), DCPS, and the DC Public Charter School Board (DCPCSB) to initiate a review of the after-action report from the executive tabletop exercise in April 2022. The inter-agency task force has met weekly for ten meetings and will expand representation to include other education stakeholders as the governance structure is solidified.

The program is funded through the federal Homeland Security Grant Program.

Protect DC

Protect DC is a prevention program that utilizes a public health approach to identify and assess a person's risk of violence or serious harm, share information, and coordinate resources and services. Protect DC accepts anonymous referrals from community members and with its multidisciplinary team of behavioral health, human services, law enforcement, and legal professionals, works to identify, assess, and coordinate intervention strategies to prevent the risk of violence or serious harm.

Protect DC launched in September 2022 and has received 47 referrals from government partners, private industry, and community members. The program has several accomplishments, such as providing investigative support to Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) detectives and other law enforcement partners, providing training on behavioral threat assessment and management to 545 community members to identify risk factors and warning signs of potential violence, and performing two physical security assessments for schools in partnership with the U.S. Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA).

The program was funded through the federal Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention grant program.

3. Please provide a complete, up-to-date **position listing** for your agency, ordered by program and activity, and including the following information for each position:
 - Title of position;
 - Name of employee or statement that the position is vacant, unfunded, or proposed;
 - Date employee began in position;
 - Salary and fringe benefits (separately), including the specific grade, series, and step of position;
 - Job status (continuing/term/temporary/contract);
 - Whether the position must be filled to comply with federal or local law.

Please note the date that the information was collected

HSEMA relies on the OCFO for the employee salary information. The OCFO cannot provide this information until the FY22 annual report is completed. HSEMA will update this response when the OCFO releases this information.

4. Does the agency conduct annual **performance evaluations** of all of its employees, and was this done in FY 2022? Who conducts such evaluations? What are they performance measures by which employees are evaluated? What steps are taken to ensure that all agency employees are meeting individual job requirements? What steps are taken when an employee does not meet individual job requirements?

HSEMA conducts annual performance evaluations of all employees in accordance with the Department of Human Resources's (DCHR's) performance management program. The District and HSEMA have an ongoing commitment to promote the continuous professional development and growth of its employees. DCHR's Performance Management Program provides a framework for developing the skills of our workforce, defining employee goals and objectives and supporting employee growth through meaningful performance evaluations.

Managers are responsible for developing performance plans based on job functions, duties, and responsibilities, as well as completing end of year evaluations based on the employee's performance. Managers are also responsible for ensuring that all agency employees are meeting individual job requirements by clearly outlining goals and objectives and meeting with employees regularly to discuss employee performance as well as opportunities for development. When employees do not meet individual job requirements, managers use coaching as well as other techniques, such as performance improvement plans, to correct poor performance.

5. Please list all **employees detailed** to or from your agency, if any. Please provide the reason for the detail, the detailed employee's date of detail, and the detailed employee's projected date of return.

HSEMA detailed one employee to support the Building Blocks DC initiative. That detail ended in September 2022. HSEMA detailed Daniel Alexander, former employee, to support the Building Blocks DC initiative. Mr. Alexander's detail covered the entire fiscal year and ended in September 2022. HSEMA detailed Tia Dunn to DCPS in May 2022 to support emergency planning and guidance compliance efforts. Ms. Dunn's projected date of return is June 2023.

6. Please provide the position name, organization unit to which it is assigned, and hourly rate of any **contract workers** in your agency, and the company from which they are contracted.

Please see attachment Q6 for the current contractor listing.

7. Please provide the Committee with:

- A list of all employees who receive cellphones or similar communications devices at agency expense.

Aaron Ross, Adriane Gill, Alec Coutroulis, Alexander McMahan, Alyssa Schulenberg, Amanda Valentine, Amber Washington, Andre Terry, Andrew Lamendola, Andrew Worrell, Annah Akasa, Anthony Hill, Bettina Coleman, Bill Curry, Billy Rodgers, Brian Wiggins, Briana Huggins, Carina Brown, Carl Amritt, Carley Peacock, Carolyn Mejia, Catherine Sims, Cembrye Ross, Charles Guddemi, Charles Madden, Chris Liu, Chris Rodriguez, Christopher Sisson, Clint Osborn, Cynthia Jones, Damon Westray, Daniel Alexander, Darrin Bovia, David Peri, David Rinonos, Dion Black, Dishma Patel, Donte Lucas, Edward Gilmore, Emile Smith, Eric Hauser, Erica Williams, Everett Richmond, Jamell Lane, Frederick Goldsmith, Gena Bentley, Gilbert Brown, Gloria Antwi-Boasiako, Grace Russell, Hamid El Baamrani, Ingrid Naughton, James Farley, Jamie Quarrelles, Janeshia Rogers, Jason Harris, JC Cruz, Jeremy Bersin, Jerica Shackelford, John Nitz, OCFO, Jordan Spalding, Josely Vivar, Julia Christian, Kendra Dean-Johnson, Kevin Jones, Kevin Kornreich, Kristin Green, Ladona Williams, LaRae Wilson, Larry Scott, Lavette Ford, Leah Bailey, Leslie Harrison, Lionel Jackson, Lisa White, Lorien Crawley, Mark Scott, Melissa Deas, Michelle Lee, Mildred Mudambo, Monica Hill, Nathan Partridge, Nicholas Dorsey, Nicole McDermott, Nikelle Adams, Owen Saturnia, Rachel Woodall, Renaud Scott, Rhonda McCrimmon, Riley Piva, Rob Harris, Robert Brannum, Robert Lewis, Robert Sneed, Ronald Thomas, Russell Gardner, Sam Smart, Samantha Crawford, Samantha Gross, Sedley Randolph, Shontae Harrell, Sonia Miller, Stephanie Harley, Steve Hoodjer, Tasha Evans, Thomas Ross, Tia Dunn, Tiffany Peterson, Timur Plavan, Tony Goodman, Trevor Knight, Trinita Hosein, Vermechia Alsop, Wesley Leary, Whitney Bowen, Whytley Jones, William Boone, William Smith, William Spencer, Travis Cryan, John Mein, Robert Harris, Kenneth Woodall, Irene Conforti, Wes Leary, Nicole Peckum, Carrie Speranza, Tanya Mitchell

- Please provide the total cost for mobile communications and devices at the agency for FY 2022 and FY 2023 to date, including equipment and service plans.

\$24,971.80

- A list of all vehicles owned, leased, or otherwise used by the agency and to whom the vehicle is assigned.
- A list of employee bonuses or special award pay granted in FY 2022 and FY 2023, to date.
- A list of travel expenses, arranged by employee.
- A list of the total overtime and worker's compensation payments paid in FY 2022 and FY 2023, to date.

Please see attachment Q7 for list of all vehicles.

Please see attachment Q7E for the travel list.

HSEMA relies on the OCFO for the employee bonus/special pay information and the overtime and worker's compensation payments. The OCFO cannot provide this information until the FY22 annual report is completed. HSEMA will update this response when the OCFO releases this information.

8. Please provide a list of each **collective bargaining agreement** that is currently in effect for agency employees.
- Please include the bargaining unit (name and local number), the duration of each agreement, and the number of employees covered.
- A. National Association of Government Employees/Service Employees International Union Local R3-08. October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2017. HSEMA has 72 union employees.
- Please provide, for each union, the union leader's name, title, and his or her contact information, including e-mail, phone, and address if available.
- A. Lisa L. White, President
National Association of Government Employees, Local R3-08
(202)- 734-1355 (cell)
president.nageR308@gmail.com
- Please note if the agency is currently in bargaining and its anticipated completion date.
- A. HSEMA is not currently bargaining over a CBA.

9. Please identify all **electronic databases** maintained by your agency, including the following:
- A detailed description of the information tracked within each system;
 - The age of the system and any discussion of substantial upgrades that have been made or are planned to the system;
 - Whether the public can be granted access to all or part of each system.

Please see attachment Q9 for the electronic databases.

10. Please describe the agency's procedures for investigating allegations of **sexual harassment** or misconduct committed by or against its employees. List and describe any allegations received by the agency in FY 2022 and FY 2023, to date, and whether and how those allegations were resolved.

HSEMA follows the guidance for investigating allegations of sexual harassment in accordance with Mayor’s Order 2017-313 Sexual Harassment Policy, Guidance and Procedures. HSEMA management and Human Resources follows the guidance for allegations of misconduct in accordance with District Personnel Instruction No. 16-18.

In FY22 and FY23, to date, the agency received three allegations of hostile work environment as defined in the Mayor’s Order 2017-313 Sexual Harassment Policy, Guidance and Procedures. All three matters were investigated and resolved with no findings of policy violations and no discipline action taken..

11. For any **boards or commissions** associated with your agency, please provide a chart listing the following for each member:

- The member’s name;
- Confirmation date;
- Term expiration date;
- Whether the member is a District resident or not;
- Attendance at each meeting in FY 2022 and FY 2023, to date.
- Please also identify any vacancies.

Homeland Security Commission

Commissioner	Confirmation Date/Term Beginning	Term End	Residence	Attendance
Brian Baker (Chair)	May 6, 2022	February 22, 2025	Ward 6	August 9, 2022 July 14, 2022 June 1, 2022 May 6, 2022
Kelvin Coleman	May 6, 2022	February 22, 2025	Ward 4	August 9, 2022 July 14, 2022 June 1, 2022 May 6, 2022
Ed Pearson	December 18, 2018	February 22, 2024	Ward 7	August 9, 2022 July 14, 2022 June 1, 2022 May 6, 2022
Joanna Turner	December 18, 2018	February 22, 2022	Ward 6	
Wendy Villatoro	June 15, 2021	February 22, 2023	Ward 6	August 9, 2022 July 14, 2022 June 1, 2022 May 6, 2022
Vacant				
Vacant				

12. Please list the **task forces and organizations**, including those inside the government such as interagency task forces, of which the agency is a member and any associated membership dues paid.

HSEMA is a member of the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA). Annual membership dues total \$4,500.

- Age-Friendly DC Task Force
- Protect DC Core Advisory Group
- Resilient DC Cabinet
- Capital Trails Coalition
- Disability Community Advisory Group
- Disability Integration Initiative (DII) Outreach and Integration Working Group
- DII Accessible Emergency Communications Working Group
- DII Emergency Sheltering and Power Outage Working Group
- DII Post Emergency Canvassing Working Group
- DII Accessible Transportation Working Group
- DII High-Rise Building Evacuation Task Force
- Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOC) Regional Emergency Support Function (RESF) #6 – Human Services Committee
- MWCOC RESF #15 – Public Affairs
- MWCOC RESF #5- Emergency Management
- MWCOC Homeland Security Executive Committee (HSEC) Advisory Council
- DC Flood Task Force
- DC Silver Jackets
- Resilience Hub Interagency Workgroup
- Southwest Buzzard Point Flood Resilience Strategy Interagency Workgroup
- National Emergency Managers Association, State Hazard Mitigation Officer’s Committee
- Hazard Mitigation Assistance External Stakeholder Working Group
- FEMA Regional Business Emergency Operations Center
- DC Department of Health Director’s Opioid Committee
- DC Health and Medical Coalition
- DC Human Trafficking Task Force
- National Capital Region Critical Infrastructure Protection Work Group (currently serving as Co-Chair)
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security (USDHS) State, Local, Tribal & Territorial Government Coordinating Council (previously served as Vice Chair, currently serving as Council member and Vice Chair of Critical Infrastructure Working Group)
- USDHS Resilient Investment Planning and Development Work Group (RIPDWG) (currently serving as Vice Chair)
- US Secret Service Critical Infrastructure Group for National Special Security Events
- US Green Building Council’s LEED Location and Planning Technical Advisory Group
- DC Alliance for Response (Foundation for the American Institute of Conservation)
- Interagency Council on Homelessness

- Smarter DC Tiger Team
- Safe Passage to Schools

13. What has the agency done in the past year to make the activities of the agency more **transparent** to the public?

In November 2022, HSEMA hired a full-time Digital Media Program Coordinator. This role is solely dedicated to increasing the agency’s online presence via social media and agency’s website. Social media activity has increased from ad-hoc posting to daily posting, resulting in increased engagement with the public and public interest in the agency.

For example, impressions on our Twitter profile have increased 328.4% since November (impressions measure the number of people who see posts). Our expanded reach to the public means that more people are receiving critical information during incidents than before. This information makes a meaningful difference in decreasing loss of life when people are informed of how to prepare for and safely handle emergencies of all kinds.

Additionally, the creation of a Nextdoor account ensures critical information is immediately received by the public via targeted mobile alerts. For example, in advance of the US-Africa Leaders Summit activation, HSEMA shared a traffic advisory to DC residents regarding road closures that may impact commutes. Residents expressed gratitude for the advanced warning so they could plan their routes accordingly.

Social media platforms are excellent storytelling tools, and HSEMA has been making great strides to tell more stories about the hard work we’re doing to serve and protect DC residents and visitors. From Women’s History Month or Black History Month staff highlights to featuring employees whose roles were promoted or converted, we continue to emphasize the importance of preparedness by sharing stories about the people who make up HSEMA and how proud we are to serve the District.

14. How does the agency solicit **feedback** from customers? Please describe.

- What is the nature of comments received? Please describe.
- How has the agency changed its practices as a result of such feedback?

HSEMA collects public feedback on an ongoing basis through email (contact.hsema@dc.gov) and through our social media accounts (Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook). The majority of communications received from the public through these methods centers on requests for services, from trainings and exercises to outreach events and Director’s appearances. These requests are adjudicated, as they are received, through HSEMA’s Office of External Affairs.

To ensure HSEMA trainings and exercises meet established objectives, the agency solicits voluntary feedback from participants about their experience, what went well, and what could be improved. Further, HSEMA is required by the Emergency

Management Accreditation Program, a national organization that accredits emergency management agencies like HSEMA, to establish and maintain a process for collecting evaluations of trainings. The information provided by participants is retained by the agency and is used to improve trainings and training delivery.

HSEMA is currently in the process of overhauling its Corrective Action Program. This will result in an improved processes for tracking feedback from emergency exercises and real-world incidents and implementing corrective actions to improve response and recovery capabilities.

15. Please complete the following chart about the residency of **new hires**:

Number of Employees Hired in FY 2022 and FY 2023, to date

<i>Position Type</i>	<i>Total Number</i>	<i>Number who are District Residents</i>
Continuing	16	4
Term		
Temporary		
Contract		

16. Please provide the agency’s FY 2022 Performance Accountability Report.

Please see attachment Q16 Performance Accountability Report.

B. BUDGET AND FINANCE

17. Please provide a chart showing the agency’s **approved budget and actual spending**, by division, for FY 2022 and FY 2023, to date. In addition, please describe any variance between fiscal year appropriations and actual expenditures for each program and activity code.

HSEMA relies on the OCFO for this information. The OCFO cannot provide this information until the FY22 annual report is completed. HSEMA will update this response when the OCFO releases this information.

18. Please list any **reprogrammings**, in, out, or within, related to FY 2022 or FY 2023 funds. For each reprogramming, please list:

- The reprogramming number;
- The total amount of the reprogramming and the funding source (i.e., local, federal, SPR);
- The sending or receiving agency name, if applicable;
- The original purposes for which the funds were dedicated;
- The reprogrammed use of funds.

HSEMA relies on the OCFO for this information. The OCFO cannot provide this information until the FY22 annual report is completed. HSEMA will update this response when the OCFO releases this information.

19. Please provide a complete accounting for all **intra-District transfers** received by or transferred from the agency during FY 2022 and FY 2023, to date, including:

- Buyer agency and Seller agency;
- The program and activity codes and names in the sending and receiving agencies' budgets;
- Funding source (i.e. local, federal, SPR);
- Description of MOU services;
- Total MOU amount, including any modifications;
- The date funds were transferred to the receiving agency.

HSEMA relies on the OCFO for this information. The OCFO cannot provide this information until the FY22 annual report is completed. HSEMA will update this response when the OCFO releases this information.

20. Please provide a list of all **MOUs** in place during FY 2022 and FY 2023, to date, that are not listed in response to the question above.

Please see attachment Q20 MOUs.

21. Please identify any **special purpose revenue accounts** maintained by, used by, or available for use by your agency during FY 2022 and FY 2023, to date. For each account, please list the following:

- The revenue source name and code;
- The source of funding;
- A description of the program that generates the funds;
- The amount of funds generated by each source or program in FY 2022 and FY 2023, to date;
- Expenditures of funds, including the purpose of each expenditure, for FY 2022 and FY 2023, to date.

HSEMA does not receive, maintain, use, or have available for use, any special purpose revenue funds.

22. Please provide a list of all projects for which your agency currently has **capital funds** available. Please include the following:

- A description of each project, including any projects to replace aging infrastructure (e.g., water mains and pipes);
- The amount of capital funds available for each project;

- A status report on each project, including a timeframe for completion;
- Planned remaining spending on the project.

HSEMA received \$4M in capital funding to accomplish one project: the renovation of the District’s Emergency Operations Center. To date, HSEMA has worked with the architectural/engineering (A/E) vendor to complete the design development phase and permit/construction documentation phases and will work with the Department of General Services to initiate the construction solicitation process in May 2023. The anticipated completion date is 12-18 months after the construction commences. We anticipate a fully ratified construction contract in September 2023 and initiating construction in February 2024. To date, HSEMA has spent \$243,580.50 in capital funds. The remaining balance will be obligated in September 2023 when the construction contract is ratified.

23. Please provide a complete accounting of all **federal grants** received for FY 2022 and FY 2023, to date, including the amount, the purpose for which the funds were granted, whether those purposes were achieved and, for FY 2022, the amount of any unspent funds that did not carry over.

Please see attachment Q23 Federal Grants.

24. Please list each contract, procurement, lease, and grant (“**contract**”) awarded, entered into, extended and option years exercised, by your agency during FY 2022 and FY 2023, to date. For each contract, please provide the following information, where applicable:

- The name of the contracting party;
- The nature of the contract, including the end product or service;
- The dollar amount of the contract, including budgeted amount and actually spent;
- The term of the contract;
- Whether the contract was competitively bid or not;
- The name of the agency’s contract monitor and the results of any monitoring activity;
- Funding source;
- Whether the contract is available to the public online.

Please see attachment Q24 Contracts.

25. Please provide the details of any **surplus** in the agency’s budget for FY 2022, including:

- Total amount of the surplus;
- All projects and/or initiatives that contributed to the surplus.

HSEMA relies on the OCFO for this information. The OCFO cannot provide this information until the FY22 annual report is completed. HSEMA will update this response when the OCFO releases this information.

C. LAWS, AUDITS, AND STUDIES

26. Please identify any **legislative requirements** that the agency lacks sufficient resources to properly implement.

There are no legislative requirements that HSEMA lacks sufficient resources to properly implement.

27. Please identify any statutory or regulatory **impediments** to your agency's operations or mission.

The statutory structure that prevents the Mayor from directly deploying the D.C. National Guard serves as an impediment to HSEMA's mission to ensure the District is fully prepared for all hazards.

28. Please list all **regulations** for which the agency is responsible for oversight or implementation. Where available, please list by chapter and subject heading, including the date of the most recent revision.

HSEMA is not responsible for oversight or implementation of regulations.

29. Please explain the impact on your agency of any **federal legislation or regulations** adopted during FY 2022 that significantly affect agency operations or resources.

No Federal legislation or regulations were adopted in FY22 that affect HSEMA.

30. Please provide a list of all studies, research papers, and analyses ("**studies**") the agency requested, prepared, or contracted for during FY 2022. Please state the status and purpose of each study.

Community Risk Assessment (complete): the CRA identifies the 27 natural and human-caused hazards of concern to the District, and assesses the risk and vulnerability of people, property, the environment, and the District's operations from these hazards.

Updated Flood Analysis of [Watts Branch Flood Management Report](#) (in process): In FY22, the District contracted engineer support to build off of the previous Watts Branch Flood Management Report, produced in FY21 by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and DC Silver Jackets to come up with specific flood resilient infrastructure designs that will effectively reduce flood. This updated study was developed for a grant proposal for the FY23 funding cycle (FEMA's FY22 awards). The updated study recommended further analysis to consider a combination of grey infrastructure projects as well as Blue Green Infrastructure (BGI), since the volume of water to be managed is higher than can typically be accommodated by BGI. Additionally, the contract team recommended any additional design should be modeled to determine whether there are downstream impacts, and whether there will be sufficient flood risk reduction to be a technical and feasible project for further funding opportunities. This analysis has been submitted for a grant application and any further analysis will be completed by DOEE in FY23.

High Rise Evacuation Device Decision Memo (in process): The District asked subject matter experts to provide an analysis of which evacuation devices the District should install in owned and leased properties to meet the requirements of the United Spinal et al. settlement agreement.

31. Please list and describe any ongoing **investigations**, audits, or reports on your agency or any employee of your agency, or any investigations, studies, audits, or reports on your agency or any employee of your agency that were completed during FY 2022 and FY 2023, to date.

OIG is currently performing an evaluation of the District of Columbia government's continuity of operations (COOP) planning. This evaluation is a requirement under D.C. code § 7-2231.11(d), following the passage of DC Council bill B23-0542 in 2020.

HSEMA conducted four (4) investigations of employees related to allegations of conduct prohibited by District Personnel Manual Chapter 16. Only one investigation resulted in a discipline proposal. Pursuant to the records management and confidentiality requirements set forth in the DPM, HSEMA cannot provide specifics of the action taken.

32. Please identify all **recommendations** identified by the Office of the Inspector General, D.C. Auditor, or other federal or local oversight entities during the previous 3 years. Please provide an update on what actions have been taken to address these recommendations. If the recommendation has not been implemented, please explain why.

The agency has been assigned a finding under the *ODCA Report: National COVID-19 Data Quality Audit: District of Columbia – August 16, 2021*. The recommendation is: "The Mayor should initiate a comprehensive review of the COVID-19 pandemic response culminating in a public report with DC Health, OCME, HSEMA, and any other key agencies to determine what worked and what should be done differently in the face of a similar health

emergency including any recommended updates to the District's Emergency Response Plan.”

HSEMA has collected several rounds of feedback on the city-wide coordination and is working to update specific elements and compile them into a single package. Various agencies contributed to a broad assessment of continuity of operations. Some agencies have developed their own, more tactical reports, which HSEMA will catalogue and reference (but not include) in the final report. HSEMA originally forecasted having this report complete by January 27, 2023, but we will require additional time due to the scope and length of the disaster and ongoing COVID activities. President Biden has stated that he will end the emergency declaration for COVID-19 on May 11, through Congress may act to end the emergency earlier. The additional time that we take to develop the AAR will allow us to capture the activities that we take in the District during the ending of the emergency.

33. Please list any **reporting** requirements required by Council legislation and whether the agency has met these requirements.

Pursuant to § 7-2231.11(a)(8), HSEMA shall submit an annual report to the City Administrator, Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice, and Council Committee with jurisdiction over the Agency on COOP planning for the District government. The 2022 report has been submitted as required.

34. Please list all pending **lawsuits** that name the agency as a party, and provide the case name, court where claim was filed, case docket number, and a brief description of the case.

Chelsea Young vs. District of Columbia Government (HSEMA) matter is filed before the office of Human Rights (OHR) 19-407 DC(CN). Plaintiff is a former employee who alleges discrimination in employment (race) and is seeking backpay and front pay as compensation.

Patrice White v. District of Columbia Government (HSEMA) before the US District Court for the District of Columbia Case 1:22-cv-03740. Plaintiff is a former employee who alleges discrimination in employment (race, sex, and age) and is seeking declaratory relief, reinstatement, and lost wages.

35. Please list all **settlements** entered into by the agency or by the District on behalf of the agency in FY 2022 or FY 2023, to date, including any covered by D.C. Code § 2-402(a)(3), and provide the parties' names, the amount of the settlement, and if related to litigation, the case name and a brief description of the case. If unrelated to litigation, please describe the underlying issue or reason for the settlement (e.g. administrative complaint, etc.).

HSEMA has not entered any settlement during the responsive period.

36. Please list any **administrative complaints or grievances** that the agency received in FY 2022 and FY 2023, to date, broken down by source. Please describe the process utilized to respond to any complaints and grievances received and any changes to agency policies or procedures that have resulted from complaints or grievances received. For any complaints or grievances that were resolved in FY 2022 or FY 2023, to date, describe the resolution.

There are no administrative complaints or grievances filed against the agency in the responsive period.

D. EQUITY

37. How does the agency assess whether programs and services are equitably accessible to all District residents?

HSEMA recently completed its District Community Risk Assessment (CRA), a comprehensive community profile of Washington, DC, at both the District and Planning Area levels that specifically describes and quantifies 27 threats and hazards facing the District from an emergency management perspective. Four primary environments were used to guide and classify the risk assessments: the natural, social, economic, and built environments. Subject matter experts characterized, assessed, and analyzed each of the four environments and the results of the analyses were consolidated and viewed through a lens of continued efforts towards equity, especially racial equity, in the District.

- What were the results of any such assessments in FY 2022?

The key findings from each modeled environment present opportunities for intervention toward increasing whole-community resilience. The social vulnerability analysis conducted for this study identified more than 8% (1 in 12) of District residents as having a disability of some form. While on par with the national average, this figure implies nearly 57,000 District residents are especially vulnerable to disaster. Residents in the Far Northeast and Southeast, Far Southeast and Southwest, and Rock Creek East Planning Areas are modeled to have the greatest social vulnerability. Conversely, due to lower rates of poverty, increased levels of education and personal finances, increased transportation and technology availability, residents in Rock Creek West, Lower Anacostia Waterfront and Near Southwest, and Capitol Hill Planning Areas are modeled to have the least social vulnerabilities. The CRA found the most pronounced challenges to District residents to be racial, though there is overlap with other vulnerable populations including residents over 65, those with access and functional needs, persons for whom English is a second language, and people with a lower education level. In short, the social environment affects the ability of individuals, families, and communities to respond to and recover from disaster. Social support enhances a community's health and is something we must consider.

- What changes did the agency make in FY 2022 and FY 2023, to date, or does the agency plan to make in FY 2023 and beyond, to address identified inequities in access to programs and services?

HSEMA participated the Office of Racial Equity's first Racial Equity Cohort and hired its first Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Officer. The EDI Officer will manage the Community Risk Assessment by way of collaboration across the Agency and District agencies to push initiatives forward. HSEMA also recognizes the importance of community engagement. The agency's Chief of Policy, Performance, and Data will assist the EDI officer is establishing baselines, collecting data, and monitoring our progress in these areas.

- Does the agency have the resources needed to undertake these assessments? What would be needed for the agency to more effectively identify and address inequities in access to agency programs and services

Now that the Community Risk Assessment is complete, HSEMA is determining the most effective and efficient way to allocate resources to operationalize the lessons learned from the assessment. Although HSEMA is the lead coordinating agency for incident management, we work closely with our partners that deliver services to our residents. We will develop a strategy, that includes close collaboration with our partners, to increase community engagement and understand how District government agencies can grow in this area. Lastly, we are actively integrating data in our geospatial tools; this allows us to understand impacts more quickly and supports better informed decision making for District leadership before, during and after an incident.

38. Does the agency have a racial or social equity statement or policy? Please share that document or policy statement with the Committee.

HSEMA developed our official equity statement as a participant in the FY22 ORE cohort. It is included below:

HSEMA will collaborate with partners and residents to identify and implement racial equity initiatives that provide measurable and impactful solutions.

As the coordinating agency for homeland security and emergency management, HSEMA envisions a District of Columbia that mitigates and minimizes the impacts of threats and hazards to historically underserved and overburdened communities and supports resilience initiatives that address longstanding challenges.

At the same time, we know that emergencies will happen and we have the responsibility to prepare for and deliver response and recovery services that target our whole community in an equitable way throughout the District-wide emergency management program.

- How was the policy formulated?

The Equity, Diversity and Inclusion officer collaborated with internal stakeholders, including the Agency's racial equity team, and the Mayor's Office of Racial Equity to devise a statement.

- How is the policy used to inform agency decision-making?

The Agency seeks to apply a racial equity lens to all decision making by asking a series of questions to interrupt any unintended consequences by taking into consideration the perspectives and lived experiences of the communities we intend to serve.

- Does the agency have a division or dedicated staff that administer and enforce this policy?

In FY22, the Agency hired an Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Officer and Chief of Policy, Performance and Data to help ensure compliance.

- Does the agency assess its compliance with this policy? If so, how, and what were the results of the most recent assessment?

The Agency is working with the Mayor's Office of Racial Equity to devise a Racial Equity Action Plan that maps out the steps HSEMA will take to reduce inequities and improve life for all Washingtonians. Our first year is focused on designing the framework; the EDI Officer, the Disability, Access, and Functional Needs Program Manager, and Chief of Policy, Performance, and Data will establish the protocols, tools, groups, baselines, and measurements necessary to apply an equity lens to our work with an expectation of growth in subsequent years. An interagency committee on Implementation and Data Standards of the Racial Equity Plan will also help keep HSEMA accountable.

Additionally, HSEMA will leverage the social vulnerability analysis to inform real time decision making. Knowing the demographics and challenges facing a community allows for rapid deployment and coordination of critical resources for that community. As an example, our 24-hour watch center analysts can map the location of a high-rise apartment building fire, and using analytic tools we've built, understand the social vulnerability factors that exist in the community. With that knowledge, HSEMA can proactively request resources such as interpreters, specialized evacuation equipment, and human support services to support a compassionate and effective response.

39. Does the agency have an internal equal employment opportunity statement or policy? Please share that document or policy statement with the Committee.

HSEMA follows the guidance of DCHR and does not have an internal equal employment opportunity statement or policy.

- How was the policy formulated?
- How is the statement or policy used to inform agency decision-making?
- Does the agency have a division or dedicated staff that administer and enforce this policy?
- Does the agency assess its compliance with this policy? If so, how, and what were the results of the most recent assessment?

E. COVID-19 PANDEMIC RESPONSE

40. Please give an overview of any programs or initiatives the agency has started in response to COVID-19, to date, and whether each program or initiative is still in effect.

HSEMA was at the center of the District's pandemic response and we executed the functions as expected of the emergency management agency. As a result, there weren't any specific programs or initiatives that were started in response to COVID.

41. Which of the agency's divisions are currently working remotely?

- What percentage of the agency's total employees currently work remotely?
- Please provide a copy of the agency's Continuing Operations Plan and any remote working protocol.

HSEMA offers a 2-day telework schedule for its non-essential employees in the Mission Support Division, Preparedness Division, Strategic Intelligence Division, and Operations Division as well as its Offices within the Executive Suite. That represents 75% of the agency's workforce. HSEMA's remote working protocol is done in accordance with DPM Section 1211 of Chapter 12 and DPM Issuance I-2022-22 Compressed, Flexible and Telework Schedules (November Update)

The HSEMA COOP plan is not for public use or review as it discusses operational details for our agency, as well as some details for local and Federal partners. The plan identifies alternate sites (or telework) to ensure that all essential functions are maintained with minimal disruption during all types of incidents. This plan will be revised this Spring to include our new Navy Yard facility.

42. How has the agency ensured that all staff have access to necessary equipment and a stable internet connection to work from home?

Staff have been issued laptops, mobile devices, and necessary IT support to work remotely.

43. Was the agency a recipient of any federal grants stemming related to the COVID-19 pandemic during FY 2022 and FY 2023, to date, and, if so, how were those federal grant dollars used?

HSEMA did not receive any new COVID-19 pandemic related grants during FY22 or FY23, to date. The FEMA Disaster Public Assistance grant for COVID-19 was initially awarded in FY20 and has continued and is still active today. New Public Assistance obligations to the District under the FEMA Disaster Public Assistance grant during FY22 and FY23 total \$447M. Funds are used to reimburse applicants (District agencies as well as eligible private nonprofit applicants) for cost incurred to provide emergency protective measures, including facility cleaning, PPE, testing, vaccination, public information, and safe facility reopening and operations.

44. How has the agency updated its methods of communications and public engagement to connect with customers since the start of the pandemic?

Training, Community Outreach, and Events

Since the start of the pandemic, HSEMA has made considerable effort to increase accessibility of its communications and public engagement. At the start of COVID-19, HSEMA had to quickly pivot to communicating with the public in a virtual environment.

As public events converted to virtual platforms, HSEMA was able to easily participate in these events, from ANC meetings to community events, on various virtual platforms. The agency swiftly stood up virtual options for its trainings and workshops, through HSEMA Academy, a state-of-the-art Learning Management System. Over the last year, as social distancing requirements have eased and in-person events have begun to resume, HSEMA has resumed participating in events and meetings in-person. However, the agency now has the capacity to pivot to a virtual posture, depending on the request, enabling us to more effectively meet people where they are.

In FY22, HSEMA participated in approximately 100 outreach events. This includes eight events at the Fauntery Center (which is the Ward 7 Resilience Hub) to discuss individual and family preparedness, community resilience, disaster preparedness, and the whole community approach to emergency response. These are part of an ongoing community outreach series, in coordination with ServeDC, DOEE, and the Fauntery Center.

For large-scale events, HSEMA continued to deploy its mobile operations command vehicle to provide opportunities for the public to learn hands-on about how the District prepares for and manages emergencies. These events have ranged from local school events for teachers and students to major events like the Howard University Homecoming.

ReadyDC

Ready.DC.gov is a preparedness website launched in 2017 in response to concerns raised by residents who felt they lacked easy access to emergency information. It is intended to be a one-stop resource for preparedness information and resources for residents, businesses, and visitors. In FY22, HSEMA recognized the need to measure the effectiveness of the website and identify improvements that could be made. The agency worked with OpenBox, a community-focused design team, who conducted significant public engagement to learn directly from the community what improvements could be made to increase the accessibility of the information, not only content-wise, but also in terms of how users are able to interact. The team conducted multiple community interviews, engaging with residents specifically about how they see emergencies, what their emergency experiences have been, and what emergency information they wished they knew. The team focused on flooding, extreme heat, and winter weather. This feedback is currently informing a full update to the ReadyDC website.

Disability Integration

Throughout the last few years, HSEMA has led the effort to create and implement numerous disability integration initiatives across the District in response to a District government-wide settlement agreement finalized in 2019. At the forefront of this effort, HSEMA continues to improve communications and engagement with the disability community to ensure individuals' needs are met during events and emergencies. Given that the settlement agreement is slated to end in December 2023, HSEMA has begun transitioning this important effort from meeting the requirements of the settlement agreement to an institutionalized program that serves the disability community through all emergency processes undertaken by the District.

45. Please describe all events and incidents in FY22 and FY23, to date, for which the agency coordinated response operations across all District government agencies.

For all special events coordinated through the agency, please refer to question 53.

HSEMA has been in a response/recovery posture since January of 2020 for COVID-19, and then concurrently managed the special events, incidents, and other emergencies that normally occur during any year.

The agency coordinated response operations for the following incidents:

1. **2021 Late October Coastal Flooding:** On October 29th, 2021, significant to major tidal/coastal flooding was expected along shores of the Chesapeake Bay and tidal Potomac River. Heavy rain was expected, as well as localized amounts of 3-4 inches was possible mainly along higher elevations west of DC. Localized flooding was possible across the Blue Ridge and DC metro areas and ongoing coastal flooding possible at more sensitive locations. The

- District EOC escalated to a Level 3: (Virtual) Enhanced Watch from Friday, October 29th through Saturday, October 30th to monitor the tidal/coastal flooding activity.
2. **December 8 Winter Weather:** On December 6, 2021, at 8:00AM, the National Weather Service (NWS) advised of a potential snow event on Wednesday, December 8. Based on the forecast, HSEMA coordinated among the DC Snow Team, Consequence Management Team, and the Joint Information Center to ensure operational coordination. The District EOC escalated to a Level 3: Enhanced Watch (Hybrid).
 3. **January 3 Winter Weather:** The District Snow Team activated in response to the National Weather Service forecasting a possible significant snowfall event on Monday, January 3, 2022. The NWS forecasted between 4-6 inches. The District Snow Team mobilized a Full Deployment with activation of the Snow Command Center at 12:00 AM on 1/3. The District's EOC escalated to a Level 3: Enhanced Watch.
 4. **January 6 First Amendment Activity:** The District EOC escalated to a Level 2: Partial Operation in response to permitted First Amendment activities on January 6, 2022.
 5. **January 16 Winter Weather:** On January 16, 2022, the National Weather Service forecasted a possible snowfall event for the National Capital Region. Based on the forecast, HSEMA coordinated among the DC Snow Team, Consequence Management Team, and the Joint Information Center to ensure operational coordination. The District EOC escalated to a Level 3: Enhanced Watch and supported the Snow Command Center with staff from the Planning Coordination Section.
 6. **January 20-21 Winter Weather:** On January 20, 2022, the National Weather Service forecasted a possible snowfall event for the National Capital Region. Based on the forecast, HSEMA coordinated among the DC Snow Team and Consequence Management Team to ensure operational coordination. The District EOC escalated to a Level 3: Enhanced Watch and supported the Snow Command Center with staff from the Planning Coordination Section.
 7. **January 21-23 First Amendment Activity:** The District EOC escalated to a Level 3: Enhanced Watch in support of permitted First Amendment activities from January 21-23, 2022.
 8. **January 28-29 Winter Weather:** From January 28-29, 2022, the National Weather Service forecasted a possible snowfall event for the National Capital Region. Based on the forecast, HSEMA coordinated between the DC Snow Team, Joint Information Center, and Consequence Management Team to ensure operational coordination. The District EOC escalated to a Level 3: Enhanced Watch and supported the Snow Command Center with staff from the Planning Coordination Section.
 9. **February 1 E Street Utility Failure:** On February 1, 2022, the District became aware of a malfunctioning boiler at 4004 E Street SE. Due to this utility failure, all units in the building were without heat. The Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) deemed the malfunctioning boiler unsafe, which warranted a complete evacuation of the building. The District EOC escalated to a Level 3: Enhanced Watch Operation and mobilized a Post-Emergency Canvassing Operation (PECO) mission to support displacements.

- 10. March Truck Convoy Impacts:** The District EOC escalated to a Level 3: Enhanced Watch beginning on February 10, 2022 in support of planned First Amendment Activities and a convoy of trucks in and around the NCR. On March 5, 2022, the District EOC further escalated to a Level 2: Partial Operation to plan and monitor the ongoing activities for the roving truck convoy, and its impacts on the District and NCR.
- 11. February 13 Winter Weather:** On February 13, 2022 the National Weather Service forecasted a possible snowfall event for the National Capital Region. Based on the forecast, HSEMA coordinated between the DC Snow Team and Consequence Management Team to ensure operational coordination. The District EOC escalated to a Level 3: Enhanced Watch and supported the Snow Command Center with staff from the Planning Coordination Section.
- 12. 2022 State of the Union Address:** On March 1, 2022, the District EOC escalated to a Level 1: Full Operation to provide planning, operational coordination, and technical support for the 2022 State of the Union Address, a designated National Special Security Event (NSSE).
- 13. March 12 Winter Weather:** On March 12, 2022, the National Weather Service forecasted a possible snowfall event for the National Capital Region. Based on the forecast, HSEMA coordinated between the DC Snow Team and Consequence Management Team to ensure operational coordination. The District EOC escalated to a Level 3: Enhanced Watch and virtually supported the Snow Command Center with staff from the Planning Coordination Section.
- 14. April 22 Active Shooter:** On April 22, 2022, the Metropolitan Police Department responded to an active shooter incident in Northwest DC. Given the location and complexity of the incident, the HSEMA Command Bus and agency staff were deployed to assist.
- 15. Juneteenth Weekend 2022:** The District EOC escalated to a Level 2: Partial Operation in support of special events and First Amendment activities scheduled to occur between Friday, June 17 through Sunday, June 19, 2022. The District EOC monitored events and provided planning, operational coordination, situational awareness, public information and warning, and resource management, as needed.
- 16. Summer SCOTUS Impacts:** The District EOC escalated to a Level 3: Enhanced Watch to provide planning and operational coordination ahead of, and during, potential impacts from Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) activities.
- 17. July 22-25 Extreme Heat:** The District EOC escalated to a Level 3: Enhanced Watch to provide resource coordination in support of the July 22-25, 2022 Extreme Heat incident.
- 18. Migrant Resource Support:** On July 29, 2022, the District EOC escalated to a Level 3: Enhanced Watch to provide situational awareness, planning support, and resource coordination in support of migrant resource requirements. Since April 2022, buses from Texas and Arizona had dropped off hundreds of migrants in the District, and the pace of the arriving buses and the volume of arrivals reached a tipping point as the number of migrants, including families, continued to increase.
- 19. MPX Outbreak 2022:** On August 8, 2022, the District EOC escalated to a Level 3: Enhanced Watch Operation in response to the monkeypox outbreak to support resource coordination. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) confirmed the first U.S. monkeypox case on May 18, 2022.

On June 4, 2022, the DC Public Health Lab confirmed the first positive Orthopoxvirus case in a District resident.

- 20. Hurricane Ian EMAC Deployment:** On September 23, 2022, HSEMA received an Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) request from the Florida Division of Emergency Management in support of their statewide response and recovery efforts secondary to Hurricane Ian. The request received was for one State Emergency Operations Center Public Information Officer, and one Volunteer Florida support staff to assist the Blue Roof operations, supplementing the ESF-15 staff. The agency fulfilled the request, and staff were deployed throughout the State of Florida from October 4-21, 2022.
- 21. Hurricane Ian:** On September 28, 2022, the National Hurricane Center reported that Ian strengthened into an extremely dangerous Category 4 hurricane, moving toward the north-northeast at 10 mph. Isolated instances of flooding from rain were possible mainly over central Virginia to southern Maryland late Saturday, October 1 through Monday, October 3. Moderate coastal flooding was determined to be possible along vulnerable shoreline of the tidal Potomac River and western shore of the Chesapeake Bay late Friday, September 30 through at least Monday, October 3. The District's EOC escalated to a Level 3: Enhanced Watch for response-to-recovery operations resulting from the potential impacts of this storm system.
- 22. St. Mary's Fire:** On November 15, 2022, a fire occurred at St. Mary's Court Housing Development, an affordable apartment community for seniors and persons with accessibility needs. At the request of DC Fire & EMS, HSEMA forward deployed staff to the incident site to support residential displacements. The agency also coordinated the residential displacement group from November 15-18, 2022.
- 23. Franklin St. NE Water/Heat Outage:** On December 24, 2022, the agency was notified of a heating and water issue at the apartment complex located at 325 Franklin St., NE, with a subsequent water pipe burst. The agency mobilized the Residential Displacement Group to support the incident, which met from December 24-26, 2022.
- 24. January 6, 2023 First Amendment Activity:** The District EOC escalated to a Level 3: Enhanced Watch in support of permitted First Amendment activities on January 6, 2023. HSEMA monitored events and provided operational coordination, situational awareness, public information and warning, and resource management as needed.

46. Please describe the agency's continued role in the COVID-19 response, particularly now that the public health emergency has expired but COVID-19 continues to spread.

1. What is the status of the COVID-19 Emergency Operations Center?
 - The COVID-19 Emergency Operations Center is still operating in a virtual capacity. HSEMA staff continue to process resource requests related to COVID-19 in support of external agencies, such as DC Health and the Department of Human Services. To date, the EOC Resource Unit has processed over 350 request line items totaling \$135,156,079.55.

2. Does the agency continue to devote substantial space in the Disaster Logistics Center warehouse for COVID-19 supplies?
 - The District Logistics Center continues to be the primary warehousing, receiving, and distribution center for COVID supplies. Currently, the center houses nearly 1.5 million COVID test kits and is preparing to receive an additional 1.2 million kits for continued COVID operations. Test kit distribution continues on a daily basis based on ordering and shipping information received from the DC Department of Health. Additionally, personal protective equipment and supplies are housed at the DLC and are distributed based on orders received from District agencies. The predominant supply request is for face masks and gloves, with additional requests for non-surgical gowns. It is also important to note the DLC continues to support non-COVID activities. As an example, the DLC houses a substantial supply of bottled water. This supply has been requested by District agencies during special events that place District staff into a field setting for extended hours. Water supplies also support citizen needs during DC Water protracted outages. Lastly, as part of all-hazards operations, the DLC has partnered with other District and non-governmental agencies in the warehousing of supplies. These agencies include the Office of Unified Communications, Department of Human Services, DC Public Health Lab, and the American Red Cross.

3. What has the agency learned from its role in the COVID-19 response that inform its current and future operations and planning?
 - COVID-19 response/recovery operations highlighted countless best practices/lessons and provided a unique opportunity to assess all aspects of the District enterprise incident management system – authorities, doctrine, plans, organization, training, and exercise. The principal lesson learned is effective management of a type 1 incident, which presents major risk to all District communities and requires a scalable and adaptable incident management organization and processes which are documented, bought into, socialized, trained to, and exercised against among all community stakeholders and partner organizations. HSEMA is in the process of introducing new doctrine, including the Emergency Operations Plan, Community Risk Assessment, Incident Management Guide, and EOC Manual, each of which harness COVID-19 best practices/lessons learned to establish a refined incident management system possessing the necessary authorities, capabilities, and resources to manage another pandemic or any other hazard/threat, incident, or event most effectively.

47. Please describe the mission of the Fusion Center and its activities during FY22 and FY23, to date.

The DC Fusion Center is an organizational component of HSEMA's Operations and Intelligence Division, comprising the Strategic Intelligence Bureau (SIB) and the Situational Awareness Bureau (SAB), with five distinct mission areas: The District Watch Desk, Regional Watch Desk, Strategic Intelligence Production, Cybersecurity, and Threat Assessment.

The DC Fusion Center operates 24-hours a day, seven days a week to serve a wide customer set and exercises an all-crimes, all-hazards approach, working with partners to conduct analysis, facilitate information sharing, assist law enforcement, public safety, and homeland security partners in preventing, protecting against, and responding to crime and terrorism, while contributing to planning, situational awareness, operational coordination, resource support, and support of the District's incident management organization.

Each year, the DC Fusion Center produces various intelligence products, posts of concern (POCs), suspicious activity reports (SARs), and responds to a variety of requests for information. In FY22, SIB produced 455 intelligence reports, 220 POCs, processed 445 SARs, and responded to 692 RFIs. To date in FY23, SIB has produced 96 intelligence products, 21 POCs, processed 37 SARs, and responded to 55 RFIs.

48. What work has HSEMA done to promote awareness among the District's public and private sector partners regarding cybersecurity in FY22 and FY23, to date?

The DC Fusion Center Cyber Analysis Team produced and distributed 48 documents detailing cyber security attacks and vulnerabilities to public and private sector partners in FY22 and to date in FY23.

49. How does HSEMA ensure collective situational awareness and coordination among District agencies, including independent agencies, and federal partners in the area of cybersecurity?

The DC Fusion Center Cyber Analysis Team works closely with OCTO, MWCOG, and CISA, along with other local and regional partners by participating in regularly scheduled and ad hoc calls and meetings to ensure partners and stakeholders have a shared level of situational understanding and a common operating picture of the threat landscape.

1. What cybersecurity awareness outreach and training did HSEMA conduct in FY22 and FY23, to date?

The Cyber Team has conducted a number of outreach and training initiatives in partnership with other organizations in FY22 into FY23:

- FY22 - Cyber Program Outreach/Consultation for Prince George's County Emergency Management
- FY22 - Dark web intro/training for Prince George's County Emergency Management
- FY22 - Dark web intro/outreach for Orange County (FL) Sheriff's Office
- FY22 - Outreach for Fairfax County
- FY22 - Outreach with Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

- FY22 - Outreach & Panel speaker with DC Cyber Disruption Consequence Management Workshop
- FY23 - Outreach with Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

50. Please describe the activities of the Homeland Security Commission in FY22 and FY23, to date.

1. Please describe the staffing for the Commission.
2. When does the Commission plan to submit its next report to the Council?

HSEMA provides administrative support as needed for the Commission. The Commission has two vacancies, which are in the process of being filled. The Commission plans to submit its next report by April 30, 2023. They recently sent a letter to the Council to that effect.

51. How did HSEMA improve collective situational awareness and coordination among District agencies and District residents in the event of a mass emergency in FY22 and FY23, to date?

1. Please provide an update on the activities of the Mobile Situational Awareness Teams.

In FY22 and FY23, the Mobile Situational Awareness Teams were deployed in support of EOC activations for large scale special events and incidents, such as the anniversary of Jan 6, 2021 and Independence Day Celebration.

2. Did HSEMA conduct any tabletop exercises or drills to practice how to respond to future large-scale events?

HSEMA co-hosted, along with MPD and the National Counter Terrorism Center (NCTC), an intelligence sharing tabletop exercise with participants from District, regional, federal, and non-governmental partners on January 24, 2023.

HSEMA planned and hosted several exercises in the last year:

- In early 2022 HSEMA hosted several drills for the District's Incident Management Team (IMT)
- In the spring, HSEMA hosted a series of three virtual tabletop exercises on continuity planning and preparing for different threats and hazards. Sessions were held on internet failure/cyber threat, extended power or transportation disruption, and extreme heat.
- On August 31, 2022, HSEMA, in partnership with OCTO and FEMA Region 3, hosted an all-day Cyber Disruption Consequence Management Workshop at MLK Memorial Library
- In August/September 2022, HSEMA hosted a series of discussion-based exercises on flooding and severe weather. This included a substantial damage assessment workshop with DCRA and DOEE, as

well as two tabletop exercises that focused on mitigation for and recovery from flooding incidents.

- In December 2022, HSEMA hosted an executive-level tabletop exercise focused on District snow response.

52. Please provide an update on Alert DC during FY22 and FY23, to date.

1. Please provide the number of new subscribers in FY22 and FY23, to date.

There were 6929 new subscribers in FY22. There were 1455 new subscribers in FY23 to date.

2. How has this program been used to communicate important information? Please provide specific examples where possible.

Alert DC has been used to disseminate situational awareness alert/warning notifications among District residents, businesses, and visitors relating to emerging and/or existential hazards, incidents, events, and associated operations. During FY22 and FY23, the system was used to communicate urgent, critical information pertaining to hazards, such as extreme temperature (hypothermia/hyperthermia) and weather watches/warnings; incidents, such as roadway closures, utility disruptions/boil water advisories; and, events, including First Amendment-protected demonstrations and community-based special events.

As a specific example, during the week of Sunday, November 20, the District experienced frigid temperatures which resulted in the first cold weather emergency declaration of 2022-2023 winter season. Alert DC was used to issue a series of notifications to unhoused residents advising of the atmospheric/meteorological conditions warranting declaration/activation of plans, emergency protective measures, and where to find additional guidance (<https://snow.dc.gov/service/warming-centers-and-facilities>). During the week, several notifications were disseminated to advise of the activation, operation, and demobilization of the hypothermia plan/cold weather emergency declaration provisions.

3. Please describe the agency's relationship with the U.S. Capitol Police in terms of sharing timely and relevant security and public safety information to inform residents living near the U.S. Capitol Complex.

HSEMA has strengthened operational coordination and communication ties with USCP in wake of the January 6 insurrection. HSEMA had historically issued alert/warning notifications on behalf of USCP regarding public safety incidents which present impacts to the immediate and/or general community. HSEMA and USCP public information officers facilitated evaluation and improvement of existing notification processes/protocols during FY22. A key development from those efforts is a policy prohibiting HSEMA from amplifying USCP-sourced public information without being explicitly

requested to issue a public notification. The purpose of this adjustment is to ensure residents living near the complex are not de-sensitized to notifications originating from USCP.

53. Please provide a list of all major special events that HSEMA monitored in FY22 and FY23, to date.

Below is a list of special events for which the operating level of the District Emergency Operations Center was escalated for operational coordination, situational awareness, and resource support during FY22 and FY23 to date.

FY 2022

- DC Open Streets (Georgia Avenue)
- 2021 Rock N Roll Half Marathon and 5K*
- 2022 State of the Union Address
- 2022 Rock N Roll Half Marathon and 5K*
- National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade*
- Sakura Matsuri Japanese Street Festival*
- Emancipation Day Celebration*
- National Law Enforcement Memorial (NLEM) 34th Annual Candlelight Vigil*
- DC Fire and EMS 150th Anniversary Parade and Apparatus Muster*
- United House of Prayer Parade*
- Thunder Alley*
- National Memorial Day Parade*
- DC Open Streets (7th Street)*
- Capital Pride Celebration Events*
- Something in the Water Music Festival*
- National Capital BBQ Battle*
- Independence Day Celebration*
- Asian Heritage Festival*
- DC Open Streets (Benning Road)*
- DC Open Streets (12th Street/Brookland)*
- DC Bike Ride*
- H Street Festival*
- Fiesta DC Festival and Parade*

FY 2023

- DC Open Streets (Georgia Avenue)*
- Snallygaster*
- Army Ten – Miler*
- Turkish Festival*
- Howard University Homecoming*
- High Heel Race*
- Marine Corps Marathon*
- National Native Americans Veterans Memorial Ceremony*
- National Christmas Tree Lighting*
- U.S.- Africa Leaders Summit
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Parade

- Lunar New Year Parade*
- 2023 State of the Union (upcoming Feb. 7)

**The mobile command vehicle deployed to these event sites to maintain situational awareness and provide on-site coordination.*

54. Please describe HSEMA’s work to engage with the Council in FY22 and FY23, to date.

1. What protocols does the agency follow to communicate with the Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety when emergencies arise?

During emergencies and in advance of major special events with widespread impacts to the District and government operations, the Director reaches out directly to the Chair of the Committee to ensure that she or he is informed about the incident and has the chance to ask and receive answers to questions. The Director and Deputy Director regularly field calls from the Chair and the Chair’s officers to do the same.

55. Please describe the work of the Mayor’s Special Events Task Group (“MSETG”) in FY22 and FY23, to date, including any changes to its reporting structure within the Executive branch, membership, operations, policies, procedures, and member agency fees.

The MSETG held 17 meetings in FY22 and 4 meetings in FY23, to date, for the purpose of providing interagency reviews and assessments of the operational, public safety, and logistical components of proposals for special events occurring on public roadways under the jurisdiction of the District of Columbia. The Meeting Activity Report (attachment Q55) provides a list of the proposed events reviewed and assessed by the MSETG for production during FY22 and FY23, to date. The MSETG’s reporting structure within the Executive Branch remains under the Executive Office of the Mayor (via the Office of the Chief of Staff). There were no changes to the MSETG’s membership, operations, procedures, or member agency fees in FY22 and FY23, to date.

1. How many interagency reviews and assessments of proposals for special events did the agency review in FY22 and FY23, to date?

The MSETG processed 75 special event proposals in FY22, and 15 special event proposals in FY23, to date.

2. Did special event user fees as determined by each respective agency in the MSETG increase in FY22 and FY23, to date? (If necessary, to answer the question, please consult with agency partners).

No agency fees increased in FY22 and FY23, to date.

3. How many event organizers submitted after-action reports subsequent to the production of their events in FY22 and FY23, to date? How many did not?

While after-action reviews and discussions are conducted with each event organizer prior to the initiation of planning for the upcoming production of an event, organizers also have an additional opportunity to submit after-action reports. Based on events produced in FY22, 13 event organizers have submitted reports and 36 have not, thus far. Based on events produced in FY23 to date, eight event organizers have submitted reports and 15 have not, thus far. Event organizers have an opportunity to participate in after-action reporting up to the time of meeting with the MSETG to initiate planning for a subsequent production of the event in the following year. When there are issues or problems identified with the production of an event, organizers are required to participate in an after-action meeting and/or meet any after-action requirements as determined necessary by a member agency to implement measures to address any identified deficiencies prior to the MSETG's consideration of an event for conditional approval in a subsequent year.

4. What new requirements did the MSETG or its member agencies impose upon event organizers in FY22 and FY23, to date, related to homeland security concerns (e.g. sandbags, placement of vehicles to block access)?

There were no new requirements imposed upon event organizers by any MSETG member agency in FY22 and FY23, to date.

56. Please provide an update on the agency's continued work on implementation of the District Government Continuity of Operations Plans Amendment Act of 2020, effective March 16, 2021 (D.C. Law 23-0219) in FY22 and FY23, to date.

HSEMA continues to work with agencies to help them meet the requirements of the Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP) law. HSEMA sends frequent communications to a distribution list of approximately 150 COOP coordinators providing consistent reminders of the compliance requirements and offering various forms of resources and technical assistance. The District COOP Program Manager sent multiple notices to agencies throughout the past year providing plan templates, training resources, exercise guidance and opportunities, and offers of one-on-one workshops and assistance.

Activities that occurred in 2022 include:

- In the spring, HSEMA hosted a series of three virtual tabletop exercises on continuity planning and preparing for different threats and hazards. Sessions were held on internet failure/cyber threat, extended power or transportation disruption, and extreme heat.

- HSEMA released a Communications Drill Kit that provides guidance and resources to help agencies conduct a simple communications exercise.
- HSEMA offers a continuity training template that allows agencies to create a custom, agency-specific self-paced online training for staff.
- On August 31, 2022, HSEMA, in partnership with OCTO and FEMA Region 3, hosted an all-day Cyber Disruption Consequence Management Workshop at MLK Memorial Library.

57. Please describe the activities of HSEMA’s Interfaith Preparedness and Advisory Group in FY22 and FY23, to date.

1. How does the agency ensure that faith institutions are able to access timely and relevant information and maintain points of contact within the agency?

The Interfaith Preparedness Advisory Group (IPAG) is a joint effort between the Mayor’s Office of Religious Affairs (MORA), MPD, and HSEMA to encourage dialogue with the District’s faith-based organizations (FBOs) to help them enhance preparedness for all types of hazards. HSEMA facilitates the content for regular meetings and shares and disseminates information relevant to faith-based communities related to events that pose an impact on the District.

2. What grants did HSEMA make to faith institutions in FY22 and FY23, to date, and for what purposes?

The Non-Profit Security Grant Program (NSGP) is to enhance facility physical security for nonprofits at risk of terrorist attack. For a list of grants, see attachment Q57 Faith-Based Institution Grants.

58. Please provide an update on the funding received from FEMA’s Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (“BRIC”) grant program in FY22 and the projects for which the funding was awarded. What portion of the funding for each of these projects has been allocated and/or spent, and what work has been done to date on each project? What is HSEMA’s role in these projects?

For the FY22 funding cycle (FEMA’s FY21 awards), DC received \$23M in BRIC grants to support resilience by addressing flood risks, improving access to community emergency services at resilience hubs, and improving the District’s investments in nature-based solutions. Specifically:

Project Scoping projects (non-competitive):

1. FloodSmart Homes Retrofit (\$244,053 in federal, \$76,266.66 local): This project is being managed by DOEE in collaboration with HSEMA. The project outcome is to complete assessments of homes that are at risk of flood damage. HSEMA provides technical assistance and coordination support, including project development and outreach assistance.

- a. Status: this project is underway utilizing the \$2.6M in local funds. FEMA funding will supplement the assessment portion of the FloodSmart homes program. Funding is currently being transferred through a MOU subaward to DOEE. Thus, none of the awarded funds have been spent to date.
2. Kenilworth Park Environmental Study (\$300,000 in federal, \$500,000 local): This project is being managed by DOEE. The project outcome is to supplement District funds to restore up to 21 acres of tidal wetlands in the lower Watts Branch, a tributary of the Anacostia River that is prone to flooding. HSEMA provides technical assistance and coordination support, including participation in the update of the Anacostia River Corridor Restoration Plan.
 - a. Status: DOEE is in the process of identifying and procuring contract support to conduct the study. Funding is currently being transferred through a MOU subaward to DOEE. Thus, none of the awarded funds have been spent to date.
3. Living Shoreline in Buzzard Point neighborhood in SW (\$242,987 in federal, \$132,013 local): This project is being managed by the District Department of Transportation (DDOT). This project will support ongoing efforts to complete a comprehensive flood protection plan along Buzzard Point to reduce building and property damage, as well as protect the area's transportation infrastructure. HSEMA provides technical assistance and coordination support, including participation in the Anacostia Waterfront Working Group.
 - a. Status: DDOT is in the process of identifying and procuring contract support to conduct the study. Funding is currently being transferred through a MOU subaward to DDOT. Thus, none of the awarded funds have been spent to date.
4. Recreation Center Resilience Hubs (\$212,960 in federal, \$66,550 local): This project is being managed by the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) in collaboration with DOEE. The goal is to develop a framework for city recreation centers to serve as Resilience Hubs. HSEMA provides quarterly technical assistance and coordination support.
 - a. Status: DPR is in the process of identifying and procuring contract support to conduct the framework. Funding is currently being transferred through a MOU subaward to DPR. Thus, none of the awarded funds have been spent to date.

Infrastructure Project (competitive):

1. Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant Floodwall (\$20,319,075 in federal, \$8,708,175 local): This project is being managed by DC Water. This project supports construction of a floodwall around the wastewater treatment plant, which will enhance resilience against predicted sea level rise. HSEMA provides quarterly technical assistance and scope development support as need.
 - Status: Awaiting award from FEMA after Build America, Buy America Act waiver is approved. Following the passing of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, there was a new purchasing preference for

American-made products applied to FEMA programs. FEMA is working on blanket waivers for infrastructure projects such as this one.

59. What is the status of the St. Elizabeths East Campus microgrid project?

1. Has a contractor been selected? If not, when does the agency expect a contract to be awarded?
 - In June 2022 an RFP was issued by DGS to create a competitive process for selecting a microgrid partner that would finance, build, own, operate, and transfer the microgrid. In October a panel reviewed all proposals and made a recommendation to DGS to award the contract to the strongest bidder. DGS, the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED), DOEE, OUC, and HSEMA participated in the panel. Given that this is a multiyear contract, Council should be notified once DGS awards it.
2. The District received \$20 million in federal funding through the BRIC grant program to support this project. How long does the District have to spend or commit this funding before we risk losing the funding?
 - The standard period of performance is three years for FEMA grants, which currently would end on January 1, 2026. If the project exceeds the 3-year term limit, we could request an extension and it would be up to FEMA to grant it. HSEMA is hopeful that we can complete the project concurrently with the hospital, to maximize cost-saving benefits. Given that the hospital is projected to open in the Fall of 2024, this date would drive the project deadline. The longer it takes to award the contract, the more challenging it will be to integrate the microgrid to the hospital, given that construction is already underway.
3. Does the agency expect the project to incorporate clean energy?
 - Yes. Bidders were given additional points for including clean energy sources in their microgrid design and we expect solar to be a key input for on-site generation. Additionally, the combined heat and power (CHP) element of the microgrid will reduce total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, since it is a cleaner alternative to traditional energy delivery. For context (according to DOEE), the reduction in GHG that will result from the system is roughly equivalent to taking 2,640 cars off the road, as well as the annual GHG output of 1,410 homes.

60. Please describe HSEMA's work on flood risk mitigation in FY22 and FY23, to date, including through the agency's role as a member of the DC Silver Jackets.

1. What work did the agency do to mitigate flood risks in the District?
2. In addition to the FloodSmart Homes program discussed above, does the agency provide other resources to private property owners to inform them of potential flood risks and/or assist them with risk mitigation?

3. What efforts are underway to expand flood preparedness?

HSEMA actively participates in DC Silver Jackets Team sponsored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). These quarterly meetings are an opportunity to coordinate and collaborate on priority projects to enhance flood mitigation and resilience in the District. Details on projects below:

- DC Flood Task Force Initiative: HSEMA is an active member on the DC Flood Task Force and participates in regular working groups and as a voting member in full Flood Task Force meetings. HSEMA serves as the lead on four Action Plans. These include:
 - The Flood Sensors and Signs workgroup developed an action plan for installing at least eight flood warning signs and sensors in flood prone areas using Hazard Mitigation Assistance funds.
 - HSEMA worked with DOEE, DC Water, and OUC to explore systems improvements for 311 so that it can handle excess calls in the event of a flooding event.
 - HSEMA hosted a series of discussion-based exercises on flooding and severe weather in the summer.
- Neighborhood Flood reduction efforts: HSEMA is funding and supporting projects that align with the Comprehensive Plan's Resilience Focus Areas and other priority areas known to flood. This includes the following projects:
 - Southwest/Buzzard Point: HSEMA is partnering with DOEE to develop a flood resilient strategy for Southwest/Buzzard Point. To date, we have received nearly \$19 Million to support the implementation of strategy. The first phase of this project is to design and construct Blue Green Infrastructure at Lansburgh Park.
 - Watts Branch: In FY21, HSEMA, in partnership with DOEE, scoped and applied for Hazard Mitigation Assistance funding that builds on the Watts Branch Flood Risk Management Study to develop a Concept Design plan (CDP). The CDP will scope out flood mitigation solutions to address the challenges identified in the Flood Risk study. DOEE is currently in the process of identifying and procuring contract support for the plan.
- Outreach and Education projects: HSEMA plays a role in ensuring the community is prepared for future flood events. This work includes:
 - Co-Hosting Flood Awareness Week: HSEMA hosted a series of emergency preparedness events for Flood Awareness Week, which occurs the third week of June every year. Programming this year focused on steps residents and business owners can take to mitigate their exposure to flooding.
 - ReadyDC Refresh: HSEMA contracted a design team to collect in-depth community feedback on the ReadyDC campaign and associated website. The team conducted interviews and held focus groups with community residents to better understand how Washingtonians interact with alerts and preparedness messages. This feedback is currently informing a full update to the ReadyDC website including the flood page.
 - DC Public High School Flood Education: HSEMA is participating in developing a flood education seminar with Washington DC's Academy

of Construction and Design (ACAD). USACE is leading this effort in partnership with DOEE. The first seminar is scheduled for mid-February.

61. Please discuss the agency's other efforts to expand environmental disaster preparedness.

In addition to leveraging hazard mitigation funding for natural hazard risk reduction, HSEMA collaborates closely with agency partners to move forward key initiatives that build environmental disaster preparedness. We were a key contributor to the Keep Cool DC plan that outlines policies for addressing urban heat. We participate in working groups that foster interagency and federal partnerships including the MWCOG Military Installation Resilience Review Study and the Anacostia Waterfront Working Group. HSEMA was a core participant in the Flood Task Force and authored multiple action plans. We are working with the Office of Planning to include a resilience element in the Ivy City Small Area Plan. We applied for and were awarded \$1.4 million through the Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program to support cross jurisdictional flood reduction planning with Prince George's County. Additionally, we support energy emission reduction efforts and have provided insights in advance of the Clean Energy DC update and are participating on the Climate Commitment Task Force.

Additionally, through the ReadyDC website, HSEMA helps educate the public on how to prepare for a wide range of disaster events. In FY22 we kicked-off a project to update the website based on community feedback and will be releasing new content in the coming year.

62. What resources are available and targeted to areas of the District without sufficient tree canopies to reduce the urban heat island effect and keep neighborhoods cool?

1. Is HSEMA monitoring trends in this area and seeking any interventions?

Addressing the Urban Heat Island at the neighborhood scale is an objective in the Resilient DC strategy and remains a priority. Getting heat mitigation projects funded through FEMA remains a challenge, but we have succeeded by incorporating heat reduction goals into many of our project proposals. For example, we have funded a project with the Office of Planning (OP) and DPR to develop a tool to assess the ability of small parks to mitigate both flooding and heat. Likewise, our blue green infrastructure project in the SW neighborhood will reduce flooding but also provide benefits for heat reduction.

Additionally, HSEMA worked closely with DOEE to develop the [Keep Cool DC](#) plan which identifies strategies for reducing the urban heat island and ensuring that residents can stay safe during high heat events. Community education was a clear need identified in that plan. HSEMA has a public preparedness mission through our ReadyDC initiative.

HSEMA recently conducted community focus groups and interviews to improve the way we talk about risks including heat. Our forthcoming update to the website and associated marketing campaign will prioritize providing easily understood life-saving information that resonates with residents.

Since 2012, Washington, DC has been a member of C40 – a network of cities committed to leading the charge on climate action. HSEMA staff participate in the Cool Cities peer learning subcommittee, which includes regular sessions on cutting-edge research related to heat reduction.

63. Does the agency continue to work with District agencies and federal partners on gun violence prevention initiatives?

1. In HSEMA's understanding, what is the status of the Building Blocks DC program?

HSEMA understands the the Building Blocks Program is now fully integrated into the Office of Gun Violence Prevention and OGVP is the principle coordinating office for interagency efforts to combat gun violence in the District.

2. HSEMA had detailed one full-time staffer to Building Blocks DC. Is that still the case?
There are no HSEMA employees currently detailed to Building Blocks DC.
3. Please discuss any other gun violence prevention efforts the agency is involved in and the agency's staffing for such efforts.

The District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency is committed to providing a safe and secure community for all residents of the District of Columbia and the broader National Capital Region by supporting efforts to address and reduce violence. The Fusion Center's Protect DC Initiative provides District agencies and community members with an anonymous referral tool to identify individuals of concern demonstrating concerning behavior or communication. The Protect DC Initiative utilizes a multidisciplinary approach that brings together partners from behavioral health, human services, law enforcement, and other disciplines to assess an individual's risk of violence, share information and resources, and coordinate violence prevention efforts.

64. Regarding allegations of age and race discrimination raised against the agency:

1. What is the status of any investigations into the agency regarding these issues?

There are no investigations regarding allegations of race and/or age discrimination pending against the agency.

2. What steps has the agency taken to ensure it is complying with all applicable District and federal laws prohibiting discrimination and that all employees are treated fairly and respectfully?

HSEMA follows the Office of Human Rights (OHR) framework for investigating allegations of discrimination committed by or against Agency employees. This includes having an employee who serves as our Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Counselor. Employees must first participate in EEO counseling to attempt informal resolution. If informal resolution is not achieved, the individual can file a formal complaint through OHR.