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MEDIA RELEASE

City of Fort Bragg is conducting an Emergency Operations Center Exercise 03/13/2024

On April 3, 2024, the City of Fort Bragg will be conducting an Emergency Operations Center Exercise at the Fort Bragg Middle School. The exercise <u>will not</u> disrupt normal school activities and will be contained to the Middle School Library after classes are normally released.

This exercise will involve the majority of the City's Administrative and Management staff participating in a simulation where they are required to activate the City's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) following a major disaster in accordance with the City of Fort Bragg's Emergency Operations Plan. Participating staff will be provided a scenario, assigned to their EOC roles, and then participate in a two-hour simulation where they will receive approximately 100 pieces of simulated information. The simulation is intended to be as realistic as possible to allow city staff to react and apply their knowledge during stressful conditions. The attached Exercise Plan contains additional information.

This functional exercise will be conducted in accordance with Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Protocols and will confirm the City of Fort Bragg's ability to meet desired Core Capabilities outlined in the Federal Government's National Preparedness Goals. Any deficiencies identified during the exercise will be forwarded to the City's senior leaders and the Fort Bragg City Council. The city staff and City Council may use the provided information to guide future financial allocations and to develop a multi-year exercise plan as required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Data collected during this and future exercises will additionally increase the City's eligibility for Federal and State emergency preparedness funding.

Additional information regarding this exercise and an update to the City's Emergency Operations Plan will be discussed at the Special Public Safety Committee on March 19, 2024, and at the City Council Meeting on March 25, 2024.

The City of Fort Bragg would like to thank the Fort Bragg Unified School District for the use of their facility.

Questions regarding this exercise may be directed to the City's Emergency Manager, Captain Thomas O'Neal at toneal@fortbragg.com.

This information is being released by Chief Neil Cervenka. Media organizations requesting to attend the event should contact him at ncervenka@fortbragg.com.