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Florida Association for Search and Rescue

A Professional Interest Section of the Florida Fire Chiefs' Association

MISSION

Unify and coordinate the efforts of SAR Responders in the State of Florida.

Task Force Leaders Working Group Members,

During the development of the White Paper, the following issues were found:

- 1) There is no standard US&R hazard assessment protocol that was been utilized statewide. Review of statewide Local Mitigation Strategy Hazard assessment shows differences between jurisdiction and none that specifically address US&R.
- 2) The statewide funding request currently in paper for team types is extremely high. Some anecdotal inquiries were made to Fire Chiefs who support US&R teams revealed that Fire Chiefs would have extremely difficult time justifying to local governing bodies acceptance of that level of funding to include a full time US&R manager when the Chiefs are struggling to keep stations open and staffed.
- 3) The paper, in its current form, can be sent out for review by committee members for input however, the lack hazard assessment information/access does not allow for finalization of paper as it stands.

With the above information the following was recommended:

- 1) The paper be sent out to the committee with a short window for comment
- 2) This paper be the focus of the TFL Working Group meeting at The Executive Development Conference discussing the following:
 - a) How to develop a standardized US&R hazard assessment for the State of Florida
 - b) Discuss a realistic budget for US&R teams that will be acceptable to the Fire Chiefs that have to present to local politicians with discussion on current challenges with what funding is being received.
 - c) Decide the need to put a committee together to develop assessment or use the meeting to create a draft (the most expedient process).

Attached I the draft of the White Paper for your review. Please come prepared to spend time discussing the above points and how to resolve these limitations to complete the White Paper. Your input is extremely important to the continued success for the FLUSAR program.

Sincerely,

Todd Livingston
FASAR Chair

TL/kw

ATTACH: Urban Search and Rescue White Paper

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