Local Highway Response To Large Disasters
Requesting Assistance & Reimbursement

June 11, 2015

Requesting State Assistance
ATIG: Area Transportation Infrastructure Group

June 11, 2015

History
- Originally: Debris Clearance Task Force
- Mid 90’s: Highway Emergency Task Force (HETF)
- 2000’s: Transportation Infrastructure Group (TIG)
- NOW: Transportation Infrastructure Branch (TIB)

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Transportation Infrastructure
Comprised of roads, bridges, tunnels, airports, canals, ports, railroads, subways, sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and shared-use paths owned by the State of New York, New York State authorities, international authorities and local municipalities

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What is TIB & ATIG?
TIB is one of many branches in the Ops Section of the State EOC
ATIG’s are “Groups” within the TIB

** Note that ATIG number corresponds to NYS DOT Region #

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Purpose of the TIB is:
1) Provide assistance to restore (OPEN) transportation system.
2) To assess the status of the transportation system.
3) To provide technical assistance in the planning and response to incidents that impact transportation system.
TIB is comprised of 27 state agencies & authorities:

11 Primary agencies
16 Supporting agencies

NYS Department of Transportation has been designated to Chair the Transportation Infrastructure Branch.

Member Agencies

Primary Agencies (11):
- NYS Department of Transportation
- NYS Office of Emergency Management
- NYS Division of Military and Naval Affairs
- NYS Thruway Authority
- NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
- NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
- NYS Department of Correctional Services
- NYS Bridge Authority
- NY Division of State Police
- Port Authority of New York and New Jersey
- Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Member Agencies

Supporting Agencies (16):
- Albany Port District Commission
- Buffalo and Fort Erie Public Bridge Authority
- Long Island Power Authority
- New York Power Authority
- NYS Energy Research and Development Authority
- NYS Office of Children and Family Services
- NYS Olympic Regional Development Authority
- Niagara Falls Bridge Commission
- Niagara Falls Bridge Commission
- Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority
- Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority
- Port of Oswego Authority
- St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation
- State University of New York
- Thousand Islands Bridge Authority
- State Office of Cyber Security
- NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets

Others:
Any other agency, authority or entity, public, private or international may also participate as needed and appropriate.

Activation

ATIG Activation based on Executive Law, Article 2B...

"Upon the declaration of a state disaster emergency, the Governor may direct any and all agencies of the state to provide assistance."

Or, if not under a State Disaster Emergency:

- Only under the most exigent emergency circumstances as directed by the Governor
- Declaration of a state of emergency by a local government
- Local request for state assistance
- Local government certifies in writing that state employees are deemed officers or employees of the political subdivision

Local Transportation Infrastructure Provider Roles and Responsibilities

- Deploy all their resources
- Acquire contractor assistance
- Prioritize requests
- Submit request to county EOC
County Emergency Operations Center Roles and Responsibilities

- Contact ATIG through state OEM
- Verify all local resources are deployed
- May assist with arranging for contractor assistance
- Act as liaison with ATIG

County Emergency Operations Center Roles and Responsibilities (cont.)

- Acquire assistance from unaffected municipalities (Mutual Aid Plans)
- Review all requests
- Prioritize requests
- Submit request to ATIG

ATIG Roles and Responsibilities

- Activate member agencies
- Act as liaison with county EOCs
- Review all requests for consistency with policy
- Verify that all local resources are deployed
- Arrange for State agency personnel to conduct damage assessments to determine the appropriate resources, etc.
- Assist with repair estimates, DDIRs, PWs, etc.

ATIG Roles and Responsibilities (cont.)

- Identify and arrange for appropriate resources
- Assist with identifying potential contractors
- Submit request to TIB for additional State assistance
- Encourage counties to monitor and report status of their transportation infrastructure
- Begin demobilization considerations

ATIG Roles and Responsibilities (cont.)

- ATIG Member Agencies WILL NOT:
  - Offer resources directly to a municipality
  - Respond to requests directly from a municipality
  - Send resources until requested by the ATIG

ATIG Chair Roles and Responsibilities

- Coordinate ATIG Member Agency Activities
- Within two weeks of ATIG demobilization:
  - Schedule and conduct an after-action meeting/debrief
  - Prepare an after-action report
Disaster Recovery

- FEMA recovery assistance is **ONLY** available if a Stafford Act declaration is granted, either an Emergency Declaration or a Major Disaster Declaration.
- Other programs may be available depending on the scope and magnitude of the event.

Disaster Declaration Process

1. Local Emergency Response
2. Review/Approval of Local Declaration
3. State Assistance
4. Governor's Declaration
5. Governor's Approval of Presidential Disaster Declaration
6. Presidential Disaster Declaration
7. Response transitions to recovery

Types of Emergency/Disaster Declarations

- Local State of Emergency
- State Disaster Emergency Declaration
- Federal Emergency Declaration
- Major Disaster Declaration

Local State of Emergency

- Declared by local government (Chief Executive).
- Allows for the suspension of local laws, the establishment of curfews, local road closures, the establishment of emergency shelters, and other activities to enable the local response effort.
- **Does not mean funding is available.**

State Disaster Emergency

- Declared by the Governor.
- Also sometimes referred to as a State of Emergency.
- Allows for the suspension of State laws and the ability of State assets, including DOT, National Guard, etc. to assist local government during a disaster.
- **Does not mean funding is available.**
Federal Emergency Declaration

- Can be declared by the President in anticipation of or after an event.
- Federal assistance and funding may be provided to meet specific emergency needs or to help prevent a catastrophe from occurring.
- A Federal Emergency Declaration allows for specific types of Federal assistance but it is much more limited than a Major Disaster Declaration.

Major Disaster Declaration

- Declared by the President (based on Governor’s request).
- Can make a variety of Federal funding available for emergency relief and reconstruction assistance to the State and local governments and individuals impacted by the disaster.
- Not every disaster will receive a Major Disaster Declaration - depends on the scope and magnitude of the event.

FEMA Recovery Programs

- Public Assistance (PA)
- Individual Assistance (IA)
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

Note: Emergency Relief (ER) Program Funds from FHWA are separate and are administered by NYS DOT

Public Assistance (PA)

Program Goal: To reimburse any eligible costs related to emergency response and damages to equipment and infrastructure, generally at 75%

Who is eligible?

- Local Government Agencies
- County Government Agencies
- State Government Agencies
- Tribal Nations
- Private Not-for-Profits providing governmental or other critical services

Public Assistance (PA)

FEMA provides PA grant assistance for:

- Debris removal
- Emergency protective measures
- Repair, replacement, or restoration of disaster-damaged, publicly owned and Private Non-Profit (PNP) facilities.
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

Encourages protection of damaged facilities from future events by providing assistance for hazard mitigation measures during the recovery process.

Public Assistance (PA)

What is eligible?

Emergency Costs
- Related to responding
- Debris removal
- Protective measures:
  - Road closures/MPT
  - Equipment

Repair/Replacement of Infrastructure
- Road and Bridge repairs
- Repair / replacement of government buildings
- Hospitals
- Water provision
- Waste water treatment
- Municipal utilities

Public Assistance (PA)

What is the Process to get PA Declaration?

- Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) info to County
  - Local/County information sent to OEM
    - Threshold met - validation
    - State DAR – FEMA Team
- Governor’s Request to President
- FEMA Declaration

The State and County must both meet their damage threshold to obtain PA funding.

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