Achieving Efficiency Through State and Local Preparedness

Executive Order #14239

Date Issued: March 19, 2025

Topic: Federal Management & Administration, Local Authority

Section One: What Does this Executive Order Do?

Executive Summary

The Achieving Efficiency Through State and Local Preparedness Presidential Action aims to realign federal, state and local government roles and responsibilities to improve disaster preparedness and recovery. The action places primary responsibility for national resiliency and preparedness on the State, local, and individual levels. It also orders a streamlining of preparedness operations and an update of relevant Government policies. Federal agencies will shift their focus from managing preparedness efforts to supporting local stakeholders.

Key Deadlines

- June 17, 2025: Publication of a National Resilience Strategy that articulates the
 priorities, means and ways to advance the resilience of the Nation. The National
 Resilience Strategy shall be reviewed and revised at least every 4 years, or as
 appropriate.
- **September 15, 2025:** Complete a review all critical infrastructure policies and recommend to the President the revisions, recissions and replacements necessary to achieve a more resilient posture; shift from an all-hazards approach to a risk-informed approach; move beyond information sharing to action; and implement the National Resilience Strategy.
- September 15, 2025: Complete a review of all national continuity policies and recommend to the President the revisions, recissions, and replacements necessary to modernize and streamline the approach to national continuity capabilities, reformulate the methodology and architecture necessary to achieve an enduring readiness posture, and implement the National Resilience Strategy.
- November 14, 2025: Complete a review of all national preparedness and response
 policies and recommend to the President the revisions, recissions, and
 replacements necessary to reformulate the process and metrics for Federal
 responsibility, move away from an all-hazards approach, and implement the
 National Resilience Strategy.

- **November 14, 2025:** Coordinate the development of a National Risk Register that identifies, articulates and quantifies natural and malign risks to our national infrastructure, related systems, and their users.
- March 19, 2026: The Secretary of Homeland Security shall propose changes to the
 policies outlining this framework and any implementing documents to ensure State
 and local governments and individuals have improved communications with Federal
 officials and a better understanding of the Federal role.

Section Two: How Does this Order Impact Local Governments?

Impact to Municipal Operations

This could empower local governments to make infrastructure decisions and implement preparedness strategies with streamlined federal support to enhance national disaster preparedness and response. However, the financial mechanism for preparedness and response for the federal government to aid local and state governments has not been explained. It could also require local governments to make significant adjustments in municipal operations to align with the broader national resilience framework.

Section Four: How Can Local Governments Prepare?

- Local governments should prepare for the executive order by focusing on risk-based planning, aligning resilience efforts with federal strategies and prioritizing efficient infrastructure investments. Coordination with state and federal partners, along with engaging communities, will be essential to ensure readiness, protect residents and support long-term resilience.
- To keep up to date on federal funding, especially federal funding around disaster relief, register for NLC's <u>Federal Advocacy Update Newsletter</u>.
- NLC's <u>Sustainability & Innovation program</u> helps local governments build resilient, sustainable, and future-ready communities by advancing climate solutions, smart technologies, and innovative practices that improve quality of life and protect vulnerable populations.

Section Five: How is NLC Responding?

NLC is actively monitoring the implementation of the executive order and assessing its impact on local governments. We are driving efforts to strengthen disaster preparedness, modernize infrastructure, and protect federal funding partnerships critical to cities. Through our Disaster Management Ad Hoc Advisory Committee and close collaboration with USCM, NACo and other partners, we are working to ensure federal reforms empower

local governments without imposing unfunded mandates, while advancing a united voice
for resilient and well-prepared communities.