



Date: March 11, 2008

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Rae Gabelich, Eighth District *RG*
Councilmember Gerrie Schipske, Fifth District *GS*
Councilmember Val Lerch, Ninth District *Val*

Subject: AGENDA ITEM: Report of the Emergency Preparedness Task Force

On March 10, 1933 at 5:54 p.m., a 6.4 magnitude earthquake struck Long Beach causing millions of dollars in damage and unfortunately took the lives of 120 people.

As we mark the 75th anniversary of that tragic and defining moment in our city, it is important that the entire community examine what can be done to become better prepared when the next natural disaster impacts our neighborhoods.

While our City's public safety officials are well prepared to handle emergencies throughout the city, the logistics of a major natural disaster require neighborhoods and community organizations to be prepared to sustain themselves for the critical days after the event.

The Emergency Preparedness Task Force of Kingdom Causes is working with houses of worship throughout the City to coordinate emergency preparedness among neighbors by mobilizing worship centers and their congregants and systematically identifying and leveraging their influence and resources. They are also working with the City's emergency services and local Red Cross to coordinate efforts.

Through CERT training and regular meetings and coordination, the Emergency Preparedness Task Force is working to serve as a key identifiable resource in the city's overall emergency preparedness plan. I believe it is timely and useful for the Council and the public to receive a report about these efforts.

Recommended Action:

Receive and file the report on the Emergency Preparedness Task Force of Kingdom Causes on their efforts to coordinate emergency preparedness among neighbors by mobilizing worship centers to be equipped and trained in the event of a large-scale emergency.