Function of an Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

The EOC reinforces interoperability among the various system components and makes response more efficient and effective by coordinating available resources.

Traditionally, an EOC is not an on-scene incident command post (ICP) – where the focus is on tactics to deal with the immediate situation.
An EOC is used to support on-scene activities through the prioritization of activities and the allocation of available resources.

In a major event, the fire district will not have the capacity to assume the Incident Command function.

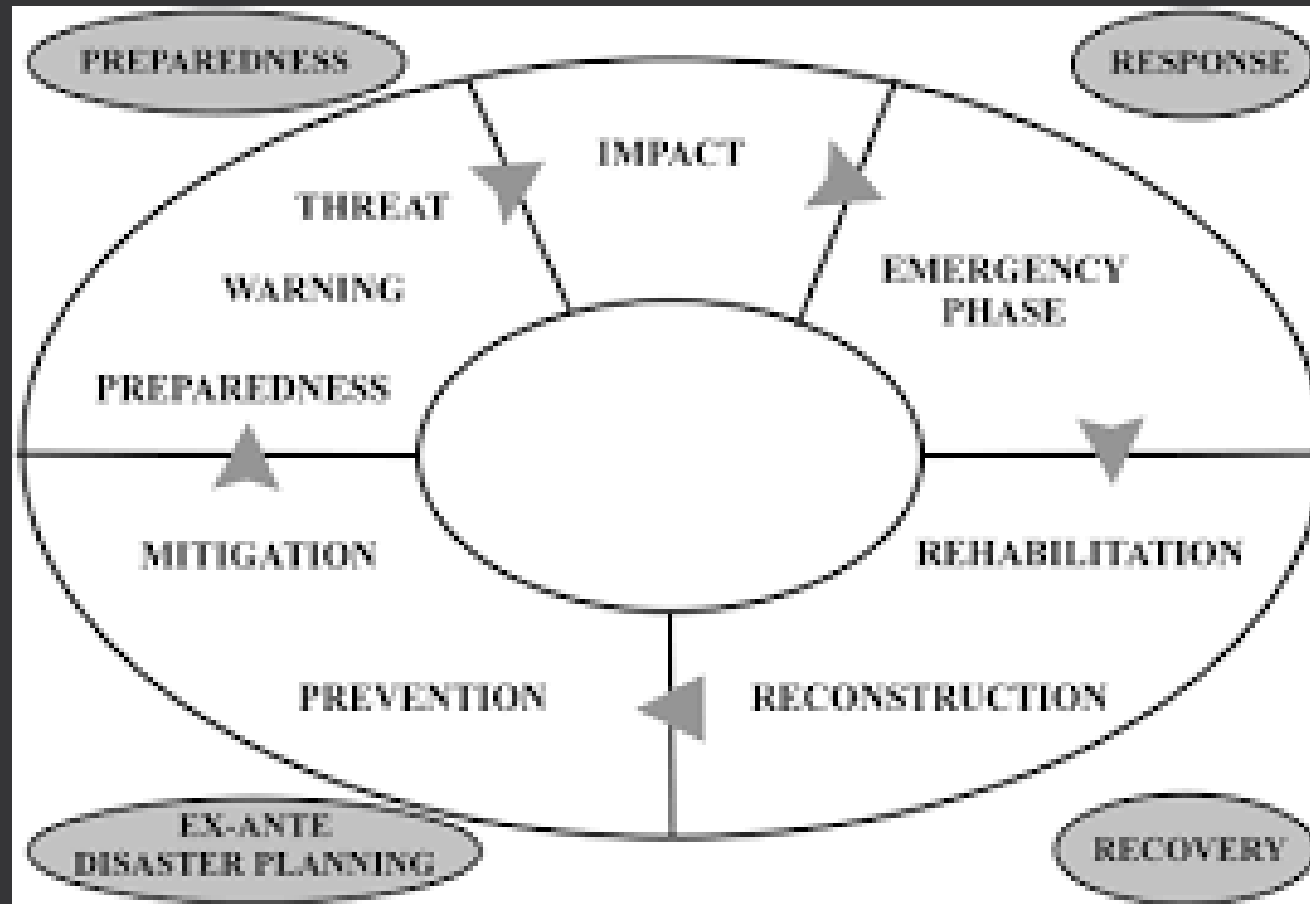Information Management

Resource Management

Planning

Communication

-may also manage operations such as emergency shelters or points of distribution

THE DISASTER LIFE CYCLE

What does an EOC need to be useful?

An EOC is simply a dedicated workspace

Can be any pre-designated gathering place

What an EOC should include:

Security

Backup Power

Communication Capabilities

Workstations

Emergency Documents

Supplies

Food/water for 72 hours

An EOC can be an invaluable tool, either in emergency response or for major events

An EOC does not have to be complex

An EOC can be a multi-purpose space

An EOC's purpose is not just for directing emergency response