

CIVIL DISTURBANCE ANNEX P

P1. Purpose, Situation, and Assumptions

P1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this Civil Disturbance Hazard-Specific Annex is to guide and coordinate agencies and organizations during civil disturbances within Park County. If not managed properly, civil disturbances can escalate and threaten additional lives and property. General incident management principles and disaster and emergency processes should be applied to any civil disturbance, but this annex provides additional information specific to these types of incidents.

P1.2 Situation Overview

Civil disturbances threaten the safety and security of the general public. If not addressed appropriately, a civil disturbance can escalate to the point of loss of life and property. These incidents can occur for a variety of reasons and in a number of ways. They can be instigated by things such as extremist groups, large public gatherings, political differences, social differences, or individuals. Large scale protests, strikes, school violence, riots, hostage situations, and contentious court decisions are all examples of the types of events that may require the activation of this plan.

In these types of situations, law enforcement responsibilities may become highly complex and require significant resources. These situations may require resources from other jurisdictions.

Possible civil disturbance losses include:

- Deaths and injuries.
- Critical facility and infrastructure physical and functional losses.
- Structure and contents losses.
- Business disruption losses.

P1.3 Planning Assumptions

- Civil disturbances may have some warning, such as planned protests and impending strikes; others may occur without warning, such as school violence and hostage situations.
- Most civil disturbances in Park County are localized to a single location or area.
- Small scale civil disturbances will not require activation of this plan.

P2. Concept of Operations

The decision points that follow are the responsibility of incident management. Note that not all decision points may be necessary and some decision points may be combined during rapidly escalating situations.

- *Decision Point: A situation or event in Park County may lead to a civil disturbance.*

Certain types of events, such as planned protests or demonstrations, dignitary visits, court rulings, or strikes, may cause concern for civil disturbances. Although usually peaceful, these types of events allow for advanced planning that local officials may benefit from, both as an exercise and also in the case that a civil disturbance does occur.

Law enforcement and local officials should perform the following:

- Develop a written Incident Action Plan.
- Alert and/or activate off-duty and reserve peace officers.
- Notify mutual aid and assisting agencies of event and possible requests.
- Consider establishing and staffing an Incident Command Post and/or the Emergency Operations Center, if needed.
- Maintain close observation of and security for the planned event.

- *Decision Point: A civil disturbance is occurring in Park County.*

When civil disturbances occur, law enforcement has the responsibility of restoring order. The following actions may be taken to do so:

- Establish Incident Command.
- Determine immediate health and safety hazards.
- Contain the problem area(s) and person(s), if possible.
- Establish an Incident Command Post.
- Establish a controlled perimeter.
- Activate off-duty and reserve peace officers, as needed.
- Establish a staging area to organize resources safely.
- Request assistance from specialized tactical teams and mutual aid agencies, if needed.
- Conduct emergency operations such as treating injured persons and fire suppression, as needed. (See the [Mass Casualty and Mass Fatality Annex](#) for additional information on this function.)
- Conduct evacuations or advise sheltering-in-place, if needed and possible. (See the [Population Protection Annex](#) for additional information on this function.)
- Calm the situation through standard tactical procedures such as crowd dispersion, negotiations, and containment.
- Arrest individuals and utilize mass arrest procedures, if and as needed.
- Identify a Public Information Officer (PIO) and begin disseminating information as appropriate. (See the [Public Information Annex](#) for additional information on this function.)
- Activate the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for coordination, logistical support, resource management, and/or public information, if needed.

- Request state and/or federal assistance, as needed. (Note: these requests should be made through Park County Disaster and Emergency Services and/or the Emergency Operations Center.)
- Notify the appropriate authorities. (Note: School shootings and bombings or threats do not fall under the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s (FBI) criteria for terrorism; however, such events are encouraged to be reported to the FBI.)

P3. Organization and Assignment of Responsibilities

The responsibilities listed here are specific to this hazard. Note that all entities, whether listed or not, are also responsible for their basic disaster and emergency responsibilities as outlined in the [Base Plan, Section 3.2](#), as applicable.

The following entities are not specific to jurisdiction. Therefore, in an emergency, the jurisdiction(s) affected will have the responsibility for these roles, and other non-affected jurisdictions may also be involved through mutual aid.

Law Enforcement

including Montana Highway Patrol

- Conduct special operations for civil disturbances, as appropriate.
- Restore order.

Other Entities

- Perform other duties as needed and assigned.

P4. Direction, Control, and Coordination

Incident Command for most civil disturbances will be with law enforcement. If significant injuries or fires have occurred due to the civil disturbance, command may be expanded to include emergency medical services / ambulances and/or fire departments / districts. Additional information on the direction and control function can be found in the [Direction and Control Annex](#) and [Base Plan, Section 4](#).

P5. Information Collection and Dissemination

P5.1 Information Collection for Planning

Table P5.1A lists the key information needed and possible sources when preparing for and conducting operations during civil disturbances.

Table P5.1A Possible Information Sources

Information Type	Source
Localized Threat Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Law Enforcement– Montana All Threat Intelligence Center
Resources Available to Assist	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Park County Disaster and Emergency Services– Montana Disaster and Emergency Services

P5.2 Public Information

Information regarding the public information function can be found in the [Public Information Annex](#).

The following information should be provided to the public, as appropriate:

- Description of current situation
- Areas affected or potentially affected
- Protective actions needed or recommended (i.e. evacuation, shelter-in-place, etc.)
- Road and area closures and expected duration
- Shelter, mass care, and mental health services information, if necessary

P6. Communications

See the [Communications Annex](#) for more details on emergency communications in Park County.

P7. Administration, Finance, and Logistics

P7.1 Finance/Administration

For additional information on the Finance/Administration function, particularly the importance of recordkeeping, see the [Base Plan, Section 7.1](#).

P7.2 Logistics

For additional information on disaster and emergency logistics, see the [Base Plan, Section 7.2](#).

P8. Plan Development and Maintenance

See the [Base Plan, Section 8](#) for additional information on annex development, review, revision, and exercise.

P9. Authorities and References

P9.1 Authorities / References

- Montana Code Annotated 10-3-7: Tactical Incident Assistance
- Montana Code Annotated 45-8-1: Conduct Disruptive of Public Order

P9.2 Acronyms

See the [Base Plan, Section 9.4](#) for the list of acronyms used in this plan.

P10. Attachments

None.