

# **FAQs**

## **Mutual Aid Interlocal Agreement for Utah Public Works Emergency Management**

### **What is the purpose of this Agreement?**

The purpose of this Agreement is to assist local governments in helping one another in times of need. It provides a method whereby a local government or agency that has sustained damage from a natural or man-made disaster can obtain emergency assistance, in the form of personnel, equipment, materials, and other associated services, from other participating agencies.

### **What does the Agreement do?**

The Agreement provides procedures for assistance and reimbursement of expenses, and supports and compliments the Utah Mutual Aid Agreement (UAC R704-2).

### **Are we obligated to help if another agency requests our assistance?**

No. Each Participating Agency in the Alliance is not required to render assistance to another Participating Agency in the time of need. Every Participating Agency maintains their right of refusal for whatever reason they may have.

### **Has this Agreement had legal reviews?**

Yes. Attorneys from Salt Lake County, Salt Lake City, Utah County, along with other local attorneys have reviewed and provided assistance in the preparation of this document.

### **Can we make changes to the Agreement before we sign it?**

No, not at this time. In order to ensure the timely implementation of this Agreement with multiple partners, this Agreement needs to be approved as is. However, the Agreement does include provisions for making changes in the future. It should be noted that the UTWARN Agreement (Utah Water, Wastewater Response Network) was used as a basis for this Agreement. The

UTWARN Agreement has been accepted by over 85 participating agencies throughout the state.

### **Who should sign this Agreement?**

All local government agencies, service districts, and state agencies that can provide, or would require public works assistance, after a natural or man-made disaster should sign this Agreement.

### **After we have signed, what's next?**

We encourage all Participating Agencies in the Alliance to continue to be active supporters of the Agreement by organizing annual Emergency Management training exercises, making sure that all equipment lists are current, ensuring that you have a representative attend our annual meeting at the APWA Fall Conference, and being ready to assist each other in the event of flooding, severe weather, fires, earthquakes and other natural or manmade emergencies.

### **How do I get more information?**

Please view our website at <http://utah.apwa.net/MenuHomepage/292/Emergency-Management> or contact the APWA Utah Chapter Emergency Management Committee.

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Last Update: June 17, 2014

**Additions/Suggestions:**

- This agreement 'jump-starts'(or equivalent language), or 'saves a step in the Documenting process which WILL occur at some point during or after the Emergency. – Steve Burgon

# MUTUAL AID INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR UTAH PUBLIC WORKS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

THIS MUTUAL AID INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT is entered into this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, by \_\_\_\_\_ and the other Participating Agencies as described herein.

## ARTICLE I. PURPOSE

This Agreement is made and entered into by those Public Works and Related Service Agencies who have adopted and signed this Agreement to provide mutual assistance in times of emergency. This Public Works Emergency Management Alliance mutual aid program is established to provide a method whereby Participating Agencies which sustain damage from natural or man-made disasters can obtain emergency assistance, in the form of personnel, equipment, materials, and other associated services, from other Agencies. This Agreement also provides a method whereby responding Agencies may be provided with reimbursement for personnel, equipment, materials and other associated services that are made available on an emergency basis. Nothing herein is intended to replace or terminate any pre-existing agreement between any of the Participating Agencies that provide assistance by one Participating Agency's department within the political boundaries of another on a regular or routine basis. Participating Agencies intend by this Agreement to commit to assist each other whenever possible, while allowing each Participating Agency the sole discretion to determine when its personnel and equipment cannot be spared for assisting other Participating Agencies.

In consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements hereinafter set forth, the parties agree to provide mutual assistance to one another in times of emergency in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

This document is intended to be a companion document to the UTAH WARN (Water, Wastewater Response Network) agreement and used in conjunction with the State of Utah Mutual Aid Agreement (Utah Administrative Code, R704-2, State Wide Mutual Aid Activation).

## ARTICLE II. DEFINITIONS

- A. **AGREEMENT** - The Mutual Aid Interlocal Agreement for Utah Public Works Emergency Management. The original Agreement(s) and all signatory pages shall be kept at the Salt Lake County Public Works Administration Building located at 604 West 6960 South, Midvale, Utah 84047, or other location as directed by the Utah Chapter of the American Public Works Association.
- B. **ALLIANCE - UTAH PUBLIC WORKS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ALLIANCE** – The mutual aid network consisting of and available to the Participating Agencies as described in this Agreement and the administration of that network.
- C. **APWA** - American Public Works Association
- D. **ASSISTING Agency** – ANY Participating Agency which agrees to provide assistance to a Requesting Agency pursuant to this Agreement.
- E. **AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE** – An employee of a Participating Agency authorized by that Agency to request or offer assistance under the terms of this Agreement.
- F. **EMERGENCY** – Any disaster or calamity involving the area of operation of the Participating Agency, caused by fire, flood, storm, earthquake, civil disturbance, terrorism, or other condition which is or is likely to be beyond the control or ability of the services, personnel, equipment and facilities of a Participating Agency or a “disaster”, “state of emergency” or “local emergency” as those terms are defined by the *Emergency Management Act* and the *Disaster Response and Recovery Act* as set forth in Title 53, Chapter 2a, *Utah Code*, as those sections currently exist or may hereafter be amended.
- G. **EXPENSES** – All costs incurred by the Assisting Agency during the Period of Assistance to provide personnel, equipment, materials and other associated services when responding to the Requesting Agency as described in Article VI.
- H. **PARTICIPATING Agency or Agencies** – ANY Agency which executes this Agreement. Participating Agencies may include, City Public Works, County Public Works, Public Utilities (including water, wastewater, power, gas, etc.), Public Services (including solid waste facilities, sanitation, etc.), Special Districts, State Agencies (including UDOT, DFCM, DEQ, etc.), Utah National Guard, and any other agency or group that provides services similar to standard public works type operations.
- I. **PERIOD OF ASSISTANCE** - The period of time beginning with the mobilization of any personnel of the Assisting Agency from any point for the purpose of traveling to the Requesting Agency in order to provide assistance and ending upon the demobilization of all personnel of the Assisting Agency, after providing the assistance requested, to their residence or place of work whichever is first to occur.

- J. REQUESTING Agency – ANY Participating Agency which sustains physical damage to its infrastructure due to natural or man-made causes that seeks assistance pursuant to this Agreement.
- K. SCHEDULE OF EQUIPMENT RATES – The latest rates published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) under the response and recovery directorate applicable to major disasters and emergencies or the pre-published schedule provided by a Participating Agency by January 15 of each year.
- L. WORK OR WORK-RELATED PERIOD – Any period of time in which either the personnel or equipment of the Assisting Agency are being used to render assistance to the Requesting Agency. Specifically included within such period of time are breaks when the personnel of the Assisting Agency will return to work within a reasonable period of time. Also included is mutually agreed upon rotation(s) of personnel and equipment.

### ARTICLE III. APPLICABILITY

This Agreement is available to all Participating Agencies, upon signing of the Agreement and maintaining a current resource equipment list (as per Utah Administrative Code R704-2) and a schedule of equipment and manpower rates.

### ARTICLE IV. ADMINISTRATION

The administration of the Utah Public Works Emergency Management Alliance (Alliance) will be through the Utah Chapter of APWA. The Utah APWA Emergency Management Committee acts as the committee representing the Utah Chapter of APWA.

The Utah Chapter of APWA, on behalf of the Participating Agencies (Alliance) shall:

- A. Sponsor an annual meeting for Participating Agencies (scheduled as part of the annual APWA Fall Conference).
- B. Maintain a data base of information.
- C. Meet as a committee to address and resolve concerns, create and modify procedures and address and resolve any additional policy or legal issues related to the Alliance.
- D. Maintain a web site to track Participating Agencies. (Currently, this website is located at <http://utah.apwa.net/>)
- E. The web site may be password protected for only the use of Participating Agencies if deemed appropriate by the APWA Emergency Management Committee.
- F. Facilitate and promote a minimum of one training exercise per year. Each Participating Agency is responsible to plan, coordinate, budget and execute one emergency exercise annually.

## ARTICLE V. PROCEDURES

In the event that a particular Participating Agency becomes a Requesting Agency, the following procedures shall be followed:

- A. A Participating Agency shall not be held liable for failing to be an Assisting Agency.
- B. Each Assisting Agency shall respond, when practicable, to requests for emergency assistance by providing such resources as are reasonably available to the Assisting Agency. The Assisting Agency shall have the discretion of determining which resources are reasonably available.
- C. The execution of this Agreement shall not create any duty to respond on the part of any Participating Agency.
- D. The Requesting Agency may contact other participating members of the Alliance that may be able to provide the requested resources.
- E. Necessary information in accordance with the procedures defined in this Agreement shall be shared between Requesting and Assisting Agencies.
- F. When contacted by a Requesting Agency, the Authorized Representative of a Participating Agency shall assess if it is capable of providing assistance. If the Authorized Representative determines that the Participating Agency is capable and willing to provide assistance, the Authorized Representative shall notify the Requesting Agency and provide the Requesting Agency with the information as required.
- G. The personnel and equipment of the Assisting Agency shall remain, at all times, under the direct supervision of the designated supervisory personnel of the Assisting Agency. The Incident Commander or Unified Commander, as designated by the Requesting Agency, shall provide work assignments and suggest schedules for the personnel and equipment of the Assisting Agency; however, the designated supervisory personnel of the Assisting Agency shall have the exclusive responsibility and authority for assigning Work and establishing Work schedules for the personnel and equipment of the Assisting Agency. The designated supervisory personnel of the Assisting Agency shall maintain daily personnel time records and a log of equipment hours (including breakdowns, if any), be responsible for the operation and maintenance of the equipment furnished by the Assisting Agency, see to the safety of Assisting Agency personnel and report work progress to the Requesting Agency and/or the Incident Commander.
- H. When possible, the Requesting Agency shall supply reasonable food and shelter for the Assisting Agency personnel. If the Requesting Agency does not provide food and shelter for the Assisting Agency, the Assisting Agency's designated supervisor is authorized to secure, at the expense of the Requesting Agency, the resources

reasonably necessary to meet the needs of its personnel in coordination with the Requesting Agency's procedures. The cost for such resources must not exceed the state per diem rate for that area. Where costs exceed the per diem rate, the Assisting Agency must document and demonstrate that the additional costs were reasonable and necessary under the circumstances.

- I. The Requesting Agency shall provide a communications plan to the Assisting Agency prior to arrival.
- J. The command structure established during the Emergency shall comply with the requirements of the National Incident Management System (NIMS)
- K. The Incident Commander or Unified Commander shall, as soon as reasonably possible, release the personnel, equipment and materials of the Assisting Agency from the Emergency. The personnel, equipment and materials of the Assisting Agency shall, if practical, be released before the personnel, equipment and materials of the Requesting Agency are released.
- L. To the extent permitted by law, Assisting Agency personnel who hold valid licenses, certificates, or permits evidencing professional, mechanical, or other skills shall be allowed to carry out activities and tasks relevant and related to their respective credentials during the specified Period of Assistance.
- M. Personnel, equipment and materials of the Assisting Agency shall be released from the Emergency when it is determined by the Incident Commander or the Unified Commander that the services provided by the Assisting Agency are no longer required or when the supervisory personnel of the Assisting Agency informs the Incident Commander or the Unified Commander that the personnel, equipment and materials provided by the Assisting Agency are otherwise needed by the Assisting Agency.
- N. Credentialing; Each Participating Agency shall provide its own credentialing for identification purposes.

#### ARTICLE VI. REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES

The terms and conditions governing reimbursement for any assistance provided under this Agreement shall be determined by standard and prevailing rates of the Participating Agencies. If the Assisting Agency and the Requesting Agency agree to the reimbursement of expenses, reimbursement shall be in accordance with the following provisions:

- A. PERSONNEL – During the Period of Assistance, the Assisting Agency shall continue to pay its employees according to its then prevailing rules, regulations, policies and procedures. The Requesting Agency shall reimburse the Assisting Agency for all direct and indirect payroll costs and expenses incurred during the Period of Assistance, including, but not limited to, employee pensions and benefits.

- B. **EQUIPMENT** – The Requesting Agency shall reimburse the Assisting Agency for the use of the Assisting Agency’s equipment during the Period of Assistance according to the *Schedule of Equipment Rates* established and published by FEMA. All Participating Agencies shall maintain a current list of equipment available (as per Utah Administrative Code R704-2) and the rates for that equipment upon executing this Agreement. If an Assisting Agency uses an alternate basis of rates for equipment listed on the FEMA *Schedule of Equipment Rates*, the rates of the Assisting Agency shall prevail.
- C. **MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES** – The Requesting Agency shall reimburse the Assisting Agency for all materials and supplies furnished by the Assisting Agency and used or damaged during the Period of Assistance, unless such damage is caused by the negligence of the Assisting Agency’s personnel. The measure of reimbursement shall be the replacement cost of the materials and supplies used or damaged. In the alternative, the parties may agree that the Requesting Agency will replace, with a like kind and quality as determined by the Assisting Agency, the materials and supplies used or damaged.
- D. **PAYMENT** – Unless mutually agreed otherwise, the Assisting Agency shall bill the Requesting Agency for all expenses no later than ninety (90) days following the release of the Assisting Agency’s personnel and equipment from the Period of Assistance. The Requesting Agency shall pay the bill in full no later than forty-five (45) days following the billing date. Unpaid bills shall become delinquent upon the forty-sixth (46th) day following the billing date. The Assisting Agency may request additional periods of time within which to submit the itemized bill, and the Requesting Agency shall not unreasonably withhold consent to such request, provided, however, that all payment shall occur not later than one year after the date a final itemized bill is submitted to the Requesting Agency.
- E. Each Assisting Agency and its duly authorized representatives shall have access to a Requesting Agency’s books, documents, notes, reports, papers and records which are directly pertinent to this Agreement for the purposes of reviewing the accuracy of a cost bill or making a financial, maintenance or regulatory audit. Each Requesting Agency and their duly authorized representatives shall have access to the Assisting Agency’s books, documents, notes, reports, papers and records which are directly pertinent to this Agreement for the purposes of reviewing the accuracy of a cost bill or making a financial, maintenance or regulatory audit. Such records shall be maintained for at least three (3) years where required by law.
- F. **DISPUTED BILLINGS** – Undisputed portions of a billing shall be paid under this payment plan. Disputed portions of the billing shall be coordinated and addressed as appropriate between the Agencies involved in the dispute.

**ARTICLE VII. INSURANCE**

Each Participating Agency shall bear the risk of its own actions, as it does with its day-to-day operations, and determine for itself what kinds of insurance and in what amounts, it should carry. Nothing herein shall act or be construed as a waiver of any

sovereign immunity provided by the Governmental Immunity Act of Utah or other exemption or limitation on liability that a Participating Agency may enjoy.

**ARTICLE VIII. NO SEPARATE ENTITY OR ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY**

This Agreement is an interlocal cooperative agreement under Utah Code. This Agreement does not create any separate legal entity. To the extent this Agreement requires administration other than as set forth herein, it shall be administered by the Authorized Representatives of the Participating Agencies, acting as a joint board.

No real or personal property shall be acquired jointly by the Participating Agencies to perform the conditions of this Agreement unless such acquisition is specifically agreed to in writing by all Participating Agencies. To the extent that a Participating Agency acquires, holds, or disposes of any real or personal property for use in the joint or cooperative undertaking contemplated by this Agreement, it shall do so in the same manner that it deals with other property of such Participating Agency.

**ARTICLE IX. LAWFUL RESPONSIBILITY**

This Agreement shall not relieve any Participating Agency of any obligation or responsibility imposed upon it by law or other agreement.

**ARTICLE X. INDEMNIFICATION AND HOLD HARMLESS**

- A. Consistent with Utah Code, the Requesting Agency shall indemnify and save harmless the Assisting Agency and the officers, employees and representatives of the Assisting Agency, if they are acting within the course and scope of their duties, from all claims, suits, actions, damages and costs of every kind, including but not limited to reasonable attorney's fees and court costs, arising or resulting from the performance or provision of services and materials by the Assisting Agency under this Agreement unless there is a determination that such claims are the result of negligence of the Assisting Agency or the officers, employees or representatives of the Assisting Agency. This Agreement shall not be construed to be a waiver of any rights or protections provided to any Participating Agency under the Governmental Immunity Act of Utah.
- B. The Assisting Agency shall hold harmless and indemnify the Requesting Agency and the officers, employees and representatives of the Requesting Agency against any liability for any and all claims arising from any damages or injuries caused by negligence of the Assisting Agency or the officers, employees or representatives of the Assisting Agency except to the extent of the negligence of the Requesting Agency or the officers, employees or representatives of the Requesting Agency. This agreement shall not be construed to be a waiver of any rights or protections

provided to any Participating Agency under the Governmental Immunity Act of Utah.

- C. Subject to the foregoing, nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as an agreement by a Participating Agency to indemnify or hold harmless, or in any way assume liability, if there is a determination that any personal injury, death or property loss or damage was caused by the negligence of any other Participating Agency or person.
- D. Nothing herein shall be construed to waive any of the privileges and immunities associated with public works services or other related services, including emergency or other services of any of the Participating Agencies. No party waives any defenses or immunity available under the Utah Governmental Immunity Act, nor does any party waive any limits of liability currently provided by the Act.
- E. Each Participating Agency shall be solely responsible for providing workers compensation, insurance, and benefits for its own personnel who provide assistance under this Agreement unless the parties otherwise agree. Each Participating Agency shall provide insurance or shall self-insure to cover the negligent acts and omissions of its own personnel rendering services under this Agreement.

#### ARTICLE XI. TERM

This Agreement shall have an initial term of fifty (50) years commencing upon the effective date of this Agreement.

#### ARTICLE XII. TERMINATION

Any Participating Agency may terminate its obligations under and participation in this Agreement, with or without cause, by giving the Alliance at least thirty (30) days prior written notice of the intent to terminate. The termination of this Agreement by any individual Participating Agency shall not affect the validity of this Agreement as to the remaining Participating Agencies. Withdrawal from this Agreement shall in no way affect a Requesting Agency's duty to reimburse the Assisting Agency for costs incurred during a Period of Assistance which occurred during the term of this Agreement, which duty shall survive such withdrawal.

#### ARTICLE XIII. WHOLE AGREEMENT, AMENDMENTS

This Agreement constitutes the whole agreement of the parties, written or oral, relating to the subject matter of this Agreement. This Agreement may be amended in whole or in part at any time by the Participating Agencies by submitting a written amendment to the Alliance. The amendment shall be submitted to the Participating Agencies of the Alliance for a majority vote. The vote by the Participating Agencies will be conducted by mail. Participating Agencies who fail to vote will have their vote counted as an affirmative vote.

**ARTICLE XIV. SEVERABILITY**

If any provisions of this Agreement are held to be invalid or unenforceable by a court of proper jurisdiction, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

**ARTICLE XV. NO THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARIES**

This Agreement is not intended to benefit any party or person not named as a Participating Agency specifically herein.

**ARTICLE XVI. EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Agreement shall be effective as to a particular Participating Agency executing this Agreement upon the date of execution of this Agreement by that Participating Agency. Completion and maintaining of a resource equipment list (as per Utah Administrative Code R704.2) and a schedule of equipment and manpower rates is required thereafter.

**ARTICLE XVII. AUTHORIZATION**

The individuals signing this Agreement on behalf of the Participating Agency confirm that they are a duly Authorized Representative of the Participating Agency and are lawfully enabled to sign this Agreement on behalf of the Participating Agency.

**ARTICLE XVIII. REVIEW BY AUTHORIZED ATTORNEY**

In accordance with the Utah Interlocal Cooperation Act this Agreement shall be submitted to the attorney authorized to represent each Participating Agency for review as to proper form and compliance with applicable law before this Agreement may take effect.

**ARTICLE XIX. RESOLUTIONS OF APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED**

This Agreement may be approved and executed as an executive function in accordance with the provisions of the Utah Interlocal Cooperation Act and the adoption of a resolution of approval is normally not required.

**ARTICLE XX. COUNTERPARTS**

This Agreement and any amendments to it may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original.

**ARTICLE XXI. GOVERNING LAW**

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the applicable laws of the United States and the State of Utah.

**ARTICLE XXII. FILING OF AGREEMENT**

An executed counterpart of this Agreement shall be filed with the keeper of records of each Participating Agency. An executed counterpart of this Agreement shall also be filed with the APWA Utah Chapter, representing the Alliance.

In witness whereof, each Participating Agency hereto has executed this Agreement on the respective signature page of that Participating Agency as of the date specified by its signature block.

**ARTICLE XXIII. PERSONNEL NOT AGENTS**

The employees of the Participating Agencies providing services pursuant to or consistent with the terms of this Agreement are solely the officers, agents, or employees of the Participating Agency that hired them. Each Participating Agency shall assume any and all liability for the payment of salaries, wages, or other compensation due or claimed due, including workers' compensation claims, and each Participating Agency shall hold the other harmless therefrom. The Participating Agencies shall not be liable for compensation or indemnity to any other Participating Agency's employee for any injury or sickness arising out of his or her employment, and the Participating Agencies shall not be liable for compensation or indemnity to any other Participating Agency's employee for injury or sickness arising out of his or her employment, and each party hereby agrees to hold the other party harmless against any such claim.

**ARTICLE XXIV. ADDITIONAL AGENCIES**

Any subdivision of the State of Utah not specifically named herein ("Prospective Agency") which shall hereafter sign this Agreement or a copy hereof shall become a Participating Agency. Any Agency which becomes a newly accepted Participating Agency is entitled to all the rights and privileges and subject to the obligations of any Participating Agency as set out herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the covenants and obligations contained herein, the Participating Agency listed here, as a Participating Agency, duly executes this Mutual Aid Interlocal Agreement for Utah Public Works Emergency Management this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_.

Agency \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_ By: \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved as to form and legality

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Agency's Attorney