



Homeland Security

Local, State, Tribal, and Federal Preparedness Task Force

FROM: Juliette Kayyem, Assistant Secretary, Intergovernmental Affairs
Timothy Manning, Deputy Administrator, Protection and National Preparedness

TO: National preparedness stakeholders

SUBJECT: National Dialogue on Preparedness Now Open

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Intergovernmental Affairs and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Protection and National Preparedness are hosting a National Dialogue on Preparedness to supplement the mission and recommendations of the [Local, State, Tribal, and Federal Preparedness Task Force](#) (“Task Force”). At the direction of Congress, the Task Force—comprised of 35 local, state, and tribal members and 24 Federal *ex officio* members with diverse expertise in homeland security and emergency management—was formed in April to assess the state of disaster preparedness and make recommendations for improvement throughout the nation.

The Task Force has been working on this mission since April, through face-to-face meetings, teleconferences, and web-based collaboration. In order to supplement and build upon the discussions of the Task Force membership, DHS is opening a dialogue to a broader range of stakeholders—to include individuals from the private sector, non-governmental and volunteer organizations, additional governmental partners across all levels, and the general public. The Department’s broad stakeholder community is encouraged to join the National Dialogue, by submitting feedback and ideas at: <http://preparedness.ideascale.com>.

DHS appreciates your support by sharing the link with your employees, colleagues, members, or constituents so they can participate in this important event.

Engaging a wide variety of preparedness stakeholders in this way will help DHS identify similarities and differences for how various organizations view preparedness issues and will also help DHS capture a wide range of diverse perspectives and meaningful input for Preparedness Task Force deliberation. The National Dialogue on Preparedness Website will be open through August 31, and will allow individuals to propose ideas, vote on popular recommendations, and tag discussion topics.

More information on the Task Force is available at: <http://www.fema.gov/preparednesstaskforce>.

Thank you for your commitment to ensuring our country is prepared to protect against, prevent, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism and natural disasters.

Sincerely,

Juliette Kayyem, Assistant Secretary,
Intergovernmental Affairs

Timothy Manning, Deputy Administrator,
Protection and National Preparedness