FCEM&HS Plans Partnership with Local School

Students at Innis Elementary School in Columbus learned about tornado safety during a May 10 presentation by FCEM&HS Director Michael R. Pannell, part of the Agency’s community outreach. FCEM&HS plans to support future school safety activities and hopes to receive school support for the Agency’s Somali community outreach program. See the news release.

Board Updated on Risk Assessment, Warning Sirens

Director Pannell briefed FCEM&HS’s Executive Committee May 16 about plans to update the county’s Risk Assessment and perform a Capability Assessment/Gap Analysis for the county. Franklin County is ahead of the curve nationally; the Agency’s work in this area is already consistent with new federal national preparedness planning guidance. Pannell also announced site selections are being reviewed for 10 new sirens to be installed in the coming months in Columbus as part of the county’s Outdoor Warning Siren system. See the director’s brief to the Executive Committee.

Franklinton Floodwall Tested June 9

In a major test requiring a temporary closure of part of SR 315, the City of Columbus Sewer Maintenance Operations Center successfully performed a practice closure on June 9 of the SR 315 roller gate, part of the 7-mile Franklinton Floodwall. Meanwhile, FCEM&HS will continue to recruit and train volunteers in sandbagging to help protect the city in the event of a catastrophic flood. Read about how FCEM&HS is supporting the city in Operation Flood Fight.

EOC Functional Exercise set for Nov. 15

FCEM&HS and several emergency partners will hold a functional exercise Nov. 15 to test information sharing among multiple Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs). Participants include the Columbus fire and police divisions, Fairfield County EMA, state fusion center, FBI, Groveport and Pickerington police departments, Franklin and Fairfield County sheriff’s offices, Deaf Services Center, and Columbus, Groveport and Pickerington local school districts. Objectives to be evaluated include intelligence/information sharing and dissemination, EOC management, and emergency public information and warnings capabilities.

To remove your name from our newsletter mailing list or if you have a question or comment, email us at fcem&hs@franklincountyohio.gov or call 614-794-0213. Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security, a local government agency, coordinates county-wide emergency/disaster planning, education, warning, response and recovery.