

BAL HARBOUR

- V I L L A G E -

OFFICE OF THE VILLAGE MANAGER

LETTER TO COUNCIL

NO. 164-2018

To: Mayor Gabriel Groisman and Members of the Village Council
From: Jorge M. Gonzalez, Village Manager 
Date: October 19, 2018
Subject: **Hurricane Re-Entry Table Top Exercise**

The purpose of this Letter to Council is to inform you of a scheduled multi-police agency hurricane preparation training exercise.

On Tuesday, October 30, 2018 from 10AM to 12PM, the Bal Harbour Police Department will facilitate a major hurricane post landfall re-entry table top exercise held at the Bay Harbour Islands Community Services Department located at the Morris N. Broad Community Center in Bay Harbor Islands. Participating in this exercise will be representatives of the Bal Harbour, Bay Harbour Islands, Indian Creek, Sunny Isles and Surfside Police and Public Works Departments.

The exercise is designed to expose the participants to the challenges associated with first responders, residents, municipal and utility workers, contractors and other persons returning to the coastal communities after landfall of a major hurricane striking 96th Street and Collins Avenue. Experience has shown that in the aftermath of a major hurricane landfall on United States shores, access to local roadways and re-entry to hard hit areas has proven to be a significant management and public safety challenge to police departments and local government officials. This situation is of particular concern to our coastal communities, when there are 8 municipalities with 8 separate police departments with limited personnel and resources from Golden Beach south to Miami Beach.

Another dimension of this exercise is to foster close coordination and cooperation between the police agencies to manage police officer deployment at key access checkpoint locations, as well as determining a common criterion for access in what is likely to be a long-term recovery process. After the exercise and during the critique, discussion will center on the potential utilization of re-entry placards meant to expedite access.

Recognizing the need for local coastal communities to work together in a common goal after landfall of a major hurricane will enable public safety and a more effective managed response. As Village Manager, I take pride in our administration's management team

taking a leadership role and support in this worthwhile endeavor.

If you have any questions or need additional information please feel free to contact me.

JMG/RMF/MG/DM