

RMPE 352 Risk Management for Public Entities

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Chapter 5

Public Entity Risk Control

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Educational Objectives

1. Describe the distinctive objectives of risk control for public entities.
2. Describe and illustrate how the various risk control options available to public entities can promote those objectives.
3. Describe and explain how to implement actions to protect public entities and the communities they serve against losses arising from each of the following:
 - a. Natural hazards
 - b. Workplace injuries and diseases
 - c. Workplace violence
 - d. Road and street hazards
 - e. Parks and recreation hazards
 - f. Special events hazards
 - g. Hazards of law enforcement
 - h. Economic hazards involving groups of persons
4. Define or describe each of the Key Words and Phrases for this chapter.

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Objectives of Public Entity Risk Control

- ▶ Some basic goals of public entities may to work against controlling risk efficiently
 - Reduced costs
 - Cutting costs may increase risks in other areas
 - Safety vs. Efficiency
 - Doing things quickly may increase injuries
 - Taking short-cuts
 - Obligation to provide services
 - Some obligations increase risks to entity
 - Management commitment to risk control
 - Elected officials do not understand role of risk control and may not allocate resources to prevent losses

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Risk Control Options

- ▶ Exposure avoidance
 - Eliminates an exposure by not providing a service or producing a product
- ▶ Segregation of loss exposures
 - Separation – dispersing an activity or asset over several locations
 - Duplication – implies backups that are not normally in service

Loss prevention	Loss reduction
Pre-loss	Pre-loss and post-loss
Reduces frequency	Reduces severity

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Risk Control Options

- ▶ Contractual transfer for risk control
 - Technique that has both loss prevention and reduction qualities
 - Most effective use is through subcontracted personnel
 - Factors to be considered when determining whether to transfer services or activities
 - Loss exposure
 - Available resources
 - Cost
 - Control of exposures
 - Political considerations
 - Nontransferable liabilities

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Risk Controls for Distinctive Public Entity Exposures

- ▶ Controls for Hazards from Natural Perils
 - Violent storms
 - building codes
 - Floods
 - land use planning, levees
 - Winter storms
 - building codes, equipment, working in cold
 - Earthquakes
 - Building codes, bracing, employee training
 - Great shakeout

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Risk Controls for Distinctive Public Entity Exposures

- ▶ Controls for Employees' Occupational Safety and Health Hazards
 - Prevent employee injuries and comply with OSHA requirements
 - Controls for violence in the workplace
 - Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) – layout of buildings
 - Training
 - Panic buttons
 - Identifying positions at risk for violence
- ▶ Controls Against Release of Hazardous Material

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Risk Controls for Distinctive Public Entity Exposures

- ▶ Controls for Road and Street Hazards
 - Hazards
 - Design, pot holes, sidewalks, shrubs, signage (P. 226)
 - Risk Control Measures
 - Surveys
 - Speed limits
 - Traffic count
 - Traffic accident reports
 - Complaint system
 - Sign crew worksheet
 - Billing repair work

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Risk Controls for Distinctive Public Entity Exposures

- ▶ Controls for Parks and Recreation Hazards
 - Proper staffing
 - Inspections
 - Written checklists
 - Periodic inspections
 - Management review
 - Action-oriented recommendations
 - Report follow-up
 - Code compliance
 - Zoning
 - Facility design

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Risk Controls for Distinctive Public Entity Exposures

- ▶ Controls for Parks and Recreation Hazards
 - Facility design
 - Grounds maintenance
 - Playgrounds
 - Bleachers and grandstands
 - Lighting and electrical equipment
 - Pools and swimming areas
 - Signage
 - Accessibility
 - Winter sports and recreation

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Risk Controls for Distinctive Public Entity Exposures

- ▶ Controls for Special Events Hazards

An initial step in controlling risks related to special events is to learn as much as possible about the event, the organizers, and the participants. Some useful information includes the following:

- Purpose of the event
- Degree of public awareness of the event
- Demographic profiles of the attendees
- Number of attendees expected
- Public facilities that will be used and the condition of the facilities
- History of similar events
- Whether alcohol will be sold on the premises
- The entity's responsibility for providing facilities and services such as portable toilets and security
- Need to reroute traffic

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Risk Controls for Distinctive Public Entity Exposures

- ▶ Controls for Special Events Hazards
 - Buildings and facilities
 - Fire safety
 - Clean-up plans
 - Traffic control
 - Law enforcement and Safety
 - Food facilities
 - Special event applications
 - Contracts – certificates of insurance

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Risk Controls for Distinctive Public Entity Exposures

- ▶ Controls for Law Enforcement Activities

Efforts to prevent or minimize losses from law enforcement activities should focus primarily on two areas:

- The policies and procedures that govern the entire operation and decision-making process of the agency
- The training that the line officers receive, which dictates their capability to implement the policies and procedures

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Risk Controls for Distinctive Public Entity Exposures

- ▶ Controls for Law Enforcement Activities
 - Policies and Procedures
 - Deadly force
 - General use of Force
 - High speed pursuits
 - High-risk detainees and suspects
 - Domestic disturbances
 - Drunk driving
 - Training (p. 243-245)
 - Riots

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Risk Controls for Distinctive Public Entity Exposures

- ▶ Controls for Group Economic Actions
 - Public sentiment
 - Boycotts

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