

International Association of Emergency Managers
Critical Infrastructure Consortium
Year in Review

The International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) Critical Infrastructure Consortium (CIC) has made significant strides in its inaugural year, focusing on connecting critical infrastructure professionals and emergency managers. The CIC was approved by the IAEM board on January 16, 2024. This unique endeavor is open to IAEM members and non-members, and is designed to foster collaboration, share knowledge, and enhance the resilience of critical infrastructure across all sectors.

To develop and obtain support from others, a planning group was implemented. The planning team met on April 30 and May 21 to discuss and develop the vision, mission, objectives, structure and cadence of the CIC.

The planning team determined that the CIC would hold interactive, hour long (“Blitz” style) quarterly sessions. In addition, ground rules were established, and direction provided that for each session interested participants would have to register via the IAEM CIC website.

The planning team and leadership of the CIC were actively engaged, which led to three successful sessions in 2024. Below are some highlights.

Kick-off Session – June 25

- *Registered:* 190
 - 59% IAEM members
 - 41% non-members
- *Attendance:* 104
- *Highlights:* Introduced the CIC's mission and goals, fostered initial connections within the community and presentations from CISA.

Second Session – September 24

- *Registered:* 193
 - 59% IAEM members
 - 41% non-members
- *Attendance:* 83
- *Highlights:* Provided CIC updates, held several presentations on critical topics relevant to current infrastructure challenges, and the opportunity for participants to ask questions.

Objectives

- Support Critical Infrastructure related IAEM Caucuses in their continued growth, and the development and implementation of new Critical Infrastructure Caucuses.
- Be the coordinating entity to develop, enhance, and maintain relationships between IAEM and Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA).
- Support the development of relationships and mutual aid agreements between IAEM and the many Critical Infrastructure advocacy groups that support emergency management within their sector.
- Promote IAEM as the premier coordinating entity for the Critical Infrastructure emergency managers by coordinating policy development, sharing best practices through IAEM Connect, and promoting the CEM and AEM Certifications.

Kick-Off Session Agenda

- Welcome & Consortium Overview: **Greg Vernon & Ali Lampson, Co-Chairs**
- Presentations:
 - Critical Infrastructure & Weather: **Sunny Wescott, CISA**
 - National Security Memorandum 22: **Will Loomis, CISA**
- Feedback & Close Out: **Greg Vernon & Ali Lampson, Co-Chairs**

Second Session Agenda

- Welcome & Consortium Overview: **Greg Vernon & Ali Lampson, Co-Chairs**
- Presentations:
 - CISA Vulnerability Scanning: **Robert Dawson, CISA**
 - The Water Sector: **Sarah Moore, Arcadis**
 - ISAC Overview: **Denise Anderson, National Council of ISACs**
- CIC News & Next Session: **Greg Vernon & Ali Lampson, Co-Chairs**

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Third Session – December 10

- **Registered:** 135
 - 60% IAEM members
 - 40% non-members
- **Attendance:** 85
- **Highlights:** Reviewed the CIC’s mission and objectives and held an interactive panel discussion from critical infrastructure subject experts from various sectors (Water & Wastewater Systems, Energy, Commercial, and Government Services & Facilities).

Third Session Agenda
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Welcome & Consortium Overview: Greg Vernon & Ali Lampson, Co-Chairs▪ Panelist:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Dusti Lowndes, DC Water- Jon Bodie, Frisco Independent School District- Matthew Sinn, Tennessee Valley Authority- Nora Yotsov, Pacificorp- Ron Derrick, Whataburger▪ CIC News & Next Session: Greg Vernon & Ali Lampson, Co-Chairs

Looking Ahead

This next year will be an opportunity to build upon the success the CIC achieved in 2024. The CIC’s Fourth Session will be held on March 25, 2025. The agenda is still in development, but the focus will be to continue to build a partnership with the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), and loop in other critical infrastructure advocacy groups. In addition, continue to build relationships with several critical infrastructure Caucus’ leadership, including the Energy, Business Resilience, and Healthcare.

The team will continue to encourage all critical infrastructure professionals and emergency managers to participate, as we continue to grow our community and address the vital issues faced by our industries. In addition, internally there will be an effort to build the leadership team to enhance the continuity and build a long lasting group for the future.

Conclusion

The past year has been a remarkable journey for the CIC, marking the beginning of a collaborative effort to enhance the resilience of the Nation’s critical infrastructure. The planning team, presenters, and attendees helped push the needle further for a more connected and coordinated critical infrastructure community.

Planning Team Members
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Ali Lampson, DC HSEMA, Co-Chair▪ Gregory Vernon, DC Water, Co-Chair▪ Justin Kates, Wawa, IAEM-USA President (former)▪ Sarah Moore, Arcadis, IAEM-USA Secretary (former)▪ Cassandra Massano, Eversource▪ Jack Johnson, Middlebury College▪ Jeff Trask, ISO New England▪ Jon Bodie, Frisco Independent School District▪ Justin Pierce, LAWA▪ Kate Murphy, MWAA▪ Matthew Sinn, Tennessee Valley Authority▪ Nathalie Radway, CISA▪ Nick Sporer, Denver Water▪ Robert Nadeau, CISA▪ William McNamara, CISA

