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NON-COMPETITIVE

Eye to Eye in Los Angeles, the Recipe for a Life Saving Partnership

Los Angeles is often chosen as a venue for its benign weather, but there are few natural hazards that the area is immune from due to its complex coastline and terrain. The intersection of extreme hazards and a large, diverse, and susceptible population greatly increases the need for trustworthy weather support. The Los Angeles National Weather Service's (NWS) Weather Forecast Office's (WFO LOX) flexible culture enabled it to fulfill this need by incorporating the 2023-2033 NWS Strategic plan to transform into 'a more Nimble, Flexible, and Mobile agency providing indispensable mission services eye to eye with Decision Makers.' Best practices from LOX's experience in the US second largest city will likely benefit the NWS and its partners as they move towards fulfilling this vision. Six meteorologists deployed to the Los Angeles City Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in support of various weather events such as record-setting rainfall, flooding from an atmospheric river event and a tropical cyclone as well as large planned outdoor events. WFO LOX's customer-first model paid huge dividends as the LA City Emergency Management Department (EMD) presented WFO LOX with a Certificate of Recognition in October of 2023. In the next five years the area will host several high-profile events: 2026 FIFA World Cup, 2027 NFL's Super Bowl, and the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games. These large events will provide opportunities to further enhance our life saving partnerships.

Presentation Theme: This presentation will focus on how the National Weather Service in Los Angeles has transformed its service to include frequent onsite deployments to provide weather support "eye to eye" with Emergency Management and other decision makers with the shared goal of protecting life and property.

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