Community Risk Analysis

Professor

Theodore Proia

May 22nd 2018

Chicago is one of the largest cities in the United States. The city is famous due to its bold architecture and its critical infrastructure. The Chicago port is one of the many critical infrastructures in the city. The city comes in the third position in terms of the population in the United States. Chicago has more than 2.7 million residents and is positioned along Lake Michigan. The city is located in the state of Illinois, and according to to2010 statistics it had 45.3% white people, 32% black ones, 5% Asian and 3% was composed of people from other different races. There are 1, 061, 928 households and in matters of religion, Christianity is predominant. The city experiences 99% humidity, temperatures of 13 degrees and wind at a speed of 5km/hr. The Democrats have controlled Chicago for over 85 years.

The selected city of Chicago risk portfolio is as follows. The city of Chicago experiences a lot of rainfall and melting snow at different times of the year, and this causes flooding especially in the southwest suburbs. The weatherman in Chicago is ever ready to announce any changes in weather and warn in times of floods. Just like any other city in the United States, the city is alert to counter terrorism and prevent terror activities like mass shootings. To prevent any terror activity from happening, the security department of the city like the FBI is ever ready through keeping security very tight. Chicago city also faces risks of fraud and breach. Cybersecurity risks are also common in the city due to the many government activities that are undertaken and take place within the city. The list was compiled through research of the main risks faced in Chicago.

The city of Chicago completed its All-hazard Mitigation plan in 2012. The 2000 Disaster Mitigation Act identifies opportunities to alleviate the effects of all hazards in Chicago. The planning effort of the act had a Mitigation Steering Committee which involved various city departments as well as local partners. The whole process was led by Chicago Office of Emergency Management and Communications. The process of mitigation planning, as well as exercising, gave a chance to OEMC of Chicago plus its associates to urgently realize the significance in identifying and giving priority the procedures and actions to alleviate from the entire hazards of Chicago. The preparation will be able to assemble the regulations of Act’s hazard mitigation planning that need jurisdictions to have an approved preparation and FEMA accepted Hazard Mitigation Plan to be qualified for alleviation contribution funding.

The port of Chicago is a critical infrastructure that is highly protected due to the benefits it brings to the surrounding community, the entire state and the nation at large (Draine, 1963).  The port is used to ship steel from Illinois manufacturers. The port of Chicago is maintained and kept under watch by the U.S Army Corps of Engineers. The port has storage facilities that can accommodate 800, 000 barrels of bulk liquid as well as 14 million bushels of grain. The port helps the many companies in the city to ship their goods to the neighboring states, and this has made business thrive well.

Experts warn that U.S seaports could be targeted by terrorists intending to kill large numbers of people, grab media attention and disrupt the economy of the entire nation. Considering the various activities that take place in the port of Chicago, it could also be targeted. This should be prevented because it can lead to huge losses like reduction in a number of shipments, loss of jobs and loss of lives. Floods have severe effects in Chicago as they lead to displacement of people, loss of lives and property. They reduce the activities in the port as goods are unable to be transported to the port for shipping.

There are adverse effects that can result if terrorism occurred in the port of Chicago (Peltier, 2010). Considering that the port is ever busy and has a huge number of employees, one of the adverse effects would be the loss of lives. Secondly, this can scare many business people who ship their goods through the port. Business is always affected by terror activities, and huge losses occur. If a terrorism activity is not prevented, people can be scared to transact their activities in the port, and this could result in people searching alternative means to transport their products.

References

Draine, E. H. (1963). *Import traffic of Chicago and its hinterland* (No. 81). University of Chicago.

Peltier, T. R. (2010). *Information security risk analysis*. Auerbach publications.