



General explanations and information for the public



Mayor's emergency speech

In recent years, the Ashdod municipality has stepped up efforts in routine security and prevention of violence among youth in the city. Extensive preparations were made for threat scenarios against Ashdod: escalations, missiles, earthquake preparations, tsunamis and hazardous materials. As a result, Ashdod was ranked second in the field of personal security among Israeli cities in a national survey conducted by the Central Bureau of Statistics in 2017.

On a regular basis, the municipality carries out operations within the framework of the local Melah Emergency Economy, to improve its control capabilities and to learn lessons from rockets that hit Ashdod during "Operation Protective Edge" and to prepare the Emergency Economy to handle earthquakes, tsunamis and hazardous materials.

The Ashdod municipality is a leader in taking care of the population in various emergency scenarios. During the past year, all professional bodies in Ashdod were convened in order to ensure that all branches of the municipality are ready to handle emergency situations.

Dealing with threat scenarios against Ashdod built a common language, while allowing those involved in dealing with emergency situations to get to know each other. It also resulted in the creation of the required circle of preparedness among all the emergency bodies in the municipality. A municipal-wide defensive program was authorized and a document on threat scenarios to Ashdod over a 30-day period of hostilities was drafted.

Recently, a mapping of the population in the city was conducted, preparedness of information and public information systems was examined, information was provided to students, infrastructure was laid to distributed a training booklet to the population, the municipal hotline's readiness was tested, the capabilities of the authority's headquarters were improved while conducting physical adjustments to provide the required response for a city the size of Ashdod. In addition, meetings were held with the Home Front Command's Unit for Coordination with Local Authorities, various means for emergency situations were purchased, a plan was constructed for population absorption at absorption centers planned at educational institutes (Procedure 24), the public warning system was improved and additional sirens were added, which in the future will be managed by a command and control system.

We continue to believe that "together we are worth more" with regard to our operations with the Ashdod police and other rescue services. Routine security operations are ongoing at educational institutes throughout the city in six separate work areas and cooperation is ongoing with the various emergency services and the various events organized by the Ashdod municipality.

The municipal security department is committed to making use of advanced and innovative technological capabilities: street cameras, an improved hotline, beeper reports, computerized enforcement and more. This year, we are expanding our use of smart city technologies via cellular appliances and are leveraging the connection with residents in times of emergency via the municipal application "Ashdodit". We will continue to maintain the activities made possible by the security charge, while adhering to the procedure of the Director General of the Interior Ministry, budget control and municipal treasurer for the welfare of the residents of Ashdod.

The State of Israel has had to deal with security challenges since the city was founded. Concern for the security of residents is a central part of the municipality's agenda. We provide a speedy response to any event, beef up shifts at night, cooperate closely with the Ashdod police, recruit volunteers and make efficient use of the coast guard.

This important work is carried out by a responsible and devoted team, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Together, we will improve the quality of life of Ashdod residents and continue to ensure that Ashdod remains one of the safest cities in Israel

Yours,
Dr. Yechiel Lasri
Mayor