County of Santa Barbara
Emergency Operations Center

The Austin Company provided detailed evaluation of sites at Santa Barbara, Santa Ynez and Santa Maria to determine the most appropriate location for a new Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for the County of Santa Barbara. Parallel to the site selection, Austin provided facility programming, conceptual design, site evaluation design development and construction documents services for this critical facility. The project consisted of site development and a single-story building of 9,270 SF.

The EOC includes an Incident Management Room; Joint Information Center; support areas including break-out conference rooms, dispatch and radio rooms; a telecommunications center and offices for permanent staff. In addition, the EOC includes an operational area emergency command center, public information office and occupancy support areas including a dormitory and food service.

The facility is designed to high wind, essential facility seismic and high fire-resistance standards. Operational reliability is achieved by means of on-site emergency power generation, an uninterrupted power supply (UPS) system and redundant communications connectivity. The facility is designed to LEED® sustainable standards, including previous paving, use of natural ventilation, roof-mounted solar array and employment of recycled and regional materials.

In addition, the operational reliability infrastructure includes redundant cooling and ventilation systems, self-contained domestic water and wastewater storage, a hardened building envelope and a helipad.