



## SPECIAL RESPONSE AREAS & BRIDGES

APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
EMS Medical Director

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Interim EMS Administrator

1. Purpose  
There are certain areas in and out of San Mateo County which require a special notification.
2. Olympic Club  
All areas of the Olympic Club are treated as San Francisco's response area. An Automatic Aid Agreement for Fire Department ALS response exists between SFR and DAL. Ambulance responses are the responsibility of the City and County of San Francisco.

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## EMERGENCY AMBULANCE RESPONSES TO THE SAN MATEO AND DUMBARTON BRIDGE

1. Purpose
  - 1.1 To provide a safe, effective, and planned response to freeway incidents on bridges for all responders.
  - 1.2 To reduce traffic congestion and, thereby, the possibility of traffic accidents.
  - 1.3 To reduce unnecessary and costly responses by public safety agencies.
2. Policy
  - 2.1 The response of personnel and emergency equipment to freeway incidents on bridges shall be commensurate with the type and magnitude of the incident and shall be guided by the procedures outlined below.

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3. Categories of Public Safety Personnel
  - 3.1 California Highway Patrol (CHP) and other law enforcement agencies
  - 3.2 Fire service agencies
  - 3.3 911 Ambulance provider
  - 3.4 Caltrans
  - 3.5 Coast Guard
  
4. Procedures
  - 4.1 Public Safety Agencies
    - 4.1.1 Public safety agencies will respond to freeway incidents on bridges only when specifically requested.
  
    - 4.1.2 Response to freeway incidents on bridges requires special handling due to roadway design.
      - 4.1.2.1 On dispatch to the San Mateo Bridge (SR-92), resources from the CHP, Caltrans, Hayward Fire Department and Foster City Fire Department (or other fire agency within San Mateo County) will respond directly to the scene and follow procedures. Any and all additional responding agencies will report to pre-designated staging areas at either Pier 1 or the Toll Plaza depending on the location from which the agency is deploying.
  
      - 4.1.2.2 On dispatch to the Dumbarton Bridge (SR-84), a single unit each from the CHP, Caltrans, Fremont Fire Department and Menlo Park Fire Protection District (or other fire agency within San Mateo County) will respond directly to the scene and follow procedures. Any and all additional responding agencies will report to pre-designated staging areas at Ravenswood Pier.
  
      - 4.1.2.3 Emergencies may require the use of the following rapid response resources:
        - 4.1.2.3.1 Helicopter transport of critically injured persons is sometimes needed. EMS helicopters are procured by the medical dispatch with Incident Commander approval.

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4.1.2.3.2 Water rescue services from the San Francisco Fire Department Airport Division (boat and divers) and/or the U.S. Coast Guard (helicopter).

4.1.2.3.3 Water rescue services from South San Francisco Fire, Foster City/San Mateo Fire and/or Menlo Park Fire Protection District.

4.1.3 The first public safety agency arriving at the scene of an emergency incident shall provide updated information to the Incident Commander (California Highway Patrol) including: extent of injuries (immediate, delayed, and/or minor); number of vehicles involved; number of lanes blocked; need for tow trucks and ambulances; other important data which may assist in mitigating the emergency; and the approximate expected duration of the incident.

4.1.4 Public safety personnel shall keep their respective dispatch centers informed as needed.

4.1.5 Public safety agencies shall adhere to any cancellation request made by the Incident Commander (CHP personnel).

4.1.6 Upon completion of their duties, emergency response personnel and equipment should leave the scene as expeditiously as possible.

4.1.7 Emergency equipment shall be placed at the scene in such a manner as to most efficiently complete its mission, while mindful of the need to keep at least one lane of traffic open at all times when possible.

#### 4.2 Incident Command Responsibility

4.2.1 The California Highway Patrol senior officer or supervisor at the scene will assume the Incident Commander position.

5. This policy also incorporates the Water Rescue Procedures from the San Mateo County Fire Service Policies and Standards Manual.

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