



APPROVED:   
EMS Medical Director

  
Interim EMS Administrator

### Use of Alternative Transport Vehicles

1. Definition
  - 1.1 Alternative Transport Vehicle (ATV) means a vehicle meeting the specifications in the November 2006 agreement between San Mateo County and American Medical Response for countywide advanced life support first response and emergency ambulance services Schedule B.I.C.4.e. These vehicles are owned by and staffed by:
    - 1.1.1 Woodside Fire Protection District
    - 1.1.2 County Fire/CDF.
    - 1.1.3 Cal Fire
2. Staffing
  - 2.1 Staffing for an ATV will be at least one paramedic and one EMT.
3. Conditions for use of an ATV – All conditions in the above listed Agreement must be met, including but not limited to:
  - 3.1 Closest Ambulance
    - 3.1.1 Urban/Suburban Area – the estimated arrival of the closest AMR ambulance to the call (ALS or BLS) is greater than 20 minutes
    - 3.1.2 Rural/Remote Area - the estimated arrival of the closest AMR ambulance to the call (ALS or BLS) is greater than 30 minutes
  - 3.2 Air Ambulance – No air ambulance is available to respond with less than a 20 minute estimated time of arrival.
  - 3.3 Patient's condition
    - 3.3.1 Obstetrical emergency with abnormal fetal presentation (leg, arm, buttocks), third trimester vaginal hemorrhage, prolapsed umbilical

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- cord, or severely distressed neonate.
- 3.3.2 Patient meeting major trauma criteria as specified in EMS Operations Policy 22.
- 3.3.3 Non-trauma patient with:
  - 3.3.3.1 Inadequate ventilation and/or severe respiratory distress
  - 3.3.3.2 Cardiac arrest
  - 3.3.3.3 Profound shock with blood pressure less than 90 systolic
  - 3.3.3.4 Uncontrolled external hemorrhage
  - 3.3.3.5 Severe allergic reaction with respiratory distress or cardiovascular compromise
  - 3.3.3.6 Status epilepticus
  - 3.3.3.7 Acute stroke
- 4. Ambulance Response/Dispatch
  - 4.1 Dispatch - An ATV will be dispatched upon the request of fire first responders who are at the scene of the incident. The dispatcher will not verify that the patient condition meets the requirements of this policy.
  - 4.2 Anytime an ATV is dispatched, the Public Safety Communications (PSC) dispatcher will continue the response of the closest AMR ambulance to the call. The AMR will continue to respond until patient transport has been initiated and cancelled by the first responder.
  - 4.3 If the AMR ambulance arrives at the incident prior to the ATV initiating transportation of the patient, the patient will be turned over to the AMR ambulance for transportation.
- 5. Notifications
  - 5.1 Anytime that an ATV is dispatched, the PSC dispatcher will immediately notify AMR's on-duty supervisor.
  - 5.2 If an ATV transports a patient, the ATV's fire agency will be responsible for ensuring that the San Mateo County EMS Agency on-call is notified within one hour of the close of the call.