

Routine Emergency

A routine emergency is one that is handled on a daily basis by police, fire, emergency medical, and/or Operations Department personnel. This type of emergency is small and localized in nature, and does not have any significant impact on the health and well-being of citizens outside of the confined area of the emergency. The incident may require the support of an additional department or agency and may be handled at the scene with a basic incident command structure, or through a department level command center.

Types of incidents could include:

- Fire, traffic stop, robbery, clogged catch basin
- Major fire requiring traffic to be detoured
- Slight wind storm damage with some branches blocking roadways
- Small, localized hazardous material spill

Minor Emergency

A minor emergency is one that normally involves a single department with a large area being impacted, or requires several departments and/or agencies, but can be managed using existing City resources. The incident may be handled at the scene with an expanded incident command structure, or managed off-site through a Department Operations Center (DOC) or the City Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Types of incidents could include:

- Multiple reports of localized flooding
- Moderate to major windstorm damage with numerous trees, branches, and utility lines blocking roadways, etc.
- Hostage situation requiring a small area to be evacuated
- Moderate hazardous material spill

Major Emergency

A major emergency is one where consolidation and centralization of the City's response is desirable and activation of the EOC is appropriate. The consequences are such that City resources are insufficient to meet incident demands. Outside assistance is sought and is integrated into the overall response.

Types of incidents could include:

- Major hazardous material spill
- Large scale flooding
- Severe winter storm
- Small magnitude earthquake

Catastrophic Emergency

A catastrophic event is one where the capability of the City to help itself is minimal. Impacts to life and property are significant enough to warrant an aggressive response and an extensive and prolonged recovery period is likely.

Types of incidents could include:

- Prolonged severe winter storm

- Moderate to large magnitude earthquake
- Widespread flooding