

Emergency Priority Routes Project







3rd Street Bridge

San Francisco Market Street

Broadway Tunnel

There is a 63 % probability of a magnitude 6.7 or greater earthquake in the Bay Area within the next 30 years according to the 2008 Uniform California Earthquake Rupture Forecast. Such an event would most likely damage and block city streets and hamper the city's ability to rapidly respond and recover from a catastrophic event.

Project Background

The City Emergency Response Plan assigns Department of Public Works as the coordinating department for Emergency Support Function (ESF) #3 Public Works and Engineering, which includes damage assessment and street clearance.

The Emergency Priority Route Map was first published in 2003 and updated in 2005 by DPW to assist DPW in conducting damage assessment and street clearance functions. It is the product of multi-agency discussions and input.

The purpose of the Emergency Priority Routes was, after a disaster:

- To provide a systematic approach to assessing the condition of streets
- o To provide a means to prioritize clearing of street
- To assist in the identification and establishment of routes to support emergency response.

Information on Emergency Priority Route Map includes:

- Critical facilities Fire Stations, Police Stations, Medical facilities, primary shelters, schools, radio repeaters,
- o Major transit routes MUNI routes
- Critical infrastructure: water pump stations, reservoirs, road structures
- o Fire Department 2005 Battalion Districts

Route designation took into consideration

- Egress and ingress to critical facilities and infrastructure
- o Need to move across the city (N&S/E & W)
- o Potential damage and obstructions to roadways
 - Downed lines (power and MUNI)
 - Glass from high-rise buildings
 - Damaged road structures

Use of the Priority Route Map today is for:

- Creating post disaster inspection routes to assess streets that may provide the most direct access to and from critical facilities
- Locating essential facilities to evaluate performance and enable mitigation planning

Next Steps:

- Assess and modify the Purpose and Use of the Priority Route
 - Seek ideas on the purpose and use of the Emergency Priority Route from owners and managers of lifelines.
 - Include attributes to take restoration and reconstruction of lifelines into consideration.
- o Update essential facility information
- Add additional essential /critical infrastructure and lifeline facilities
- O Verify, affirm or modify these as priority routes
- Evaluate condition of infrastructure, including expected seismic performance to enable mitigation planning

Contact information updated July 24, 2024. For information about the Lifelines Council, reach out to Laurel Mathews, Senior Resilience Analyst at the Office of Resilience and Capital Planning: laurel.mathews@sfgov.org.

