

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- Windshield Survey -

It's a typical evening in Hubbard, then the ground begins to move and shake in a violent manner — pictures fall off the walls; a fire takes hold in a house where a gas main has broken; walls and roofs collapse; a tree is uprooted and falls on a passing vehicle. . . when the shaking finally stops, people begin to gather in the streets — many bearing evidence of physical injuries — what happens next and when can you expect assistance???

A WINDSHIELD SURVEY will be the initial response taken by our local emergency responders and will be the first damage assessment in the event of a major disaster. It may occur as an event is still in progress, as with a flood, or immediately afterwards, as with the above example of an earthquake disaster. A windshield survey is basically a drive-by throughout the City, and provides a quick overview of what is or has occurred. It provides the initial extent and boundaries of the damaged area, and helps determine the scope of response, i.e. where the most critical needs are. This survey is a tool Emergency Responders use to prioritize the immediate needs of our City.

NO EMERGENCY STOPS WILL BE MADE DURING THIS SURVEY

Once the survey is complete, needs will be prioritized, thus allowing our first responders to be dispatched to those areas and people with the greatest immediate need. Although Emergency Responder's will be on the scene following a disaster, they will not be able to reach everyone right away — **immediately following a disaster such as the example above, there will be a time period where you and your neighbors will be on your own.** Knowledge and preparation is your best defense and is your responsibility — and it could save your life, or possibly the life of a neighbor!