



## USE OF QUICK RESPONSE VEHICLES (QRVs) BY COUNTY EMERGENCY AMBULANCE PROVIDER

**Effective:** December 2, 2019  
**Replaces:** New  
**Review:** December 1, 2022

### I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish and identify field response utilization criteria for the use of the County emergency ambulance provider's Quick Response Vehicle (QRV).

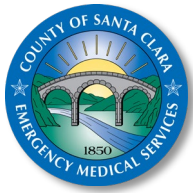
The QRV is used to meet the advanced life support (ALS) first response time standard identified in *Santa Clara County Prehospital Policy #651: County Emergency Ambulance Response Times* and as required in the agreement between the County of Santa Clara and the County's emergency ambulance provider.

### II. Definition

Quick Response Vehicle (QRV) – Is an ALS non-transport unit staffed with at least one paramedic and equipped in accordance to the minimum standards of *Santa Clara County Prehospital Policy #302: Prehospital Care Asset – Minimum Inventory Requirements*. In accordance to FIRESCOPE, the QRV(s) will be designated as "SQUAD" for radio communications and resource tracking.

### III. Applicability

- A. The QRV(s) will only be deployed and utilized within the City of Sunnyvale's jurisdictional boundaries.
- B. The QRV(s) will not be deployed or respond on mutual aid requests.
- C. The QRV(s) will be dispatched and managed by Santa Clara County Communications.



#### IV. General Deployment and Dispatching Practices

As a general practice, the QRV and paramedic ambulance will be simultaneously dispatched on all Code 3 (lights and siren) incidents with a few variations:

- A. If the paramedic ambulance's estimated time of arrival (ETA) is greater than the QRV's, both the QRV and paramedic ambulance will be dispatched.
- B. If the paramedic ambulance's ETA is less than the QRV's, only the paramedic ambulance will be dispatched.
- C. If a Code 3 response is downgraded to Code 2 (non-lights and siren), the QRV will be cancelled and the paramedic ambulance will continue the response.
- D. If the initial response is Code 2, only the paramedic ambulance will be dispatched.

#### V. Patient Care and Transfer of Care

- A. Patient documentation will be conducted in accordance with *Santa Clara County Prehospital Policy #500: Prehospital Care Patient Documentation*.
- B. Patient transfer of care will be conducted in accordance with *Santa Clara County Prehospital Policy #606: Prehospital Transition of Care*.
- C. If in the best interest of patient care or provider safety, a situation requires a second paramedic to assist the transporting paramedic, the following actions shall occur:
  1. The QRV paramedic will secure the QRV.
  2. The QRV paramedic will accompany the transport crew.
  3. An additional ambulance will not be dispatched to assist the transporting ambulance.