

# Tribal Transit Emergency Management



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# Tribal Transit Emergency Management

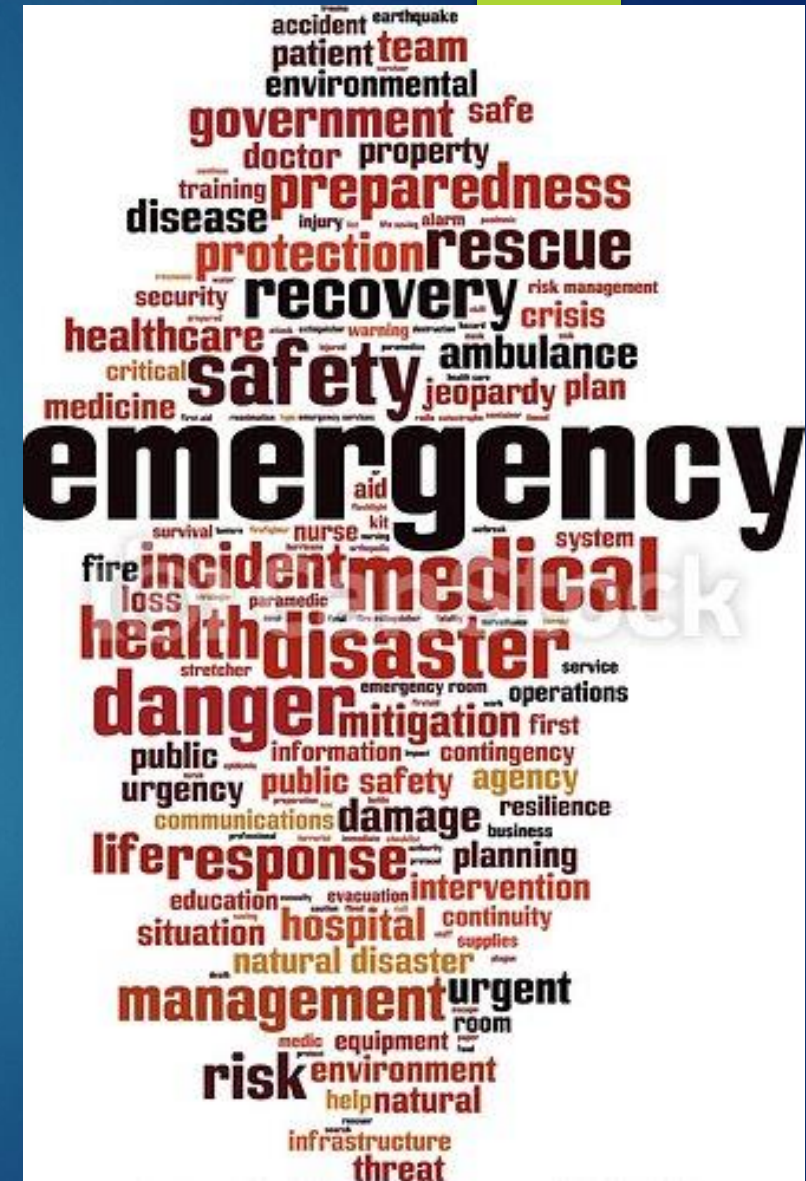
Thursday, August 25, 2022

Presenter: Walt Diangson

WRLDCO Tribal Transit Consulting

# Welcome & Introduction

- ▶ **Agenda Overview**
  - ▶ Definitions, Context, & Emergency Types
  - ▶ Emergency Management Process
  - ▶ Emergency Management Plan Strategies
- ▶ **Role of Tribal Transit in Emergencies**





# Emergency Management Definitions, Context, Types



# Definitions

- **Emergency:** A sudden & usually unforeseen event which requires immediate action.
- **Disaster:** A sudden event, such as an accident or a natural catastrophe, that causes great damage or loss of life.
- **All-hazards emergency management:** an integrated approach to emergency preparedness planning
  - Focus: capacities & capabilities to conduct the EM process
- **Emergency Management Goal:**
  - To minimize the effects of technological/man-made and natural disaster & emergencies.
  - To support tribes through preparing, implementing, & exercising preparedness plans & actual disaster response/recovery operations.



# Natural & Man-Made Disasters & Catastrophes

- **Natural disasters can cause great damage on the environment, property, wildlife, and human health.**
  - Earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, tsunamis, landslides, sink-holes, wildfires, volcanic eruptions, extreme temperatures, & pandemics.
- **Man-made disasters can cause similar damage**
  - Hazardous material spills, explosions, train accidents, transportation crashes, infrastructure collapses, other workplace fatalities & injuries.
- **Tribal transit emergencies can face natural & man-made disasters & operational emergencies**



# Natural Disasters

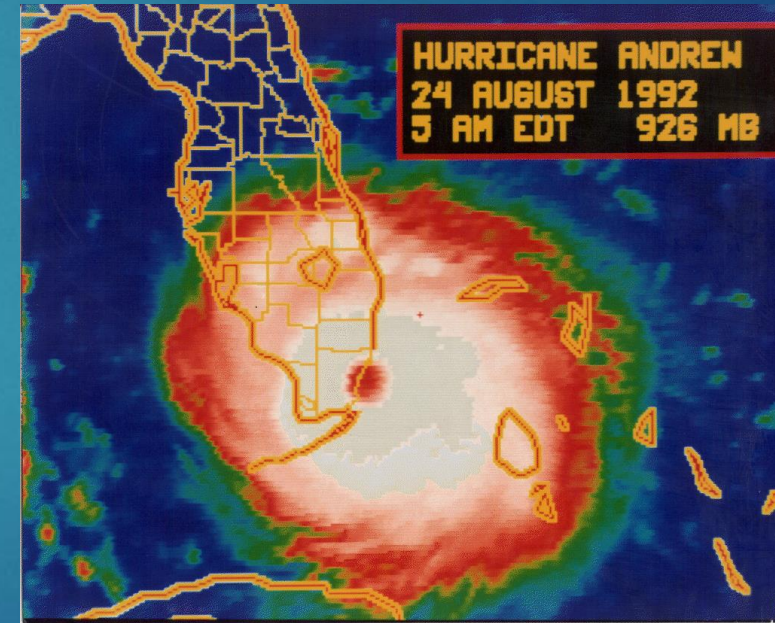


**Natural Emergencies**



# 30 years ago yesterday - Hurricane Andrew

Cat. 5, 185 MH winds, 18' surge  
Flamingos sheltered in interior tiled bathroom





# Your System's &/or Region's Disaster - Emergency Experience



9-11 Responder  
Transportation



Flooding



Pandemic



Crashes, Fatalities,  
Injuries, Damage



Road Collapses



Bridge Failures



Violence



Evacuations



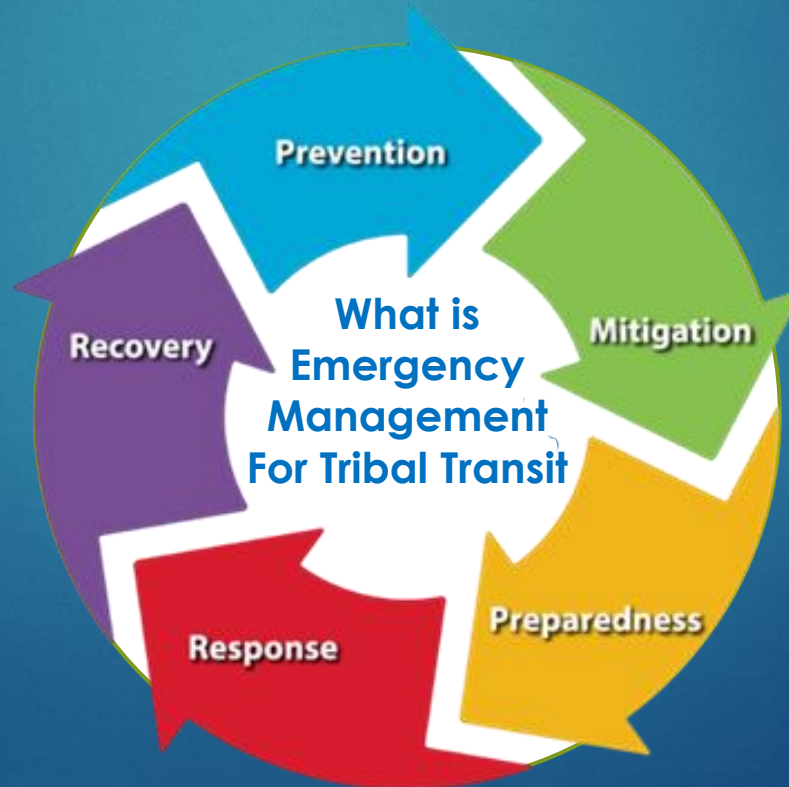
# Other Transit Emergencies

- ▶ Bus Fires
- ▶ Onboard Medical Emergencies
- ▶ Wheelchair Securement & Lift Failures
- ▶ Industrial – Maintenance Emergencies
- ▶ Pedestrian or bicyclist Collisions
- ▶ Infectious Disease Epidemics & Pandemics
- ▶ Major Injuries or Fatalities



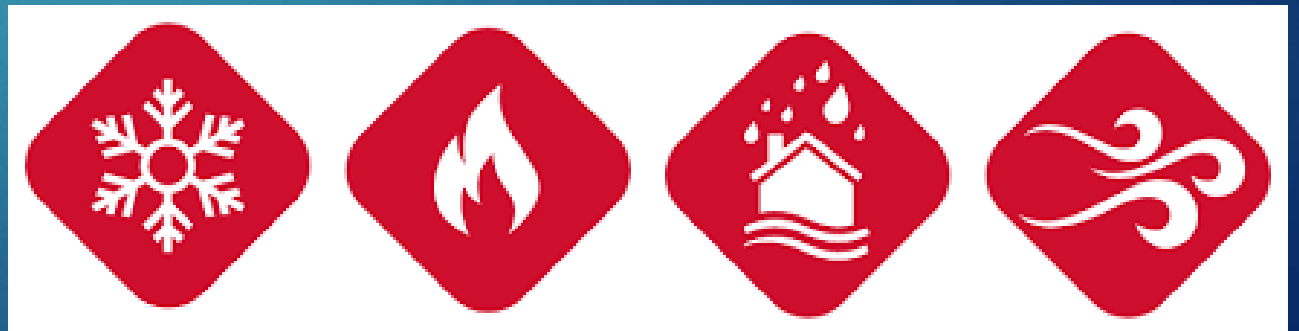


# The Emergency Management Process



# Principles of Emergency Management

- **Basis - Safety risk management principles to efficiently to manage risks imposed by emergencies & disasters:**
  - Hazard identification
  - Risk assessment & analysis
  - Impact analysis
  - Allocation of priorities & resources
  - Coordination with tribal nations plans & operations
  - Effective allocation of resources







EM Word Salad



EM Process



Emergency management uses the principles to accomplish the five (5) steps of emergency management – prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, & recovery.

1. Prevention
2. Mitigation
3. Preparedness
4. Response
5. Recovery



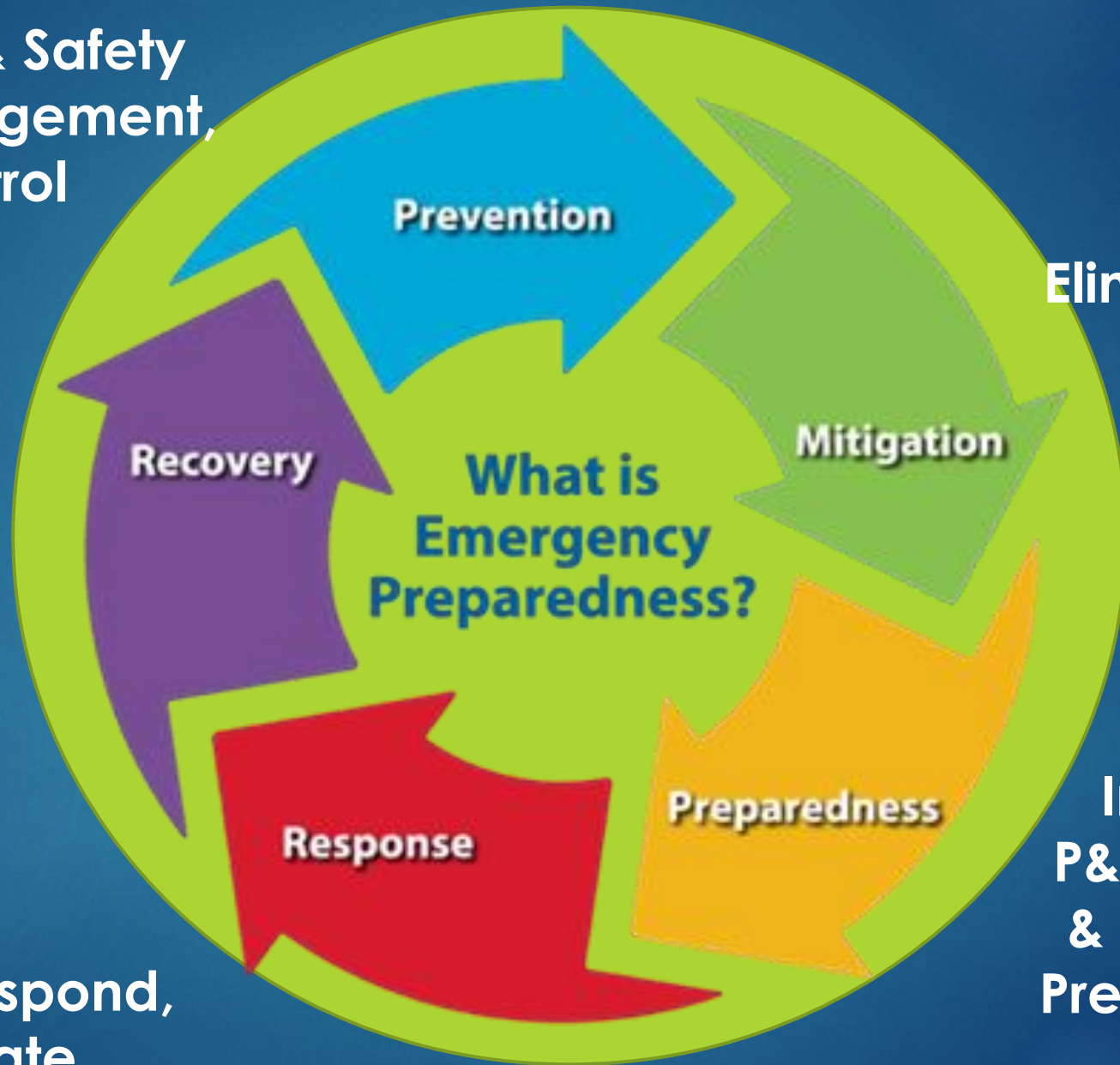
**Prevent & Safety  
Risk Management,  
Control**

**Eliminate, Minimize, &  
Control Risks**

**Treat, Clean-Up,  
Salvage, Assure  
Safety Assurance,  
Improve**

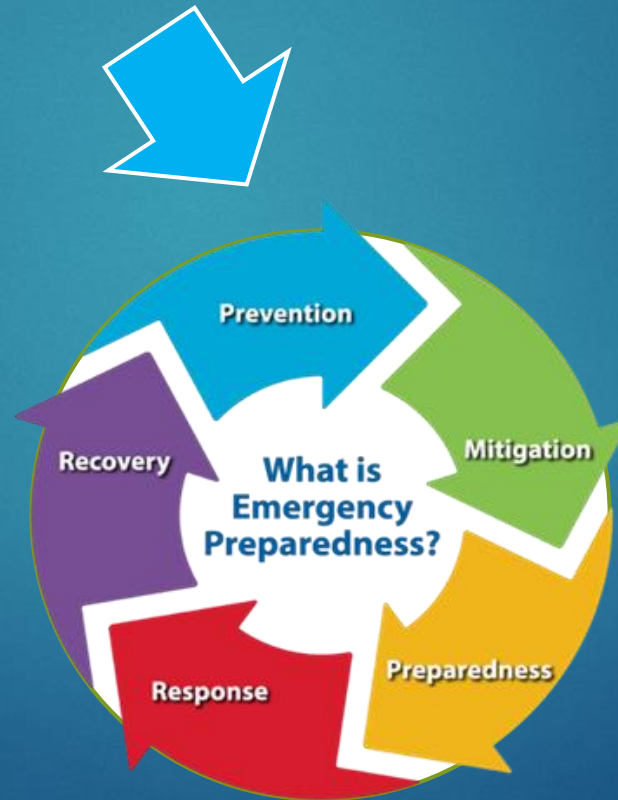
**Conduct Incident  
Management**

**React, Respond,  
Evacuate**



**Implement Plan,  
P&P, Organize, Train  
& Practice, Supply,  
Prep & Protect Transit  
Assets**

# Emergency Management – 1. Prevention







# Prevention

- Objective: To prevent, avoid, or stop an imminent, threatened emergency
- Prevention of danger or threat of any disaster through capacity-building, mitigation measures, maintenance, education, training
- The objective of prevention is to reduce the risk of being affected by a disaster. Even if the hazard cannot be removed, vulnerability can be decreased and in case of an impact, the capacity to withstand, to respond and to recover will be stronger.
- Examples of disaster prevention include:
  - Dams or embankments that eliminate flood risks,
  - Land-use regulations that do not permit any settlement in high risk zones, and
  - Seismic engineering designs that ensure the survival and function of a critical building in any likely earthquake
  - Risk management of potential disasters & emergencies
- Basic risk management strategies
  - Avoid the risk
  - Bear the risk
  - Transfer the risk
  - Control the risk
  - Training





Transit Emergencies



# Emergency Management –

## 2. Mitigation





# Mitigation

- Objective: To reduce the loss of life, injuries, and loss or damage to property by lessening the impact of future disasters or emergencies.
- Mitigation through the reduction of risk of any disaster, its severity, or its consequences.
- The essential steps of hazard mitigation are:
  - Hazard identification.
  - Vulnerability analysis.
  - Defining a hazard mitigation strategy.
  - Implementation of hazard mitigation activities and projects
- The suggested mitigation actions are summarized into four types:
  - Local Planning & Regulations,
  - Structure & Infrastructure Projects,
  - Natural Systems Protection, &
    - Education & Awareness Programs



# Emergency Management – 3. Preparedness





# Preparedness

- Objective: To protect tribal citizens, residents, visitors, employees, customers, and tribal assets against the greatest threats and hazards in a manner that allows our interests, aspirations, activities, and way of life to continue thrive.
- Basic elements of EM preparedness
  - Development of an emergency plan. The first, and potentially most essential element of emergency preparedness is the development of the emergency protocol itself.
  - 📄 Conducting risk assessments as a part of the development and planning, including natural and man-made hazards likely in the geographic area and available resources.
  - Establishing set policies and procedures that comply with tribal, federal, and state laws or regulations
  - Emergency communication plan and protocols for staff and first responders.
  - Training and testing emergency response plans in training scenarios



# Important Emergency Management Steps for Tribal Transit

- Identify essential human & physical assets.
- Assess potential safety hazards and security threats to those assets.
- Identify internal emergency management leadership.
- Form emergency management team.
- Train staff how to respond to potential both natural & man-made disasters & operating hazards and threats.
- Develop & adopt a tribal transit emergency management plan in conjunction with the tribal government overall emergency plan.
- Conduct internal emergency response drills & participate in tribal community & county emergency response exercises.

# Emergency Management Planning for Tribal Transit

- The best approach to emergency management is **emergency planning**.
- Emergencies aren't fun to think about, & of course, no one wishes them on any employee or business.
- But planning using the all-hazards approach is the most effective and scalable way to face the potentially scary and frightening events of the future.
- Planning starts with the goal of emergency management.
  - Start with the National Preparedness Goal adapted for tribal emergency management.
  - The National Preparedness Goal defines what it means for the whole community to be prepared for all types of disasters and emergencies.
  - A goal for a tribal nation: *“A secure and resilient tribal nation or tribal transit service with the capabilities required across the whole community to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk.”*





# Other Tips

- ▶ Safe harbors & supplies for employees & families.
- ▶ Help in pre- & post event with transportation: evacuation with lofts, established supplied shelters, information for riders, communication to families, Have contingency plans when out in service area,
- ▶ Train on Warning vs. Notification = It's now vs. prepare
- ▶ Alternate communication routing

# Basic elements of a TT EM Plan

- ▶ Critical assets
- ▶ Safety & security plan link
- ▶ Roles & responsibilities
- ▶ Expected risks by emergency or disaster
- ▶ Procedures & policies
- ▶ Update & readoption timing



# Emergency Management – 4. Response



# Respond

## Objective:

- Respond quickly to save lives, lessen injuries, protect property and the environment, and to meet basic human needs in the aftermath of a catastrophic or emergency incident.
- Respond with sufficient resources, assistance, training, communications, and assets.



# INCIDENT MANAGEMENT



## The Five Steps of Incident Resolution

### 1. Incident Identification, Logging, & Categorization

- Set Alerts That Matter

### 2. Incident Notification & Escalation

- Prepare Your Team for On-Call – Estab. Roles & Responsibilities
- Establish Communication Guidelines
- Manage changes

### 3. Investigation & Diagnosis, including root cause analysis

### 4. Resolution & Recovery

### 5. Incident Closure

# Emergency Planning - Recovery





# Recover



- **Objective:**

- **To recover the health, social, cultural, historic, and environmental fabric of tribal communities affected by a catastrophic or emergency incident.**
- **Recover through a focus on the timely restoration, reconstruction, repair, replacement, strengthening, and revitalization of human resources , facilities, vehicle fleets, revenue, a sustainable economy, and other assets.**

**Prevent & Safety  
Risk Management,  
Control**

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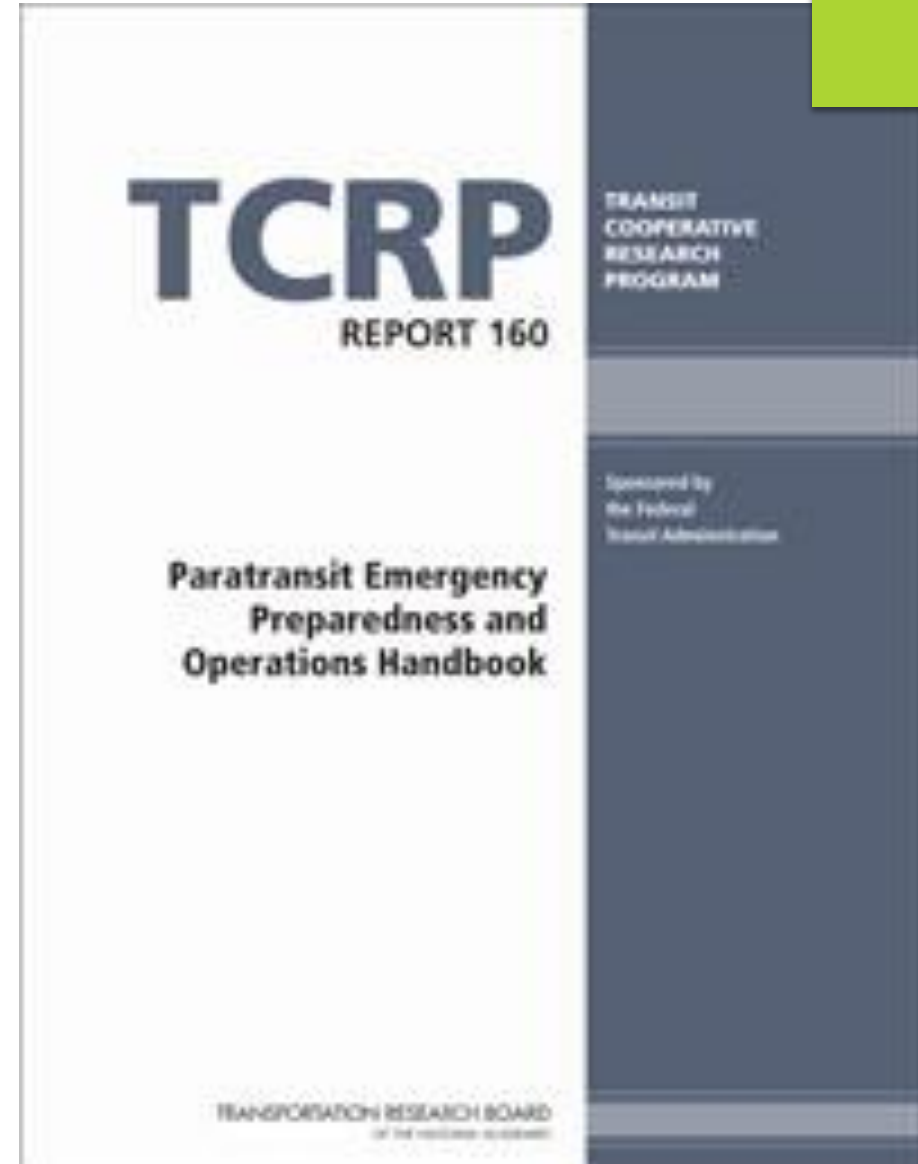


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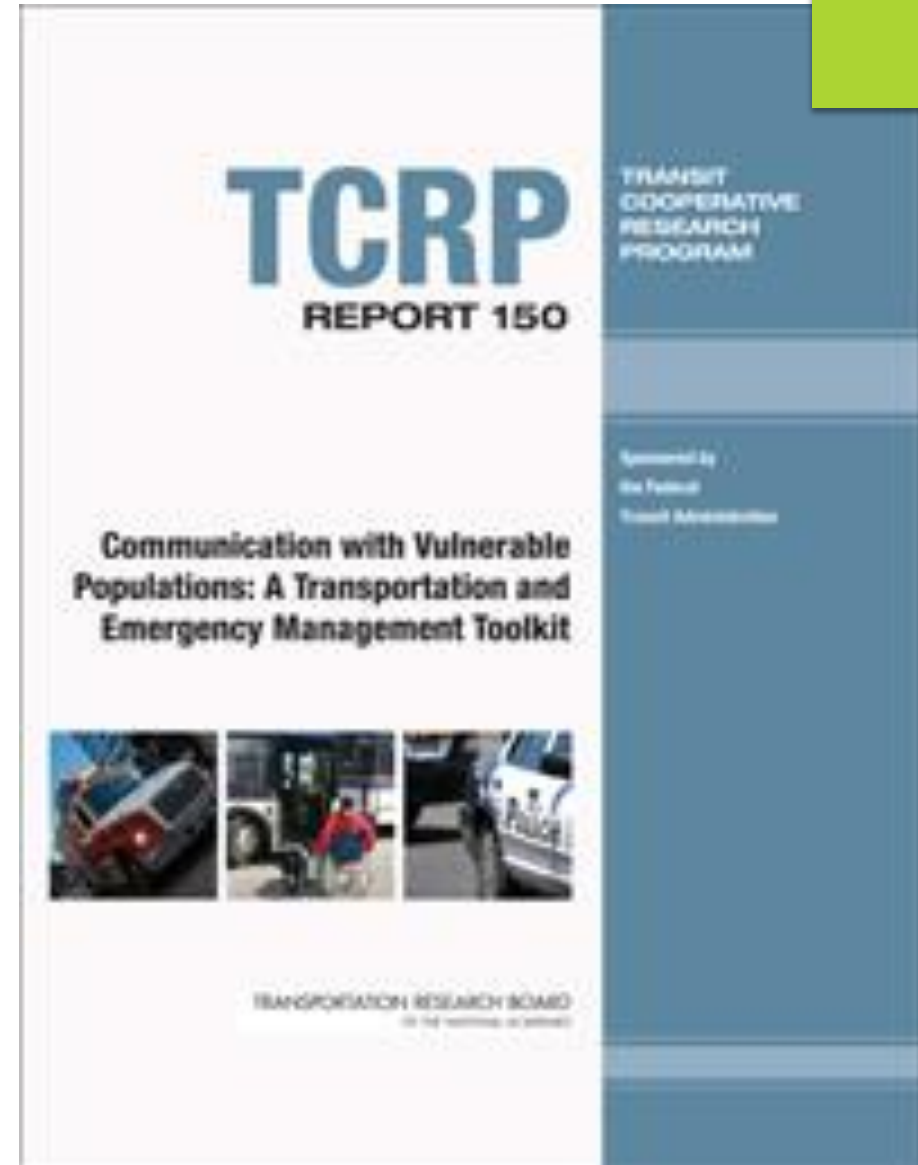
# ▶ Paratransit Emergency Preparedness & Operation Handbook

- ▶ Capabilities Assessment
- ▶ Preparedness
- ▶ Prevention
- ▶ Response
- ▶ Recovery



# ►TCRP A-33 Communication with Vulnerable Populations

- Gather Information
- Build or Add to a Network
- Communicate through the Network
- Sustain the Network





# Emergency Procedures for Rural Transit Drivers:

<https://youtu.be/CnaXJkL4IEo>

- Emergency Equipment
- Emergency Exits
- Wheelchair Lift - Electronic and Manual Operation
- Web cutter practice
- Drag and carry techniques

