

HURI - HELP US RESPOND IMMEDIATELY

When citizens are in need of emergency assistance, time is critical and a rapid response is key. When responding, emergency apparatus will display flashing warning lights and will sound sirens and horns. You can assist us with our response to those in need by staying alert, keeping mirrors adjusted to identify approaching emergency apparatus, yield the right of way immediately pulling over to the nearest edge or curb as required by s.177 of the Motor Vehicle Act of BC and driving defensively.

According to National Fire Protection Association statistics, the majority of accidents involving emergency vehicles take place at intersections. Our Emergency Vehicle Operators have received advanced training to ensure our response is as safe and effective as possible. Our apparatus is constantly maintained and our operators are licensed and comply with rigid operational guidelines and provincial regulations. Operators will only proceed through stop signs and red lights at intersections when all traffic has yielded and it is safe to do so. Yielding the right-of-way and coming to a complete stop at intersections will assist us in immediate response. Coming to a complete stop and keeping focus on the apparatus will confirm that our operator has identified your awareness that you have yielded the right-of-way. You should not proceed until the apparatus has cleared the intersection and it is safe to do so. Ensure you have double-checked to confirm there is not additional emergency vehicles coming. Many major intersections in the City have pre-emption devices to aid in emergency response.

Because emergency apparatus may stop fast at the scene of an incident, you should not be within 150 meters (500 feet) behind the unit. This is a requirement of s.198 of the Motor Vehicle Act. In addition, when fighting a fire, s.199 of the Motor Vehicle Act also restricts motorists from driving over fire hose. Such a practice could damage fire hose and create an unsafe situation for firefighters and victims of a fire.

Following these basic steps "help us respond immediately"!