




EMS SYSTEM ADVISORY #2016-2/18

TO: All Riverside County EMS Receiving Hospitals

FROM: Bruce Barton, EMS Agency Director 

SUBJECT: 91 Freeway Closure February 19-22, 2016

DATE: February 18, 2016

On Friday, February 19, 2016 at 9 p.m. the 91 freeway both Eastbound and Westbound between Interstate 15 and Highway 71 will be closed. This closure will continue until 4 a.m. on Monday, February 22, 2016. As has been publically reported for weeks, this closure will potentially have serious effects on traffic flow throughout Northwestern Riverside County and into both Orange and San Bernardino Counties. The communities surrounding the closure area may see significant impacts to traffic flow on surface streets and roads that provide alternative routes to the freeway closure. Riverside County staff, along with officials from the State and the affected communities, have employed a wide-reaching public notice and education campaign in an attempt to minimize traffic congestion in and around the closure area.

EMS providers servicing the affected area have plans in place for the freeway closure. The County's contracted 9-1-1 emergency ambulance provider, American Medical Response (AMR), has implemented changes to their deployment plan and will have additional ambulances in service within the Northwest Zone during the freeway closure. The Riverside County EMS Agency (REMSA) is requesting maximum attention and effort by all hospitals receiving 9-1-1 ambulances to expedite transfer of patient care and patient offloading during the freeway closure. Your assistance in the safe and rapid transition of patient care is critical to ensure optimal ambulance and first responder availability in the communities that may be experiencing impacts of the freeway closure.

If you have any questions or problems to report, the REMSA Duty Officer may be reached at (951)712-3342. Thank you for your assistance and partnership in meeting the emergency medical needs of our communities.

