

## Hazardous Waste Generators and Contaminated Sites

Some businesses in Manhattan Beach and adjacent cities produce, store, handle, and transport hazardous waste. Several sites are contaminated due to prior poor handling practices, insufficient storage of waste, and dumping activities. Regulatory agencies such as the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) closely monitor these businesses and sites to protect the community from hazardous material releases. Issues of primary concern include:

- Hazardous waste generators (small and large generators, transporters, and waste storage)
- Toxic Release Inventory (air, water, land and underground release of toxic materials)
- Superfund archive sites
- Leaking underground storage tanks (LUSTs)

### Hazardous Waste Generators

Over 40 commercial businesses in the City are small-quantity generators that produce between 220 and 2,200 pounds (100 and 1,000 kilograms) per month of hazardous waste. These businesses include automotive repair, gas stations, photograph processing, dry cleaners, printing companies, and movie studios. Northrop Grumman represents the sole large-quantity generator, which is defined as any business that produces over 2,200 pounds (1,000 kilograms) per month of hazardous waste. Pursuant to Federal law, all such businesses must register with the EPA for record-keeping and recording. The Chevron Oil Refinery and several industrial businesses in the cities of El Segundo and Redondo Beach, along the border of Manhattan Beach, are registered as large-quantity hazardous waste generators as well.

### Toxic Release Inventory

The EPA has established the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI), a publicly available database that contains information on toxic chemical releases and other waste management activities reported annually by certain covered industry groups, as well as Federal facilities. The Northrop Grumman Space and Technology facility in Manhattan Beach has been identified by

the EPA on the TRI database. This facility released 9,000 pounds of five different toxic chemicals into the air during 2000. The facility also transfers over 28,000 pounds of six different chemicals to a waste broker, which eventually sends the material off to a waste treatment facility, incinerator, or recycling facility. The EPA closely monitors the emissions from this facility, as well as nearby facilities, to ensure that the annual limits allowed under Federal regulations are not exceeded. The Chevron Oil Refinery also releases toxics into the air, water, and land. In 2000, the emissions totaled over two million pounds. The Northrop Grumman facility in Redondo Beach emitted 2,800 pounds of toxics into the air and transferred less than 9,000 pounds of toxics.

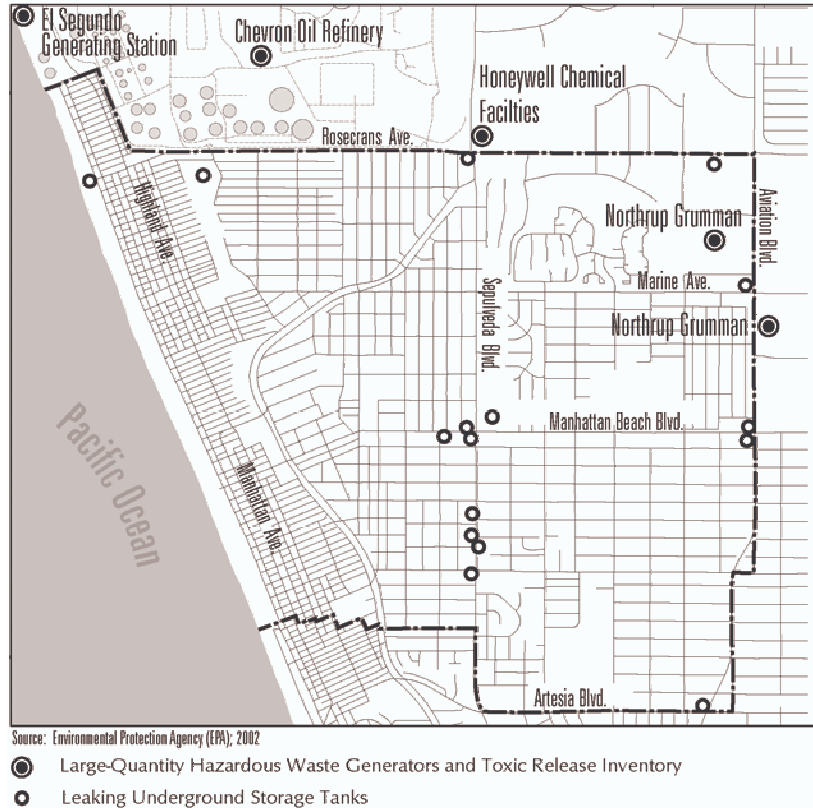
## Superfund Sites

Although the use of hazardous materials is carefully regulated today, past activities have led to the contamination of several sites in the City. Contamination has resulted from disposal of hazardous materials, leaking underground storage tanks, and various industrial practices. The Superfund Act is a Federal law designed to protect the environment from risks created from previous chemical disposal practices. Two “archive” sites in Manhattan Beach have been identified as Superfund sites under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). Archive status indicates that to the best of the EPA’s knowledge, no immediate or long-term risk to human health or the environment are associated with these sites, and no further steps will be taken to list the sites on the National Priority List (NPL). No further remedial action is planned for these sites under the Superfund Program.

## Leaking Underground Storage Tanks

Leaking underground storage tanks (LUSTs) are one of the greatest environmental concerns of the past several decades. The California Regional Water Quality Board, in cooperation with the Office of Emergency Services, maintains an inventory of LUST sites throughout the State. Some of these fuel leaks resulted in substantial soil and groundwater contamination. As of 2001, over ten sites in Manhattan Beach had been identified as sources of industrial solvent or metals contamination and were targeted for clean-up. Half of the sites identified with fuel leaks are from gasoline storage tanks for service stations. Most cases are currently closed, meaning they pose no environmental risk and clean-up actions have occurred. Some of the sites have been cleaned and redeveloped. Since the problems of past practices have largely been addressed, focus instead has been turned toward avoiding future contamination.

**Figure CS-4  
Location of Large Hazardous Waste Generators and Leaking  
Underground Storage Tanks**



## Household Hazardous Waste

Hazardous waste is generated in homes and businesses alike. In the home includes products such as used lead-acid (automotive) batteries, pesticides, solvents, and paint thinners. Although most hazardous waste is generated by larger industrial businesses, wastes created by households and small businesses are of particular concern since these wastes are more likely to be handled inappropriately and discarded in a landfill or local sewer. The City provides an annual hazardous waste collection program, and residents are allowed to dispose of household hazardous waste free of charge at the Community Hazardous Waste Collection Facility in Redondo Beach.

# Goals and Policies: Hazardous Materials Release

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**Goal CS-2: Protect residents from hazardous materials and the hazards associated with the transport of such materials.**

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Policy CS-2.1: Continue to encourage and support the enforcement of State and Federal environmental and pollution control laws.

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Policy CS-2.2: Continue to support and encourage State and Federal efforts to identify existing or previously existing hazardous waste generators or disposal sites, and monitor disposal of all wastes and contamination of their sites.

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Policy CS-2.3: Continue to monitor underground emissions and associated hazards in Manhattan Village and in other areas adjacent to industrial uses.

The Manhattan Village residential area was previously an oil field that had large oil storage tanks. The area has a vapor recovery system which captures and recovers dilute volatile organic compounds and other hazardous air pollutants. Annual reports are provided to Chevron and the Public Works Department.




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Policy CS-2.4: Promote the routing of vehicles carrying potentially hazardous materials along transportation corridors that reduce public exposure to risk. Cooperate with regional agencies in developing such routing systems.

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Policy CS-2.5: Require all businesses located in the City to maintain required Fire Department permits and file a list of the hazardous chemicals that they use with the Fire Department's Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA), and identify the areas where they are used or stored so that, should an emergency arise, emergency personnel will be able to respond appropriately.

Policy Discussion 

The Fire Department responds to calls regarding hazardous materials, on average, over 150 times per year. Fire personnel must have knowledge of any potential contact with materials that are toxic or pose any threat to emergency response personnel or the public.

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Policy CS-2.6: Develop and support an educational program to assist small users (individuals and households) to dispose of small quantities of hazardous materials.

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Policy CS-2.7 Continue to monitor the potential environmental risks posed by industrial users in the City and adjacent jurisdictions, and actively work with State, Federal, and other agencies to prevent and mitigate any accidents.

# Emergency Preparedness and Response Services

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The provision of emergency preparedness and response services is a major responsibility of the City. By establishing outstanding police and fire departments that are active within the community, the City provides residents and businesses a sense of comfort and safety knowing that committed and qualified public safety personnel will perform the tasks and duties to keep Manhattan Beach safe.

Manhattan Beach is well prepared to respond to all types of emergencies. The City's emergency preparedness program addresses appropriate responses to major earthquakes, flooding, and hazardous materials accidents. The program describes how emergency response will be coordinated and how evacuation of residents will proceed. Program objectives include injury reduction and avoiding loss of life and property damage through effective management of emergency personnel.

## Fire Department

In 1923, the Lion Tamers Club organized the first volunteer fire department for the City of Manhattan Beach, leasing a chemical truck containing equipment for six men. Their first original home was at Manhattan Hardware Store located at the intersection of Manhattan Avenue and Center Street (Manhattan Beach Boulevard). They were later given space in City Hall. In 1954, the fire station at 1400 Manhattan Beach Boulevard was constructed and labeled as Fire Station No. 2. In 1960, Fire Station No. 1 at 400 15<sup>th</sup> Street was built, allowing staff and equipment to move out of City Hall and into the new facility. Fire Station No. 1, now over 40 years old, no longer meets the current needs of the Fire Department and the City of Manhattan Beach. A new facility, to begin construction in 2003 and schedule for completion in 2005, will accommodate both the Fire and Police Departments.

Manhattan Beach's Fire Department daily suppression staffing typically consists of eight Firefighters/Paramedics, plus one Battalion Chief who operates out of two stations. Emergency

Fire Station No. 2, located at 1400 Manhattan Beach Boulevard, was built in 1954. Station No. 2 personnel can easily respond to emergencies on the eastern half of the City.



response is handled by two engines (both are Paramedic engines), a Paramedic rescue ambulance, and the Battalion Chief. Fire Station 1 (headquarters) is located adjacent to City Hall at 400 15<sup>th</sup> Street, and Fire Station 2 is located at 1400 Manhattan Beach Boulevard, east of Sepulveda Boulevard. The Department responds to emergency incidents within an average time of four minutes and thirty seconds. Emergency preparedness training is given to all City employees to prepare them to respond properly to the needs of the community in the event of a major emergency, including natural disasters, terrorism, and other catastrophic events. Fire Department personnel have provided City employees with the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) training, a State-mandated program, which includes familiarization with the City’s Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and a comprehensive disaster simulation drill to instruct personnel in their responsibilities to the organization and community during a disaster. City staff is committed to servicing the needs of the community through emergency preparedness and will continue to enhance this service over time.

The Fire Department has a new Community Emergency Response Team program (CERT) to provide education and training to the community to prepare them for major emergencies. The program focuses on how community residents can protect themselves, their family, and neighbors in an emergency or natural disaster.

# Emergency Shelters and Evacuation Routes

Nine public facilities and schools located throughout the City are designated as emergency shelters (Table CS-3 and Figure CS-4).

**Table CS-3  
Emergency Shelters**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Type</b>
Joslyn Center	1601 N Valley Dr	Public Facility
Grand View Elementary School	455 24 <sup>th</sup> St	Elementary School
Manhattan Beach Middle School	1501 N Redondo Ave	Middle School
Pacific Elementary School	1431 15 <sup>th</sup> Street	Elementary School
Meadows Elementary School	1200 N Meadows Ave	Elementary School
Robinson Elementary School	80 S Morningside Dr	Elementary School
Mira Costa High School	701 S Peck Ave	High School
Pennekamp Elementary School	110 S Rowell Ave	Elementary School
Manhattan Beach Transition School Site (Beggs)	1435 15th St	Multi-use School Site

Emergency shelters offer refuge for those seeking temporary protection from a disaster or emergency. These shelters are equipped to provide disaster relief.

The City has identified ten roadways to be used by the general public as emergency evacuation routes:

- Sepulveda Boulevard
- Rosecrans Avenue
- Highland Avenue
- Valley Drive
- Ardmore Avenue
- Aviation Boulevard
- Artesia Boulevard
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Street
- Manhattan Beach Boulevard
- Marine Avenue

Each identified roadway has the capacity to evacuate residents out of the City or to designated emergency shelters. The City’s grid-style roadway network creates additional alternate routes to the roadways listed above. However, Manhattan Beach experiences traffic congestion during weekday peak travel hours and summer weekends that may impede or delay evacuation.



## Terrorism Readiness and Response

In the aftermath of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on New York’s World Trade Center and the Pentagon, the City of Manhattan Beach’s emergency preparedness and response services have become an even more critical function to address the myriad of terrorism issues confronting the nation and local communities. The volume of lessons learned, identified vulnerabilities, protective measures, and emerging anti-terrorism technologies since September 11, 2001 has been considerable. Manhattan Beach Police and Fire Departments have recognized the need not only to capture the lessons learned from September 11<sup>th</sup>, but also to collectively deliberate on key terrorism planning and Homeland Security policy issues that most affect Manhattan Beach residents.

## Community Alert Network and Reverse 911

The Community Alert Network (CAN) and Reverse 911 system are computerized emergency notification systems. The systems can promptly warn many residents of potential hazardous releases, urban or hazardous fire, civil unrest, or any other disturbance or hazard. The networks, when activated by fire or police officials, call the phone numbers of Manhattan Beach residents and deliver a recorded message explaining the emergency and safety instructions. The system can alert residents in specific areas or throughout the entire City.

## Goals and Policies: Emergency Preparedness and Response Services

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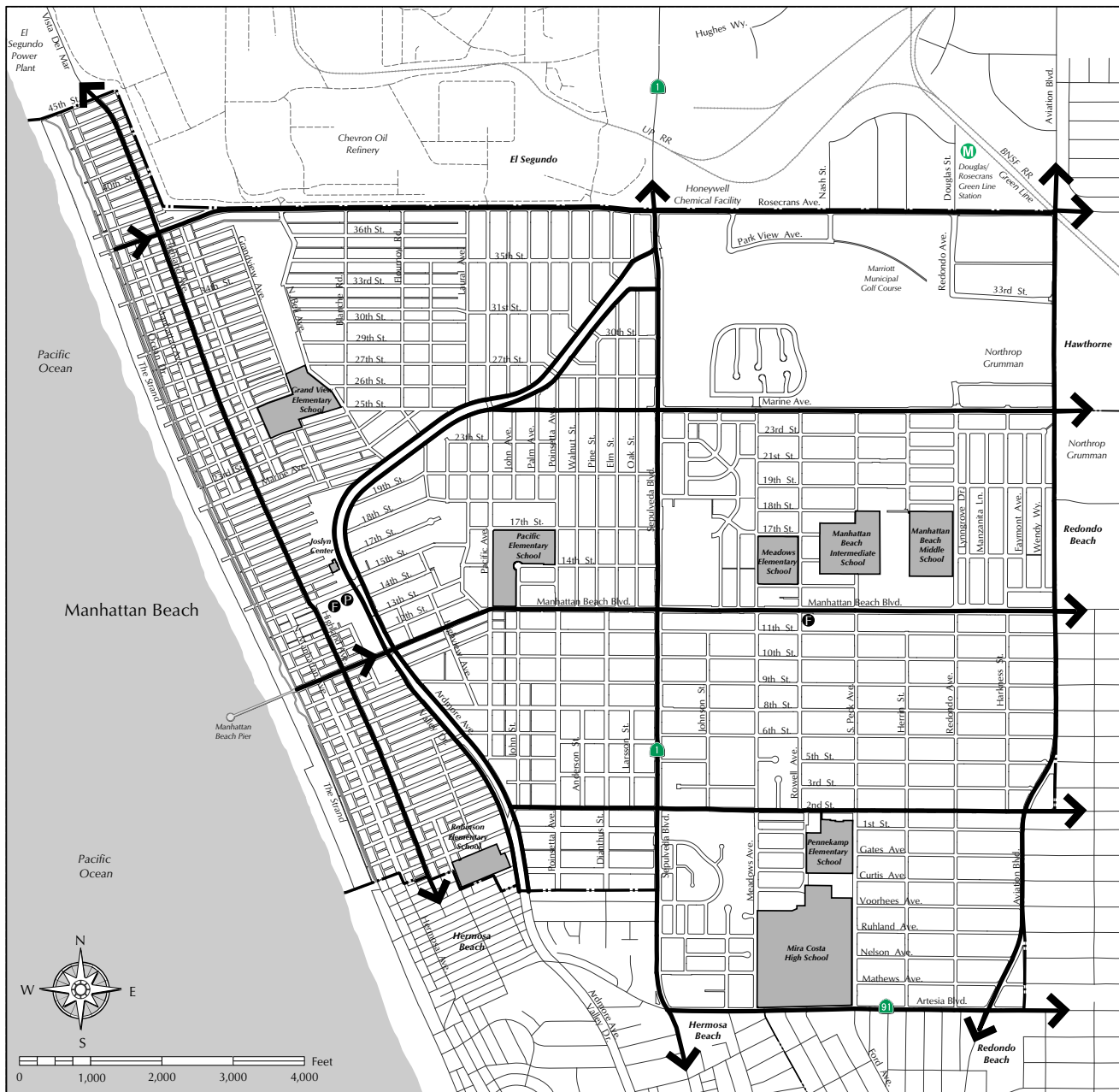
**Goal CS-3: Maintain a high level of City emergency response services.**

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Policy CS-3.1: Support the continued active enforcement of building and fire codes.

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Policy CS-3.2: Cooperate with other jurisdictions in the South Bay area to maintain an up-to-date emergency response system for the region.



**Emergency Shelters and Evacuation Routes**

-  Emergency Shelter
-  Evacuation Route
-  Fire Station
-  Police Station
-  City Boundary

Source: City of Manhattan Beach, GIS data, 2002.



Figure CS-5  
**Emergency Shelters and  
 Evacuation Routes**

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Policy CS-3.3: Inform all residents of the requirements for visible and clearly legible street numbers to minimize the response time of emergency personnel.

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Policy CS-3.4 Ensure that street signs are legible and easy to find by both emergency response personnel and the general public.

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Policy CS-3.5: Review the City's emergency equipment and shelters periodically to ensure that they are adequate to meet the needs of changing land uses and development and types of disasters.

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Policy CS-3.6: Review the location, size, and equipment at each designated emergency shelter periodically to ensure that the City will be able to accommodate all people likely to need shelter in the event of a disaster.

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Policy CS-3.7: Support the use of the best available equipment and facilities to ensure safety that meets the changing needs of the community.

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Policy CS-3.8 Maintain an Insurance Services Organization (ISO) rating of 3 or higher.

Insurance companies base fire insurance premiums on a sliding scale of the Insurance Service Office (ISO) rating, with 1 being the best and 10 being the worst. The City's ISO rating, which had been a 4 since 1976, improved to a 3 in 2002.




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Policy CS-3.9 Continue to upgrade the quality of emergency response through continued education and training of emergency response personnel.

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Policy CS-3.10: Strive to reduce emergency response time.

# Law Enforcement Services

With a population of about 500 at incorporation of the City in 1912, Manhattan Beach had only one City Marshall in charge of law enforcement. The City Marshall was available twenty-four hours a day and seven days a week guarding against the little crime that occurred at that time. As the population grew, so did the crime rate. In 1916, the City Marshall moved into City Hall where he was given an office and a jail cell. Although police volunteers were always available to assist the City Marshall, the Manhattan Beach City Council authorized additional patrolmen in the late in 1920s. In 1958, the Police Department, Police Chief, and patrolmen moved into their new facility on 15<sup>th</sup> Street.

The mission of the Manhattan Beach Police Department is "to protect life, property and liberty while providing excellent service and developing problem-solving partnerships within the community." As such, the Manhattan Beach Police Department is a highly valued positive force in the community, providing effective safety and emergency response services, but also engaging in community programs and educational activities. Volunteerism and community involvement continue to be the cornerstone of the Manhattan Beach Police Department. The Department is generally able to respond to high priority calls in under two and half minutes. The response time is within the Department's response time goals.

"Area" patrol officers enforce traffic laws and create a presence in neighborhoods where traffic problems occur frequently.



# Neighborhood Watch Program

Not only is Neighborhood Watch a great way to learn about public safety and guard against crime by becoming alert to suspicious activities, it provides neighbors the opportunity to meet each other and work to keep their neighborhoods safe. Neighborhood Watch provides a unique infrastructure that brings together local officials, law enforcement, and residents for the protection of neighborhoods. The Neighborhood Watch Program has had discussions about including a volunteer organization called Citizens Corps. A Citizens Corps can help coordinate volunteer activities that will make communities safer, stronger, and better prepared to respond to any emergency situation. It provides opportunities for people to participate in a range of measures to make their families, their homes, and their communities safer from the threats of crime, terrorism, and disasters of all kinds.

## Goals and Policies: Police Services

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**Goal CS-4: Maintain a high level of police protection services.**

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Policy CS-4.1: Recognize the importance of calculating the daytime population in determining emergency service needs.

Calculating the daytime population is important in the event of a major disaster. Counting the number of residents in Manhattan Beach is relatively easy, but many residents leave the City to work elsewhere, and many employees come into the City to work at local businesses. Additionally, the City accommodates many visitors, particularly during day-time summer weekends.




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Policy CS-4.2: Support the development and continued updating of public education programs on safety.

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Policy CS-4.3: Encourage the formation and continued education of Neighborhood Watch groups to assist the police in crime prevention and detection.

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Policy CS-4.4: Work with Los Angeles County Department of Beaches to ensure adequate police protection and emergency services to visitors and residents using the City's beaches.

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Policy CS-4.5: Continue to upgrade the quality of police personnel through continued education, training, and proactive recruiting efforts.

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Policy CS-4.6: Support proactive measures to enhance public safety, such as use of increased foot or bicycle police patrols.

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Policy CS-4.7: Strive to reduce police response time.



The average response time to emergency calls is two minutes and nineteen seconds. The average response time for Priority 1 and 2 calls is four minutes and twenty seconds.