

## 11. SURVEILLANCE OF EVACUATION OPERATIONS

There is a need for surveillance of traffic operations during the evacuation. There is also a need to clear any blockage of roadways arising from accidents or vehicle disablement. Surveillance can take several forms.

1. Traffic control personnel, located at Traffic Control and Access Control points, provide fixed-point surveillance.
2. Ground patrols may be undertaken along well-defined paths to ensure coverage of those highways that serve as major evacuation routes.
3. Aerial surveillance of evacuation operations may also be conducted using helicopter or fixed-wing aircraft.
4. Cellular phone calls from motorists may also provide direct field reports of road blockages.

These concurrent surveillance procedures are designed to provide coverage of the entire EPZ as well as the area around its periphery. It is the responsibility of the Counties to support a communication system that can receive messages from the field and be in a position to respond to any reported problems in a timely manner. This coverage should quickly identify, and expedite the response to any blockage caused by a disabled vehicle.

### Tow Vehicles

In a low-speed traffic environment, any vehicle disablement is likely to arise due to a low-speed collision, mechanical failure or exhausting the fuel supply. In any case, the disabled vehicle can be pushed onto the shoulder, thereby restoring traffic flow. Past experience in other emergencies indicates that evacuees who are leaving an area often perform activities such as pushing a disabled vehicle to the side of the road without prompting.

While the need for tow vehicles is expected to be low under the circumstances described above, it is still prudent to be prepared for such a need. Tow trucks may be deployed at strategic locations within, or just outside, the EPZ. These locations should be selected so that:

- They permit access to key, heavily loaded, evacuation routes.
- Responding tow trucks would most likely travel counter-flow relative to evacuating traffic.