

# NAPLES ISLAND EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN OVERVIEW



It is estimated there will be 4,000+ residents, employees, students, visitors and passers-thru on Naples Island when a major disaster strikes. This number can balloon up well over 5,000 during special events such as the Boat Parade and Halloween.

### Envision This Sample Scenario...

It's 3:00AM, the middle of a moonless night. A 7.3 earthquake (stronger than the quake of 1933) strikes the coast. Long Beach and Orange County are hit hard. The Long Beach Fire Department is responding to hundreds, if not thousands, of emergencies across the city. It may be days before they make it to Naples. Your loved ones are off the island. Cellular/Data is out. No phones. No texts. Power is out - it's pitch black. Water pipes have burst. Gas pipes have ruptured and fires are breaking out. Two of the bridges onto the island have collapsed and the third is seriously compromised. There is no island access by automobile. It's high tide, not even a Duffy can navigate the canals. Many docks have been destroyed or detached from their wall structures. Dangerous debris and rubble are floating, or hidden just below the water's surface.

"Liquefaction" has caused portions of sidewalks and structures to sink several feet. Downed trees, wires and structures litter the roadways. Your neighbor's frightened dogs are wandering the streets having slipped through a busted window. Several of your neighbors are seriously injured. This is a common refrain across the island.

The first hours following an earthquake are the most crucial. Having a community-based plan (neighbors helping neighbors in structured teams, following safety precautions, prioritizing tasks, sharing resources, assisting the wounded) can save lives and ensure everyone safely navigates the crisis.

In early 2019, the LB CERT-Naples Committee, in collaboration with the Long Beach Fire Department, formalized a volunteer-based emergency response plan to help islanders fend for themselves from the time disaster strikes to the time professional emergency responders arrive on the scene.

**The plan relies upon CERT-trained volunteers and untrained volunteers working together** with constant communication and the

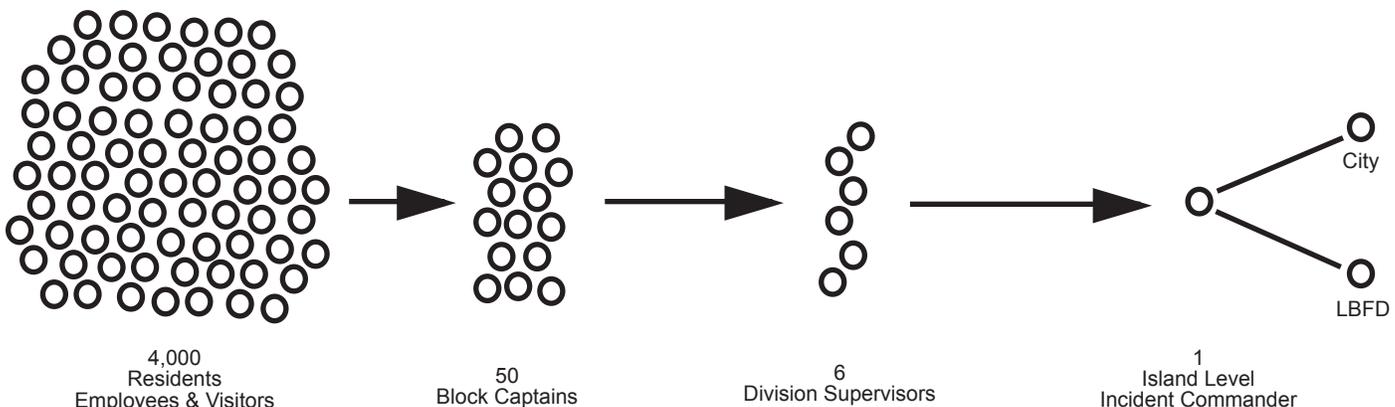
greatest adherence to personal safety to address manageable issues before they become crises.

The plan incorporates FEMA's proven "Incident Command Structure" to organize volunteers and deploy teams. The plan also follows structured communication and documentation protocols employed by professional emergency responders.

### Naples' Plan...

The NIA has tailored an "Incident Command Structure" that will link all islanders, canvas every corner of the island, streamline communications, prioritize tasks and allocate resources:

- Individuals (Residents, Employees, Visitors) report to designated Block Captains,
- Block Captains (50-60) report to Division Supervisors,
- Division Supervisors (6) report to the Island's Incident Commander,
- The Island's Incident Commander works directly with LBFD, City of LB, and others.



# BREAKING DOWN THE ISLAND-WIDE PLAN



## AT THE BLOCK LEVEL

Via the plan, Naples has been divided into approximately 50 “Blocks.” Each Block contains roughly 30-40 households, and will have a dedicated volunteer Block Captain. Prior to a major disaster, Block Captains will help their constituents become as prepared as possible by sharing information, sources for emergency supplies and facilitating connections among neighbors. Following a major disaster, Block Captains will work with able-bodied residents to form teams to conduct light search and rescue, extinguish small fires, tend to the wounded, and secure the immediate area. Once a Block is secured, volunteers from that Block will report to their designated Division’s Staging Area.

Also at the Block level, individuals will volunteer to monitor children, take care of pets, assist the elderly and help those with special needs.



Block Level



Division Level



Island Level

## AT THE DIVISION LEVEL

Blocks are clustered into areas called “Divisions.” The island has 6 Divisions. Each Division contains 6-10 Blocks. Following a major disaster, volunteers will report to the designated Staging Area for their Division. For example, the Staging Area for Division 2 will be the parking lot at Mother’s Beach. Division 5’s Staging Area will be the Colonnade.

Volunteers will sign in and be assigned to teams. The teams will be deployed to Blocks and specific locations in need of additional assistance. Some teams will also take on specialized roles such as transporting the wounded to centralized treatment facilities.

If warranted, each Division will have a centralized medical area where the wounded can be treated and monitored. If there are only a few injuries across the island, medical treatment may be consolidated to one Division.

Any professionally trained emergency responders (such as retired firefighters, doctors, nurses, police officers and military personnel) who happen to be on the island at the time of the disaster, will be asked if they are willing to lend their support by heading to a designated Division Staging Area.

Through the relay of communications, the Incident Command Post will notify Division Supervisors who will, in turn, notify Block Captains as to where professionally trained responders are needed. The consolidation of skilled individuals will help sustain and care for wounded who may be otherwise too widely distributed to monitor effectively.

## AT THE ISLAND LEVEL

Naples’ Emergency Response Plan includes assistance for non-islanders who happen to be in the area at the time of the disaster. These might be visitors at Mother’s Beach, customers at any of the area businesses, or even drivers passing through on 2nd Street or Appian Way. A dedicated outreach team will work with these individuals to develop specific plans to reunite them with their loved ones.

Also at the island level, volunteers will organize a Ferry Service to shuttle individuals on and off the island from designated launch points. These points will be identified and communicated island-wide as details of the given disaster become clear.

**Visit [NaplesIsland.org/CERT](http://NaplesIsland.org/CERT) for more details and to Show Your Support**