



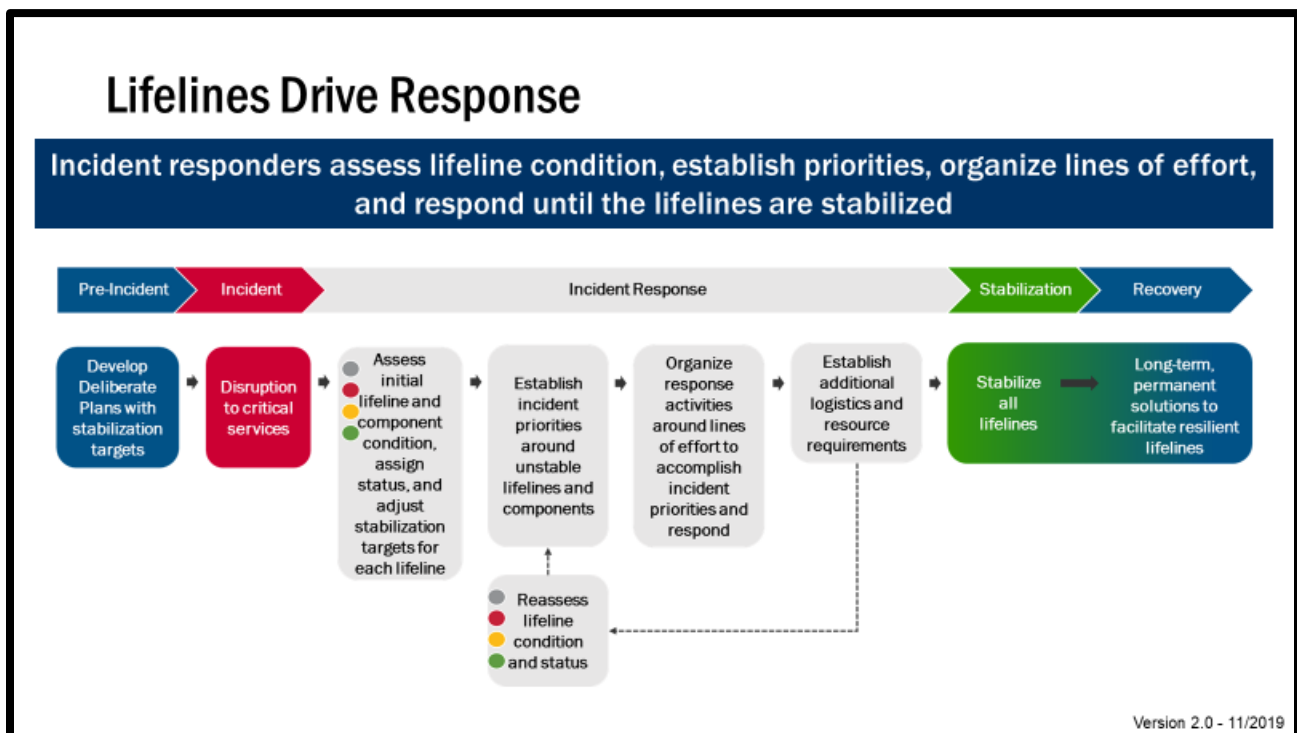
COMMUNITY LIFELINES

Why lifelines?

- FEMA developed the community lifelines construct to increase effectiveness in disaster operations and better position the Agency to respond to catastrophic incidents
- Lifelines are the most fundamental services in the community that, when stabilized, enable all other aspects of society
- When disrupted, decisive intervention (e.g., rapid service re-establishment or employment of contingency response solutions) is required
- During initial response, priority efforts focus on *stabilizing community lifelines*.
- Lifelines provide an outcome-based, survivor-centric frame of reference that assists responders with:
 - Root Cause Analysis
 - Interdependencies
 - Prioritization
 - Ease of Communication

How were lifelines developed?

- FEMA released initial guidance (*Lifelines Toolkit*) introducing the lifelines construct in February 2019, followed by significant stakeholder outreach and feedback including:
 - State and Local Emergency Managers
 - Interagency Partners
 - Private and Non-Profit Stakeholders
- Construct was validated during responses to Hurricanes Michael, Florence, and Dorian, Super Typhoon Yutu, Alaska Earthquake, and during Shaken Fury full-scale exercise.
- Lessons learned from exercises, operations, and stakeholder feedback resulted in refinement and improvement to the construct.
- *National Response Framework (NRF) 4th Edition* formalized lifelines in national response policy
- Enhanced Lifelines guidance (*Lifelines Toolkit 2.0*) released to support NRF Publication.



See the Lifelines Toolkit at:

<https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/177222>

If you have any questions or feedback, please email them to: Lifelines@fema.dhs.gov

Community Lifelines

Definition

A lifeline enables the continuous operation of **critical business and government functions** and is essential to **human health and safety** or **economic security**.

Purpose

Root Cause Analysis

Interdependencies

Prioritization

Ease of Communication

Assessing

Status → What?

Impact → So What?

Actions → Now What?

Limiting Factors → What's the Gap?

Stabilization

Occurs when basic lifeline services or capabilities are provided to survivors (may be temporary solutions requiring sustainment).

COMPONENTS of Lifelines

