



Step 4 in Plan Development

COURSES OF ACTION PLANNING



Plan Development

Plan development functions:

- Develop and analyze **course(s) of action (COA)**.
- Identify resources.

Planning concepts for developing a course of action:

- Scenario based analyzes impact of a scenario.
- Functional identifies the common tasks performed during emergencies.
- Capabilities based focuses on capacity to take a course of action.



Testing Courses of Action

Test the various courses of action by gaming in a simulation of operations without using actual resources.

A gaming exercise allows planners to:

- Explore the processes and consequences of decisionmaking.
- Conduct “what-if” analyses of existing plans.
- Test existing and potential strategies.





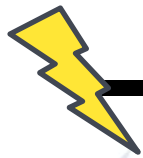
COA Development Process

- Establish a timeline based on onset of event
 - Depict the scenario
 - Place actions on the timeline
 - Identify decision points
 - Identify operational tasks
- Ask questions
- Select courses of action



COA Timeline

Scenario: Flood



Notification

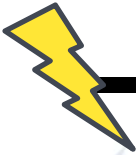
Time



COA Timeline

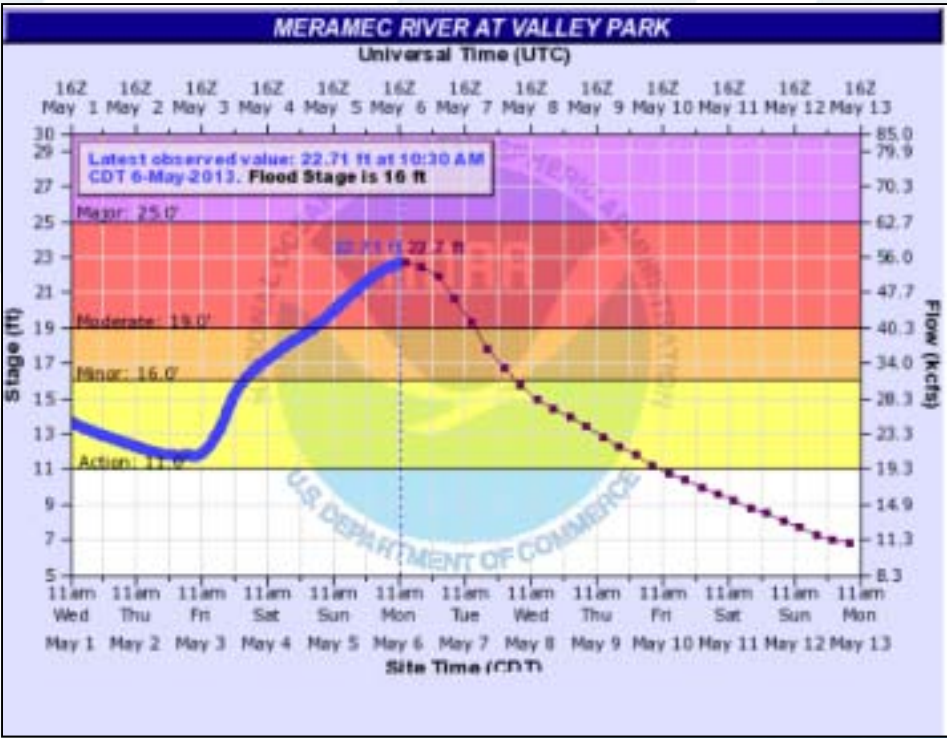
Scenario: Flood

Time



Notification

Decision Point:
Forecast Analysis



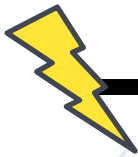
How much time do you have to complete the task?



COA Timeline

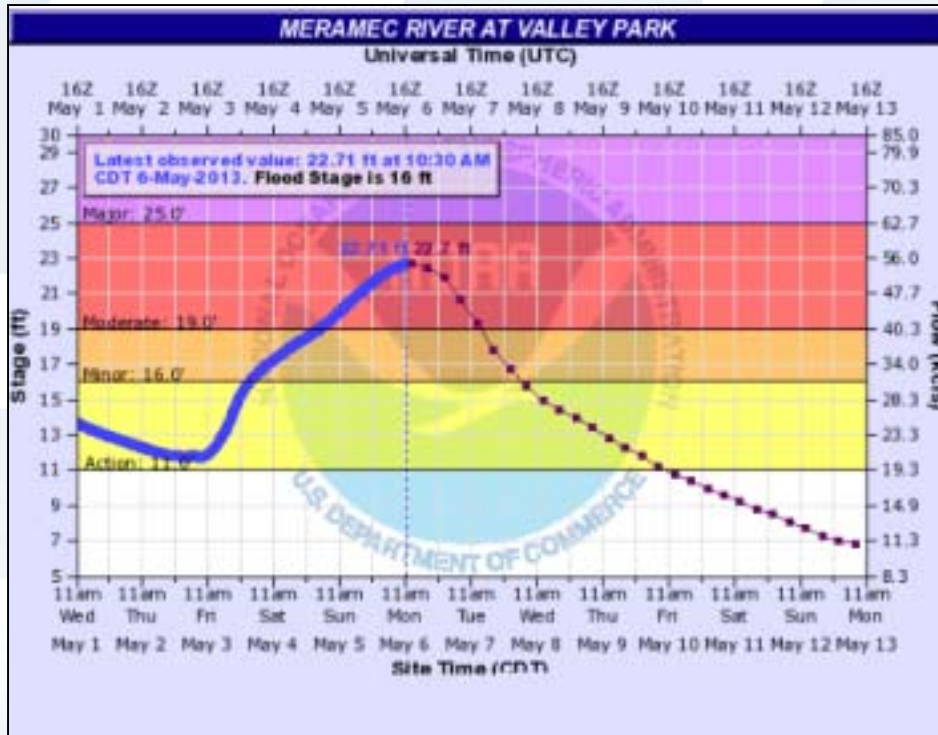
Scenario: Flood

5 hours? 2 days?



Notification

Decision Point:
Forecast Analysis



What Courses of Action can you take to solve the problem in time?



COA Timeline

Scenario: Flood

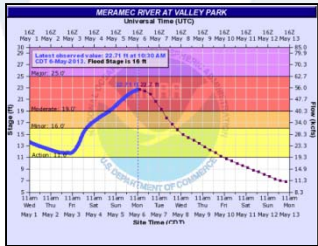


Notification

Decision Point:
Forecast Analysis

Decision Point:
Evacuate Hospital

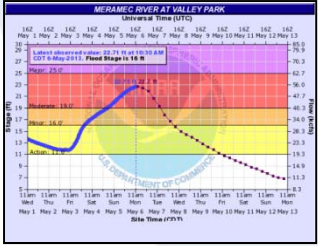
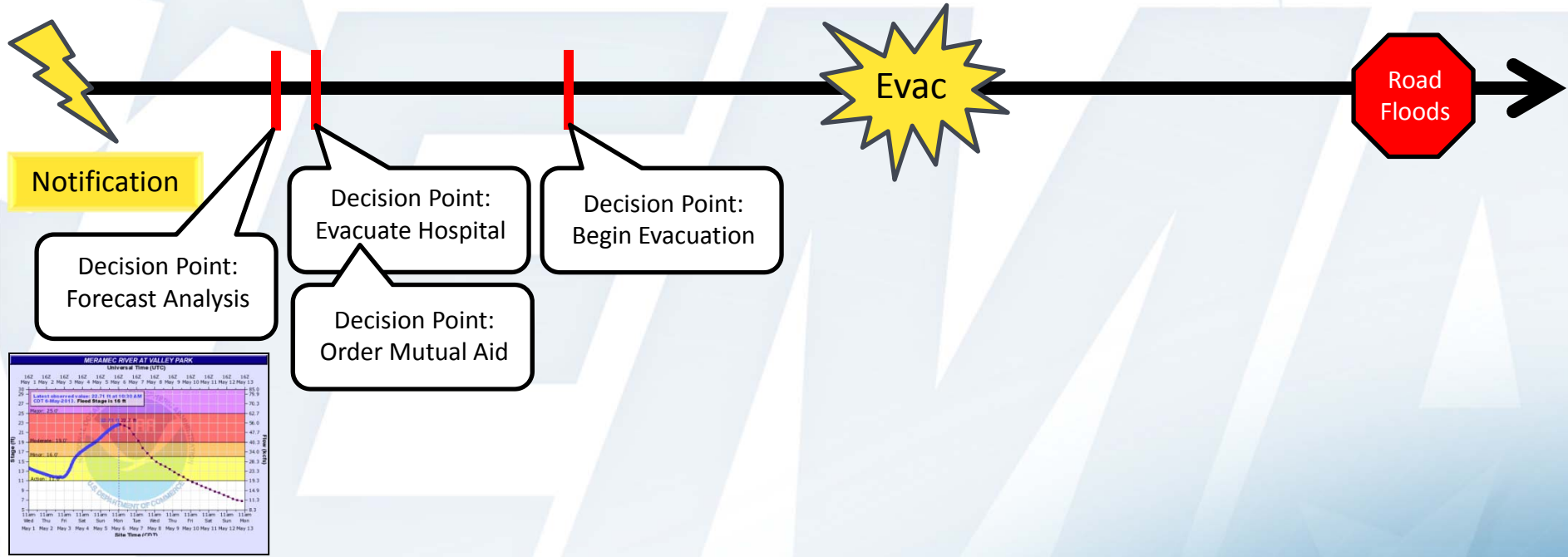
Decision Point:
Order Mutual Aid





COA Timeline

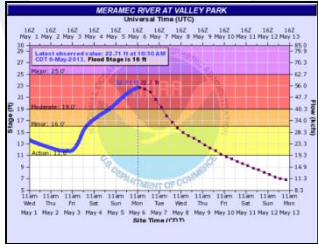
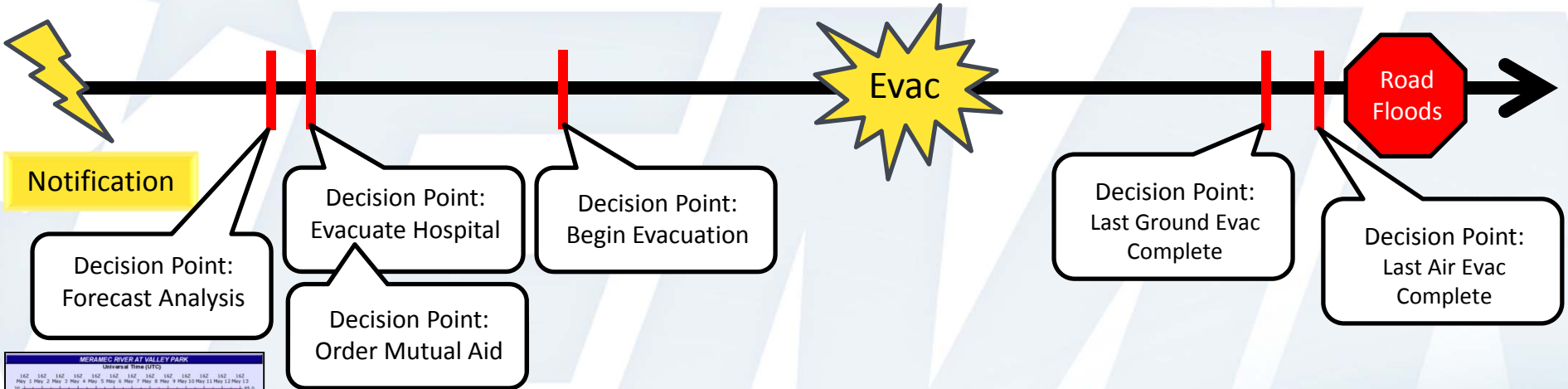
Scenario: Flood





COA Timeline

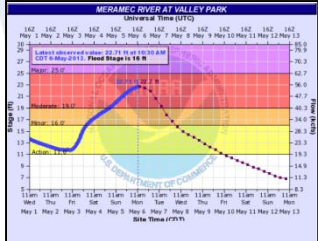
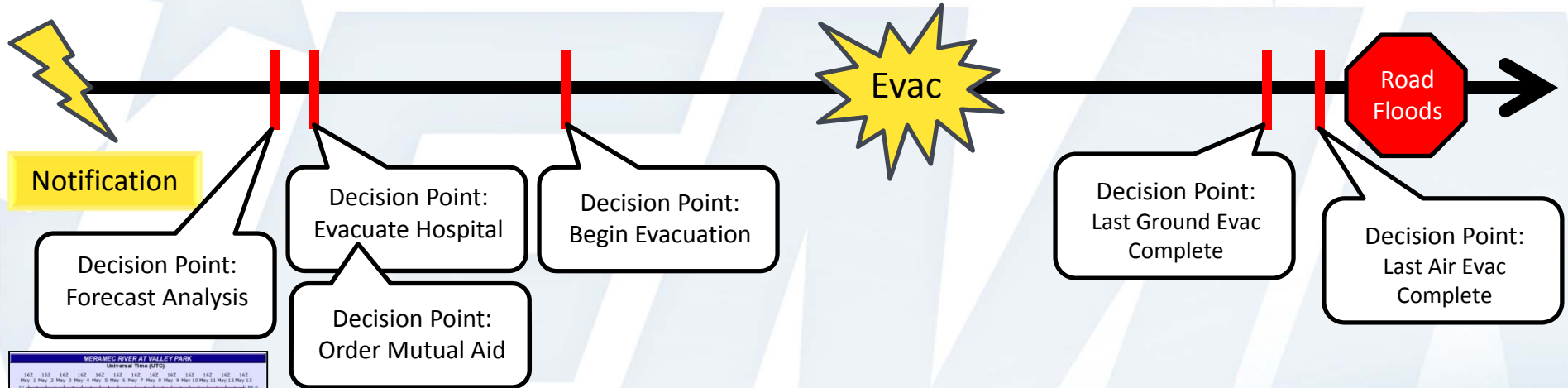
Scenario: Flood





COA Timeline

Scenario: Flood



Capability Analysis

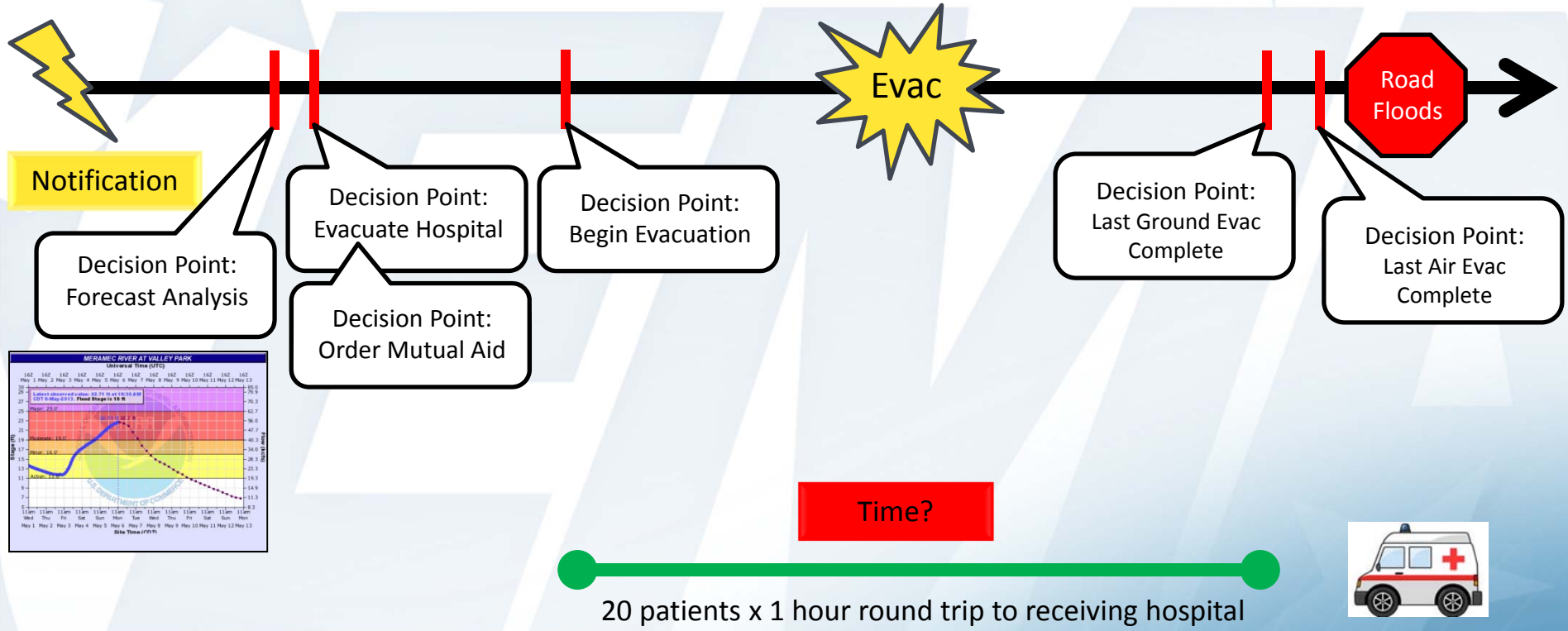
Requirement – Capability = Gap

Example:
 130 patients – 2 ambulances = ??
 1 ambulance can carry 2 patients at a time, depending on their condition



COA Timeline

Scenario: Flood



Notification

Decision Point:
Forecast Analysis

Decision Point:
Evacuate Hospital

Decision Point:
Order Mutual Aid

Decision Point:
Begin Evacuation

Evac

Decision Point:
Last Ground Evac
Complete

Decision Point:
Last Air Evac
Complete

Road
Floods

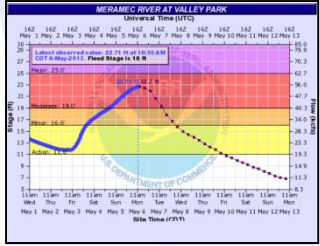
Time?



20 patients x 1 hour round trip to receiving hospital



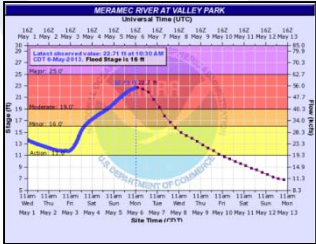
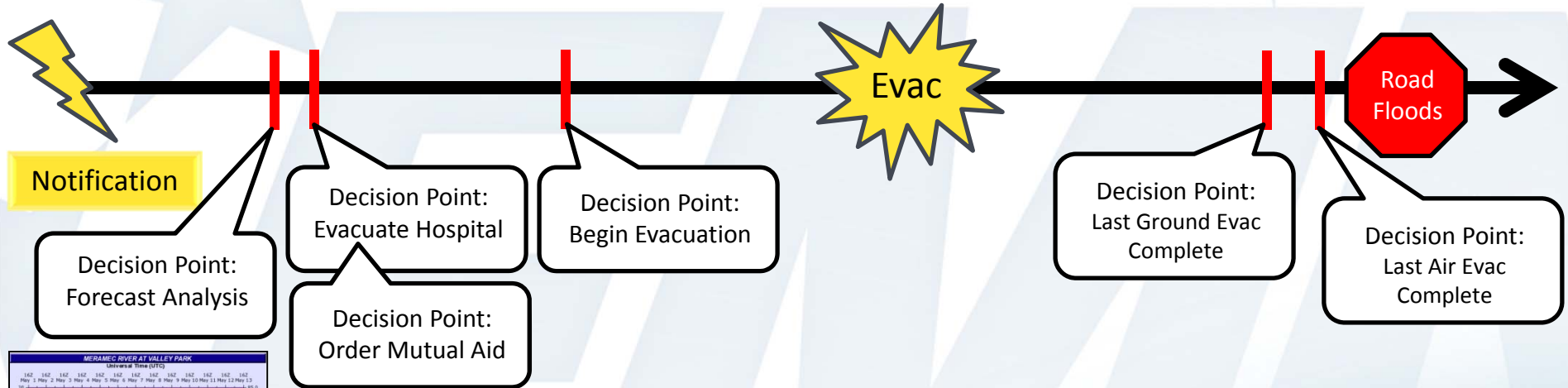
10 ambulances w/ 2 patients each = 2 hours
5 ambulances w/ 2 patients each = 4 hours



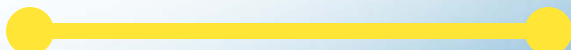


COA Timeline

Scenario: Flood



20 patients x 1 hour round trip to receiving hospital



100 patients x 1 hour round trip to receiving hospital





COA Timeline

Scenario: Flood

