

THE IMPACT OF ROAD WIDENING ON EMERGENCY RESPONSE AT BARANGAY BATASAN HILLS QUEZON CITY

ABSTRACT

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Efficient emergency response is essential to ensuring public safety and minimizing loss of life and property. However, traffic congestion and inadequate road infrastructure often delay emergency vehicles, reducing operational effectiveness. This study examines the impact of road widening on emergency response times, particularly its effects on traffic flow, accessibility, and overall service efficiency. A mixed-methods research design was used, combining quantitative analysis of traffic density and emergency response time records with survey data from residents and emergency service personnel. Key indicators assessed included traffic congestion levels, community awareness regarding emergency vehicle access, and the availability of designated access routes. The integration of statistical data and perception-based feedback allowed for a comprehensive evaluation of road widening interventions. Findings revealed that road widening significantly reduced traffic bottlenecks and improved access to critical areas. Emergency response times decreased as vehicles experienced fewer obstructions. Survey respondents strongly agreed that wider roads enabled smoother mobility for ambulances, fire trucks, and police vehicles. Additionally, improvements were observed in overall traffic flow, connectivity, and resident mobility. The results highlight the importance of strategic road infrastructure development in strengthening emergency preparedness and community resilience. While benefits include enhanced traffic efficiency and improved public confidence, considerations such as environmental impact, temporary construction disruptions, and sustainable urban planning must be addressed. Overall, road widening serves as an effective measure to optimize emergency response and promote safer, more resilient communities.

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