In regions with heavy damage to police stations, impaired police activity could potentially result in looting and other crimes. Police inability to respond would also yield increased social losses in the form of social and economic disruption.

Rescue Facilities Available in Manhattan
The figures that follow show the functionalities of the 36 major emergency rescue facilities in Manhattan (which include police stations) with contours representing the distance to the nearest police station for those located in each contour range. The figures also show the number of people (dots on the map) that would most likely need rescue.

Rescue Facilities Needed
The scenarios considered in these cases are for a 2 pm earthquake, the worst-case time of occurrence. According to our estimates, rescue functionality would most likely be adequate in a Magnitude 5 or M6 earthquake. However, as the scenario event becomes larger, rescue functionality decreases dramatically, particularly for the M7 event (shown on the next page) and the 2,500-year return period (not shown), both of which would reduce police station functionality to 4 percent. Fire departments and urban search and rescue teams would be critical for rescue operations.
Rescue functionality is most likely adequate for all scenarios except Magnitude 7.