Flagler County Fire Rescue EMS Efficiencies



Efficiency Claim

- The City of Palm Coast has stated that it wants to improve the efficiencies in the provision of EMS countywide.
- However, the meaning of efficiency that has been expressed is not wanting to drive City fire trucks to EMS related calls.
- When asked about the data is driving the decision the answer often is "we want the right vehicle going to the right call".

The City of Palm Coast Plan

- COPC proposes to have the county splitting our crews.
- Add two additional ambulances in city fire stations 23&24
- Run a total of 9 ambulances in the county
- CoPC has stated there will be no cost and in their words "It will increase efficiency"
- Would allow fire trucks to sit in station more often
- COPC Plan assumes the ambulances will be in the station more often to make the plan work.
- In the event of a fire, all four personnel jump on the engine
- In the event of a medical call the rescue goes with 2

CURRENT



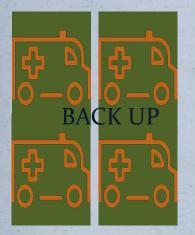
PALM COAST PARKWAY

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3



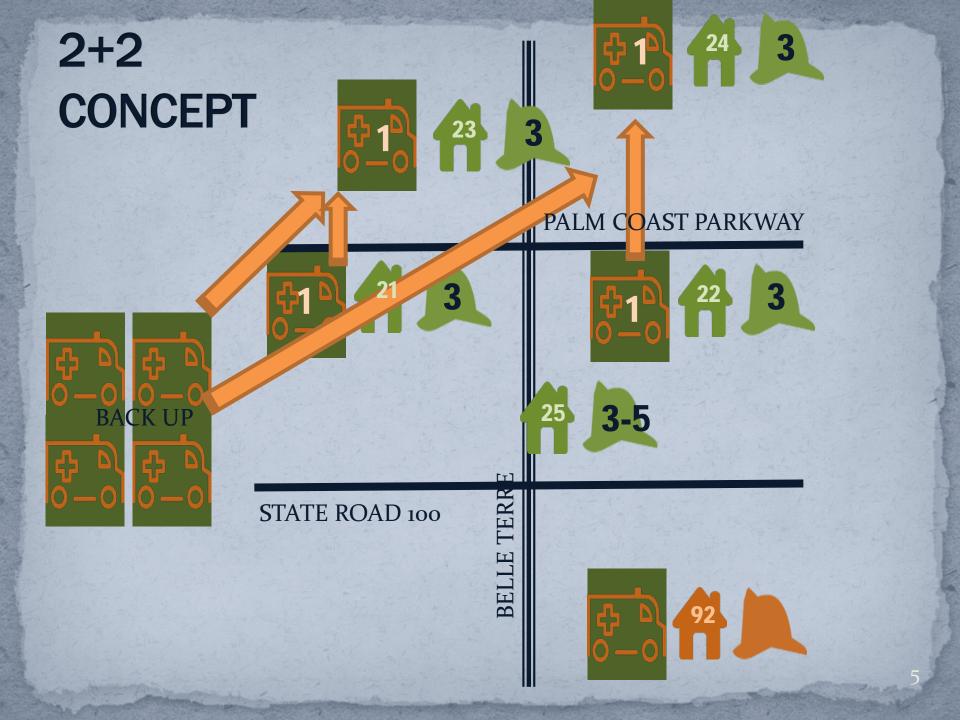
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2+2 CONCEPT

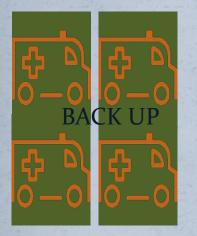


PALM COAST PARKWAY

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2



STATE ROAD 100

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Issue #1 - Availability

- In the event a fire is dispatched, three to four engines and a rescue respond in order to fulfill the personnel need.
- That will leave 4 to 5 rescues out of circulation for medical calls.
- In the event of a medical call, rescue responds leaving two person engines in the stations
- Engines will continue to respond
- Rescues will continue to move around the county leaving less personnel at the stations

Issue #2 – Use of Spares

- Plan assumes the use our spare units
- Units are spare for a reason 200,000 plus miles
- Use as a back up to frontline during maintenance or mechanical breakdown
- Need four spares to keep the proper coverage
- Would need to buy new units

Issue #3 – Costs More

- Increased Capital and Operational Costs to taxpayers.
- Two New Unequipped Ambulance Units \$480,000
- Equipping Two New Ambulances \$210,000
- Fuel, maintenance, disposable items, medical supplies, Insurance, etc. Estimated Annual Operating Costs approximately \$135,000.00 per unit.
- Will increase overtime costs.

Cost of One New Rescue

- Rescue Vehicle
- Radios
- Knox medication safe
- Knox key secure
- EKG machine

\$240,000.00 \$11,000.00 \$1,400.00 \$1,200.00 \$42,000.00

- Oxygen tanks, portable suction, traction splints, KEDS, laryngoscopes, medications, soft supplies, disposable supplies, backboards ect...
- Opticom system
- Stretcher
- Total

\$39,100.00 \$3,500.00 <u>\$6,800.00</u> **\$345,000.00**

Annual Costs of Staffing a Rescue

- \$75,000.00 per person
- 3.4 people for each position (National Standard covers sick and relief)
- There are 2 positions per rescue per day
- 2 X 3.4 = 6.8 or 7
- 7 X \$75,000.00 = \$525,000.00

Issue #4 - Liabilities

Supervisory (different employment policies, union guidelines, tactics)

Medically (clearing, accountability)

Discipline (protocol deviation, accidents, customer complaints)

 Insurance (non county employees driving county owned equipment)

Issue #5 - Team Cohesion

- Moral buster
- Increased turnover/ Increased job dissatisfaction
- County employees in a city station by themselves
- Team Cohesion Critical Breakdown will lead to tragedy
- County line personnel oppose. City line personnel

Issue #6 - Equipment Disparities

- SCBA are different
- Firefighting equipment different
- Want our Firefighters to jump on a unfamiliar engine with unfamiliar equipment
- Safety issue

Issue #7 - Training

• COPC wants us to train their employees up to be able to work on the Rescue. 12 plus spares

Type of employee they assign makes a difference.
May not want to be on ambulance

 Creates a staffing nightmare -maintaining training; penalties for not training; will be stuck to use untrained due to staffing levels; legal liabilities.

County Approach to Service Response Times

- County alone meets all national standards for response time
- American Heart Association (8-10 Minutes)
- Eisenburg's Model (8:59)
- NFPA 1710 (8 minutes or less 90% of the time)
- Response time is the measure of a units response from the time they are notified of a call to the time they arrive on scene.
- Even Better response times with City.
- 16 First Responders (7 of which are ambulances)

County Approach to Service Interventions

- Analysis of all calls for 12 months reveal that county paramedics provide all ALS and BLS intervention 88% of the time.
- While County is not always first on scene they are primary medical care provider.

County and City Approach Two Tiered System

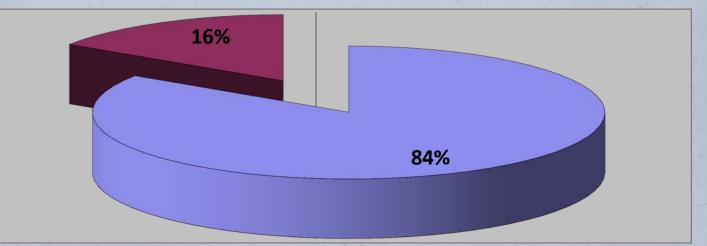
- Engine responds as a first responder in area
- Ambulance responds for transport
- Engine remains in area available for the next call
- Ambulance transports
- Ambulance crews replenish the supplies used by the Engine crews when we transport
- 16 First Responders

County and City Approach Two Tiered System (cont'd)

- National Standard
- Allows the engine crew to remain available in zone
- Major cities (New York) have moved to this system
- Most effective method with best outcomes. City proposal shifts to more of a single tier model
- Increasing medical calls County emphasis
- Decreasing fire calls City emphasis

County Approach Calls for Service





COUNTY RESOURCES MEDICAL FOCUSED TO MEET COMMUNITY NEED

County Approach 2015 Call Statistics

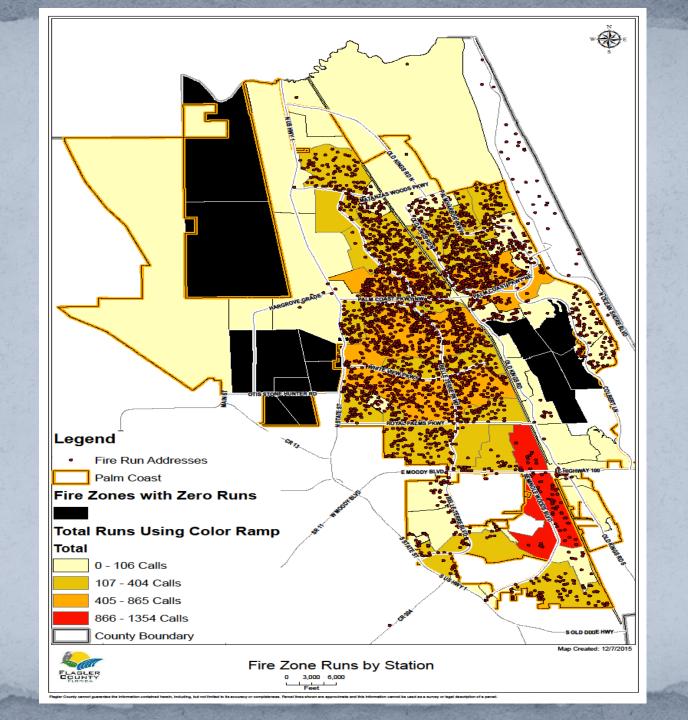
- 15,268 total calls in the county (includes municipalities)
- 12,746 medical related calls
- 2,379 fire related calls
- Fire related calls may be anything from smell of smoke, wires down, to actual fire (including brush fires).
- 35 structural fires countywide (\$589,120.00 dollar loss) sheds, houses, etc.
- 6 actual real building fires countywide

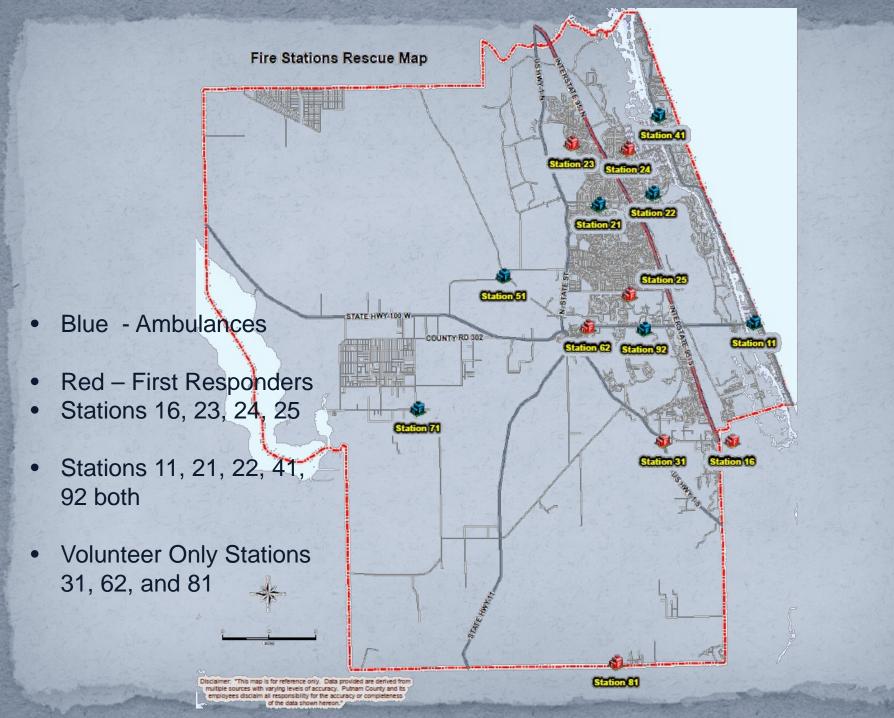
County Approach System Status Management

Move units to where the calls are predicted to come in

Historical data

Units keep moving when needed





County Approach System Status Management (cont'd)

| Rescue | BB | FB | ML | Bun | FC | РС | Total | in PC |
|-----------|----|-----|----|-----|------|------|-------|-------|
| Rescue 11 | 52 | 522 | 0 | 52 | 196 | 576 | 1398 | 41% |
| Rescue 21 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 14 | 31 | 2765 | 2813 | 98% |
| Rescue 22 | 2 | 11 | 0 | 5 | 94 | 2380 | 2492 | 96% |
| Rescue 41 | 21 | 31 | 14 | 4 | 527 | 655 | 1252 | 52% |
| Rescue 51 | 2 | 7 | 0 | 288 | 417 | 592 | 1306 | 45% |
| Rescue 71 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 37 | 341 | 217 | 599 | 36% |
| Rescue 92 | | 73 | 0 | 446 | 447 | 1918 | 2886 | 66% |
| Total | 80 | 649 | 15 | 846 | 2053 | 9103 | 12746 | |

Flagler County Approach Efficiency Consideration

- Unit Hour Utilization
- 1 call per hour in a 24 hour period UHU 1
- 1 call every 2 hours in a 24 hour period UHU .5
- Relates to unit hour cost
- Relates to cost per call

Flagler County Approach Utilization vs. Cost - Efficiencies

| Rescue | Total Calls 2015 | Calls per day | Unit hour utilization | Cost per call | Time busy |
|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|
| Rescue 11 Flagler Beach | 1,398 | 3.84 | .16 | \$784.98 | 15.84 hours |
| Rescue 21 PC NW | 2,813 | 7.68 | .32 | \$590.29 | 19.68 hours |
| Rescue 22 PC NE | 2,492 | 6.96 | .29 | \$796.74 | 18.96 hours |
| Rescue 41 Hammock Beach | 1,252 | 3.36 | .14 | \$840.60 | 15.36 hours |
| Rescue 51 Espanola | 1,306 | 3.6 | .15 | \$810.93 | 15.6 hours |
| Rescue 71 St. Johns Park | 599 | 1.6 | .06 | \$1,330.10 | 12.48 hours |
| Rescue 92 Airport | 2,886 | 7.92 | .33 | \$584.39 | 19.92 hours |

Time busy includes responding to emergencies, training, station cleaning and maintenance, vehicle maintenance, vehicle checks, stocking supplies and breaks

Flagler County Fire Rescue EMS Proposals



Option one: Jump Trucks

- We suggested that the city purchase pickup type vehicles that seat 4 . Under 75K vs 350K for fire truck 250K Ambulance
- Stock with medical equipment
- Use to respond to EMS calls Majority of PC calls.
- EMS call is dispatched, personnel JUMP on the small pickup type vehicle to respond leaving the engine in station
- Fire call is dispatched, personnel **JUMP** on the fire engine to respond leaving the pickup in station

Option one: Jump Truck

 The city had three such vehicles and staffed each with two medics

Assigned one to fleet and one to confined space



 Simple Solution and Saves PC taxpayers money on both Capital and Operating **Option Two:**

- Pick 6 city firefighters/paramedics to come work for the Flagler County.
- Stand up additional Rescue at Station 25
- County would purchase unit/equipment. Year 1
- City would provide funding to the County for personnel phasing out over 4 years Years 2,3,4
- Alternate Could take stations 23 and 24 down to 2 on engine the same as in City proposal.

Option Two:

 Increased Cost for Capital and Personnel if Stations 23/24 remain staffed as is. Only Capital for one rig necessary if reduced per COPC plan.

• Stand up additional Rescue at Station 25

 Would reduce fire truck deployments at all PC stations would reduce as more ambulance first responses

• Previously requested unit by the City at Station 25 and previous Rescue Truck location Station 25.

Option Three: Consolidation

• We proposed that the city and county consolidate

• City would save at least a \$1 million annually, 10 million over 10 years.

• City would pay County similar to Sheriffs Contract

More savings as tenured employees retire

• Save on capital costs additionally