



TRUCKEE MEADOWS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT STAFF REPORT

Board Meeting Date: January 5, 2021

DATE: December 17, 2020
TO: Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Board of Fire Commissioners
FROM: Alex Kukulus, Deputy Chief
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THROUGH: Charles A. Moore, Fire Chief
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SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve revisions to the Mutual Aid Agreement between Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) and the Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (REMSA) to include new provisions for the exchange of services.
(All Commission Districts) FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

SUMMARY

Recommendation to approve revisions to the Mutual Aid Agreement between Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) and the Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (REMSA) to include new provisions for the exchange of services.

PREVIOUS ACTION

December 9, 2014, the Board authorized the District to license, equip and operate an Advanced Life support ambulance.

June 21, 2016, the Board approved a mutual aid agreement between Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (REMSA).

June 20, 2017, the Board approved a Mutual Aid Agreement between Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and the Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority

BACKGROUND

The District established a mutual aid partnership with REMSA on June 21, 2016. TMFPD and REMSA entered into a revised Agreement on June 20, 2017 which added a provision that allowed TMFPD to respond its ambulance south of Bellevue Road on initial dispatch without the need for specific authorization from REMSA. The Agreement also allowed TMFPD to staff special events within its District and to add additional ambulances in the TMFPD system – but under the same response criteria and restrictions.

The District is seeking to update the Agreement to allow for an expanded response and utilization of TMFPD ambulances. The agreement continues to require REMSA's consent for patient transport within their franchise area, but it clarifies how those requests may be initiated.

During the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020, the region's EMS and hospital systems have been overwhelmed, taxing already busy resources. REMSA has recently requested that TMFPD assume primary ambulance transport responsibility in the Sun Valley area, as well as Washoe Valley. The duration of this need and the geographic areas where TMFPD will assist REMSA continue to evolve.

One of the proposed changes to this mutual aid agreement is the reference to an Annual Operating Plan (AOP), similar to the District's agreements with other regional fire agencies. This AOP will be a "living document" that is revisited at least annually. The AOP is intended to reflect the specific geographic areas for response, communications requirements, and timeframes for those services. The AOP will be mutually agreed upon between the District's Fire Chief and REMSA leadership.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact to this item.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board approve a Mutual Aid Agreement between Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) and the Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (REMSA) to include new provisions for the exchange of services.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation a possible motion would be:

"I move to approve the revisions to the Mutual Aid Agreement between Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) and the Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (REMSA) to include new provisions for the exchange of services."