

## CITY COUNCIL REPORT

**DATE:** Feb 27<sup>th</sup> 2020  
**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers  
**FROM:** Kevin M. Lomeli, Fire Chief  
**CC:** Jerene Watson, City Manager; Dawn Prince, Deputy City Manager;  
Leadership Team  
**SUBJECT:** DFD EMS Response - Trial

The report is for information purposes only.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The Douglas Fire Dept (DFD) will begin an analysis of its EMS response March 1<sup>st</sup> 2020. The purpose is to analyze areas such as, enhancing patient care, increased number of staff on scene reducing staff injury, ensuring properly staffed apparatus, wear and tear on vehicles, financial impact, and increasing apparatus familiarization and training.

DFD's annual emergency response total for 2019 was just over 3400 calls. On average, 93% of the calls DFD responds to are EMS (medical in nature). DFD shifts are currently staffed with a total of 8 staff per day. Each EMS response includes two EMT's and one Paramedic which can be a mixture of fire rank. The vehicles that respond are one ambulance and one multipurpose vehicle with basic first aid equipment. This leaves 5 personnel available to respond to any other emergencies that may arise. This may also mean that at times higher ranking staff may be occupied with EMS while there is another emergency such as a fire.

Unlike most cities, DFD does not respond a fire apparatus to EMS calls other than when it involves fire hazards such as carbon monoxide poisonings, motor vehicle accidents etc. With the decreased number of fire response comes a lack of apparatus familiarization, driving time and ensuring our fleet is fully operational at all times. Currently DFD staff train on fire topics for a minimum, but not limited to, one hour every morning between 0830 and 0930. Our fleet is fully inspected every morning and often driven for a short distance during these inspections.

Beginning March 1<sup>st</sup>, DFD will be responding with a fire apparatus that is medically equipped with a minimum of two staff. This trial will be conducted during the first seven days of the month between the hours of 0800-1700hrs. All other aspects of the analysis will be ongoing.

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