



2016 -2021 ACTION PLAN OBJECTIVES

- Develop a better process of reporting and testing opticom units with public works
- Monitor and publish turnout times to all members
- Explore alternative ways to measure turnout and travel times utilizing data and technology to manage resources
- Establish a response time committee to evaluate the turnout and travel components of emergency response
- Study the apparatus on – scene until patient contact is established time for emergency medical incidents
- Evaluate historical response data for 2014 and 2015
- Review and work toward changing dispatch protocols if needed and required for faster processing time
- Work with Public Works on the installation of roundabouts and other road projects that allows for quick seamless response

FOLLOW UP RESPONSIBILITY: Fire Chief

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

SECTION 11

GOAL: To save lives, reduce suffering and speed recovery from injury and illness by delivering basic life support (BLS), advanced life support (ALS/Paramedic), pre-hospital care, emergency medical services, and emergency transportation for the sick and injured throughout the community and the region.

The delivery of emergency medical services to the citizens of Tumwater plays a major role in the operation of the Tumwater Fire Department. Currently, 72% of our emergency response activity is emergency medical in nature. Department members answer more than 2,500 calls for emergency medical service (EMS) each year. Approximately 34% of EMS Calls require advanced life support (paramedic) intervention, and over 50% of all EMS calls result in an ambulance transport.

Existing Programs and opportunities that are provided by the EMS Section Include:

- Emergency medical technician training for all members
- Paramedic and EMT Certification and Re-certification program
- EMS documentation training for probationary firefighters and all emergency response personnel
- Conduct research to evaluate new medical equipment
- Quality assurance programs for emergency medical technicians and paramedics



City of Tumwater Fire Department

- CPR, AED, Blood Borne Pathogens and First Aid training for other City departments as well as citizens of Tumwater

Issues affecting the EMS program include:

- External forces, such as changes in standards and testing procedures for certification and re-certification of emergency medical technicians and paramedics, as well as, improvements and changes in the community standards of care
- The need to continually evaluate the appropriate level of emergency medical service for our citizens and the impact of requests for service including the collection of data for ambulance availability
- Examining alternative ways to provide paramedic continuing education and certification such as a pre-scheduled ongoing training and evaluation program (OTEP) for paramedics. Currently paramedics have to figure out how to attain their required continuing education units (CEU's) on their own
- Tracking training programs and measure service delivery through current management systems and Target Solutions
- Changes in the healthcare system, primarily the persistent overcrowding of hospitals which result in increased turnaround times at hospital emergency rooms and the anticipated increase in emergency medical incidents associated with an aging population
- Continued need to meet community needs by expanding CPR, First Aid and AED training capabilities

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- Evaluate and implement various methods of reducing unit out-of-service times by keeping ambulance transport units in service and available as much as possible
- Continue to examine with ALS agencies Community Paramedicine Models for the area
- Evaluate equipment needs on an annual basis through the Medic One Equipment Committee
- In conjunction with Thurston County Medic One, evaluate alternatives for paramedics to attain their required OTEP hours without having to go out of county, or state to attain them

FOLLOW UP RESPONSIBILITY: Fire Chief, Thurston Emergency Medical Services