

**PINELLAS COUNTY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**MEETING MINUTES
March 17, 2023**

The Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council met in person at the John Morroni EMS & Fire Administration Building, 12490 Ulmerton Road, Conference Room 130, Largo, Florida, at 10:00 A.M. on this date with the following members present:

Commissioner Julie Peluso, Independent Fire District Elected Official – Chair
Jorge Mercado, Citizen Representative (District 7) – Vice-Chair
Richard Schomp, Sunstar Paramedics - Secretary
Tina Ambrose, Citizen Representative (District 4)
Becca Tieder, Citizen Representative (District 5)
Ty Dougherty, Citizen Representative (District 6)
Mayor Dave Gattis, Mayors' Council (Belleair Beach)
Mayor Dan Saracki, Mayors' Council (Oldsmar)
Mayor Sandra Bradbury, Mayors' Council (Pinellas Park)
Gayle Guidash, Pinellas County Health Department
Chief Scott Young, Pinellas County Fire Chiefs' Association (Alternate)
Chief Anthony Tedesco, City of Clearwater Fire Chief (Alternate)
Chief Terry Tokarz, EMS Coordinator
Capt. Michael Leiner, Pinellas County Sheriff's Office
Nancy Hopkins, Emergency Nurses' Association West Coast Florida Chapter
Capt. Thomas Kras, St. Petersburg Fire & Rescue (Alternate)
Dr. Anthony Ottaviani, Pinellas County Osteopathic Medical Society
Dr. Zachary Zimko, PEMHS, Mental Health Professional

Absent:

Mayor Woody Brown, Mayors' Council (Largo)
Karen Mullins, Citizen Representative (District 1)
Larri Gerson, Citizen Representative (District 2)
Jeri Reed, Citizen Representative (District 3)
Dr. Eric Carver, St. Petersburg College
Jo Dee Nicosia, National Alliance on Mental Illness
Denise Whitfield, National Alliance on Mental Illness (Alternate)

Staff Present:

Lourdes Benedict, Assistant County Administrator
Cody Ward, County Attorney's Office
Dr. Angus Jameson, Medical Director
Dr. Donna Dooley, Associate Medical Director
James Fogarty, Bureau Director, Safety and Emergency Services
Dave Hare, Safety and Emergency Services
Craig Hare, Director, EMS & Fire Administration
Ken Grimes, EMS & Fire Administration
Mark Eggers, EMS & Fire Administration
Chris Jordan, EMS & Fire Administration
Lynn Abbott, EMS & Fire Administration

Also Present:

Fire Chaplain Rev. Milton Smith, All First Responders Matter, LLC
Chaplain Chris Ireland, Palm Harbor Fire & Rescue/All First Responders Matter
Commissioner Kevin Kenney, Independent Fire District Elected Official (Alternate)
Chief John Mortellite, Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue
Chief Douglas Higley, Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue
Chief Scott Sanford, Palm Harbor Special Fire Control District
Chief Alex Bowlby, Pinellas Park Fire Department
Chief Douglas Zimmerman, EMS Coordinator (Alternate)
Jeremy Tinter, Sunstar Paramedics (Alternate)
Jasmin Soloman, Sunstar Paramedics
Siomara Bridges-Mata, National Alliance on Mental Illness-Pinellas
Kelly Cisarik, Citizen
Dan Mynsberge, Citizen
Sarah Kochen, SPC Student

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Commissioner Julie Peluso called the meeting to order at 10:01 A.M. Roll call was taken, and Lynn Abbott confirmed that a quorum was met. There were 18 voting members in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

Invocation by Chaplain Chris Ireland, Palm Harbor Fire and Rescue, All First Responders Matter.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- Appointment of Chair – Following discussion regarding nominations for Chair, Commissioner Kevin Kenney moved, seconded by Mayor Dan Saracki, that Jorge Mercado be appointed Chairman of the EMS Advisory Council. Upon call for the vote, the motion was approved unanimously.
- Appointment of Vice-Chair – Following discussion regarding nominations for Vice-Chair, Mayor Dan Saracki moved, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Kenney, that Mayor Sandra Bradbury be appointed Vice-Chair of the EMS Advisory Council. Upon call for the vote, the motion was approved unanimously.
- Appointment of Secretary – Following discussion regarding nominations for Secretary, Mayor Dan Saracki moved, seconded by Mayor Sandra Bradbury, that Gayle Guidash be appointed Secretary of the EMS Advisory Council. Upon call for the vote, the motion was approved unanimously.
- Refreshing/Confirmation of Executive Committee – Jorge Mercado and Chief Terry Tokarz agreed to remain on as members of the EMS Advisory Council Executive Committee.

Following discussion, Mayor Sandra Bradbury and Gayle Guidash volunteered to serve as members of the EMS Advisory Council Executive Committee. Follow up to be conducted with Dr. Eric Carver regarding refreshing his membership on the Executive Committee.

- Refreshing/Confirmation of Selection Committee – Jorge Mercado and Gayle Guidash agreed to remain on as members of the EMS Advisory Council Selection Committee. Follow up to be conducted with Mayor Woody Brown and Larri Gerson regarding refreshing their membership on the Selection Committee.

Commissioner Peluso passed the gavel to Jorge Mercado, who chaired the remainder of the EMS Advisory Council (EMSAC) meeting. Craig Hare thanked Commissioner Peluso for her dedicated service to EMSAC over the years.

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 16, 2022 MEETING - APPROVED

Upon presentation by Chair Jorge Mercado, a motion was made by Mayor Sandra Bradbury, seconded by Mayor Dan Saracki and unanimously approved, that the minutes of the December 16, 2022 EMS Advisory Council meeting be approved.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Chair Mercado called for citizens wishing to be heard, and Kelly Cisarek provided commentary on Sunstar's response time regarding a 9-1-1 call made in February and commented that a review of how the Growth Management program is working systemwide be conducted at the next EMSAC meeting in June.

PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF FIRST RESPONDER ENHANCEMENTS

Craig Hare provided an overview of the budget recommendation/approval processes, cost increases, sustainable funding, and system operation complexities, noting that call volume jumped 7 percent from 2021 and was 4 percent higher from January to January.

Referring to a draft document titled *Pinellas County EMS – ALS First Responder Program Enhancement Request Summary FY23-24*, Mr. Hare discussed various countywide projects, and the following agencies presented their FY23-24 enhancement recommendations:

- Clearwater Fire & Rescue, Chief Tony Tedesco.
- Largo Fire Rescue, Chief Terry Tokarz.
- Oldsmar Fire and Rescue, Chief Scott Sanford.
- Pinellas Park, Chief Alex Bowlby.
- Pinellas Suncoast, Chief Douglas Higley (gave PowerPoint presentation).
- Tarpon Springs, Chief Scott Young.

Discussion ensued regarding the following topics:

- Levrum – Rolling out of the Levrum system workload and response times. It was developed by a retired fire chief out of Oregon, and 15 of our fire chiefs have been trained as power users and plan to meet this afternoon to finalize some of the modules.
- Community Paramedic Program – Our new Growth Management Coordinator will be assisting with program. One of the core takeaways from models across the country is that you really need to identify a specific gap in your community and bring in a resource to address that gap.
- Fire Academy – Discussed the lack of a regionally available fire training facility and upcoming plans to conduct a fire training center assessment, with an eye to restoring our aging Fire Academy.

EMS DIRECTOR REPORT

Craig Hare presented an EMS operations report and briefed the members on the following topics:

- Staffing
 - Welcomed Ken Grimes, the new EMS & Fire Operations Manager, and provided background information and a brief employment history.
 - Craig Queen is retiring, and the Credentials Coordinator position to be posted soon.
 - Looking to have a dedicated coordinator position for ImageTrend, the new Fire and EMS records system.

- Plans to upgrade the previous Training Coordinator position to a Clinical Manager.
- Brenda Dixon has retired, and recruitment is ongoing to replace her position.
- Membership Updates
 - The Pinellas County Medical Society has dissolved. Plans to update the MCB Ordinance to amend MCB Bylaws to include a pediatrician from All Children's Hospital, Dr. Meghan Martin, and the EMSAC Bylaws to include a mental health professional, Dr. Zachary Zimko.
- Appointment/Reappointments
 - The reappointments of Becca Tieder, Jorge Mercado, Chief Chad Pittman, Chief Scott Young and Commissioner Kevin Kenney and the appointment of Commissioner Casey Cane to be presented for approval to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) on April 11.
- EKG Project Restart
 - Philips is on a continued FDA hold. Discussed plans to move forward with second vendor, Stryker Physio's LifePak 15, and estimated time frame for training and equipment deployment.
 - EMS Training Committee to have agency-by-agency cardiac training with American Heart Association standards.
- ImageTrend
 - Project is well underway on this new integrated medical records system. There are about 45 people on ten different committees who will undergo workshops over the spring and early summer. The link to the CAD system, Hexagon, will likely occur Spring 2024.
- Pandemic Condition Plan
 - Pinellas County plans to follow rescinding the National Public Health Emergency declaration on May 11 and turning off Pandemic Condition Green, with two exceptions. By resolution from the Medical Control Board, we will keep the Emergency Medical Responder component as well as a the BLS ambulance to 9-1-1 program.
- EMS Academy
 - Mark Eggers, EMS Academy Coordinator, spoke briefly about the implementation of a new immersion room that provides real-life scenarios for trainees. Further discussion ensued over financial support for prospective students.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR REPORT

Dr. Angus Jameson presented the Medical Director's Report and briefed the members on the following topics:

- Protocols
 - Reminded the Board of the new Pinellas County Office of the Medical Director's website, <https://pcemsomd.com/>, a one-stop repository for all system stakeholders.
- Personnel
 - Noted that the current EMS fellow, Dr. Andrew Kropp, will be graduating in June and that for next year, Dr. Ken Dumas, one of our chief residents at Tampa General, has been matched as next year's Fellow.
 - Indicated that today is Match Day across the country and encouraged anyone who knows of a student in medical school to find out where they are going for their residency.
- Clinical Operations
 - Increased Freestanding Emergency Department utilization, as approved by the Medical Control Board, that will help balance the workload across available resources in the community.

- Substance Use Disorder Programs
 - Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP), a federal grant program that Pinellas County has been using for about a year and a half that provides for direct referrals from the back of the ambulance to an opioid treatment provider in the community. In two years, hundreds of patients have been referred to treatment, and state funding from the Comprehensive Opioid Recovery Program (CORP) has recently been secured that will allow us to make the program available on weekends.
 - Leave Behind Narcan, a program that went live in January authorizing EMS agencies who have either responded to an individual experiencing an opioid-related overdose or someone they believe may be otherwise at risk of opioid overdose to leave behind an overdose response kit. Kits are being distributed during calls, at special events, or at fire stations. About 50 kits have been given out to date.
 - ED Bridge to Medication-Assisted Therapy (MAT) Pathways to Care, a Pinellas County Human Services partnership with Bayfront, a replication of a program started by Dr. Heather Henderson at Tampa General, who along with Dr. Andrew Smith, is providing another pathway of care to avoid opioid overdoses. Program was implemented 8 months ago. Looking forward to expansion to more hospitals.

FIRE CHIEFS' REPORT

Chief Scott Young provided statistical information regarding Fire Rescue Core CAD responses, including structure fires, extrications, and Hazmat calls. He also announced that there will be a Fire Ops 101 event coming up in May.

SUNSTAR REPORT

Richard Schomp discussed the system's increased call volume, noting that Sunstar was able to respond to the recent shooting of a deputy with a level of service that led to a positive outcome. He provided statistical information regarding transport volume, recruiting efforts, and staffing challenges. Sunstar has graduated nine EMTs into the system through a fully paid program and just started its fourth EMR hiring class. It takes two years to grow a paramedic, but he emphasized that the BLS to 9-1-1 program is working as designed and provides a great outlet when the system gets overwhelmed.

AFFILIATES & STAKEHOLDERS

Craig Hare shared that Jo Dee Nicosia has been promoted to a larger role within NAMI-Pinellas. NAMI's Board meeting is today, and we will be advised of her replacement.

OPEN FORUM

There was no Open Forum discussion.

2023 MEETING SCHEDULE

June 23, September 29, and December 15, 2023.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for June 23, 2023, format to be in person.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion duly made by Mayor Dan Saracki, seconded by Mayor Sandra Bradbury and carried unanimously, Chair Mercado adjourned the meeting at 12:03 P.M.

*Audio and any correspondence received for this meeting is on file at the
Pinellas County EMS & Fire Administration.*

**PINELLAS COUNTY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**MEETING MINUTES
December 16, 2022**

The Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council met in Conference Room 130 at the EMS & Fire Administration, 12490 Ulmerton Road, Largo, FL 33774 at 10:00 A.M. on this date with the following members present:

Commissioner Julie Peluso, Independent Fire District Elected Official – Chair
Jorge Mercado, Citizen Representative (District 7) – Vice-Chair
Richard Schomp, Sunstar Paramedics - Secretary
Tina Ambrose, Citizen Representative (District 4)
Becca Tieder, Citizen Representative (District 5)
Mayor Woody Brown, Mayors' Council (Largo)
Mayor Dave Gattis, Mayors' Council (Belleair Beach)
Mayor Dan Saracki, Mayors' Council (Oldsmar)
Mayor Sandra Bradbury, Mayors' Council (Pinellas Park)
Gayle Guidash, Pinellas County Health Department
Chief Scott Young, Pinellas County Fire Chiefs' Association (Alternate)
Dr. Anthony Ottaviani, Pinellas County Osteopathic Medical Society
Jo Dee Nicosia, National Alliance on Mental Illness
Dr. Eric Carver, St. Petersburg College
Chief Anthony Tedesco, City of Clearwater Fire Chief (Alternate)
Chief Terry Tokarz, EMS Coordinator
Chief Ian Womack, City of St. Petersburg Fire Chief
Capt. Michael Leiner, Pinellas County Sheriff's Office

Absent:

Nancy Hopkins, Emergency Nurses' Association West Coast Florida Chapter
Karen Mullins, Citizen Representative (District 1)
Larri Gerson, Citizen Representative (District 2)
Jeri Reed, Citizen Representative (District 3)
Ty Dougherty, Citizen Representative (District 6)

Staff Present:

Cody Ward, County Attorney's Office
Dr. Angus Jameson, Medical Director
Dr. Donna Dooley, Associate Medical Director
Dr. Andrew Kropp, Associate Medical Director
Dr. Andrew Smith, Associate Medical Director
James Fogarty, Bureau Director, Safety and Emergency Services
Jodie Sechler, Financial Services
Pam Bell, Financial Services
Craig Hare, Director, EMS & Fire Administration
Greg Woodrum, EMS & Fire Administration
Matt Caravona, EMS & Fire Administration
Mark Eggers, EMS & Fire Administration
Chris Jordan, EMS & Fire Administration

Also Present:

Chaplain Will Murphy, Largo Fire Rescue
Jeremy Tinter, Sunstar Paramedics (Alternate)
Jazmin Soloman, Sunstar Paramedics
Doug Zimmerman, EMS Coordinator (Alternate)
Chief Thomas Kras, City of St. Petersburg Fire Chief (Alternate)
Kelly Cisarik, Citizen

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Commissioner Julie Peluso called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. Roll call was taken, and Greg Woodrum confirmed that a quorum was met. There were 18 voting members in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

Invocation by Chaplain Will Murphy, Largo Fire Rescue. Later in the meeting, Chaplain Murphy shared information about the recent passing of Leroy Funderburk, Sunstar Shift Commander, and asked for a moment of silence in his honor.

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2022 MEETING - APPROVED

Upon presentation by Commissioner Peluso, a motion was made by Jorge Mercado, seconded by Mayor Woody Brown and approved unanimously, that the minutes of the September 16, 2022 meeting be approved.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Commissioner Peluso called for citizens wishing to be heard, and Kelly Cisarek provided commentary on revisions to the State Fire Code.

EMSAC BYLAWS SECTION 3.1 MEMBERSHIP CHANGE - APPROVED

Craig Hare provided an overview of the proposed bylaws membership change by removing the Pinellas County Medical Association and adding a mental health professional or similar representative.

Following discussion, a motion was made by Becca Tieder, seconded by Dr. Anthony Ottaviani and approved unanimously, that the EMSAC Bylaws Section 3.1 Membership language change to include "a mental health professional or similar representative" be approved.

Upon request by Craig Hare, Commissioner Peluso deviated from the agenda and indicated that Jodie Sechler and Pam Bell will present the Ambulance Billing Compliance Update at this time.

AMBULANCE BILLING COMPLIANCE UPDATE

Jodie Sechler, Financial Services Director, and Pam Bell, Regulatory Compliance Manager, referred to a PowerPoint titled *EMS Financial Services Overview* and presented information on the following topics:

- Ambulance Billing Revenues: Ambulance Program Revenues, Revenue Increase Drivers.
- EMS Ad Valorem Revenues: First Responder Program Revenues, Revenue Increase Drivers, Active Financial Management.
- EMS Ad Valorem Revenues: EMS Millage Rate History – 20 Years.
- EMS System Enhancements: Continual System Assessment.
- FY23 EMS Fund Budget: Ambulance Contract, First Responder Contracts, Program Support Costs.

- Ambulance Billing Initiatives: Outsourcing.
- Strategically Refocusing Resources: Implementation, Process Improvements.
- Ambulance Billing Challenges: Prior Authorization, Ambulance Service Misconceptions, Reduction in Reimbursement, Regulatory Impacts, No Surprises Act.
- Patient Satisfaction Surveys.

Jim Fogarty and Craig Hare expressed thanks to Ms. Sechler, Ms. Bell, and their team for their work behind the scenes. Ms. Sechler shared information on staff promotions.

BLS AMBULANCE UTILIZATION REVIEW

Craig Hare presented an update regarding the effectiveness of BLS Ambulance Utilization for 9-1-1 calls and provided statistical information regarding quality of customer satisfaction rates, call and transport volumes, Fire Department (FD) ride-ins, and staffing. Discussion ensued relating to the BLS Ambulance Utilization Review process for priority calls during peak periods, ambulance deployment, and hospital bed delays.

EMS DIRECTOR REPORT

Craig Hare presented an EMS operations report and briefed the members on the following topics:

- System Operations
 - Hexagon CAD project is making good progress, and server data population is underway, noting completion remains 18 to 24 months away. PRIME (Pinellas Regional Information Management Enterprise) Board is handling the Public Safety information systems upgrade, and membership includes Safety & Emergency Services, countywide Fire Rescue, local law enforcement agencies, and the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office. ImageTrend Implementation Team is working to have the system go-live by mid-2023. Plans for power user training after the first of the year. Discussed technical capabilities of the new CAD system.
 - Philips Tempus Pro monitors remain on a shipping hold. Waiting on FDA response. Discussed related global supply chain issues.
 - ALS medic and rescue units have been approved, and improvements are underway.
 - A new drone vendor was selected, Skydio, to replace existing in-service Public Safety drones due to a state mandate. Agreement to be signed soon.
 - Provided an update on Pinellas Suncoast Truck 28 funding.
- Wellness and Fitness Leadership Committee
 - Chief Richard Ganci, St. Petersburg Fire Rescue, is the committee chairman. The governor has awarded state grant funds to improve peer support across the state. Committee is meeting regularly, working on continuing education and resource availability, and has been expanded to include all involved chaplains and some retired chief chaplains.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR REPORT

Dr. Angus Jameson presented the Medical Director's Report and briefed the members on the following topics:

- Clinical Operations
 - Related that December 2022 marks 10 years since his return to Pinellas County as its Medical Director, noting that the County benchmarks high against nationwide systems, continues to provide excellent care to its citizens and visitors, and is moving forward with adopting the latest advances in medicine and public safety.
 - Shared information pertaining to staffing tragedies that are motivating factors to revitalize efforts to promote resiliency among First Responders.
 - Provided statistical information related to hospital offload operations and

- COVID/RSV/Flu caseloads.
- Continuing system support for EMT and paramedic training and certifications.
- EMS Academy implementation of a new immersion training group.
- Personnel
 - Congratulated Dr. Andrew Kropp on passing the written Emergency Medicine Boards, noting that Dr. Kropp graduates at the end of June.
 - Matched a local candidate, Dr. Ken Dumas, Chief Resident at Tampa General Hospital, for the next year's EMS Fellow.
 - Welcomed Dr. Michael Lozano to the team as an Associate Medical Director to assist with data management, healthcare informatics, and research.
 - Hired a part-time biostatistician through USF to bolster research operations.
 - Announced the hiring of Shelly Childers as his Executive Assistant.
- Programs
 - Multiple publications recently accepted by major journals and presentations in many conferences and academic assemblies. Leveraging resources to focus on improving First Responder mental health and preventing/mitigating PTSD and Cumulative Stress Disorder.
- Protocols
 - Refreshed Medical Operations Manuals to go live on January 4, 2023, noting new clinical additions recently approved by the Medical Control Board. Special thanks to David Hudak, EMS Protocol and Equipment Coordinator, for his hard work.
 - Launched the Pinellas County Office of the Medical Director website, <https://pcemsomd.com/>, a one-stop repository for all system stakeholders.
- Projects
 - Leave Behind Narcan program to go live the first week of January 2023. Narcan will be available in ambulances and fire stations in the County for handout with training information and resources.
 - Discussed the Auster Environment CPR project and the implementation of a Cardiac Arrest Improvement pilot to study the use of a LUCAS device, an automatic CPR instrument, in situations where effective compressions are difficult to perform.

FIRE CHIEFS' REPORT

Chief Scott Young related that Fire Operations were covered earlier, and there is no additional information to present at this time.

SUNSTAR REPORT

Richard Schomp provided statistical information regarding transport volume and discussed hospital offloads and progress with employee retention/recruitment.

AFFILIATES & STAKEHOLDERS

Becca Tieder presented an overview of the Juvenile Welfare Board's Sleep Baby Safely Campaign to prevent baby deaths due to unsafe sleep practices and provided background and statistical information regarding babies dying from unsafe sleep. Ms. Tieder discussed various efforts of the Juvenile Welfare Board and thanked all EMS partners. Materials were distributed.

Jo Dee Nicosia reported that NAMI (National Alliance for Mental Illness) International has awarded a \$35,000 grant to Pinellas County NAMI to help support frontline wellness with its Peer Initiative and is working with Chief Ganci and the Wellness and Fitness Leadership Committee to rework curriculum for peer supporters for people who have experienced stress-related traumas and hopes to train more Fire personnel to offer additional First Responder support. Materials were distributed. Ms. Nicosia addressed suicide concerns in the community, and the Juvenile Welfare Board's (JWB) Growing Hope Initiative, a children's mental health initiative, and NAMI's efforts to help combat suicide.

OPEN FORUM

- Members congratulated Greg Woodrum on his upcoming retirement from Pinellas County after 18 years of dedicated service and wished him well in future endeavors.
- Craig Hare, Dr. Angus Jameson, and Richard Schomp shared information regarding the life and dedicated service of the late Sunstar Shift Commander Leroy Funderburk and provided details related to the memorial services.

2023 MEETING SCHEDULE

The EMS Advisory Council is scheduled to meet on March 17 (Elections), June 16, September 22, and December 22, 2023.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for March 17, 2023, format to be determined.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Mercado, seconded by Dr. Carver and carried unanimously, Commissioner Peluso adjourned the meeting at 11:35 A.M.

*Audio and any correspondence received for this meeting is on file at the
Pinellas County EMS & Fire Administration.*

Pinellas County EMS - ALS First Responder Program Enhancement Request Summary FY23-24

DRAFT FOR REVIEW 03-09-23

#	Provider Agency	Unit	Positions	Request	Analysis	Recommendation	Requested FY23-24	Requested FY23-24	Recommended FY23-
							Funding	Capital Funding	24 Funding
1	Clearwater	LR49	+1 24/7	Request by City to add +1 24/7 Position to implement Rescue Lieutenant 49. New Position. Vehicle Needed. Also requested in prior years.	TBD	TBD	\$500,000.00	\$75,000.00	TBD
2	Clearwater	R49A	+2 24/7	Request by City to add +2 24/7 Positions to implement Rescue 49A (a second Rescue at STA49). New Positions. Vehicle Needed. Also requested in prior years.	TBD	TBD	\$1,000,000.00	\$300,000.00	TBD
3	Countywide	na	0	Traffic Preemption Project to reduce Response Times and Increase Safety Countywide. Evaluation of Temple Glance is underway with County Highway. New Request.	TBD	TBD	\$2,500,000.00	\$0.00	TBD
4	Countywide	na	0	First Arriving Fire Station Digital Signage Project to reduce Turnout Times. New Request.	TBD	TBD	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	TBD
5	Countywide	na	na	Request to establish a reimburseable expense for Marine Unit staffing on Holidays.	TBD	TBD	\$216,000.00	\$0.00	TBD
6	Dunedin	LR62	+1 24/7	Request by City to add +1 24/7 Rescue Lt. position to serve Rehab Officer and assist in North County EMS Coordination. New Position. Vehicle Needed. New Request.	TBD	TBD	\$500,000.00	\$75,000.00	TBD
7	Largo	ME42	+2 12/7	Request by City to add +2 12/7 Civilian Paramedic Positions to establish a peak time Medic Unit (i.e. Same as Medic 41). New Positions. Vehicle Needed. New Request.	TBD	TBD	\$500,000.00	\$125,000.00	TBD
8	Largo	LA502	+1 40 Hour	Request by City to add +1 40 Hour Position to convert LA502 EMS Administrative Coordinator to Authority Funding. Vehicle Needed. New Request.	TBD	TBD	\$100,000.00	\$75,000.00	TBD
9	Oldsmar	OL500	+.25 40 Hour	Request by City to fully fund EMS Coordinator. Currently 75% funded. Existing Position. New Request.	TBD	TBD	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	TBD
10	Palm Harbor	LR65	+1 24/7	Request by District to add +1 24/7 Positions to implement Rescue Lieutenant 65. New Position. Vehicle Needed. New Request.	TBD	TBD	\$500,000.00	\$75,000.00	TBD
11	Palm Harbor	S65	+1 24/7	Request by District to add +1 24/7 Positions to convert Squad 65 from Contractor to Authority Funding. Existing Position. New Request.	TBD	TBD	\$500,000.00	\$0.00	TBD
12	Pinellas Park	PP501	+1 40 Hour	Request by City to add +1 40 hour EMS Administrative Coordinator - 50% Shared Funding. Existing Position. Also requested in prior years.	TBD	TBD	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	TBD
13	Pinellas Park	S36	+1 24/7	Request by City to add +1 24/7 Position to convert Squad 36 to an Authority Funded Unit. Existing Position. New Request.	TBD	TBD	\$500,000.00	\$0.00	TBD
14	Pinellas Suncoast	R27	+2 24/7	Request by District to add +2 24/7 Positions to implement Rescue 27 to serve Belleair Beach, Belleai Shore and North Indian Rocks. New Positions. Vehicle Needed. New Request.	TBD	TBD	\$1,000,000.00	\$300,000.00	TBD
15	Safety Harbor	ME52	+1 40 Hour	Request by City to add +1 40 Hour Position to increase peak time staffing of Medic 53. New Position. New Request.	TBD	TBD	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	TBD
16	St Pete Beach	D23	+.50 24/7	Request by City to implement a South Beaches Rescue Lieutenant. 50/50 Shared Funding. Vehicle Needed. Existing Position. Also requested in prior years.	TBD	TBD	\$250,000.00	\$75,000.00	TBD
17	Tarpon Springs	R69	+ 1 24/7	Request by City to add + 1 24/8 Position to staff Rescue 69. City would maintain Squad 69 as Contractor Funded ALS Unit. Rescue Unit authorized in FY22-23. Also requested in prior years.	TBD	TBD	\$500,000.00	\$0.00	TBD
	TOTAL						\$ 8,891,000.00	\$ 1,100,000.00	\$ -

As of:
3/16/2023 16:11

\$ 9,991,000.00



PROUDLY
SERVING
SINCE
1951

THE ISSUE

The county has a response time standard of 7:30 response, which must be met 90% of the time.

Neither our fire department nor our automatic aid partner to the north, Clearwater Station 44, can meet these standards due to the distance between stations (5.6 miles)

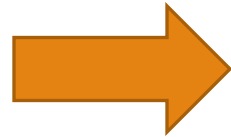
The 2022 data shows a 77.58% response time compliance for CL44 - (Belleair Beach and Belleair Shore per County reporting due to the closest unit CL44 being the PSFR District) and 87.71% response time compliance for PS27.

This is unacceptable!

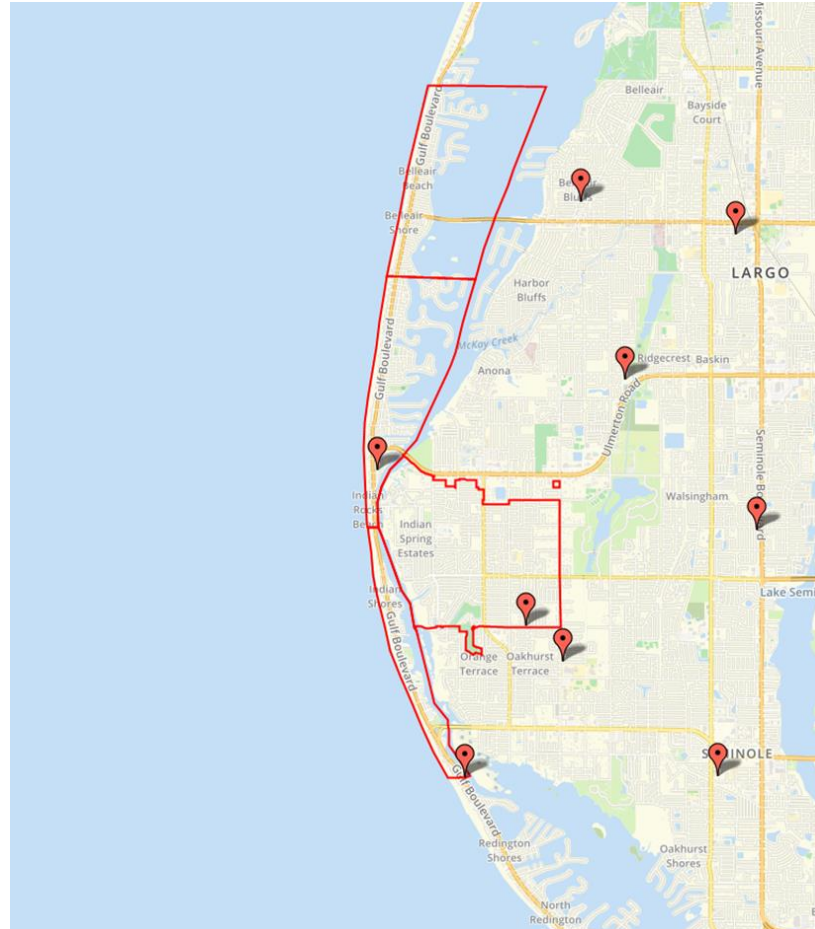


Systemwide Zone Performance Report Version 3

From 01/01/2022 to 12/31/2022 for All Call Types

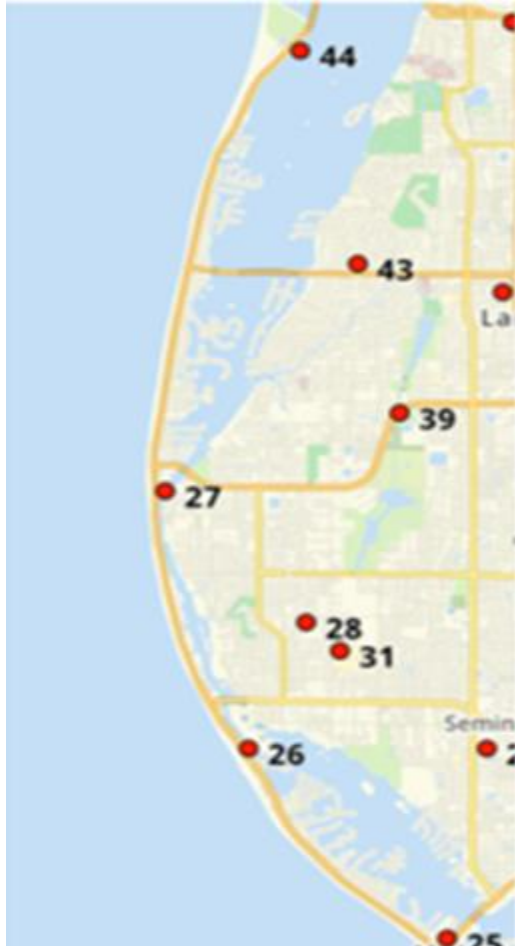


EMSArea	Response Time Compliance (Emergencies)
CL44	77.58%
PS26	92.51%
PS27	87.71%
PS28	92.57%



Systemwide Zone Performance Report Version

From 01/01/2022 to 12/31/2022 for All Call Types

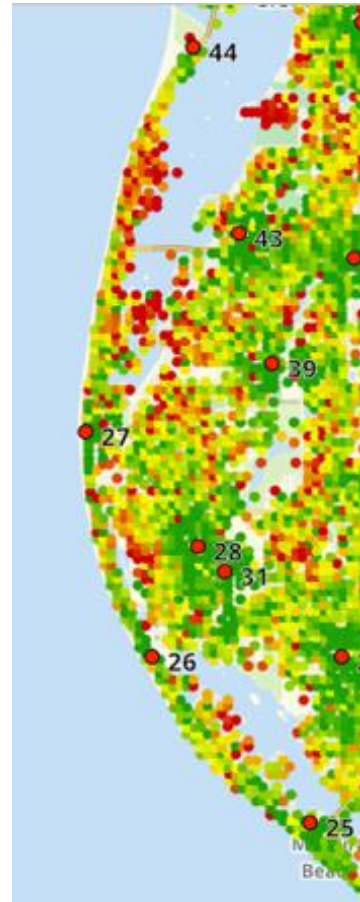


EMS Area	Response Time Compliance (Emergencies)	Total Incidents Includes Downgrades
CL44	77.58%	1254
PS27	87.71%	1783

*Total Incidents Displayed is In that grid only. Does not include the number of unit responses.

CL44 reporting data encompasses the northern end of Belleair Beach and Belleair Shore, which is in the PSFRD District.

WHY IS THIS ?



THE PRIMARY REASON FOR THE DELAY IS THE ALMOST 6-MILE GAP BETWEEN STATION 27 AND STATION 44.

We have also had all volume increases @ 10% year over year

Call Volume E27 FOR 2022 – 1802

Call Volume S26 FOR 2022 – 1030

Call Volume E44 FOR 2022 – 1334

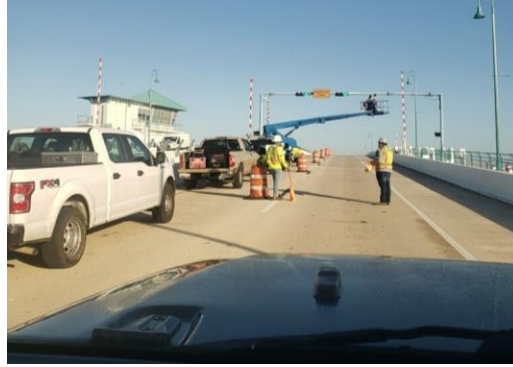
Call Volume E43 FOR 2022 – 2384

Call Volume LA39 FOR 2022 – 5200

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

- Remote area
- Multiple bridges with 3 drawbridges to our area to access the citizens
- Limited access roads
- Low speed roadways with high congestion of pedestrians and bicyclists





From Left to Right:
Gulf Blvd on a typical weekday
rush hour
Madeira Beach Causeway –
Bridge Issue
Belleair Bridge – Traffic backed
up over the hump
Walsingham Bridge coming
onto Indian Rocks

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Marine Responses
- Fire Responses
- Multiple Units Needed
- Vertically Challenged
- Annual Increases in Call Volume
- Fire And EMS Training Requirements



BUSIEST MARINE UNITS IN THE COUNTY

In 2022, we responded to 129 marine rescues

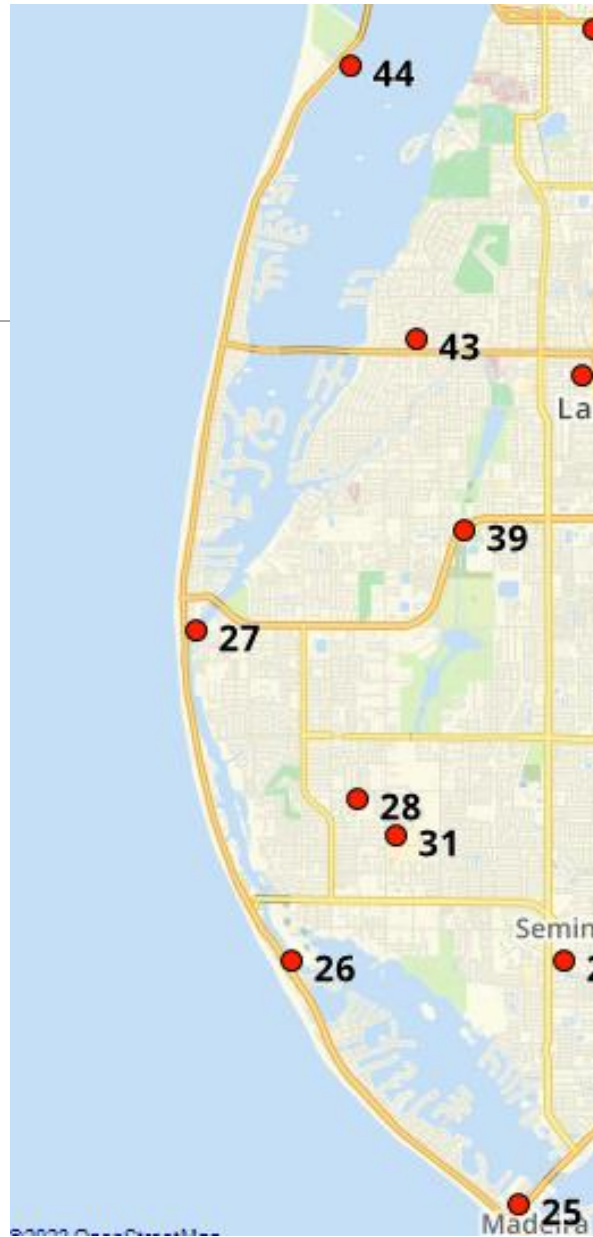
Currently, for each marine rescue, a minimum of 3 fire stations are removed from the ability to respond to other emergencies

- 1 station is the primary rescue boat
- 1 station is the secondary rescue boat
- 1 station is for patient care and incident management

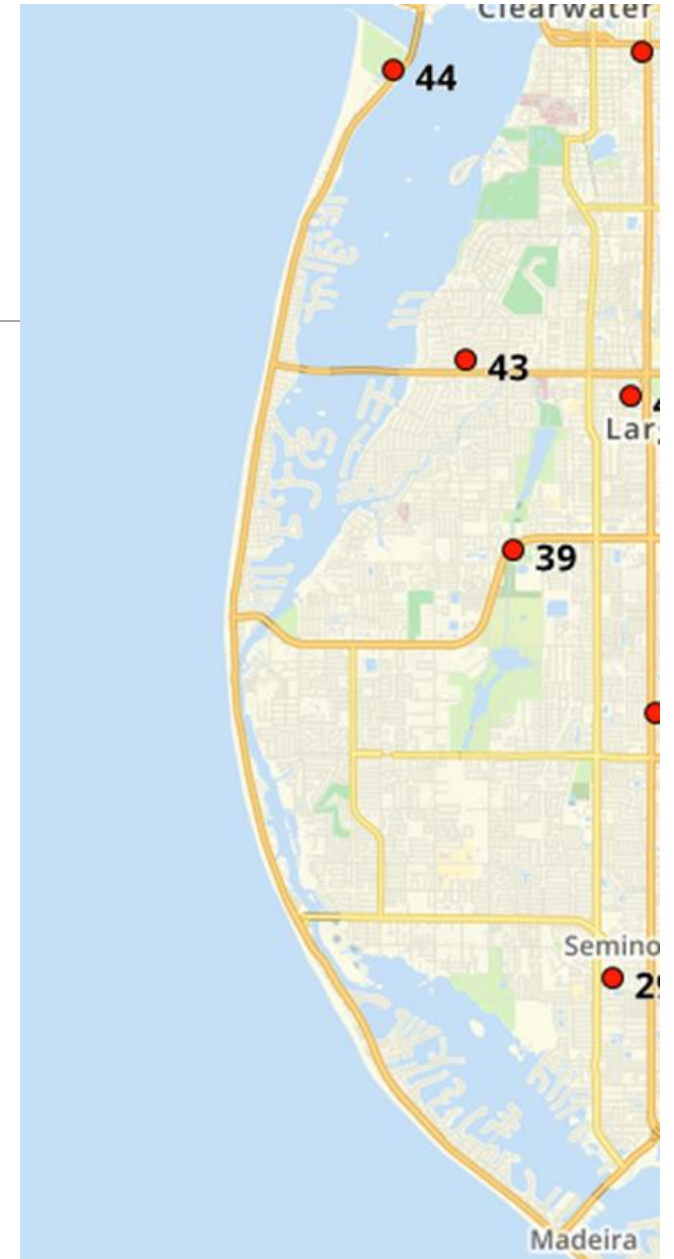




CURRENT STATIONS FROM CLEARWATER TO MADEIRA BEACH



STATIONS NOW AVAILABLE FOR COVERAGE



Blue Dots are Marine Rescues for all agencies in 2022



FIRE DEPARTMENT RIDE-IN

In 2022, PSFRD had a total of 293 Fire Department ride-ins to the local hospitals to assist in patient care

On average, that Fire Department unit is unavailable for 1.5 hours, leaving an additional gap in the system



Would you go without your home protected by a Fire Engine staffed by Advanced Life Support capable Paramedics for 18.31 days? That is the equivalent $(293 \times 1.5)/24$

PREVIOUS ANALYSIS

An analysis from 2019 suggested moving Station 27 to the north.

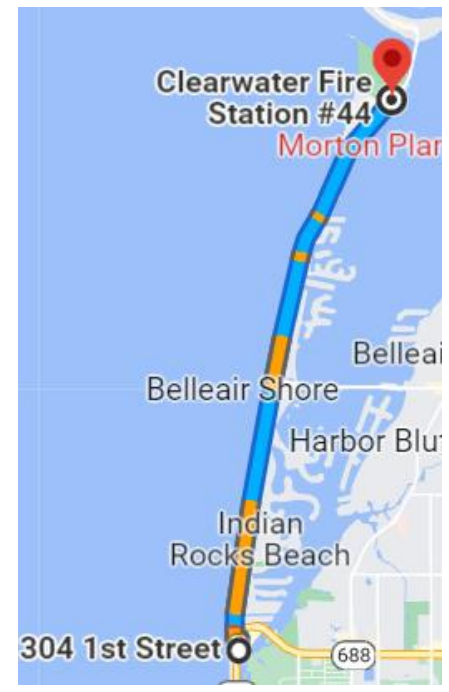
This same analysis outlined additional problems created by this move. Such as:

- Increased gaps in other areas
- Decreases in efficiency
- Creating future problems in response times
- Increasing call volume to partnering agencies





16 min (5.6 miles)
via Gulf Blvd



Indian Rocks
Beach Station 27
to Clearwater
Station 44 – 5.6
Miles

Response Zone Coverage Criteria

- **3.1** Not Justified to cover Remote Areas (Bridges, Causeways, Islands, Parks, Conservation Lands, etc.)

- **3.2** Coverage is justified for Limited Access Areas that serve a Population. Examples: Barrier Islands, areas where there is a limited road network, low population density areas with a large response zone, etc.

- **3.3** Coverage of a Response Zone (1.5 mile radius for 4:30 average Response Time – Studied by ISO) based upon Fire Station Location

- Limitations in Fire Station placement include (available Real Estate, Community Perception, Station established before computer modeling, construction of roadways, new developments, etc.)

- **3.4** Response Zone is not overlapped >50% by another ALS Unit unless High Call Volume Area (>15 per day)



Legend

Calls - Response Time (First Arriving)

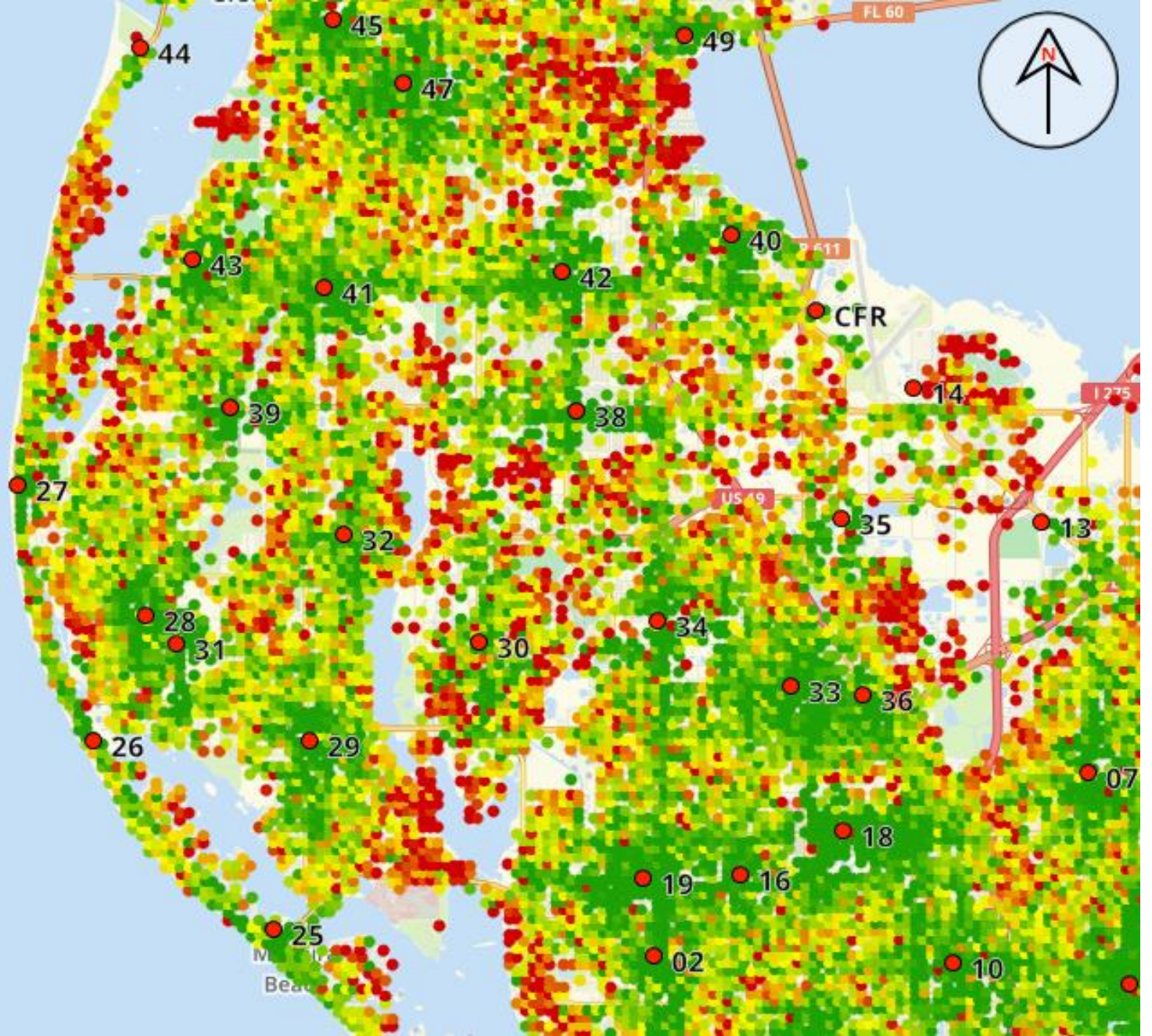


2022 Responses



1Mi 2Mi

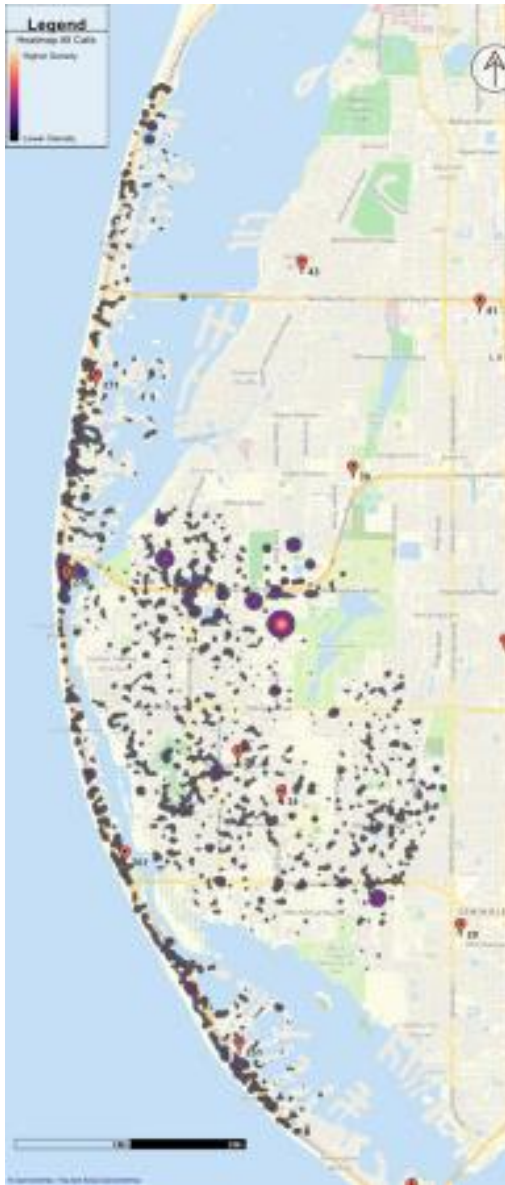
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WHAT IS THE SOLUTION?

The addition of a Fire Station to the Northern end of Indian Rocks Beach to better service Belleair Beach and Belleair Shore.





Pinellas Suncoast Fire-Rescue Station Location Analysis

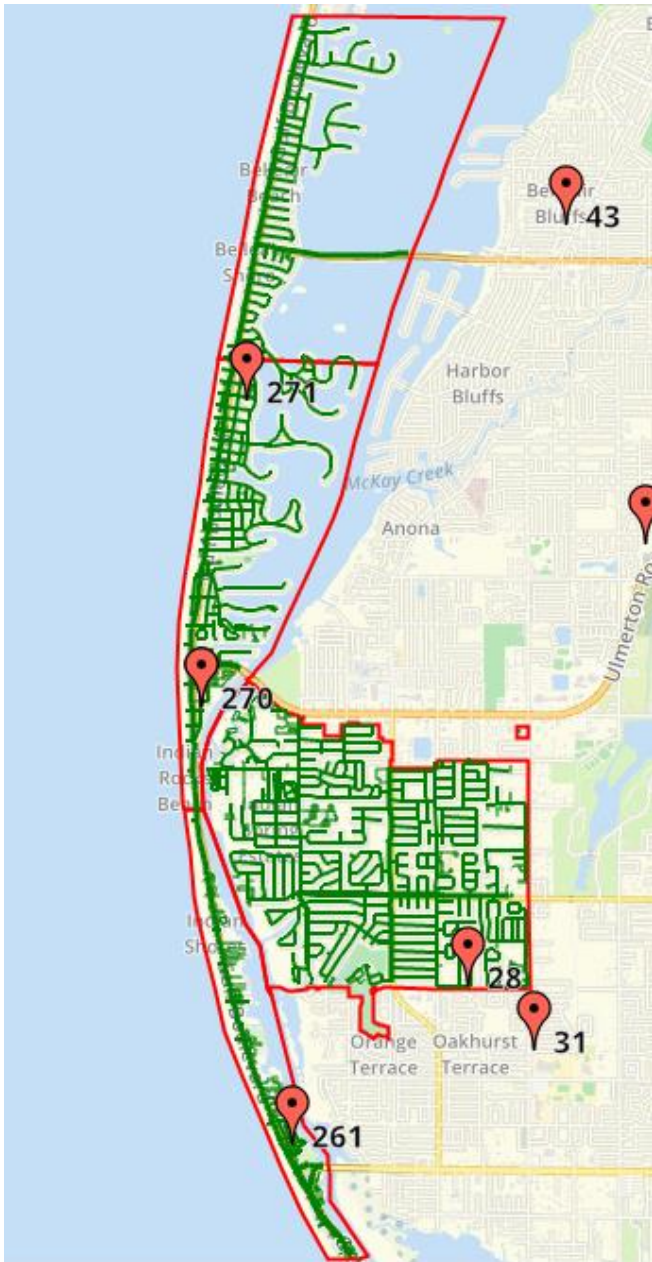
LEVRUM
DATA TECHNOLOGIES

Sven Dugojevic
Carl Niedner
February, 2023



Analysis of the predicted effects of:

- Relocating the Indian Shores fire station northward
- Adding an additional station at the northern end of Indian Rocks Beach.
- Analysis performed on incidents occurring between 1/01/2022 – 12/31/2022



6 MINUTE
COVERAGE
TO ENTIRE
DISTRICT

EMS ENHANCEMENT WAS REQUESTED THROUGH THE PROPER CHANNELS THIS MONTH

One Advanced Life Support Transport Capable Fire Department Ambulance, staffed with two Firefighter Paramedics



LEGACY UNIT

In addition to the extreme need for additional units for PSFRD to cover the beaches, the Revision to Special Act in 1989 established that we could not go below the Level of Service provided by the Fire Departments at that time.



R26

PSFRD had a Transport Capable Ambulance, Fully Funded By The County, which falls under the 1989 Revision.

Documentation:

Log Books

EMS Contracts

Payroll Documents

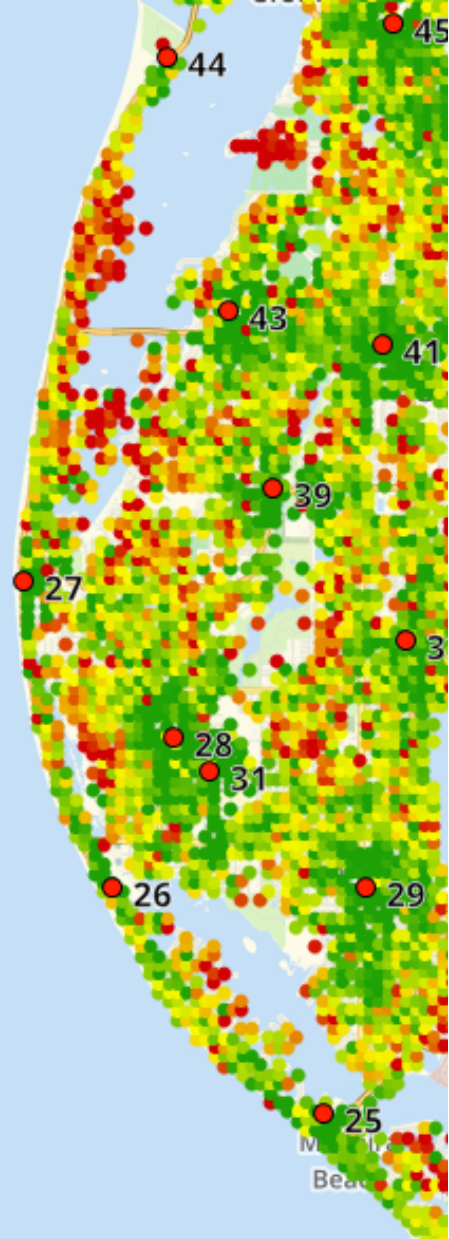
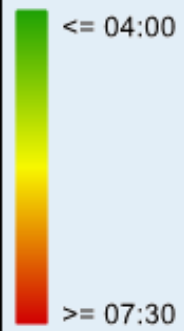




PROPOSED
STATIONS FROM
CLEARWATER TO
MADEIRA BEACH

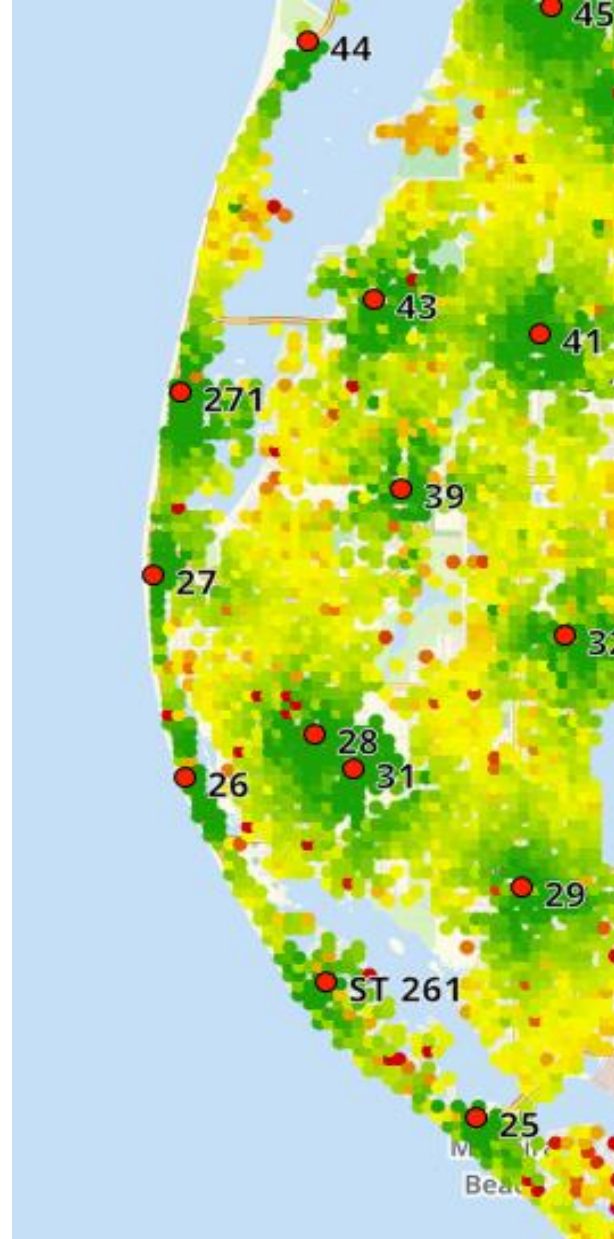
Legend

Calls - Response Time (First Arriving)



On the left is the 2022 Responses.

On the right is the new model with the addition of station 271.



1Mi 2Mi

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Thank You!

Any Questions?

**Pinellas County
Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council
Bylaws**

**Article I
Name**

Section 1.1 The name of this organization shall be the Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Advisory Council. This Council has been established in compliance with a resolution of the Board of County Commissioners, Pinellas County, Florida.

**Article II
Objective**

Section 2.1 The objective of the activities of this Council shall include the following:

- a. Study and analyze the procedures and protocols of emergency medical services throughout Pinellas County.
- b. Recommend to the EMS Authority (Board of County Commissioners) and staff such actions as deemed necessary to ensure high quality emergency medical services throughout Pinellas County.
- c. Review and comment upon all rules, regulations and procedures that are adopted by the Medical Control Board which do not require emergency action by the Pinellas County EMS Medical Director.

**Article III
Members**

Section 3.1 The membership of the Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council shall consist of twenty-four (24) members. Members shall constitute a broad spectrum of the county representation. Citizen appointments shall be made to encourage a balanced cross section of the County's population to represent business and industry, civic organizations, consumers and lay persons. Citizens must be full-time Pinellas County residents. The membership shall be comprised of the following upon ratification by the EMS Authority:

- EMS Authority's Executive Director (non-voting, ex-officio); and
- Seven (7) Citizen Representatives representing each of the Pinellas County Commission Districts; and

- Four (4) Mayors selected by the Mayor's Council; and
- City of Clearwater Fire Chief or designee; and
- City of St. Petersburg Fire Chief or designee; and
- A Fire Chief or designee nominated by the Pinellas County Fire Chiefs' Association to represent municipal Fire Departments and Independent Fire Districts; and
- An EMS Coordinator or designee nominated by the Pinellas County Fire Chiefs' Association to represent all system EMS Coordinators; and
- The current Ambulance Contractor's Chief Operating Officer or designee to represent Ambulance Services; and
- The Pinellas County Sheriff or designee to represent all Law Enforcement agencies; and
- The St. Petersburg College President or designee to represent the Health Education Programs; and
- The Pinellas County Health Department Director or designee to represent public health; and
- An Emergency Nurse nominated by the Emergency Nurses Association West Coast Florida Chapter to represent emergency nurses, hospitals and the healthcare community; and
- A Mental Health Professional or similar representative; and
- A representative nominated by the Pinellas County Osteopathic Medical Society to represent osteopathic physicians and the healthcare community; and
- A Fire Commissioner from a Special Fire Control District within Pinellas County to represent Independent Fire Districts; and
- A representative nominated by the National Alliance on Mental Illness to represent the mental health community.

Section 3.2 All members shall be proposed by the Council, except for the four (4)

Mayors, and approved by the Authority. The term of appointment shall be for two (2) years. There is no limit on the number of terms an individual may serve.

Section 3.3 The membership may recommend to the EMS Authority for approval of an alternate. The alternate must be selected from and represent the same composition category as that of the member. Citizen representatives shall not have an alternate.

Section 3.4 An alternate member shall assume the role of the primary member in the event the primary member can no longer serve on the Council until a permanent replacement is approved. The alternate member shall not assume any elected or appointed officer position previously held by the primary member unless approved by the Council.

Section 3.5 The membership, by majority vote, shall have the authority to recommend to the EMS Authority the removal of any Council member.

Article IV Officers

Section 4.1 The members of the Council shall elect from the membership the following Officers at its annual meeting which will be held in March of each year. Members interested in serving as Officers shall submit their name to the Executive Director or designee prior to the meeting. Nominations will also be accepted at the meeting.

- a. Chair
- b. Vice-Chair
- c. Secretary

Section 4.2 The term of office of all Officers shall be one year. The terms will begin immediately following the vote of the membership at the annual meeting.

Section 4.3 An Officer may only serve two (2) consecutive terms in any one Officer category.

Section 4.4 A vacancy in any office may be filled at the next meeting.

Section 4.5 Duties:

- a. Chair:
The Chair shall be a full voting member and preside at all meetings of the Council and be an ex-officio member of all committees. The Chair shall have further duties as may be assigned by the Council.

- b. Vice-Chair:
In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall exercise all duties of the Chair. The Vice-Chair shall have other duties and powers as may be assigned by the Council.

- c. Secretary:
The Secretary shall cause the minutes of all meetings of the Council to be kept. The Secretary shall have such further duties and powers as may be assigned by the Chair of the Council.

Article V Meetings

Section 5.1 The annual meeting of the Council shall be held in March at such time and place as designated by the Chair. The Chair, three (3) members of the Executive Committee, or the Executive Director may call meetings of the Council when such meetings are deemed necessary.

Section 5.2 All members of the Council shall be notified of the time, place and purpose of meetings of the Council not less than five (5) days before such meetings by the Executive Director or his/her designee.

Section 5.3 Eleven (11) voting members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business at meetings of the Council.

Section 5.4 Only the appointed member or the designated alternate shall be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Council.

Section 5.5 Council members are expected to attend all meetings of the Council and the Committee to which they are assigned. Periodic review of attendance will be conducted by the Chair and the Authority's Executive Director. Members whose attendance is not meeting requirements will be contacted and advised of same. Excessive absences will result in recommendation for dismissal from the Council and/or Committee. The Council shall make a formal request for a replacement member from the represented agency or organization to be appointed by the EMS Authority.

Section 5.6 Emergency or extraordinary actions may be taken by Officers, Committees, or by the Council at a meeting at which no quorum is present, provided that the membership ratifies such actions at the next meeting. Only the Council may ratify proper actions of its Officers, Committees or an assembly of members where there was no quorum.

Section 5.7 All official records of the Council, including minutes and resolutions duly adopted, shall be maintained in the office of the Executive Director.

Article VI Committees

Section 6.1 There shall be an Executive Committee composed of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and two (2) additional members elected by the Council membership during the annual meeting or a meeting called for that purpose. The Executive Committee shall have full authority to take action in any emergency arising between meetings and to carry on the ordinary business of the Council in keeping with the bylaws of the Council. Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the Chair, the Executive Director or by three (3) members of the Executive Committee. A quorum of the Executive Committee shall be three (3) members.

Section 6.2 There shall be an EMS Management Committee appointed by the Chair and confirmed by the Council and will meet as necessary. The purpose of the EMS Management Committee is to focus on medically associated procedures and operational procedures for the intent of making appropriate recommendations to those responsible. The EMS Management Committee is formulated to function and handle any operational or medical problems that may arise and to keep an open line of communication among those who provide these services to Pinellas County.

Minutes shall be submitted to the Council as well as any recommendations that may need the attention of the entire Council. The EMS Management Committee shall be comprised of representatives from the following:

- Pinellas County EMS Authority; and
- Medical Director or designee; and
- Pinellas County Fire Chiefs' Association; and
- EMS Coordinator or designee as nominated by the Pinellas County Fire Chiefs' Association; and

- Continuing Medical Education Steering Committee; and
- Emergency Nurses Association West Coast Florida Chapter; and
- Ambulance Contractor; and
- 9-1-1 Emergency Communications; and
- Labor representative from both the First Responder and Ambulance Contractors; and
- Any other service providers deemed appropriate by the Chair.

Section 6.3 The Chair is empowered to appoint such permanent or standing committees as are deemed necessary for the successful execution of the Council's programs.

Article VII Parliamentary Procedure

Section 7.1 All meetings of the Council and any committees shall be conducted and governed by Parliamentary Procedures and usage as contained and set forth in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order unless otherwise provided for in these bylaws or except where modification of such rules is required because of the nature of the work to be accomplished by the Council.

Article VIII Amendment to Bylaws

Section 8.1 These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the membership at a meeting where notice of such proposals for amendments has been given to all members as provided in the bylaws. All such amendments shall be subject to approval of the EMS Authority.

Section 8.2 Notice of a proposed amendment shall be submitted in writing, including electronically, to all members of the Council not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting at which time such amendments are to be considered.