



Camas-Washougal Fire Department ESCI Study Recommendations Analysis December 4, 2017



Purposes of ESCI Study

- Analysis of ambulance transport system
- Determine whether system was viable or whether other forms of operational deployment were feasible
- Provide recommendations for improvement of current ambulance transport operations

Recommendation #1 – Washougal submit replacement EMS levy at .50/1000

Status:

- **Completed – Successfully approved by voters in November 2017**

Recommendation #2 – Camas submit EMS levy renewal at .46/1000

Status:

- **Approved for ballot by Camas Council in November**
- **Scheduled to go before voters in February 2018**

Recommendation #3 – Camas and Washougal continue ILA

Status:

- **Currently in progress of 10 year contract for service**
- **JPAC continues to meet as needed**

Recommendation #4 – Prior the end of 2017, ECFR and Camas should discuss improvement to funding methods

Status:

- **No formal discussions**
- **Paul Lewis study currently in progress will provide more insight**

Recommendation #5 – Prior to 7/2018, Camas and Washougal to discuss changing cost sharing formula based on passage of new EMS levies

Status:

- **Further discussions in 2018 pending Camas EMS levy renewal in February 2018**

Recommendation #6 – Washougal should consider implementation of ambulance utility

Status:

- **No longer necessary with successful EMS levy renewal**

Recommendation #7 – If ECFR and Camas merge, ECFR should increase EMS levy to .50/1000

Status:

- **No formal discussions – too early**
- **Dependent on conclusions of Paul Lewis study**

Recommendation #8 – City of Camas should consider outsourcing ambulance billing

Status:

- **Has been formally considered in the past**
- **Given the complex statutory requirements of ambulance billing, the department is not opposed to considering again**
- **No formal discussions have been held**
- **First step would be to invite vendors to provide quote/estimate on cost of service**

Recommendation #9 – Increase BLS and ALS transport fees

Status:

- Council decision
- CWFD rates *are* lower than most comparables
- Department is supportive
- There is no way to correlate increased rates with increased revenue
- Write offs will likely increase

Recommendation #10 – Change Station 41 engine response when 2nd call comes in

Status:

- **No formal discussions**
- **Requires extensive internal discussion**

Recommendation #11 – Ensure 3 person staffing on all first out engines

Status:

- **No formal discussions**
- **While department is supportive, ESCI estimates cost would exceed \$1 million dollars in increased staffing**

Recommendation #12 – Permanently fill vacant training captain position

Status:

- No formal discussions
- Necessity uncertain with current staffing. If ECFR/Camas merge, doing so would be more supportable.
- ESCI estimates cost of \$100,000 (+1 FTE)

Recommendation #13 – Add staffing to fire marshal's office

Status:

- **FMO deficiencies were primary cause of higher WSRB fire rating**
- **Department is supportive**
- **ESCI estimates cost of \$100,000 (+1 FTE)**

Recommendation #14 – CWFD create formal capital plan for equipment like stretchers and defibrillators

Status:

- **Department has informal plan**
- **There is definite need for a formal plan**
- **Further internal discussion needed**

Recommendation #15 – Look at updating RMS reporting system

Status:

- **Current platform is outdated**
- **Extracting data very difficult**
- **Department is very supportive, but moving to a new platform could cost in excess of \$100,000**

Recommendation #16 – CWFD should develop QA/QI program

Status:

- **This appears to be redundant and unnecessary recommendation**
- **CWFD already participates in countywide QA/QI program and Division Chief of EMS handles internal processes**

Recommendation #17 – Department should improve turnout times

Status:

- Turnout time is time from receipt of call until unit marks “responding”
- ESCI states CWFD turnout times are high
- Department is supportive of improving times where necessary, but there is question as to veracity of data used
- Further internal discussion ongoing