



CITY OF CONCORD

REPORT TO MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Daniel L. Andrus, Fire Chief
DATE: June 27, 2018
SUBJECT: Report from the Fire Chief on Mutual Aid

Recommendation

The Fire Department requests that the Council accept this report.

Background

The Concord Fire Department has been part of a formal mutual aid network since at least 1966. Twenty two communities make up the Capital Area Fire Mutual Aid Compact. That number will grow to 23 in July with the addition of the Town of Washington. The City of Concord received \$539,560 in Fiscal Year 2019 for providing emergency communications services to the compact. Any major building fire requires resources that are beyond the capability of any entity in the compact and the mutual aid system allows for member jurisdictions to have the resources to combat major emergencies. An April fire in Penacook required the response of six towns for assistance at the scene and three other towns and an ambulance service to provide coverage for Concord stations.

Concord has experienced increases in service demand, as have other municipalities. Much of this demand increase comes from emergency medical services. That demand has an effect on mutual aid. Concord received mutual aid 33 times from January 1 through June 15th of 2017. That number increased to 47 times during the same time period in 2018.

This report will focus on mutual aid for emergency medical services. During the preparation of this report, some problems were identified in the data set for fire related mutual aid which were understating the amount of aid received. Those problems are being resolved and the Fire Department will submit a follow up report for the August 13th City Council meeting.

The following table provides a summary of EMS mutual aid responses from 2013 through 2017. Often, a unit is dispatched to a mutual aid call and cancelled prior to arrival because a local unit becomes available and can reach the scene more quickly than the mutual aid unit. The first number is the number of dispatches made on mutual aid calls while the number in parentheses represents calls where units arrived on scene. The table also includes numbers for paramedic intercepts, when other jurisdictions request Concord paramedics to provide advanced life support

services aboard the other jurisdiction's ambulance as they are enroute to a hospital. Paramedic intercepts are billed directly to the jurisdiction, not to the patient, at the rate of \$549 per call.

Table 1
Mutual Aid Summary 2013-2017

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
EMS mutual aid received	67 (52)	50 (43)	51 (41)	68 (60)	109 (83)
EMS mutual aid given	159 (152)	181 (176)	155 (145)	180 (168)	200 (189)
Paramedic Intercepts	59	56	36	52	50
Net mutual aid given after intercepts and cancellations	93	120	109	116	139

Over the last year, some changes have been made in the system to accommodate increased demand. Some services have added staffing and increased their hours of having staff available at the station. Concord initiated some changes in the response order to better balance the amount of aid received and given with Tritown Ambulance which serves Allentown and Pembroke. A more recent change will have Hooksett responding to Allenstown instead of Concord. Table 2 shows the changes between the time period from January 1st through June 15th for the last two calendar years.

Table 2
Mutual Aid for the Period from January 1 through June 15

	2017	2018
EMS mutual aid received	47 (33)	63 (47)
EMS mutual aid given	88 (82)	77 (75)
Paramedic intercepts	24	20
Mutual aid given net of paramedic intercepts and cancellations	58	55

A complete detailed summary is located on the last page of this report.

Discussion

The Fire Department will advise the City Council of any significant developments with regard to EMS mutual aid and will provide an additional report on fire related mutual aid as soon as possible.

Emergency Medical Services Mutual Aid

	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	Received	Given	Received	Given	Received	Given	Received	Given	Received	Given
Alton	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Barnstead	0	3	0	4	0	1	0	5	0	2
Bow	37 (22)	24 (22)	28 (22)	52 (49)	30 (20)	31 (28)	40 (32)	33 (30)	67 (44)	31 (27)
Bradford	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Chichester	0	6	0	1	0	3	0	4 (3)	0	2
Dunbarton	0	3	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	1
Epsom	2	2	0	5	1	5 (4)	1	4	0	10
Gilmanton	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Henniker	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1 (0)
Hillsborough	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
Hooksett	0	1	0	3	0	2	0	4	0	2
Hopkinton	1	4	3 (2)	6	0	7	3	8 (7)	4 (2)	11 (10)
Loudon	16	10 (9)	11	7	9	11 (9)	13	15 (14)	12 (11)	8
Northwood	0	4	0	4	0	5	0	3	0	3
Penacook Rescue	7	23 (21)	5	20	9	27	3	32 (28)	6	39 (37)
Pittsfield	0	16	0	15 (14)	0	7	1	14	1	6
Salisbury	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	2	0	2
Tilton/Northfield	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
Tritown Ambulance	2	49 (47)	2	49 (48)	0	49 (45)	6	43 (41)	19	63 (60)
Warner	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0
Weare	0	9	0	8	0	3	0	9	0	12
Webster	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Totals	67 (52)	159 (152)	50 (43)	181 (176)	51 (41)	155 (145)	68 (60)	180 (168)	109 (83)	200 (189)
Paramedic Intercepts		59		56		36		52		50

Penacook Rescue serves Canterbury and Boscawen. Tritown Ambulance serves Allenstown and Pembroke.

Numbers in parentheses are net of cancellations and represent mutual aid calls where units arrive on scene.

The numbers for paramedic intercepts are included in the totals for "Mutual Aid Given."