



Tompkins County Council of Governments

Governor Daniel D. Tompkins Building
Ithaca, NY 14850

Meeting: 07/24/25 03:00 PM
Department: Tompkins County Council of Governments
Category: Public Safety

ADOPTED

DOC ID: 13453

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-02

Resolution Recommending the Tompkins County Department of Emergency Response (DOER) Proposal for Expansion of the Rapid Medical Response (RMR) Program

RESULT:	ADOPTED [11 TO 1]
MOVER:	Dan Lamb, Co-Chair, Town of Dryden
SECONDER:	Katelin Olson, Vice Chair, Town of Ulysses
AYES:	Gagnon, Groff, Hardaway, Hart, Klein, Lamb, Murphy, Olson, Scheffler, St. Perez, Witmer
NAYS:	Lynch

WHEREAS, Tompkins County's Rapid Medical Response (RMR) Program has been very effective in supporting our existing private and public first-response agencies, decreasing the average response time by approximately half, enabling quicker medical care when minutes matter and relieving the need for ambulance response when transport is not needed, and

WHEREAS, the current RMR Program does not operate overnight or on weekends, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Emergency Response (DOER) has identified that even with the current RMR Program, ambulance availability is often stretched thin throughout Tompkins County, and

WHEREAS, approximately 50% of RMR calls require paramedic level care, and

WHEREAS, public sector and non-profit ambulance services supported by Tompkins County municipalities provide an inequitable amount of mutual aid service that often leave their respective municipalities without an available ambulance, and

WHEREAS, the current geographical variability in ambulance service and municipal support does not serve Tompkins County as a whole well and results in problematic disparities in emergency medical response and public financial support, and

WHEREAS, Tompkins County DOER has evaluated the current operation of emergency first response throughout Tompkins County and developed an Enhanced RMR Plan for bolstering ambulance service throughout the county, and

WHEREAS, the Enhanced RMR Plan would provide 24/7 countywide EMS reinforcement, including additional ambulances, and

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Council of Governments (TCCOG) Emergency Planning and Preparedness Subcommittee has endorsed the plan, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Tompkins County Council of Governments (TCCOG) hereby recommends to the Tompkins County Legislature adoption and funding for an enhanced Rapid Medical Response (RMR) Program in the 2026 Tompkins County Budget to bolster ambulance service throughout Tompkins County.