



Tompkins County Council of Governments

Governor Daniel D. Tompkins Building
Ithaca, NY 14850

Meeting: 07/28/16 03:00 PM
Department: Tompkins County Council of Governments
Category: Public Safety
Functional Category: Intermunicipal

DOC ID: 6475

ADOPTED

RESOLUTION NO. 004-2016

Resolution to Establish a TCCOG Emergency Medical Services Task Force

MOVED by Ms. Weiser (Town of Caroline), seconded by Mr. Hartill (Village of Lansing), and unanimously adopted by voice vote by members present.

WHEREAS, for many years many of our municipalities have depended upon the selfless service of dedicated, highly-trained volunteers to provide timely, professional, affordable response, care, and transport for residents who experience medical emergencies, and

WHEREAS, in the face of increasing demands, these crucial service providers are experiencing an aging and declining volunteer pool, and in the past year one volunteer ambulance service ceased operations and others are struggling, and some municipalities now require commercial services or paid staffing to meet current needs of their citizens, and

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Council of Governments (TCCOG) believes that timely, competent, affordable emergency medical and transport services are critical and necessary public services, and

WHEREAS, TCCOG believes the scope and complexity of the issues involved exceeds any one entity's ability to confront on their own, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the TCCOG establishes an Emergency Medical Services Task Force (to be known as the EMS Task Force or EMSTF), to identify potential strategies to continue to meet the public's needs and expectations, and ensure timely, competent, affordable emergency medical and transport services to County residents,

RESOLVED, further, That the EMSTF be composed of 8-10 members representing a cross section of elected or appointed officials from municipalities, Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Life Support (ALS) service providers, commissioners or board members of authorities having jurisdiction (AHJ's), the Director of the Tompkins County Department of Emergency Response (DOER), and a program specialist from the DOER/911, other community members with expertise and interest, and other members as determined by original members to be appropriate,

RESOLVED, further, That Tompkins County will be asked to provide administrative support to the EMSTF, including but not limited to providing a clerk to record meeting minutes and maintain a web-page of EMSTF activities; assistance with identification and securing funding to support the EMSTF's work; provision of legal services as needed,

RESOLVED, further, That the EMSTF will be tasked as follows:

- To inventory the various first response and transport services structures, capabilities and needs that currently exist across the county.
- To understand the costs associated with the various service structures and how those costs are paid.
- To understand the legal and regulatory framework in which first response and transport services are provided.
- To understand the training requirements and associated costs to maintain competent first response and transport services.

- To research best practices and successful strategies used in other communities to ensure timely, competent services.
- To explore possible strategies to meet the needs and expectations of all our citizens and ensure that the implications to our rural areas, in particular, are considered.
- To develop an interim report after six months and a final report within one year report summarizing the findings of the committee and recommended strategies, including potential costs, and if applicable, cost savings, for the various recommendations.
- To expand the scope of this task list as needed, including, as determined by the committee, seeking funding and hiring a consultant and/or inviting experts to assist in completing the above tasks.

RESOLVED, further, That the member of the EMSTF shall be appointed by TCCOG.

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