

Effective: July 6, 2011

Approved by County Council

Last Reviewed: February 6, 2019

Cross Reference: MTN 2011-07-07 CC 2018-01-24-14
CC 2019-02-06-05

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Emergency Services Level of Service

PURPOSE

To identify the emergency services that the Fire Departments operating within Vulcan County are authorized to provide and to identify the level or standard to which each service will be performed.

This policy is required to meet the intent of the Alberta Occupational Health & Safety Code and the Alberta Code of Practice for Fire Fighters.

Definitions

Awareness Level – Responders will recognize risks and hazards; secure the area and call for trained assistance.

Operations Level – Responders will take defensive action to contain and control the incident, and seek assistance from outside agencies equipped to mitigate the incident.

Technician Level – Responders will initiate offensive action to bring the incident under control and to an end.

Responsibilities

Fire Administration will ensure that the level of service identified is adhered to and that personnel providing the service are deemed competent.

County Council is ultimately responsible to set the Level of Service.

Related Information

County Council will review and approve the service levels periodically and may authorize a higher level of service to be provided by Fire Department(s) where adequate numbers of competent personnel are available to safely provide such service.

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County Council understands that due to the vast geographical area and the nature of the volunteer fire service that response may be delayed or in extreme cases may not occur at all.

County Council believes that the fire service must be appropriately resourced and trained to the Level of Service determined. Training will be the most vital factor to be considered when Level of Service is changed.

Special Situations

Emergency Responses:

Emergency services equipment shall be deployed for all emergencies as it is deemed that they are required and where practical to do so.

The Emergency Services shall provide when possible, a response to all structure fires, motor vehicle collisions, rescue calls, dangerous goods incidents and wild-land fires within Vulcan County or elsewhere in accordance to this policy.

Structural Fires:

Emergency Services provides Structural Firefighting at the Technician Level. Depending on the time of day, staffing and training levels, the geographic location, and availability of water, Operations Level may be the only option.

Medical Emergencies:

When Alberta Health Services identifies the need for a fire service response, Emergency Services shall provide assistance.

At a medical emergency the Emergency Services shall operate at their appropriate level as deemed by the Medical Co-responders Protocols as established by Emergency Medical Services (EMS).

Vulcan County will provide fire drivers when requested, adhering to Alberta Health Services Fire Driver Policy.

Hazardous Materials Response:

Emergency Services shall provide dangerous goods response at the awareness level.

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Flammable Liquid Fire Fighting:

Emergency Services shall provide flammable liquid firefighting services for small fires and small containers up to 500 liters at the Technician Level

Emergency Services shall provide flammable liquid firefighting for large spills or containers in excess of 500 liters to the Operational Level.

Rescue Calls:

Emergency Services shall provide Motor Vehicle Collisions, (Vehicle Extrication) at the Technician Level.

Emergency Services shall provide Surface Water and Surface Ice Rescue at the Technician Level.

Emergency Services shall provide most other rescue services at the Awareness Level and where possible, at the Operations Level.

Disaster Services Response:

In the event that there has been a declaration of a state of local emergency or a disaster, the Emergency Services will operate as per the Municipal Emergency Plan and under the direction of the Vulcan County Director of Emergency Management.

Mutual and Automatic Aid Responses:

As per existing Agreements and Protocols.