Recommended Fees for Fire Protection Services for Customers Outside City Limits

City of Corpus Christi Fire Department

June 14, 2022



Background

- Objective: Establish Fire Protection Service fees for Fire Department response outside of the City's limits
- CCFD responds to calls for service both inside and outside of City limits
- Residents within the City limits support CCFD's budget via taxation
- Residents outside the City limits do not provide this type of support

Summary

• CCFD seeks a methodology for calculating all-inclusive costs for services rendered to customers when responding outside City limits

• These costs will be the basis for fees assessed to customers living outside the City limits who receive fire protection services

Proposed fees will be calculated utilizing four components:

- 1. Response Readiness Fee
- 2. Fee for Service
- 3. Cost of Equipment
- 4. Mileage

1. Response Readiness Fee (RRF):

- Charge for FD readiness
- Fee made in lieu of traditional taxation

 Based on total cost of providing service/number of taxed parcels within the City limits

2. Fee for Service:

- Based on personnel costs of responding units
- Responding units vary depending on the call type
- Personnel costs will be multiplied by the number of hours engage in the call

3. Cost of equipment:

- Based on FEMA Schedule of Equipment Rates
- Apparatus and equipment costs vary dependent on call type
- Cost of equipment will be multiplied by the number of hours engaged in the call

4. Mileage:

• Based on annual IRS rate for mileage

 Number of responding units will vary dependent on call type

 Mileage rate will be multiplied by the travel distance for each unit dispatched

Billing

- Calculations will be made considerate of:
 - Call type
 - Number and type of resources responding including personnel and equipment costs
 - Duration of incident
 - Distance travelled by responding units
- False alarms or responses in which "no incident is found" would not result in a fee
 - This is consistent with inside the city limits fire response customers

Billing Continued

- City will invoice homeowner/responsible party within 30 days of incident
 - Second invoice at 60 days
 - Third invoice at 120 days
 - At 180 days invoice will be considered delinquent and referred to third-party collection service
 - City will notify homeowner/responsible party
 - Homeowner/responsible party liable for:
 - Underlying debt
 - Costs incurred by City to effectuate collection by the third-party collection services to the extent allowed by State and Federal laws

Next Steps

• Staff is analyzing the current fees for EMS responses for customers outside the city limits

• Plan to bring forward a briefing item to City Council once analysis is complete

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