

Merger Proposal for Allouez and Green Bay Fire and Emergency Services

#### What's Been Going On Around Here??

- 2010 dialogue with the City of Green Bay
- Decision to hire an interim Fire Chief
- Overview of the AFD provided to the Board
- Review and acceptance of potential performance measures
- Development of most viable options for alternative service delivery. Overarching goal is better service at the same or lower cost.
- Initial discussion with neighboring communities to assess interest in cooperative opportunities.

#### What's Been Going On Around Here??

- Received proposals from De Pere and Green Bay
- Board directs staff to develop a contract for consideration by elected officials in Allouez and Green Bay
- Board provides periodic feedback with regard to negotiation strategy.
- Draft contract is presented to and approved by the City of Green Bay Common Council.
- Village staff recommend approval by the Village Board.

## Structure Today

- Three Shifts of full-time employees providing 24/7 on-duty coverage for Fire and Medical emergencies.
- Authorized strength of 25 paid-on-call firefighters providing support and response after notification by pager. Currently 7 active members.
- On-duty minimum staffing of 4 firefighters. Cannot immediately enter a burning structure unless there is KNOWN life risk involved.
- Requires immediate use of mutual/automatic aid from neighboring departments as well as call-back of off duty fulltime and Paid on Call firefighters.

## Structure Proposed

- Allouez station is staffed by 6 firefighters daily providing a fully staffed engine company and ambulance within the Village borders.
- Immediate response to calls by additional units under a single dispatch and 24 hour immediate incident commander response.
- Additional capacity to cover concurrent calls for service.
- Improved training and support services.

# Contract Key Elements

- Contract is for a fifteen year duration with a four year initial lock-in period after which either community may withdraw with adequate notice.
- The City delivers service in accordance with the previously defined performance measures
- Staffing at the Allouez station increases from the current four person minimum (Engine and Ambulance cross-staffed) to a six person minimum with a four person engine company and a two person ambulance.
- Current Village full-time staff will be accepted as Green Bay employees.

# Contract Key Elements

- Village retains ownership of the fire station and performs facility maintenance and pays for utilities.
- Village retains ownership of the response vehicles for the first four years of the contract then ownership transfers to Green Bay.
- Green Bay performs routine maintenance and repairs of the vehicles and equipment.
- The Village pays the actual cost of sixteen full time equivalent positions (FTE's) and a 2.5% administrative fee.

# Contract Key Elements

- Ambulance revenue from calls within the Village will be shared on a sliding scale under which the Village receives 50% in year 1, 40% year 2, 30% year 3, 20% year 4, 15% in subsequent years.
- Village continues to set ambulance rates.
- A Fire Department advisory board is created that will have equal representation of city and village members and an independent fire service professional.
- The department will be renamed to the Green Bay Metro Fire Department
- The Village will need to acquire new breathing apparatus to match the Green Bay equipment but has capital cost avoidance in radios/vehicles

### FAQ's

- What happens to POC's?
  - GBFD would provide training and use POC's within the Village but they would remain Allouez employees. This necessitates maintaining a Fire Commission and budget for wages, equipment, etc.
- Will the Allouez Station stay open?
  - Yes. Meeting performance objectives would not be possible without staffing the station.
- Will costs go up?
  - The projections show that the cost for service will be lower than if the Village maintained an independent service.

### FAQ's

- Will Allouez vehicles be leaving the Village?
  - Yes. The consolidated department will work as a system without regard to the current municipal boundaries.
- Wont we lose Village identity?
  - The new name reflects a broader community. Vehicles routinely operating out of the Allouez station will carry that designation on the vehicle.
- Wont we lose control over the department?
  - The contract becomes the primary way the Village influences the service. The advisory board will be the place for providing routine input into specific fire safety concerns and for receiving updates and performance reports.
- Are there other potential partners?
  - There are varying levels of interest in consolidation in the metro area. At this time there is not a specific additional partner being discussed.

### FAQ's

- Why haven't I heard about this before now?
  - There have been several specific listening sessions provided by the Board on this issue. In addition there has been periodic progress reports given at Village Board meetings
- What changes in Green Bay?
  - The proposal results in a reallocation of resources within the GBFD with no primary response units being located at the current station 1.
  - Response districts will be realigned to provide the best coverage across the entire response area.



