



## Pompano Beach Fire Rescue

## FIRE ADMINISTRATION MEMO # 21-A112

**To:** Greg Harrison, City Manager  
**From:** Chad Brocato, Fire Chief  
**Date:** 9/04/2021  
**Re:** Closest Unit Response Interlocal Agreement

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We are progressing forward with the Closest Unit Response (CUR) program that is a countywide initiative and contained within the City Strategic Plan. Negotiations have been taking place for months between all involved municipalities and the county, and we have a finalized version of the agreement generated from the Fire Chiefs Association of Broward County in concert with Broward County Office of Regional Communications and Technology and Broward Sheriff's Office.

The closest unit response initiative allows for Broward County Regional 911 Communication Centers to identify the exact location of Broward County Fire Rescue Vehicles utilizing Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) technology and state of the art mapping systems. By installing GPS and broadband capable mobile data terminals in each fire rescue frontline emergency vehicle coupled with 911 dispatch and mobile mapping software, vehicles will be able to respond to incidents more quickly.

Given the need for Fire Rescue Departments to establish communication interoperability and decrease lifesaving response times throughout Broward County; this initiative is consistent with the Fire Rescue Council and Broward County Commission's goals of providing multi-agency interoperability and closest unit response capability for all fire rescue agencies within Broward County.

In 2002, the Broward County residents voted by charter amendment to provide for the establishment and funding of communications infrastructure for fire and emergency medical services to facilitate closest unit response for life-threatening emergencies and support for regional specialty teams.

By and through this Agreement, the Parties intend to provide for automatic aid via closest unit response for life-threatening emergencies and as part of the normal day-to-day operations of all Parties while not providing such aid to subsidize normal day-to-day operations. In plain terms, it means crossing jurisdictional boundaries for

significant emergencies only, including but not limited to heart attacks, drowning incidents, strokes and structure fires.

The stated purpose and intent of this Agreement is for all involved agencies to cooperate with each other on a basis of mutual advantage and thereby to provide services and facilities that will harmonize geographic, economic, population, and other factors influencing the needs and development of local communities.

I recommend that it is in the best interest of the City's citizens to execute this Agreement with Broward County, Broward Sheriff's Office and Municipalities.

In an effort to facilitate our participation, I request placing the Interlocal Agreement on the September 28, 2021 Commission Meeting Agenda for approval and execution of the Regional Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative Fire, Rescue, Emergency Medical Services and Special Operations Response through Automatic Aid and Closest Unit Response between the Municipalities, Broward County, and Broward County Sheriff's Office. This Agreement shall be effective on the first day of the first calendar month after execution of this Agreement by each Party.

The City's Strategic plan has the Closest Unit Response as "On the Horizon" on page 33 under Goal #5 – Quality and Affordable City Services.

There is no expected fiscal impact.