

MEMORANDUM

TO: Common Council Members
FROM: Richard Pfaff, City Administrator (Interim)
DATE: February 25, 2025
SUBJECT: Resolution Authorizing Shared Fire-EMS Services Review

The resolution before the Common Council authorizes the City of West Allis to participate in a Shared Fire-EMS Services Review with the City of Wauwatosa, contingent upon their Common Council's approval. This study will evaluate potential opportunities for improving service coordination, optimizing resource allocation, and ensuring the long-term sustainability of fire and emergency medical services. It does not commit the city to consolidation or service changes but instead provides a fact-based analysis to inform future decision-making.

The study will analyze staffing models, response times, call volume distribution, equipment utilization, and facility placement for both fire departments. It will also evaluate potential shared service models to determine if collaboration could enhance service delivery. A financial impact analysis will examine potential efficiencies and cost-sharing opportunities. Findings and recommendations will be based on data, industry best practices, and national fire-EMS service benchmarks. A final report will be presented to the Common Council for review, discussion, and future decision-making.

This study is contingent upon the City of Wauwatosa's participation, which has not yet been finalized. Their Common Council is expected to consider the proposal in the coming weeks. If Wauwatosa does not approve participation, the study will not move forward, as there would be no partner for a shared services evaluation.

This study is a proactive step in evaluating potential service improvements to ensure that West Allis residents continue to receive the highest quality fire and EMS services in a sustainable manner. The findings will provide the Common Council with valuable data, but no changes will occur without further review and approval.

Cc: Shared Service Review Proposal