



## City of Long Beach

Working Together to Serve

## Memorandum

**Date:** September 11, 2015

**To:** Patrick H. West, City Manager *T.H.W.*

**From:** Michael A. DuRee, Fire Chief *MD*

**For:** Mayor and Members of the City Council

**Subject:** Weekly Update -- Termination of Rapid Medical Deployment Program

On August 26, 2015, the Los Angeles County Emergency Medical Services Agency notified the Long Beach Fire Department that they were terminating the Rapid Medical Deployment (RMD) Pilot Project and that, by October 1, 2015, the Department must return to the previous staffing model of two Paramedics on all Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulances. On September 1, 2015, the City Council directed the Fire Department to provide weekly updates on the status of returning to our pre-RMD staffing configuration. This memorandum represents the second of these weekly updates.

During the week beginning September 7, 2015, the Fire Department made the following progress toward returning to our pre-RMD staffing configuration:

- Began to receive preliminary data from our apparatus deployment system (Deccan program) to determine the most effective placement of our emergency response apparatus to respond to emergency medical calls. Deccan is in the process of analyzing the details of approximately 180,000 calls for service from the past three years. As noted last week, their analysis will result in a data-driven decision on where the Paramedic Ambulances and Paramedic Assessment Units (fire engines with a Paramedics) will be located once we revert to the pre-RMD staffing configuration;
- Human Resources began scheduling meet and confer sessions with the International Association of Machinists and the Firefighters Association to discuss the impacts of returning to pre-RMD staffing;
- Conducted a Labor-Management meeting with members of the Firefighters Association on September 10, 2015, to discuss details and issues of concern with regard to the return to the previous staffing model;
- Completed the analysis of the impact that the return to the previous staffing model will have on the number of positions needed in all ranks on a daily basis (Please see attached);
- Continued to evaluate the need for a Fire Academy in Fiscal Year 2016;

- Continued to evaluate the future need to send Firefighters to Paramedic School;
- Notified all sworn Fire staff and Ambulance Operators of the process for “rebidding” or being reassigned to different apparatus once we revert to the pre-RMD staffing configuration and determine the location of each apparatus;
- Continued working with the Fire Communications Center to reconfigure their dispatch systems and processes to correlate with new apparatus locations; and,
- Convened a Paramedic Committee comprised of Paramedics and other front-line personnel, representatives from the Firefighters Association, and management, to discuss the return to pre-RMD staffing and other related issues.

In the coming weeks, the Fire Department will continue to focus its efforts on returning to a pre-RMD staffing configuration and will be completed with the process by October 1, 2015. The Fire Department will continue to provide weekly updates to the City Council.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact me at 570-2505.

#### Attachments

cc: Charles Parkin, City Attorney  
Laura L. Doud, City Auditor  
Tom Modica, Assistant City Manager  
Arturo Sanchez, Deputy City Manager  
John Gross, Director of Financial Management  
Jyl Marden, Assistant to the City Manager

**ATTACHMENT**  
**RMD STAFFING VS. PRE & POST RMD STAFFING**

	Post Positions*	
	RMD staffing	Pre & Post RMD staffing
Battalion Chief	3	3
Captain	24	24
Engineer	25	25
Fire Boat Operator	2	2
FF-PM	28	25
FF	28	36
Total Sworn Post Positions	110	115
Sworn FTEs	330	345
Ambulance Operators FTEs	33	26
Total FTEs	363	371

\*Reflects the number of budgeted daily positions at fire stations.