



TOWN POLICY

POLICY NUMBER: 2301

REFERENCE:

Council 224.06.18

ADOPTED BY:

Town Council

PREPARED BY: Manager of Protective Services

DATE: June 20, 2018

TITLE: Strathmore Fire Department - Level of Service Policy

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Policy Statement

The Town of Strathmore will provide community, fire, rescue, and medical services according to the provisions of this policy statement.

The Town of Strathmore Council recognizes that within the boundaries of the Town there is a potential that residents and visitors can be exposed to a variety of dangers from fire and other emergencies.

The Town of Strathmore Fire Department was established to assist persons within the Town of Strathmore in protecting their health and property when those emergencies listed within arise. Town Council and Administration recognize the difficulty in ensuring that volunteer staff will be available in sufficient number and with sufficient training, on a 24 hour basis, to respond to every call for assistance received in a timely and safe manner.

Council also recognizes that when a response is provided the service level of that response may be different in various areas of the Town. A response may differ for a variety of reasons including:

- geographical size, remote areas and layout of the Town in a timely manner;
- staff availability and training levels of the emergency response members
- supports from other agencies providing emergency services within the region,
- the differing availability of water for fire suppression purposes within the Town;
- adverse weather conditions;
- trained emergency personnel and equipment when compared to the different types of emergencies for which training and equipment are required.

Council therefore establishes the levels of service contained in this policy document and further levels of service as Council may formally approve by resolution.

1. **Scope**

- 1.1 This policy applies to all Fire Department personnel within the Town of Strathmore or by virtue of a Mutual Aid Agreement.

2. **Definitions:**

- 2.1 "Awareness level" means that Fire Department personnel will recognize risks and hazards, adopt a defensive position, secure the area and call for specialized assistance.
- 2.2 "Fire Department" means the Town of Strathmore Fire Department.
- 2.4 "Operations level" means that Fire Department personnel will take action to contain and control the incident and seek assistance from outside agencies equipped to mitigate the incident if required.
- 2.5 "Rescue" means that Fire Department personnel will respond to any emergency request to the level of training received such as, medical support activities, vehicle accidents, still/ice water rescue, rope rescues and entrapments.
- 2.6 "Technician level" means that Responders may initiate a combination of actions to bring the incident under control and to an end.
- 2.7 "Technical Rescue" means that Fire Department personnel may respond to a unique type of emergency that requires specialized equipment and extensive/advanced training such as rope rescue (high angle), swift water, Hazardous Materials and advanced medical support.
- 2.8 "Wildland fires" means that Fire Department personnel will respond to all running non-structural prairie or forest fires in or threatening the Town of Strathmore.

3. **Training:**

- 3.1 Firefighter training shall be based on those services delivered by the Fire Department as described herein.
- 3.2 All Town of Strathmore Firefighters will be equipped and trained for wildland fire suppression according to those minimum standards required by this policy and recognized in the Province of Alberta.

- 3.3 Town of Strathmore Officers/Firefighters shall be equipped and trained for structural fire suppression to appropriate National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards. Where NFPA standards do not meet minimum requirements individuals will be trained to those minimum standards recognized in the Province of Alberta and/or approved by the Fire Chief or designate.
- 3.4 Town of Strathmore Firefighters are expected to participate in ongoing training, pre-fire planning, community outreach and awareness/education activities to develop and maintain their knowledge and skills in these areas.
- 3.5 The Fire Chief shall maintain a consolidated report on all training levels.

4. **Emergency Responses:**

- 4.1 The Fire Department shall provide a response to structure fires, motor vehicle accidents, rescue calls, dangerous goods incidents, requests for medical assistance and nonstructural fires within the Town of Strathmore.
- 4.2 The Fire Chief or designate in charge may, at any time following the receipt of an alarm, request the assistance of any other department with whom the Town of Strathmore Council has entered into a Mutual Aid Agreement.
- 4.3 The Fire Chief or designate in charge may, at any time following the receipt of an alarm, request any Town of Strathmore resources, equipment or personnel deemed necessary to address the emergency.
- 4.3 Dispatch shall be made according to the operational Fire Department Call Out / Run Response Procedures and amendments from time to time.

5. **Structural Fires:**

- 5.1 The Fire Department provides Structural Firefighting up to a Technician level.
- 5.2 It is the responsibility of Incident Command to request additional resources as deemed necessary.
- 5.3 The Incident Command will determine an offensive or defensive fire attack based on circumstances presented to them and resources available at the time of initial fire attack.

6. Dangerous Goods/Hazardous Materials:

- 6.1 The Fire Department provides dangerous goods/ HazMat response up to an Operation level and will:
 - 6.1.1 Determine contents or make up of the dangerous goods and identify evacuation requirements should they be required.
 - 6.1.2 Safely begin appropriate community safety measures including spill control and containment, support public notification and evacuation.
- 6.2 Notify the transporter or the owner of the goods as soon as is practicable to identify an emergency response team and estimated time of arrival.

7. Flammable Liquid Fire Fighting:

- 7.1 The Fire Department provides flammable liquid fire fighting for small spill fires and small containers up to 500 litres up to a Technician level depending on the department specialists responding.
- 7.2 The Fire Department provides flammable liquid fire fighting for large spills or containers in excess of 500 litres up to the Technician level depending on the department specialists responding.

8. Rescue

- 8.1 The Fire Department provides vehicle crash rescue up to a Technician level.
- 8.2 The Fire Department provides still water and ice rescue up to a Technician level.
- 8.3 The Fire Department provides medical support up to an Operational level
- 8.4 The Fire Department provides entrapment rescue to the Operational level and can provide Technician level services depending on the department specialists responding.
- 8.5 The Fire Department provides lost persons rescue up to a Technician level.

9. Technical Rescue

- 9.1 The Fire Department provides Rope Rescue (High Angle) up to an Operational level and can provide Technician level services depending on the department specialists responding.

- 9.2 The Fire Department provides Hazardous Materials response up to an Operational level and can provide Technician level services depending on the department specialists responding.
- 9.3 The Fire Department provides Swift Water rescue to the Operational level and can provide Technician level services depending on the department specialists responding.

10. **Mutual Aid**

- 10.1 The Fire Chief will recommend Mutual Aid Agreements with neighbouring Municipalities to the CAO or designate.
- 10.2 Level of response is as per requesting agency and in accordance with response levels outlined above.
- 10.3 Fire services outlined in this policy may be made available to a municipality that the Town of Strathmore does not have an agreement with by the Fire Chief or designate.
 - 10.3.1 at the request of an RCMP member,
 - 10.3.2 Chief Officer of another Fire Department
 - 10.3.3 Chief Administrative Officer of another Municipality.
- 10.4 All requests and confirmation of any response will be relayed through 911 Dispatch.

11. **End of Policy**