



41 Perimeter Center East, Suite 250
Dunwoody, Georgia 30346
P (678) 382-6700 F (678) 382-6701
dunwoodyga.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council
From: Kimberly Greer, Assistant to the City Manager
Date: July 8, 2013
Subject: **Update on Changes to Ambulance Service Provision**

ITEM DESCRIPTION

As requested by Councilman Heneghan, DeKalb County Fire Chief O’Brien has agreed to present the Council with an update regarding changes to ambulance service provision.

BACKGROUND

The state is divided into ten emergency medical services regions. Dunwoody is part of Region III which includes the counties of Clayton, Cobb, Douglas, DeKalb, Fulton, Gwinnett, Newton, and Rockdale. To allow for efficient response to emergency calls, O.C.G.A. § 31-11-1, *et seq.* specifically outlines that ambulance providers serve specific areas or zones.

The Region III Emergency Medical Services System Zoning Plan further designates zones for emergency medical response within the region. DeKalb County is zone 5. Each zone also has a designated license holder. In the case of zone 5, DeKalb County is the license holder.

When the Region III Emergency Medical Services System Zoning Plan was adopted in 2009, all areas of DeKalb County received emergency medical services through the DeKalb Fire Department. The County partnered with a private service provider to supplement ambulance service provision. As early as 2010, the County publically discussed moving towards fully privatizing ambulance service provision.

UPDATE

As part of the May 28, 2013 DeKalb County Board of Commissioners Meeting, the Commission approved a contract with American Medical Response, Inc. to provide countywide ambulance services.

As part of the June 25 Council Meeting, Councilman Heneghan requested an update on the changes in ambulance service provision. Staff reached out to Fire Chief O’Brien and he agreed to provide the Council an update.