



City of Winston-Salem City Council Council Agenda Item Summary

Title	Information on Fire Department's SUV Response Model
City Council Committee	Public Safety Committee
Meeting Date	8/10/26
Staff Lead (Presenter)	W. Andrew Gray, Assistant Chief
Department Head	William L. Mayo, Fire Chief
City Manager/ACM	Sharon Wojda, ACM

Agenda Item Summary

Recommended Council Action Information Item
Suggested Motion Options [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Strategic Focus Area Livable Community
Strategic Plan Objective GG1: Delivering Efficient and Effective Core Services
Anticipated Fiscal Impact No Material Fiscal Impact

Summary of Information

The Fire Department will provide information on its SUV response program and share results of a 90-day trial. The pilot SUV response program has been implemented within existing budget resources.

In 2025, the Fire Department responded to over 33,000 incidents, with 21% of those occurring in two fire station territories in the City's core. Medical calls account for a large portion of call volume and place significant demand on finite fire resources. The Department has been working on strategies to offset the demands of increasing call volume and apparatus costs.

The Department has implemented a two-person SUV to respond to lower-acuity medical incidents, thus improving the availability of engine and ladder companies for higher-priority fires, rescues, and other emergencies. During a three-month trial, engine and ladder companies in the City's core saw their reliability increase 48%, and they were available for 21 true emergencies that would have otherwise required a response from a unit that was further away and would have had a longer response time.

Attachments

PowerPoint

Committee Action	
For:	Against:
Remarks:	