



REPORT to the MAYOR and MEMBERS of the CITY COUNCIL
From the CITY MANAGER

DATE: September 10, 2024

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY RISK ASSESSMENT AND STANDARDS
OF COVER REPORT

ISSUING DEPARTMENT: FIRE

SUMMARY:

Recommendation:

That the City Council receives the report from Emergency Services Consulting International (ESCI) as an informational item.

Fiscal Impact:

None.

City's Strategic Goals:

- Promote a high quality of life that current and future generations can afford to call home.

BACKGROUND:

In recent years, the City has seen changes and grown in many ways, which highlights the need to evaluate the current and future needs and vulnerabilities of the Fire department's service model. The need for emergency services in La Mesa has grown exponentially over the last 15 years; the call volume alone has increased over 17% in the last five years, and increased about 60% overall since 2009. Call volume has grown, although the population growth is at a much slower rate, which does not match the rapid call growth. As a part of the industry standard, the Fire department hired a consulting firm to review the city's community risk assessment and standards of cover.

DISCUSSION:

As a part of the Fire department's FY2023-2024 budget, Emergency Services Consulting International (ESCI), an International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) company, was contracted to have an assessment performed. The community risk assessment includes analysis of risks such as EMS, Fire, Hazmat, and Natural Incidents. The standards of cover portion of the assessment is the analysis of the jurisdiction's ability of the community and public services to handle and mitigate the identified risks from the community risk assessment.

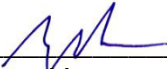
In December 2023, ESCI began their assessment. They obtained many pieces of data from the Fire Department and made site visits as well to get a full picture of what our jurisdiction is made up of (buildings, staff, community resources, call data, geographical aspects, etc.), and what model(s) would serve our communities best in today's times. Ultimately, ESCI put together a report showing their analysis of our jurisdiction along with recommendations on areas where we can mitigate those risks and concerns with coverage.

During the City Council meeting, staff and ESCI representatives will present an overview of the study, along with findings and recommendations. The goal of the report is to better assess the current and future needs and vulnerabilities as it relates to the Fire department's service model, which ultimately helps the Fire department with both maintaining existing service levels, and current and long-term planning.

CONCLUSION:


Staff recommends that the City Council receives the presentation and report from Emergency Services Consulting International (ESCI) and ask questions of staff and the consultant, as needed.

Reviewed by:



Greg Humora
City Manager

Respectfully submitted by:



Bent Koch
Fire Chief

Attachments:

La Mesa Community Risk Assessment Report
La Mesa Standard of Cover Report