

City of Anaheim ANAHEIM FIRE & RESCUE



March 31, 2015

Sam Stratton, MD Medical Director OCEMS Agency PO Box 355 Santa Ana, Ca. 92802

Dear Dr. Stratton,

Anaheim Fire and Rescue is requesting to convert an existing BLS unit, Anaheim Truck 3, to an ALS unit. A proposal will be forthcoming to include all requirements outlined in Policy 700.00 ALS UNIT APPROVAL/REACTIVATION and Policy 700.05 ALS UNIT APPROVAL/REACTIVATION- CHECKLIST. The final proposal will be submitted to OCEMS prior to EMCC on April 24th. The proposal will include justification, workload analysis, as well as commitments to maintain training, supplies, inventory, communication and staffing requirements. Anaheim Fire is not seeking any variances to the Board of Supervisors Resolution 79-240.

The proposed implementation date for Anaheim Truck 3 to convert from BLS to ALS capable is following the EMCC on April 24th; however, Anaheim Fire is requesting that Orange County EMS allow Anaheim T3 to convert to ALS on a *temporary basis* from April 7th to April 24th. Anaheim Fire has the equipment and paramedic staffing to meet Policy 700.00 requirements on April 7th, and propose the earlier start date to fall in with FSLA staffing timeframes. All notifications to OCC, UCI, etc. would be conducted in accordance with policy 706.00, Temporary ALS Service Unit Activation.

Please see below for further Justification and Analysis.

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ANAHEIM FIRE & RESCUE JUSTIFICATION

Anaheim Fire & Rescue (AF&R) currently staffs paramedic units in all fire stations within our city. To enhance current coverage and improve response times, our operational plan is to add one additional ALS paramedic unit to our delivery system by converting an existing BLS truck company to ALS truck company. Currently, T3 is a four-person BLS unit responding to 911 calls from Anaheim Fire Station #3 (Disney Resort Station). The proposed ALS capable T3 would remain a four-person unit responding out of Fire Station #3. ALS T3 would be staffed with a minimum of two State-licensed and Orange County accredited paramedics as well as two additional fire personnel who are State Certified EMT's at minimum. Justifications for these enhancements to our EMS delivery system include:

- Increasing the capacity of our ALS delivery system will result in more effective and efficient patient care.
- Adding the additional ALS unit will increase ALS unit availability in our city.
- Reducing delay of patient care caused by ALS upgrades called for by first responding BLS units in our busiest areas.
- Increasing fire engine availability to respond to fire calls.

EMS call volumes have been increasing each year, with a definite increase in ALS calls noted. The City of Anaheim experiences an unusual phenomenon in the number of residents, workers and visitors who are within our city boundaries on any given day or time. Our normal population is listed at 348,000, but because of our unique composition of large convention center facilities, amusement parks, hotels and sports venues, our population can double or even triple on a given day to over a million people. We also have within our city several venues that are considered at higher risk for possible terrorist activities, and the additional paramedic unit would enhance our current ALS response capabilities to such an event. We also have multiple freeways that traverse through our city, including the 91, 5, 57 freeways, and Highway 39 (Beach Boulevard) which is a high speed highway resulting in high velocity traffic collisions.

WORKLOAD ANALYSIS

Our EMS calls are generally between 83-85% of all 911 calls generated to Anaheim Fire & Rescue. EMS call volumes have been increasing annually for the City of Anaheim, as well as-call volumes for areas covered by Anaheim Truck 3. Anaheim T3 is responsible for Downtown Disney, Disney Resort area, Disney parks, Resort area hotels, the Anaheim Convention Center, American Sports Center, as well as surrounding residential areas, including high-density residential units. Multiple construction sites are on-going in T3's area as well. The call load in this area is expected to increase further with the addition of seven new resort hotels in the planning and/or construction phases.

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATIONS/BOUNDARIES

Anaheim Paramedic Truck 3 would service the southern central parts of our city.

Truck 3 general boundaries:

East: Lewis St with some districting East above Lewis Avenue. North: Ball Rd with some districting North above Ball Rd.

West: West Street.

South: Orangewood Blvd with some districting South of Orangewood.

PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION TIME FRAME

Pending notification of proposal following OCEMS and EMCC review on April 24th, the official proposed activation of T3 as an ALS unit is at 0800 on April 25th or as soon as approval is granted. We are also asking for approval on a temporary basis until which time the EMCC meets. All personnel and equipment will be in-place for T3 to be activated as an ALS unit on April 7, 2015.

DRUGS/FORMULARY/SUPPLIES/INVENTORIES

Anaheim Fire & Rescue agrees to continue to maintain the mandated drug and IV solution inventory, along with basic and ALS medical equipment and supplies, as specified by policies from the OCEMS Agency. We will continue with our commitment to utilize and maintain medical telecommunications as specified by OCEMS Agency.

ALS TRAINING

Anaheim Fire & Rescue agrees to continue to meet the training needs and OCEMS Agency staffing requirements at all times with a minimum of two paramedics (EMT-Ps) per ALS unit.

Sincerely,

Randy R. Bruegman

FIRE CHIEF

CC: DC Patrick Russell

DC Jeff Alario

Kristin Thompson, RN, EMS Manager

David Barry, EMS Captain

Mary Massey, RN - ARMC BHC

Maryle Olivier, RN - UCI BH