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August 11, 2020

The Honorable Pat S. Gerard  
Chair  
Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners  
315 Court Street  
Clearwater, Florida 33756

Dear Chair Gerard,

On behalf of the City of Largo, I am writing to thank you for expressing your support for funding for Squad 38 at last week's County Commission meeting. On behalf of the City Commission and those residents, businesses and visitors served by the Largo Fire District, I respectfully request that the Board of County Commissioners, serving as the Emergency Medical Services Authority, consider funding Squad 38 in FY 2021 in the amount of \$571,352. This will allow Squad 38 to become Authority funded. Specifically, the City of Largo is requesting Authority funding for one 24/7 position (3 shifts 24/7/365) for Response Zone 38 in accordance with Resolution 09-37.

Station 38 lies near the intersection of Belcher Road and Ulmerton Road, and serves the surrounding incorporated and unincorporated areas. Response Zone 38 generates an average of 10.5 calls per day. Additionally, Squad 38 responds to 9.7 calls per day and Engine 38 responds to 4.0 calls per day for a total of 13.7 calls per day, 365 days/year.

According to Pinellas County Resolution 09-37, Squad 38 has met the criteria for Authority funding for the past two consecutive years due to the high volume of calls to which the squad responds as well as the number of calls generated within Response Zone 38. Furthermore, of all of the FY 2021 proposed requests received for ALSFR Program Enhancements, Squad 38 responds to the highest volume of calls. Additionally, Squad 38 is the **only** unit meeting the criteria belonging to an agency that is partnering with Pinellas County in the Growth Management initiative (priority dispatch).

As the stewards of the County's Emergency Medical Services system and partners in the provision of public safety services, we all know that it is essential to provide long-term financial stability sufficient to sustain quality emergency medical services into the future. The efforts to explore Growth Management and priority dispatch are a critical component to our collective long-term cost containment initiatives and efforts on behalf of our taxpayers.

- Continued -



YOUR COMMUNITY OF CHOICE  
*Naturally*

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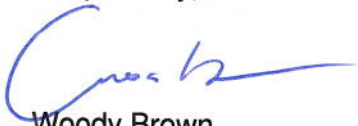
The City of Largo's Fire and Rescue Department, City Administration and City Commission has partnered with Pinellas County and proactively endorsed the priority dispatch concept. As you know, in 2019, the City of Largo joined four other Fire Districts in piloting priority dispatch.

Since Squad 38 is the only unit on the proposed ALSFR Program Enhancement list for FY 2021 belonging to an agency that is partnering with Pinellas County in priority dispatch and, even with these efforts continues to meet the funding criteria set forth in Resolution 09-37, this squad clearly merits consideration for funding.

We hope you will consider this request for funding. City Manager Schubert and Fire Chief Pittman are available to answer any questions or discuss any concerns that you may have regarding the City's request.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration.

Respectfully,



Woody Brown  
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Chief Chad Pittman, City of Largo