

ADD ONE: BACKGROUND ON OPERATIONAL CONSOLIDATION

The concept of a regionalized approach to emergency response is not new, but the timing, clear vision, and enthusiastic support of all three fire service organizations and two municipalities makes it the best time to work together to turn our vision into reality.

The population within our response area continues to grow, placing additional demands on our personnel for their time. In the past decade, TFC's call volume has increased by approximately seventy-five (75) percent. Without hesitation, TFC volunteers are responding to incidents, attending regular drills, participating in local training and certification, and fulfilling all of the other administrative work that goes along with running a volunteer fire department. In many cases, volunteers are putting in hours equivalent to a second full-time career.

The fire departments and municipalities are working together to improve our standard of cover in a fiscally responsible way while also striving to meet recommendations set forth by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 1720. NFPA 1720 specifies requirements for effective and efficient organization and deployment of fire suppression operations, emergency medical operations, and special operations to the public by volunteer and combination fire departments to protect citizens and the occupational safety and health of fire department employees. Through the use of a combination of career and volunteer professionals, we aim to achieve this goal.

Plans are currently underway to affect an operational consolidation whereby TFC, BRVFC, and UPTDFES would begin to operationally function as one, working with other agencies who regularly provide service to Upper Providence Township and Trappe Borough.

TFC was incorporated in 1911 as a 100% Volunteer Fire Company. With 30 active volunteer firefighters, three pieces of fire apparatus (Ladder, Engine, Brush Truck), and two support vehicles (Traffic Unit and Command Vehicle), TFC demonstrates its commitment to the community by protecting life and property while preserving quality of life for those who reside within our community.

UPTDFES is a municipal Fire Department established by ordinance in Upper Providence Township in July of 2007. The UPTDFES is comprised of a career Fire Chief, Deputy Chief / Fire Marshal, and career firefighters. Department career staff utilize a Fire Engine which is staffed from the central fire station located on in Upper Providence Township on Black Rock Road.

Beginning in the 2000's, Upper Providence Township began to establish common Standard Operating Guidelines, annual NFPA apparatus and equipment inspection requirements, and minimum training criteria. Fire departments responding into Upper Providence Township frequently train together to promote unity and a common understanding of Standard Operating Guidelines.

Please see supplemental pages for comments from Fire Department and Municipal Leadership.

Proudly Serving Trappe Borough, Upper Providence Township, and Surrounding Communities Since October 1911



Comments from Fire Department Leadership:

Trappe Fire Company:

"On behalf of the membership and leadership at TFC, we are extremely excited to enter into an operational consolidation with UPTDFES and the BRVFC. The increased demands being placed on our volunteer professionals in today's day and age are a testament to the spirit of this operational consolidation. By coming together, we are upholding multiple department core values of altruism, commitment, and professionalism. This strategic move will provide an enhanced level of service to the residents, businesses, and visitors of our community. I would like to thank Trappe Borough and Upper Providence Township for their constant support and collaboration. We are looking forward to the opportunity to be a part of the development of a formal strategic plan to address fire and emergency services as we move forward.

Branden T. Sisca

Fire Chief, Trappe Fire Company No. 1

Upper Providence Department of Fire and Emergency Services:

"We are excited that Trappe Fire Company is joining with Upper Providence Township in taking the first steps to begin this operational consolidation. Trappe Fire Company has faithfully served Upper Providence Township for many years. With the decline in volunteerism and increased demands for services, the benefit of regionalization is a very logical path to follow. With this streamlined approach, we will begin to standardize our procedures, reduce equipment redundancy, coordinate training, and support each other with response capabilities. As we strive to maintain the highest level of service, I am certain the residents of both Trappe Borough and Upper Providence Township will benefit from this endeavor.

Michael A. Risell

Fire Chief, Township of Upper Providence Department of Fire and Emergency Services



Comments From Municipal Stakeholders:

Trappe Borough:

"We recognize the complexity of providing the best possible response and service to our communities in an ever changing landscape. The forward thinking collaboration between Trappe Fire Company and our neighbors, along with the cooperation of the respective governing boards, is crucial to sustained viable service. We are looking forward to watching this partnership continue to grow to better help serve the needs of both our communities and neighbors while providing a financial benefit to tax payers as we move forward."

Marcus V. Dolny Trappe Borough Manager

Upper Providence Township:

"We are thrilled with Trappe Fire Company's decision to partner with Upper Providence Township in consolidating our fire and emergency services operations. This new regional partnership not only makes economic sense but will allow us to target our resources more efficiently to optimize response times and enhance the protection of life and property in both our communities. We look forward to an enduring relationship and one that we hope will inspire others to follow."

Timothy J. Tieperman

Upper Providence Township Manager

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