

CITY OF WOOSTER

CHAPTER 9—EMERGENCY SERVICES/PUBLIC SAFETY

Introduction

Emergency services include police and fire protection as well as emergency medical treatment. The City of Wooster provides these services throughout the city limits. The City of Wooster has excellent leadership and staff providing these services to the city.

Police

The City of Wooster Police Department has full-time officers, part-time volunteers, parking enforcement staff, and administrative staff. The department is headquartered in the Justice Center in Downtown. Emergency 911 dispatch services are provided by county employees under a joint operation between the City of Wooster and Wayne County.

Fire and Emergency Medical Services

The City of Wooster Fire Department operates out of two fire stations. The department is headquartered in the downtown location while a second firehall is located on Highland Avenue. The Department includes full-time firefighters and emergency medical personnel.

The department has two engines, one ladder vehicle and three emergency medical squad vehicles on the front line and two engines and one ladder vehicle on reserve for use when multiple calls are serviced. In addition, the department has one grass fire fighting vehicle, three administrative vehicles and one pick-up truck.

Buildings within the city are required to be within 400 feet of a fire hydrant. Fire hydrant flows range from approximately 1,400 to 2,500 gallons per minute depending on the location.

An issue that needs to be addressed is meeting the department's goal of a four minute maximum response time in all areas of the city. Two areas that do not meet this parameter include newly annexed lands and the north end.

Conclusion

Long-range planning on the provisions of police, fire, and emergency medical services will need to be completed for the community. The basis for this effort will be the need to determine acceptable community-wide level-of-service standards. With respect to fire and emergency medical services, for example, this effort will need to consider acceptable response times for fire and emergency medical services in order to develop a strategic plan to determine target staffing levels, as well as facility and apparatus needs.