

PS COMMITTEE #1
September 17, 2009

MEMORANDUM

September 15, 2009

TO: Public Safety Committee
FROM: Minna K. Davidson, ^{MKD}Legislative Analyst
SUBJECT: Update - MCFRS Apparatus Management Plan

The following individuals will be present:

Richard Bowers, Fire Chief, Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service (MCFRS)
Steve Lohr, Chief, Division of Operations, MCFRS
Steve Lamphier, Apparatus Manager, MCFRS

Background

The Public Safety Committee has been monitoring implementation of the MCFRS Apparatus Management Plan on an ongoing basis. This update was requested as part of the Committee's ongoing review. A briefing outline provided by MCFRS is on © 1-21.

This briefing will cover the following topics:

- Status of vehicles ordered under the Fire Apparatus Replacement CIP project (#450600)
- Status of pumpers ordered under the project
- Status of 14 new BLS units to be funded through a master lease beginning in FY10
- Status of EMS fleet overall; schedule for replacement of additional EMS units
- Status of tanker and engine body pump modules to be purchased through master lease beginning in FY10
- Southlawn maintenance facility and LFRD maintenance facilities
- Transition of LFRD mechanics to County employment
- Maintenance management and costs
- Fuel management and costs
- Data collection and process improvements
- Status of implementation of Apparatus Management Plan; future needs

This update shows progress in several important areas including: much of the apparatus that was purchased under the Fire Apparatus Replacement CIP project has been delivered and is in the field; Building B of the Central Maintenance Facility at Southlawn Drive is built out and operational, and Building A will be completed soon; all mechanic technicians have been successfully transferred from LFRD employment to County employment; an online Apparatus Defect Reporting System is being beta-tested in Battalion 3 and Countywide mandatory use is anticipated by November 1, 2009.

The following issues are highlighted for Committee consideration.

Status of the EMS fleet: For FY10, the Executive recommended \$1.8 million to pay for a master lease payment plus supplies and equipment to purchase 30 ambulances with 10 equipped as ALS units and 20 equipped as BLS units. In FY08, MCFRS developed a rotational replacement plan for EMS units which resulted in an average replacement of 10 EMS units per year. The plan was not implemented at the time, and the Executive's FY10 recommendation was intended to "catch up" the plan by including the 10 units each that should have been replaced in FY08 and FY09 and the 10 units due to be purchased in FY10. The Committee majority initially recommended reducing \$1.2 million for 20 EMS units. This would have enabled MCFRS to purchase the 10 replacement units scheduled for FY10, but none of the "catch up" units. (Councilmember Elrich was concerned about the service implications of not funding the full purchase, and opposed the majority recommendation.)

The Committee agreed to revisit the status of the EMS fleet in September to determine whether additional units should be funded through a supplemental appropriation. (If additional units are needed, they could still be ordered before prices increase in January 2010.)

After the Committee reported its recommendations to the Council, the Fire Chief requested an opportunity to reprioritize the apparatus purchases within the total of \$757,200 that the Committee recommended for EMS units and other apparatus. The Fire Chief requested, and the Council approved, a reallocation of the funding to purchase 14 EMS units equipped as BLS units, one tanker, and two engine body pump modules.

While the current fiscal situation makes it unlikely that it would be possible to fund more EMS units through an FY10 supplemental appropriation, this Apparatus Management update will provide an opportunity for the Committee to receive a status report on the condition of the EMS fleet. MCFRS staff has provided update information on © 6 and 19.

LFRD-owned apparatus: On © 5, the briefing outline indicates that several pieces of LFRD-owned apparatus have been or will be delivered. The Committee may want to ask MCFRS staff to review how LFRD-owned apparatus are coordinated with the overall Countywide fleet for operational and maintenance purposes.

Apparatus Fiscal Needs: On © 18, MCFRS staff provided information about the additional fiscal needs associated with current and future implementation of the Apparatus Management Plan. They estimate that level apparatus replacement funding of approximately \$21 million is needed each year for FY11-16. In previous reports, it was estimated that level

funding of approximately \$11.9 million per year would be needed for FY09-14. What accounts for the large increase in annual funding?

Update of the Apparatus Management Plan: The Apparatus Management Plan dates from April 2004. Many of the recommendations of the Plan have been implemented, but it would be helpful to know specifically which recommendations have been addressed and which still must be completed. The briefing outline indicates that the Apparatus Section will be working on a review and update of the Apparatus Management Plan. The Committee may want to ask what will be included in the review and what the timeframe will be.

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MCFRS Apparatus Update

Montgomery County Council's
Public Safety Committee
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MCFRS Apparatus Section Mission & Vision Statements

- Mission

To meet or exceed our customer's expectations by providing all essential fire and rescue fleet and equipment services in a safe, reliable, efficient, environmentally sound, and cost effective manner

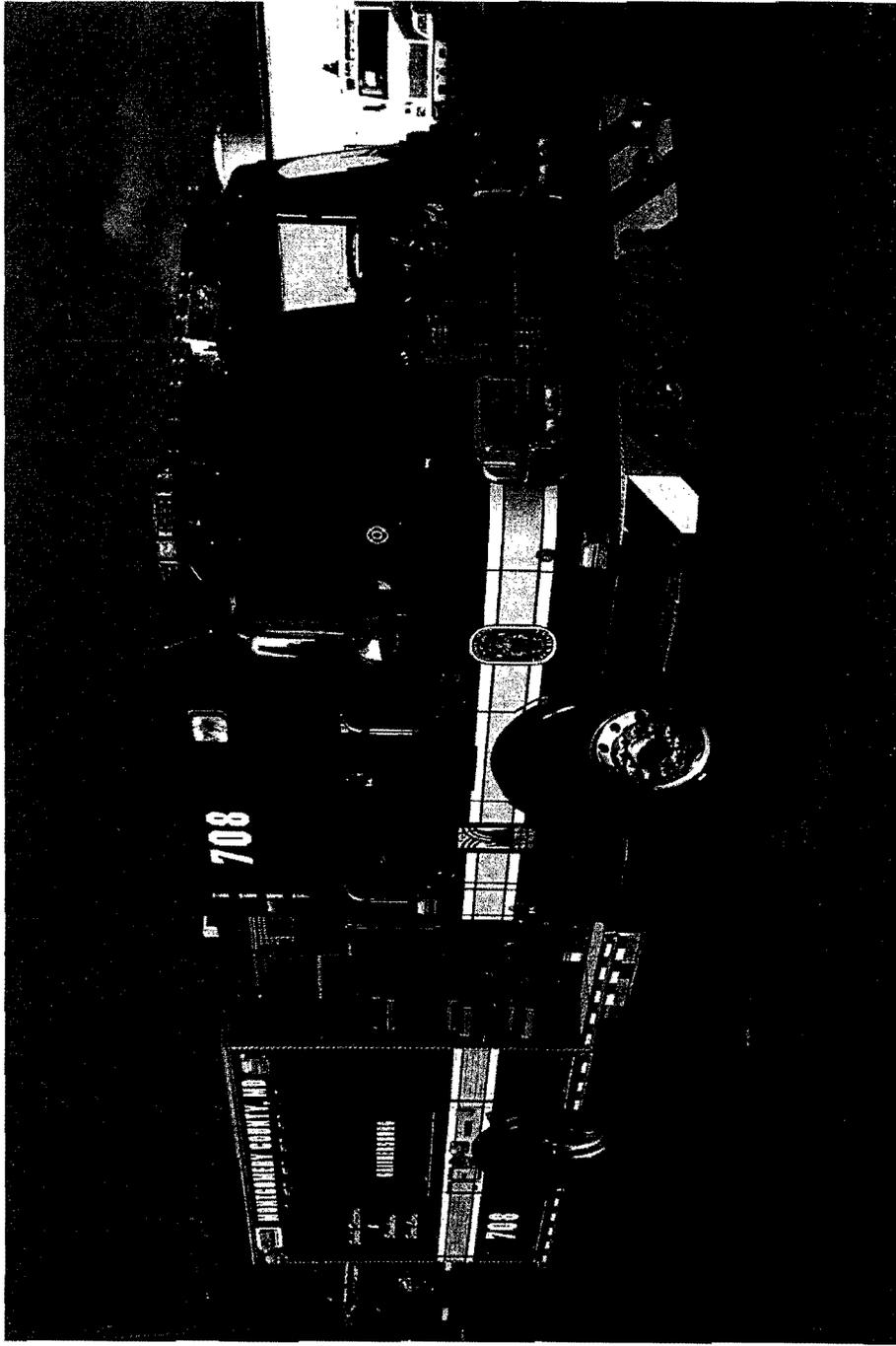
- Vision

To help keep our communities safe and healthy with industry leading, world class, responsive and accountable fleet management programs while being recognized as our customer's preferred partners and service providers.

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Apparatus



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Apparatus Update

- Recent deliveries (MCFRS-owned)
 - Rescue Squads
 - Rockville 703,
 - Laytonsville 717
 - Germantown 729
 - Engines:
 - All of the Crimson Engines have been delivered and accepted
 - 19 of the 39 units have been placed in service
 - They are serving Rockville, Upper Montgomery, West Germantown, Clarksburg, Germantown, Gaithersburg, Laytonsville, Sandy Spring, Kensington, the Training Academy. This month units serving Cabin John, Bethesda and Glen Echo will be placed in service.

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Apparatus Update

- Light-duty vehicle outfitted for bomb technicians – in service
- Recent or forthcoming deliveries (LFRD-owned)
 - Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad (3) EMS units
 - Burtonsville Volunteer Fire Department E715
 - Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department E710
 - Germantown Volunteer Fire Department E729B
 - Germantown Volunteer Fire Department Boat 729
 - Glen Echo Volunteer Fire Department A711B
 - Kensington Volunteer Fire Department AT705
 - Upper Montgomery Volunteer Fire Department W714

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Apparatus Update

- Apparatus Section staff reviews specifications for these acquisitions per policy and assists the LFRDs as requested with factory inspections. These inspections have occurred at KME, Spartan and Crimson
- **Acquisitions in process:**
 - **EMS units** – a contract for the 14 EMS units funded by the FY10 operating budget is nearing completion; delivery of the first units is expected in mid-winter.
 - **Tanker** – a potential bridge contract for the tanker funded by the FY10 operating budget has been identified; an updated specification is forthcoming from the potential vendor.

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Apparatus Update

- **The Apparatus Daily Count:**
 - The “apparatus daily count” has been met everyday since the October 2008 update for pumpers, aerials, and EMS units.
 - The daily count for specialty units, e.g. tankers, that do not have a reserve component, is occasionally problematic. When this has occurred, appropriate coverage adjustments were implemented during this time period.
 - The Upper Montgomery County VFD has purchased a tanker. The tanker assigned to FS #14 as TW714B has been reassigned to Germantown-Kingsview FS #22 until the new tanker has been acquired.

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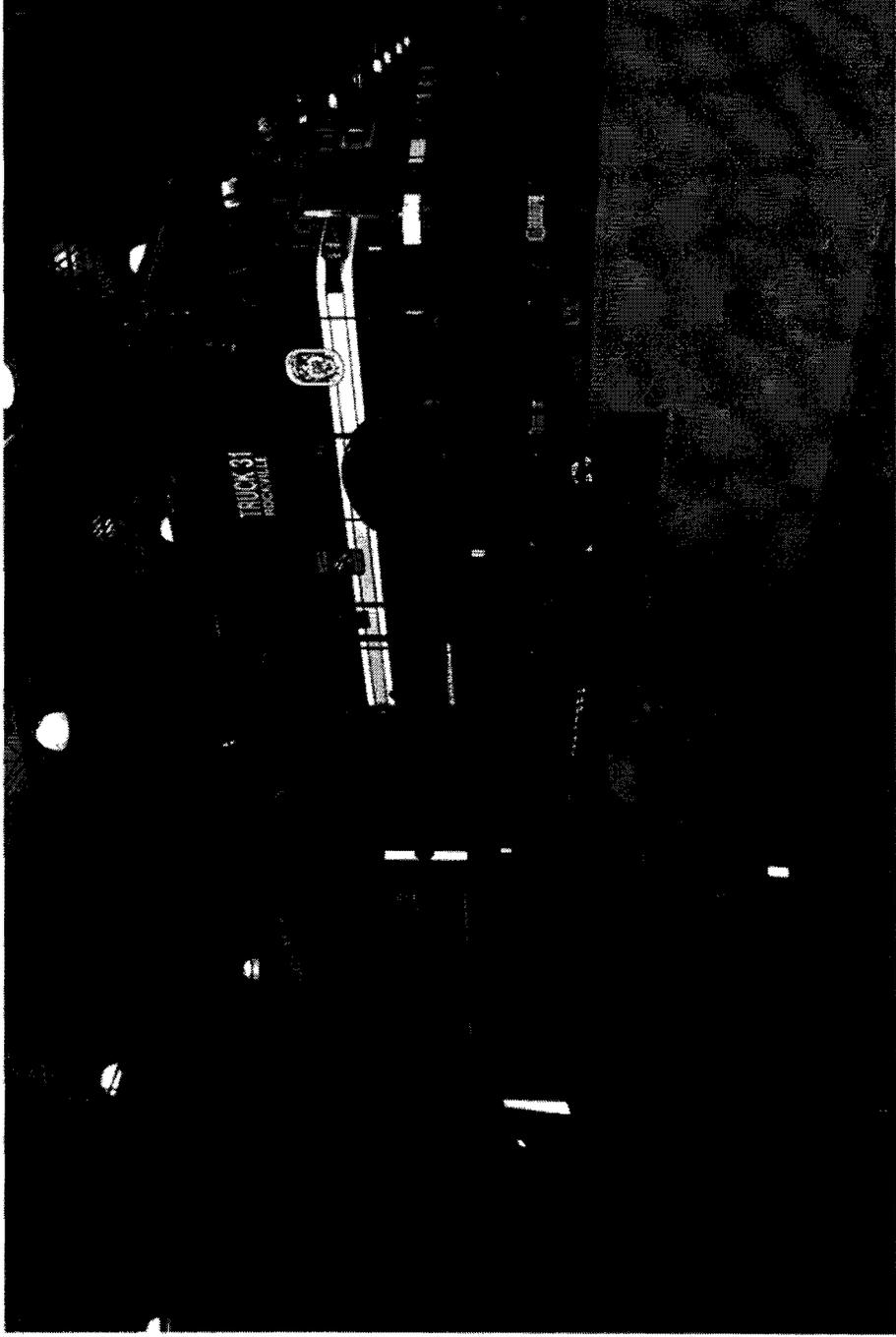
Fuel/Maintenance Fiscal Update

	FY08		FY09	
Fuel	\$1.029M	\$1.394M	\$1.029M	\$1.144M
Maintenance	\$1.722M	\$2.194M	\$1.722M	\$1.873M

- FY10 fuel and maintenance budgets have not changed.
- Fuel costs decreased by \$250,000 between FY08 and FY09. Fuel costs for FY 10 are tracking slightly higher as compared to this time last FY.
- Maintenance costs decreased by \$321,000 between FY08 and FY09.
- Maintenance costs for FY10 are expected to remain flat. While the pumper fleet is new (and under warranty), the warranties for the newest batch of aerial ladder trucks are expiring, the EMS fleet will remain generally aged, and the much of the reserve fleet, while improved, is still aged.

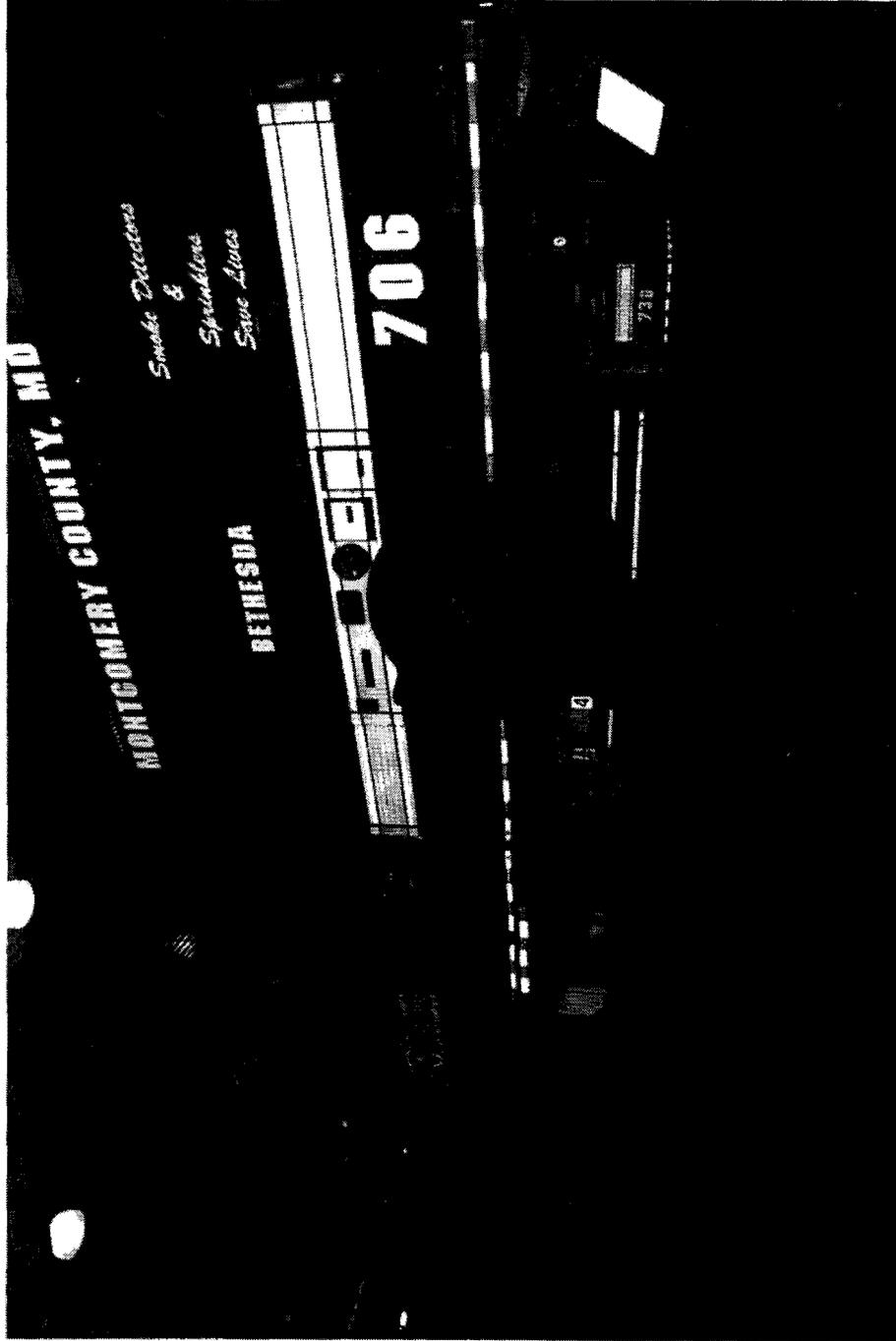
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Central Maintenance Facility (CMF) (14935-B Southlawn Lane)



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CMF



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CMF

- Building “B” is complete. We truly have a world class facility.
- Building “A” (Wash Bay, Reserve Apparatus Storage, Training, and Administration) is under construction for the first 3 phases. This project is being managed by MCFRS Apparatus Section and Facilities Section staff.

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CMF



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CMF Operations

- All mechanic technicians have been successfully transferred from LFRD employment to County employment. The transition, for the employees, was seamless. The MCFRS wishes to acknowledge the Office of Human Resources and MCGEO for their efforts in this project.
- The Rockville VFD shop transferred to the CMF in July 2009.
- The Bethesda, Kensington, and Silver Spring shops are targeted to be transferred before November 1, 2009.
- The CMF is open from 0700-1530, Monday –Friday.
- The CMF parts department is being organized and inventoried.

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Facilities – Other Notes

- Facility Planning and Site Selection for the permanent CMF is funded in the FY09-14 Capital Improvements Program (CIP). A draft POR has been completed for a permanent CMF. The status of these efforts will be reviewed for the FY11-16 CIP.
- Satellite facilities are still required. The MCFRS has completed draft Program of Requirements.

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Data Collection and Process Improvement

- DTS working closely with Mr. Steve Lamphier has developed an on-line Countywide Apparatus Defect Reporting System.
 - Allows the Apparatus Section staff, as well as other MCFRS components to view, prioritize, and review apparatus defects reported at the station level.
 - Allows real-time apparatus condition reporting as well as almost real-time mileage reporting.
 - The system has been beta-tested in Battalion 3 and enhancements are in progress.
 - Countywide, mandatory use, is anticipated by November 1, 2009 as the Fire Chief's General Order is in process.

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Sign In

https://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/FleetMgmtReporting/DefectForm.aspx

Montgomery County Maryland [US]

AOL Mail (275) LiveFireFeeds L.L.C. Music, Downloads, Musi... Fleet Management ... X

AOL Mail (275)
http://webmail.aol.com/44148/aol/en-us/Suite.aspx

Go to Next Step: Submit a New Defect

Step 3: Report a New Defect

You must ENTER ONLY ONE DEFECT in each form submission. If there is more than one defect for the selected apparatus/equipment, please complete the form for the first defect and click the "Submit Defect" button. Then enter the next defect in the Defect Description field and click the Submit Defect button for each defect.

* indicates required form fields

! indicates missing or incorrect form entry

Reported By: Stephen Lamphier

LFRD/Station: App-Dover (Shift - D, Kelly -)

Contact Phone:

Email: steve.lamphier@montgomerycountymd.gov

Current Mileage: *

Is this an Out of Service condition?

(Click [here](#) to view Apparatus Out of Service Criteria)

Defect Description: * PLEASE ENTER ONLY ONE DEFECT HERE.

3000 characters left (3000 characters length limit).

Submit Defect

Local intranet

100%

start

Disconne...

Inbox - M...

Fleet Ma...

Volume C...

Microsoft...

7:32 PM

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Defect Reporting Sample

Fleet Management Reporting System - Apparatus Tracker and Defect Administration Module
Apparatus Section, Division of Operations

[CONTACT Us](#) | [LOG OUT](#)

[Defects Entry Form](#) | [Defects Administration](#) | [List Administration](#) | [Apparatus Tracker](#) | [Reports](#)

Apparatus/Equipment Defect Details

[BACK TO SEARCH RESULTS](#)

Details for Defect # 10255

Apparatus/Equipment	Stock #: 1-02-2217	Unit: RE8	Make: PIERCE PUMPER
	Operational Status: UNK	Mileage: 111836.3	
Reported By	Name: Paul Scholl	LFRD/Station: DFRS	FF Type: Career
	Phone:	Email: paul.scholl@montgomerycountymd.gov	Shift/Kelly: C - Thursday
Reported From	Station 03		
Entry Date	9/7/2009		
Description	Low fuel alarm activates intermittally even with fuel tank full. Fuel gauge will drop to empty when alarm sounds.		
	Is an OOS condition? No		

Other Open Defects for this Apparatus/Equipment (Hide ...)

Defect # 10256
Entry Date: 9/7/2009 Defect Status: New Reported From: Station 03 Mileage: 111836.3

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Apparatus Fiscal Needs

- Regular apparatus replacement continues to be a high priority in the MCFRS “Master Plan”. Level apparatus replacement funding needs to be provided each fiscal year. Currently this equates to \$21M annually for FY11-16.
- Convert funding for the “equivalent” positions in the operating budget to three Mechanic Technician II positions in FY10. This will further maximize the use of the CMF and potentially reduce contract maintenance by 20%.
- Continued build-out of the Apparatus Section staff to include:
 - An Office Services Coordinator.
 - Staff to fill asset management, maintenance/repair, and administrative duties.
- The CMF is a new business for the MCFRS. Operating costs will be developed with experience.

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Apparatus Fiscal Needs (continued)

- EMS Units
 - Increased call load and enhanced services.
 - EMS Unit Replacement Plan – 3-5 years front-line service with 5-7 years total service.
 - Replace 1/3 of the front-line fleet every 3 years and 2/3 of the front-line fleet every 5 years, for an average of 10 replacements per year.
 - Factors – mileage, age, overall condition, and call load.
 - After the 14 new units are delivered, 16 high-mileage units will remain in-service that are 7-13 years old – (3) 1997s, (3) 1998s, (1) 1999, (1) 2000, (5) 2001s, (1) 2002, and (2) 2003.
 - The average of these 16 units is 134,900 miles.
 - In keeping with the established replacement guidelines per the Apparatus Management Plan, an additional 16 replacement EMS units are required in FY 10
 - Cost per equipped BLS unit is \$244,400 and the cost per equipped ALS unit is \$302,800.

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Other Apparatus Section Projects

- The Apparatus Section is working on the following projects:
 - A fuel management project has been proposed for the FY 11-16 CIP. Fuel management will allow for interoperability, preventative maintenance and predictive maintenance, as well as a potential cost savings for fuel purchases.
 - Standards of Maintenance – defines and describes the strategic and tactical shop operations. This is a “best” fleet management practice.
 - FASTER implementation – data extraction and analysis as well as more efficient and effective use of the system.

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Other Apparatus Section Projects

- Review and update of the Apparatus Management Plan.

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