

From: [Goldstein, Scott](#)
To: [#FRS.ALL](#)
Subject: FY2017 Staffing Changes and Future Planning
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AI MCFRS Personnel

The FY17 budget has been finalized and we are preparing for the new budget year. We were successful in conveying the need for support in some stations and in demonstrating the value that four-person paramedic engines will bring in others. In the two weeks since the final budget was approved, we have been working on a plan for implementation and considering the implications to our personnel and the organization.

Although there are still details to be worked out and the timeline is not finalized, I wanted to get some information out as soon as possible. The County Council approved a budget that includes:

- A restoration of the staffing for the proposed cuts to AT724 and PE709
- An increase in the size of RC41 from 50 to 85 personnel
- An increase to staffing at FS15
- Funding for “Phase One” of the changes to ALS delivery

Many of the changes included in this budget will not be enacted until RC41 has graduated and those personnel are part of minimum staffing.

What does this mean to you?

- Starting July 10, 2016, FS15 will be staffed with an additional officer and firefighter around the clock. The complement of each shift will increase by one Lieutenant and one firefighter, and a firefighter position will be added to day work. On nights and weekends, three career personnel and LFRD personnel will integrate to staff A715, T715, and RS715. Ambulance 715 will be controlled 24/7 starting July 10th. This is a major improvement to the residents of the community.
- Later this summer or in early fall, I plan to upgrade E726 to a four-person AFRA.
- In late spring of 2017, we plan to upgrade E710 and E711 to four-person AFRAs which will bring us to 33 of 35 engines meeting our “standard paramedic engine” model. Coinciding with the staffing of those AFRAs, we plan to downgrade M704, M730, and M735 to BLS transport units. Until that time, the staffing and shift complements at those stations will remain unchanged.
- Also in late spring, we will change M741 to ALS741 and provide daytime career staffing for a BLS transport unit in Bethesda/Chevy Chase.

For FY18, (July of 2017) we intend to advocate for “Phase Two” of the changes to ALS delivery. The primary component of this phase will be the conversion of ALS transport units to Paramedic Chase Units (“PCUs” or “chase cars”) at FS03, FS08,

FS23, and FS25 while keeping the same number of transport units.

I understand that all of these changes affect our personnel and change is never easy. I ask you to understand that these changes are always made to provide the best possible service to residents and visitors of our County.

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