



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board of County Commissioners
FROM: Robert S. LaSala, County Administrator
DATE: May 3, 2011
SUBJECT: Receive Updated Preliminary EMS Study and Presentation
by Michael Gunderson, Integral Performance Solutions (IPS)

Pinellas County established a Countywide EMS System in 1981. Over the years, the EMS system has been studied by the Pinellas County Assembly, the Pinellas County Charter Review Commission and the Pinellas County EMS Reconfiguration Committee. Although the system is rated as highly effective, we continue to monitor, review and analyze its cost efficiency.

Toward that end, an EMS study was initiated in 2009 with assistance from a Resource Group made up of City Managers, Fire Chiefs, EMS Coordinators and the ambulance contractor. A contract with a consultant, IPS, was executed on December 30, 2009. The completion of the preliminary report was extended from the original timeline to ensure the facilitation of free discussion and input from the Resource Group.

Mr. Gunderson provided the first draft and presentation of his Preliminary EMS Study Report on January 25, 2011. Following this distribution, staff took a very methodical and deliberative approach to reviewing the preliminary findings. In conjunction with Mr. Gunderson and Mr. Todd Hatley, also with IPS, staff verified and updated the numbers as well as confirmed various assumptions and facts included in the preliminary report. The underlying principles and recommendations remain unchanged.

Attached is IPS's updated Preliminary EMS Study Report. Mr. Gunderson will be providing a presentation of his findings during the Work Session. Following the meeting, and as part of extensive public outreach, presentations will be conducted before the various EMS System Stakeholders. The primary purpose for these presentations will be to inform and solicit additional input. Additionally, the updated Preliminary Report, a video presentation by Mr. Gunderson and a Frequently Asked Questions summary will be available on the County website.

Once all input is received, appropriate adjustments may be made to the preliminary Report and a final report will be completed. The outreach/input phase is expected to take approximately 60 to 90 days.

Attachment