

Whatcom County EMS Funding Work Group  
**RECOMMENDATIONS**

*March, 2016*

Prepared and Submitted to:

EMS Oversight Board



# 5<sup>th</sup> Medic Unit

Deployment Plan For 5<sup>th</sup> Medic Unit

Council Update

## 2016 Workgroup Plan:

---

Projected 5<sup>th</sup> ALS Unit

Although common wisdom, experience and response suggest Whatcom County needs a 5<sup>th</sup> ALS unit, data to confirm the exact timing was unavailable. After complete data is available and analyzed, a recommendation for an additional unit will be made. An EMS Levy should include reserves to fund a 5th unit.

---

---

Review strategic placement of units/ambulances in the county.

Confirm that current ambulance locations are appropriate considering population, geographic and demographic changes since the last review, about 6 years ago.

---

## Work Plan History

- March 2018 EMS Manager Hired
- June 2018 Data Analyst Hired (Image Trend Finalized Jan 2020, Data collected and integrated. CAD system replaced and data integrated. GIS land use files updated.

### - 2019/20 “Began GIS Analysis”

Response Modeling, Response Data, Utilization and Reliability along with COVID 19 delays March to May 2020.



Modify medic deployment to have a balance between the following:

1. Call distribution among medic units
  - ▶ Balanced call volume to best utilize resources
  - ▶ Equalize/Decrease Call Volume in the City
2. Improved response times to the largest amount of citizens
  - ▶ Improved response times to population clusters
  - ▶ Improve Unit Reliability in East County

### - Fall 2020 “TAB, EOB, WC Fire Chiefs Operations, WC Fire Chiefs Association” Recommend Deployment of Medic 5 (2022) at Fire Station 75; Lynden WA.

### - Bellingham FD Determined to Be the Advanced Life Support Lead Agency.

### - Two Phase Implementation Approach (Finance Team)

\* Equipment, Personnel (10 FTE's) Paramedic Training. (Develop Startup and Annual Budgets)

\* Determine Capital Costs (Station upgrades/remodels) and Ongoing Annualized Costs

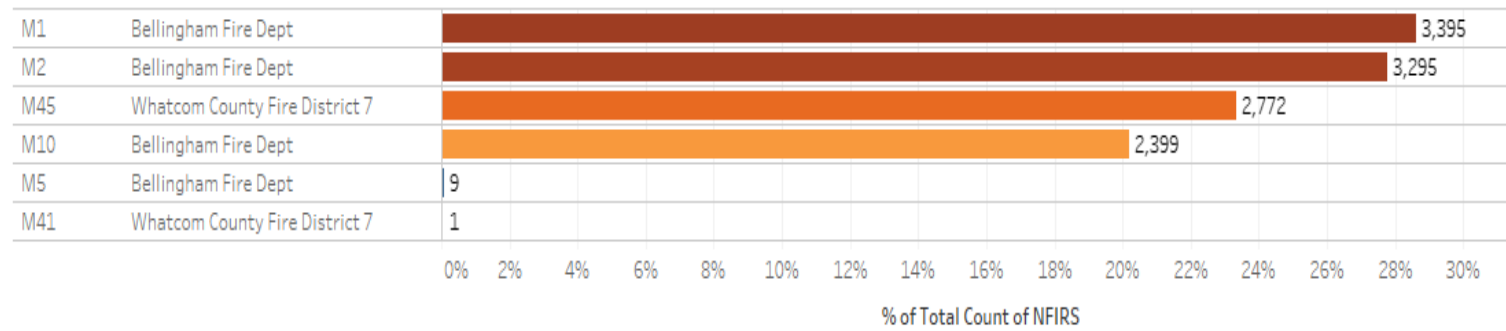
### - Develop Startup and Operational/Annual Budget

# Baseline Model

- Call Volume by Medic Unit 2019
- Call Volume by Medic Unit 2020

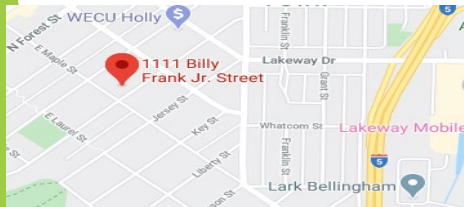


(NFIRS) ALS Unit Runs: 2020



Unit	Calls
M1	3263
M2	3378
M10	2462
M45	2498

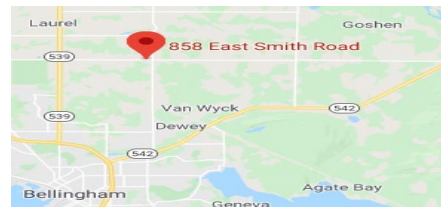
Station 3/ Medic 3



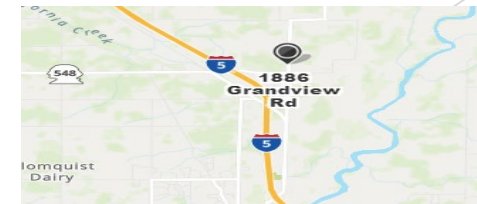
Station 6/ Medic 6



Station 10/ Medic 10



Station 45/ Medic 45







Sta. 75

Sta. 45

Sta. 46

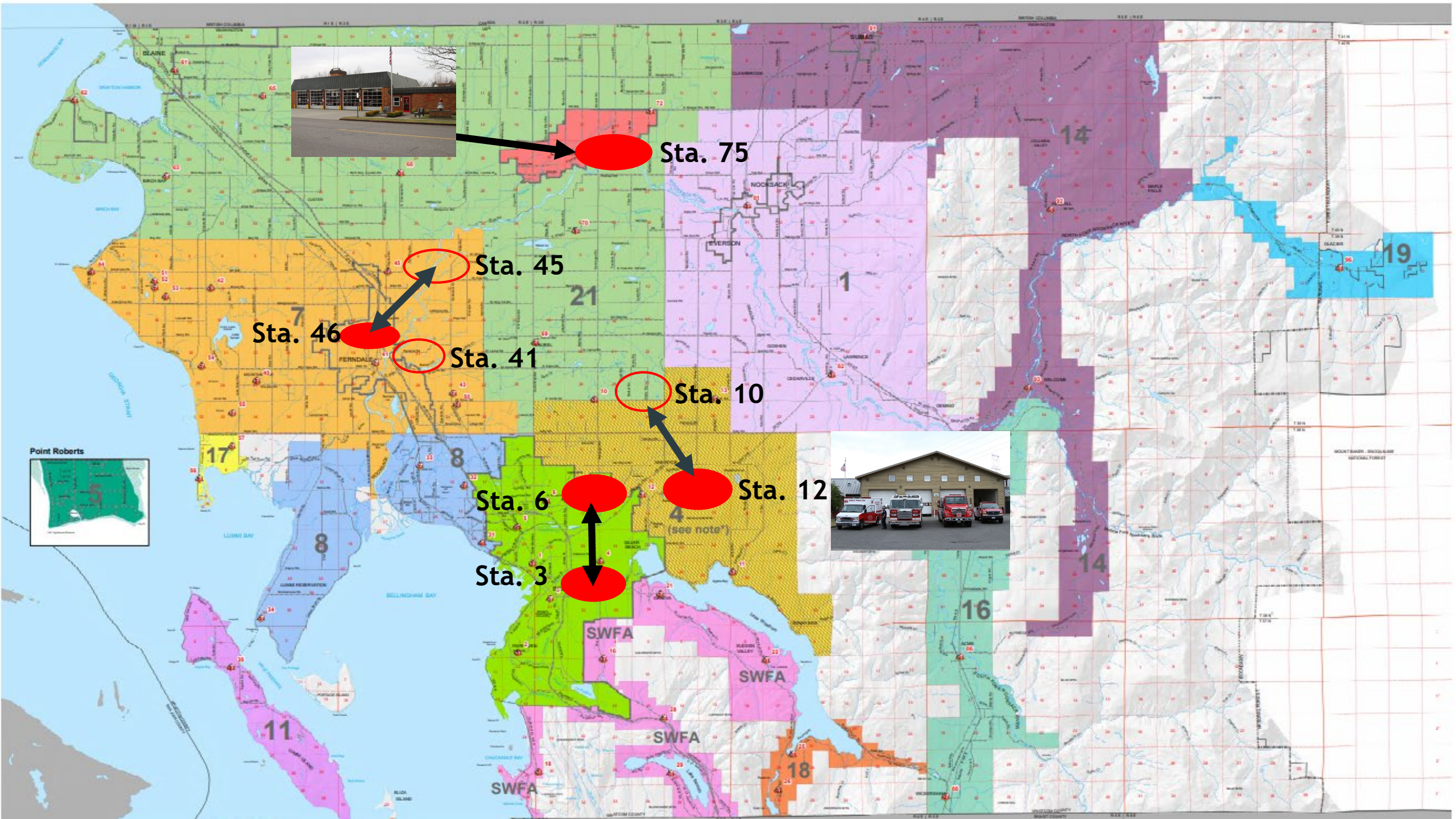
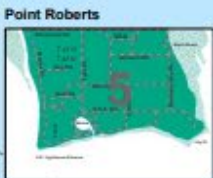
Sta. 41

Sta. 10

Sta. 6

Sta. 12

Sta. 3





## Proposed Budget Schedules

- August 10 Agenda (2021 Expenditures)  
Supplemental Budget Request \$591,000  
Bellingham FD - (Equipment, Vehicles Facilities Upgrades, Hiring.)
- September 2021 Agenda (2022 Expenditures)  
2022 Paramedic School Budget (10 Students Enrolled)  
Achieves FTE Goal of new Unit.  
1.5 Mil Projected
- Mid-Biennium Budget Proposed (2022 Expenditures)  
2022 Budget For New Unit  
1.416 mil 10 Firefighter/Paramedic FTE's

### Notes:

- M5 will be staffed as personnel are available 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr. 2022.
- Station 75 Facility Upgrades Completed 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr. 2021. (3 Medic Rooms and Medic Unit Bay)
- Paramedic School completion with four students will increase the availability throughout the year.
- Capital Station Upgrades for Station 12 to be determined. (\$20,000 for study)
- Capital Station Upgrades for Station 46 to be determined.
- 24/7 Full Time Medic Unit 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr. 2022 or sooner depending on staffing. PM School graduates Oct 2022.
- Levy work is ongoing now to determine per-unit costs in the new plan.