

Oakland Township Fire Department (OTFD) Concerns

After 10 years, I still have the following concerns developed from information obtained mostly via FOIA (Freedom of Information Act)

Ambulance Response Time

1. It is likely that OTFD does not meet standards for ambulance / paramedic response times required by Oakland County Medical Control Authority (OCMCA) for a licensed Advanced Life Support (ALS) agency. We are shown no data.
2. The most recent data (2019) I developed by examining data obtained via FOIA was 11.1 minutes, 90% response time vs. requirement of 8 minutes. As our population now exceeds 500 per square mile, the standard tightens to 6 minutes.
3. The public seems unaware of this issue. Of course, I am unaware of any public presentation or examination of any response time data ever and my previous reports have perhaps been too wordy.

Fire Department Staffing

4. The OTFD effort started in March 2018 to comply with staffing required by OCMCA (after a letter from OCMCA saying that OTFD did not comply) by hiring part-time personnel is likely a poor option that has likely resulted in -
 - a. high turnover of part-time personnel resulting in
 - i. high cost of training and special personal gear that is discarded due to turnover of personnel (they go to a full-time job elsewhere ASAP)
 - ii. inexperienced people responding to medical emergencies
 - b. full-time personnel working many, many hours
 - i. possibly not well-rested for some responses
 - ii. not a sustainable manpower model

The data and letters to support the above are in this previous posting to my website when I gave up on this issue in frustration with our Board and my fellow residents.

<https://wordpress.com/page/oaklandsentinel.wordpress.com/59>

A quick response is needed to save your life in a heart attack or other serious emergency; like severe bleeding.