

# Consolidation of 9-1-1 Services in Lucas County Ohio

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On December 10, 2019, the 9-1-1 Planning Committee voted to merge and consolidate 9-1-1 services in Lucas County. Currently, 9-1-1 calls for service are routed to six public safety answering points (PSAPs) and emergency resources are dispatched by nine public safety agencies. Consolidation into a single PSAP will result in a safer, more effective, and more efficient system that offers the following benefits:

- Regional standardization of quality assurance, training and national best-practice procedures to include segregation of call taking and dispatching, and discipline specialization (law enforcement, fire service, and EMS);
- Elimination of 9-1-1 call misdirection caused by multiple PSAPs operating in close proximity;
- Enhanced mutual aid and coordination amongst public safety agencies;
- Greater career development opportunities for public safety communications professionals; and
- Operational efficiencies resulting in annual cost savings for jurisdictions.

9-1-1 services will be consolidated under a single agency operated by a regional council of governments (COG). A COG is an independent political jurisdiction established by two or more political subdivisions. Membership in the 9-1-1 COG is open to all jurisdictions within Lucas County and will be governed by a seven-member Board of Directors consisting of the following:

1. Largest Municipal Police Chief (Toledo)
2. Largest Municipal Fire Chief (Toledo)
3. County Sheriff
4. Largest Township Police Chief (Sylvania Township)
5. Suburban Municipal Police Chief
6. Suburban Municipal Fire Chief
7. Township Fire Chief

The most important asset of our community's 9-1-1 system is the public safety communications professionals who serve our residents and public safety officers. Understanding the experience and skill set provided by the individuals who serve as public safety communications professionals in our community, reductions in the overall number of public safety communications positions that occur through consolidation will be achieved through attrition.

Attached to this Executive Summary is the resolution of the 9-1-1 Planning Committee approving consolidation as well as a comprehensive briefing on the consolidation of 9-1-1 services in our community. Any questions may be referred to Matthew S. Heyrman, Deputy County Administrator for the Board of Lucas County Commissioners. Mr. Heyrman can be contact by phone at (419) 930-7786 or email at [mheyрман@co.lucas.oh.us](mailto:mheyрман@co.lucas.oh.us).