CITY OF PLACENTIA
FIRE PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Facts Sheet

- The Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) has been providing fire protection and emergency medical services to the City of Placentia since 1995. Prior to 1975, the Placentia Fire Department provided these services to the community.

- OCFA’s level of service provided to the City has generally remained the same since 1995. However, the cost to Placentia taxpayers of OCFA’s services have increased by 47% since 2009. The City simply wants to make sure it has the ability to maintain or enhance these essential life-saving services at the best and most efficient cost to our local taxpayers.

- On June 19, 2018, the City Council voted unanimously (5-0) to approve issuing a notice of withdrawal to the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) to preserve the City’s ability to review all service models available being used by comparable cities.

- The City is currently soliciting competitive proposals from qualified service providers and has assembled a team of experts in the field of fire protection and EMS to assist the City.

- The proposal review committee will be comprised of two City Council members, nationally-renowned subject matter experts in fire and EMS, the Police Chief, Emergency Services Coordinator and Director of Finance, and a member of the City’s Fiscal Sustainability Taskforce.

- The City is separating fire protection services and emergency medical services into separately focused service functions. This model is the standard followed by numerous communities throughout California and the rest of the Country as being one that allows comprehensive, focused services delivery--and is not unique to what Placentia is proposing. The City’s goal in this regard is to create a fire-based fire protection model and an EMS-based EMS model. This will allow the experts in firefighting to focus on that service and allow experts in EMS to focus on responding to medical emergencies.

- The City is open to studying all options including new and innovative service models that will enhance the quality of services provided to the community in a fiscally responsible manner.

- The City will also focus on a comparative summary of other fire departments in Orange County. This is to determine whether or not it is practical and possible to combine the City’s fire services with another neighboring municipality.

- The City proposal review committee will review and score the proposals received and identify the most qualified service provider for both service types. The review committee will report its findings to the City Council along with recommendations at a public meeting in late Spring. Both contracts will be presented to the City Council for its consideration at a future meeting in 2019.

- Please visit the City’s website at www.placentia.org/fireemsrfp for additional information regarding the competitive proposal process.