



# WAUWATOSA FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMO

To: **Government Affairs Committee**

From: **James Case, Fire Chief**

Date: **3/1/2025**

Subject: **Joint Fire Department Review Proposal**

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## **A. Background/Rationale**

Wauwatosa and West Allis administrations are exploring the concept of consolidated fire and EMS services. In order to understand the feasibility, advisability, and scope of a consolidation, we are recommending detailed review of this concept be completed. The attached proposal from McMahon consultants outlines the scope and details of the proposed review including associated costs. We are recommending this vendor specifically based on their background related to fire/EMS consolidations in other areas of the state including Green Bay.

The scope of this review will include a detailed analysis of all aspects of both organizations including financial, operational, legal, administrative, infrastructure, and political. If approved, this document will allow both municipalities to make an informed decision based on the details and recommendations provided.

The estimated timeline for completion of this review is 4 months.

## **B. Strategic Plan (Area of Focus)**

Safe Community  
Financial Resilience

## **C. Fiscal Impact**

The overall cost of the proposal is \$45,900. These costs will be split evenly between Wauwatosa and West Allis. Our portion of this review will be \$22,950. We intend to utilize \$15,000 which was budgeted in 2025 to study the fire department overtime budget. The remaining costs will be from the operating budget.

## **D. Requested Action**

We are requesting that government affairs approve the proposal from McMahon and waive the competitive bid process which would otherwise require three quotes.