

**RESOLUTION 2024 – 4**

**ADOPTING THE FIRE DEPARTMENT STRATEGIC PLAN AND SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PLAN TO IMPROVE FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE TIMES**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Mason is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting Mason. Fire, rescue, and emergency medical services are vital services that residents and visitors rely on in a time of immediate and unexpected need; and

**WHEREAS**, Fire/EMS calls for service volume in the City of Mason continue to increase annually and the need to provide the safety resources to address the continued growth in the community is apparent; and

**WHEREAS**, scientific data and experience indicates that quicker access to fire-fighting services and quality emergency medical care can dramatically improve survival and outcomes of emergency events; and

**WHEREAS**, the future will require strategic and thoughtful decisions on flexible and adaptable resource allocation, staffing plans as well as a total of three to four strategically located fire stations to create and maintain a service delivery plan that responds to fire and medical emergencies in a manner consistent with providing the best opportunity for life safety, property conservation, and incident stabilization; and

**WHEREAS**, with Council’s support, the City completed a community-driven strategic planning process which yielded clear community feedback that established the top expectations the community has of the fire department. One of the highest priorities identified was response times that align closer to the national response time standard; and

**WHEREAS**, strategically located fire stations has been identified as the most significant way to improve response times to match the expectations of the community; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of Council to enhance the culture of health, wellness, and safety of the City by improving fire department response times to emergencies by developing and executing a long-term strategic plan that better aligns response times with the national response time standard while responsibly balancing the financial implications and the tax burden on residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Mason, Ohio, seven members elected thereto concurring:

Section 1. That Council adopts the 2023-2028 community-driven strategic plan, community risk assessment, and standards of cover documents as the planning tools to guide the Fire Department into the future.

Section 2. That the City Manager, working in conjunction with the Fire Chief, coordinate the development of a fire station location and public safety resource deployment plan to better align fire department response times with the national response time standard.

Section 3. That this resolution is intended to support the safety, health, and welfare of Mason’s residents and visitors.

Section 4. That this Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed this 12th day of February, 2024.

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Mayor

Attest:

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Clerk of Council