



**DeKalb County Fire Rescue Department**  
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Since the last meeting of the Region III Ad Hoc Committee, the following enhancements to the DeKalb County zone have been made:

- As a result of an agreement between Mayor Denis Shortal and DeKalb County CEO Thurmond, AMR has added a peak hours BLS unit which is “anchored” to the City of Dunwoody and does not respond outside of the City of Dunwoody. This unit is in addition to the three AMR transport units which are currently posted at DCFR Fire Stations within the City of Dunwoody.
- DeKalb County operates a total of five Rapid Response Vehicles county-wide at all times, including one at Station 21 within the city of Dunwoody. Two additional Rapid Response Vehicles are currently being prepared to operate county-wide during peak hours with overtime staffing.
- Hired seven (7) out of 20 paramedic-only members who will ultimately staff 3 DCFR ambulances on 24/7.

Additionally, DeKalb County has further analyzed the system and identified potential areas of improvement that may be made to the overall EMS system throughout the DeKalb County zone. The following adjustments to the deployment and utilization of the transport units are recommended.

- Untethering of Northern Corridor Transport Units: At the City of Dunwoody’s request, Northern Corridor AMR transport units are posted at DCFR fire stations within the City of Dunwoody. DeKalb County’s analysis indicates that the EMS system within the Northern Corridor would benefit from untethering these units from the fire stations (they would continue to operate in the Northern Corridor). DeKalb County predicts a reduction in response times if the units were posted according to the results of data analysis. Units would still retain the ability to complete shift changes at the station or utilize the facilities as needed.
- Northern Corridor Call Density Deployment: In concert with the untethering of transport units from DCFR fire stations within the City of Dunwoody, DCFR will develop a posting plan in the Northern Corridor that targets posting locations in areas of higher call density within the Northern Corridor. Utilizing posting locations in these areas would likely improve response times in the service area by positioning the units closer to the areas where calls are likely to be received based on an analysis of historical incident data. This predictive analysis is currently utilized throughout the rest of the county.
- Tiered Hospital Destination Options: Analysis of transport data for the entire DeKalb County zone shows transport units making trips to approved hospitals which require a significant amount of travel time (both to and from). DeKalb County proposes that the list of approved hospitals be tiered; allowing the most destination options during low call volume, and a more restricted list of appropriate hospital destinations during high call volume, so that hospital trip time can be minimized. Of course, it would be imperative to allow for exceptions to account for patients whose condition or injuries require specialized medical care, such as major trauma, that may not be available within the reduced destination options during periods of high call volume.