

OHIO TURNPIKE AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMISSION

Resolution Approving the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission's Implementation of the Fire Department Reimbursement Program

WHEREAS, it has been the policy of the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission (the "Commission") to attempt to ensure that the safest plausible traffic routes are identified and used when anyone is responding to an emergency or incident on the Turnpike; and

WHEREAS, for emergency responses by local municipalities, most of the 241 miles of the Turnpike receive fire protection services from municipalities whose boundaries cross the Turnpike; most fire protection services are provided without additional compensation or a special agreement as the Turnpike is located within a said municipality's jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, under certain, very limited circumstances, it has become necessary for the Commission to enter into agreements with a municipal fire protection service ("FPS") that is headquartered in a locality adjacent to or near an area encompassing the Turnpike where fire protection service is otherwise not available; and in these limited areas, the Commission has agreements with a neighboring FPS; and

WHEREAS, currently, the Commission has only two (2) such FPS agreements, which require the Commission to pay to the FPS an amount that is determined by the number of miles the FPS is required to cover; and historically, upon expiration of the three-year agreements, the Commission had negotiated new agreements with these FPS; and

WHEREAS, after reviewing the FPS agreements for the entire 241 miles of the Turnpike and comparing those to other fire protection services used on similarly situated toll roads, the Commission's Safety Services Manager recommends that the new Fire Department Reimbursement Program be implemented starting January 1, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director concurs with the Safety Services Manager's recommendation and desires Commission approval to implement the Fire Department Reimbursement Program.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Commission hereby authorizes and approves the Fire Department Reimbursement Program as described on Exhibit A attached hereto; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission hereby instructs and directs the Executive Director to prepare for and adopt the Fire Department Reimbursement Program as described on Exhibit A attached hereto; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the new Fire Department Reimbursement Program as described on Exhibit A attached hereto shall be implemented by January 1, 2017.

(Resolution No. 56-2016 adopted September 19, 2016)

EXHIBIT A

Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission Fire Department Reimbursement Program

The Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission (the "Commission") will provide an equipment and hourly labor rate reimbursement to a Fire Department responding outside of their jurisdiction to a fire-related incident on the Turnpike. The reimbursement fees are subject to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Equipment Rate Schedule and the United States Department of Labor – Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Occupational Employment and Wage statistics.

The parameters to qualify for reimbursement from the Commission include the following:

1. An incident involving commercial and passenger vehicle fires, grass fires, motor vehicle accidents with injuries, motor vehicle accidents that require extrication, and hazmat incidents.
2. Based on the current FEMA labor rate rates, the Commission will provide reimbursement for five (5) firefighters, two (2) pieces of fire apparatus and the incident commander, for a period of up to a maximum of eight (8) hours. Unusual incidents that extend beyond these guidelines may be approved after review by the Commission's Executive Director.
3. The Commission will reimburse from the time the Fire Department receives notification about an incident and returns to its quarters.
4. Reimbursement request (see attachment) must be forwarded to the Commission's Safety Services Department within thirty (30) days from the date of the incident.
5. If a Fire Department is unable to respond to an incident that would normally result in compensation under this Program, the Fire Department shall immediately notify the first due Mutual Aid Fire Department to respond. The Mutual Aid Fire Department is eligible for compensation for that incident under the terms of the Program.

The following situations do not qualify for reimbursement:

1. The Commission will not reimburse for equipment and/or labor to a Fire Department providing secondary or additional response to a Turnpike incident through an Automatic Aid or Mutual Aid agreement.
2. The Commission will not reimburse a Fire Department receiving compensation from a neighboring jurisdiction or a Fire District, to provide Fire Protection, if the incident occurs in the contracted community or district on the Turnpike.
3. The Commission will not reimburse for medical supplies, patient care and Fire Department Ambulance transportation to a medical facility.