

Combined F&R System Proposed Reform

Loudoun County Combined Fire & Rescue System
Outreach Meetings

August 27, 28, and 29, 2013

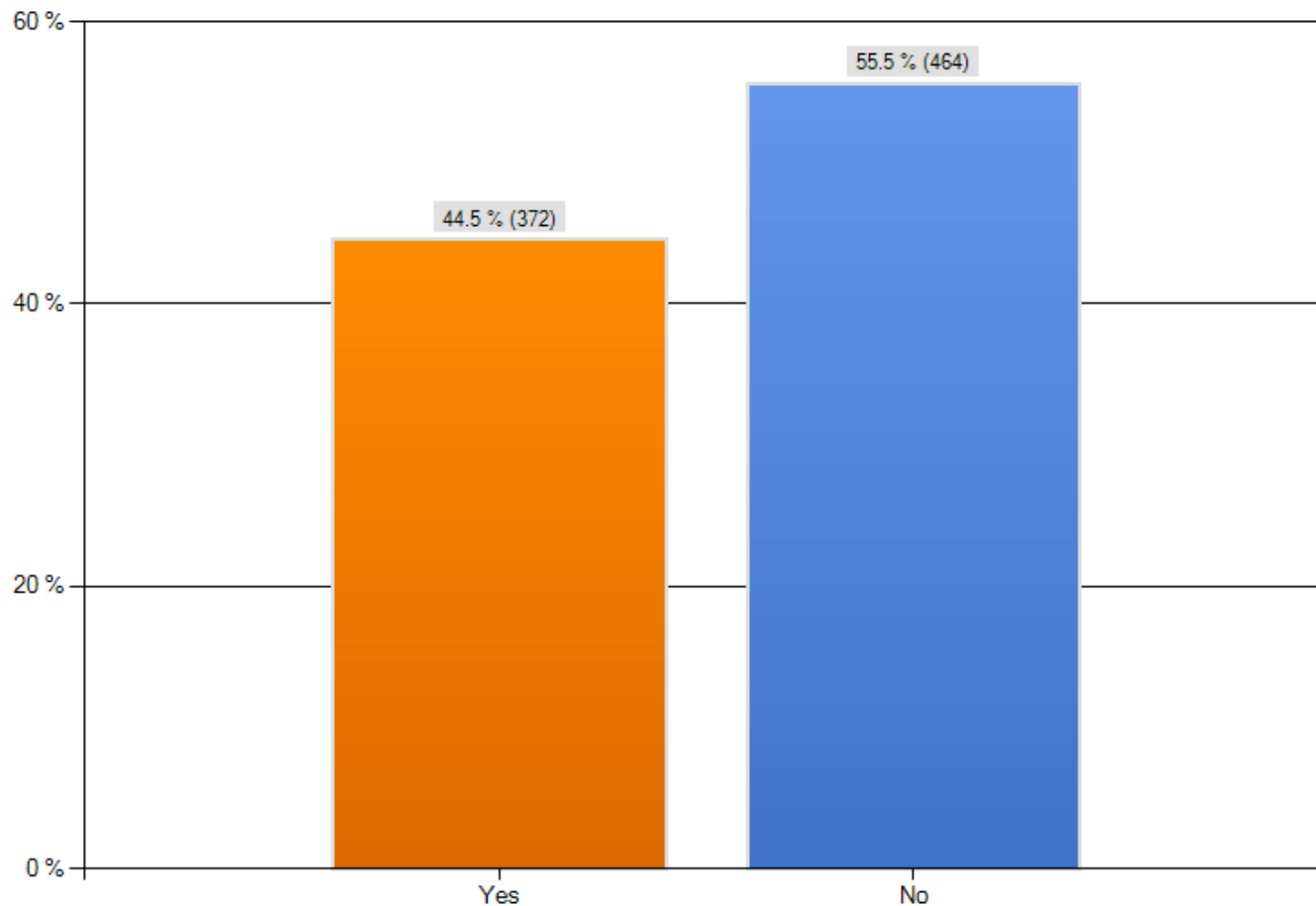


Path to Proposed Reform

- ✓ Board of Supervisors' Appointment of Government Reform Commission (2012)
- ✓ Board of Supervisors' Government Reform Commission (2012-2013)
- ✓ Board of Supervisors' Finance/Govt. Services Committee (February & June 2013)
- ✓ Board of Supervisors (July 2013)
- ✓ Combined Fire and Rescue Stakeholders Group & System-wide Survey (Spring/Summer 2013)
- Combined F&R System Outreach Meetings (August/September 2013)
- Board of Supervisors' Finance/Govt. Services Committee (October 2013)
- Board of Supervisors' Public Hearing (November/December 2013)
- Board of Supervisors Final Action (December 2013/January 2014)



In your opinion, do you believe the current F&R Commission serves as an effective form of governance for the Combined F&R System?



5 Major Reform Elements

- ✓ Audits of Volunteer Fire and Rescue Companies (*started*)
- ✓ Implement Uniform Training & Certification Standards (*started*)
- Change the Combined F&R System Governance Structure
- Creates a Combined F&R System Discipline Policy & Due Process
- Create a System-wide Director Position



Audits

- Systemwide Financial Requirements: FRG 1.0.1 (May 28, 2013)
- Special Meeting Planned w/Volunteer F&R Company Presidents/Treasurers & Audit Firm: tentatively scheduled for September 25, 2013
- County's audit firm and Comptroller will be speaking about the process/procedure for carrying out this reform measure
- Will also be providing best practices information



Uniform Training/Certifications

- Already Underway for Most Ranks/Disciplines
- Chiefs: FRG 7.1.4 Approved by the F&R Commission (April 30, 2013; Effective January 1, 2014)
- Fire Command & Duty Officers: FRG 8.0.7 (May 29, 2012)
- Lieutenants & Captains: FRG 7.1.2 (August 30, 2011)
- Fire Unit Officers: FRG 7.1.3 (August 30, 2011)
- Firefighters 1 & EMT-Basic: FRG 7.1.1 (August 30, 2011)



Governance Structure Reform

- Builds off of the capacity and the “untapped” strengths of the Combined F&R System
- Works to create a “true” system for both Fire and EMS delivery in the county and encourages increased involvement in decision making
- Moves away from Board of Supervisors’ appointment toward elected volunteer officials and appointed career staff
- See Organizational Chart (handout)



System-Wide Discipline

- Creates a System-Wide Code of Conduct
- Creates a System-Wide Compliance Committee
- Creates Due Process for System-Wide Discipline
- Creates a Credible System for Vol. Members Transferring after Disciplinary Actions from their Prior Affiliation
- Creates Appeals Process for System-Wide Disciplinary Actions
- Maintains Autonomy of Both Career and Volunteer Disciplinary Policies for their Own Companies



System-Wide Director

- Creates New Position Reporting to the County Administrator
- Position will be housed in County Administration
- Primary Function: Reinforce, Sustain, and Support the Success of the Volunteer Fire and EMS Companies as Part of the System
- Position will have the Opportunity to Unilaterally Formulate, Proposed and Enact Policies if required
- Position will hold “veto” power over all governing structure
- Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Management Chief will Report to the System-Wide Director
- Position may have Direct Oversight of Discrete Sections of DFREM



Proposed Action for Implementation

- Prepare a Draft Ordinance for Consideration by the Board of Supervisors (*Planned for October 2013; Public Hearing likely: Nov/ Dec 2013*)
- Legal Framework & Actions for the Installation of any New Governance Structure
- Resource Requirements Plan Developed for New Structure
- Appropriate Outreach to the Volunteer Fire and EMS Companies



QUESTIONS?

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Wednesday, August 28, 2013 - 6:00 PM

Purcellville Town Hall

Nursery Avenue

Purcellville, VA

Thursday, August 29, 2013 – 6:00 PM

Ashburn Library – Storytime Meeting Room

Hay Road

Ashburn, VA

www.loudoun.gov/combinedsystem

