



**Exploration of Fire Service
Regionalization: Berea, Brook
Park, Brooklyn, Middleburg
Heights, Olmsted Falls, Parma,
and Parma Heights
PHASE II –
June 2006 – January 2008**

Methodology

- Interviews with Advisory Board members and other relevant experts
 - Review of current regionalization literature
 - Quantitative analysis of existing Census data
 - Analysis of operating procedures and operational data
 - Analysis of financial information
 - Analysis of Collective Bargaining Agreements
 - Analysis of comparable Fire Departments
 - Review of ISO ratings
 - Feedback from Advisory Board members
 - Survey of Community
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Our Conclusion:

Regionalization would improve service quality and reduce costs

**Improvements in Service
Quality**

- Joint dispatching [EMD]
 - Automatic aid expansions
 - Decreased response times
 - Better staff deployment
 - More efficient equipment deployment
 - Improved incident management
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**Improvements in Service
Quality (cont.)**

- Better training
 - Better communications
 - Optimization of specialized competencies
 - Improved ISO Fire Protection Rating
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Cost Containments

- Administrative savings:
 - Negotiating and Administering Collective Bargaining Agreements
 - Support functions
 - Flexibility in staffing
 - Training efficiencies
 - Better utilization of specialized skills
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Cost Containments (cont.)

- ❑ Better equipment utilization
 - ❑ Maintenance efficiencies
 - ❑ Improved capital expenditures planning
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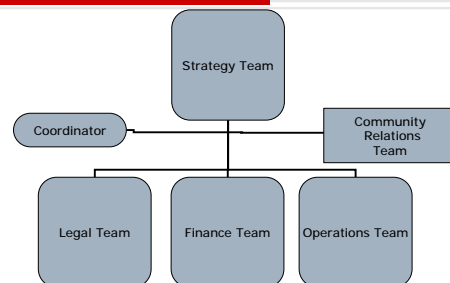
Recommendation

The municipalities involved should commit to a collaborative effort to manage EMS and Fire Service.

Next steps

- ❑ Phase I - Decision to support a regional fire district [April 1, 2006].
 - ❑ Phase II - Establishment of a Strategy Team, a Finance Team, a Legal Team, an Operations Team and a Community Relations Team [June 2006 – January 2008].
 - ❑ Phase III - Operational roll out of the Joint Fire District [January 2008].
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The Organization Chart



Strategy Team

- Mayor Zanotti
 - All B-W faculty
 - Chief Benedict
 - David Dacek, Middleburg Heights R&F
 - Mark Ramach, Brook Park Officer
 - Jim Astorino
 - Pat Pell, Community Representative
 - David Akers, Community Representative
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Legal Team

- Professors Pinar, Fingerhut
 - Legal advisor
 - Tim Dobeck, Law Director, Parma
 - Chief Tim Potts, Olmsted Falls
 - Robert McGee, Berea R&F
 - Kim Krickler, Brooklyn Officer
 - Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce representative
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Legal Team: Objectives

- Determination of the legal structure – political, legal entity
 - Taxing, bonding, contracts, EMS billing
 - Collective Bargaining Agreement
 - Compensation, benefits, pension
 - Ownership
 - Civil Service
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Finance Team

- Professors David, Kleppel
 - Dana Kavender, Berea
 - Gregory Cingle, Brook Park
 - Gale Fisk, Brooklyn
 - Timothy Pope, Middleburg Heights
 - Dan Patrick, Olmsted Falls
 - Terrence Hickey, Parma Heights
 - Anthony Zielinski, Parma
 - Mike Fowler, Brook Park R&F
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Finance Team: Objectives

- Determine funding
 - Insurance, EMS, Tax, Bonding
 - Develop comparable financial statements
 - Develop budgets
 - ST, LT
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Operations Team

- Professors David, Pisnar
 - Chief Benedict
 - Michael Frantz, Parma R&F
 - Oscar Skavdahl, Middleburg Heights Officer
 - Pam Falasco, Parma Regional Hospital
 - Emergency Medical Directors from both hospitals
 - Frank Latterman, Community representative
 - CCC consultants
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Operations Team: Objectives

- Collect data on current district status
 - Facility analysis, GPS
 - Equipment
 - Determine SOPs
 - Design the district
 - Develop common communications
 - Develop joint EMD
 - Fire prevention program aggregation
 - Building code information aggregation
 - Determine staffing requirement
 - Training, maintenance
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Community Relations Team

- Professors Gilmore, Fingerhut
 - Nancy Lesic
 - Mayor Ken Patton
 - Chief ?
 - Joe Campagna, Parma Heights R&F
 - Mark Ramach, Brook Park Officer
 - Pat Pell, Community Representative
 - Powell Caesar, Community Relations, Parma
 - Jack Kafer, former Berea Mayor
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Community Relations Team: Objectives

- Establish a clear, consistent communication with stake holders-internal/external
 - Develop down-stream defensability: become transparent
 - Develop a CR plan
 - Build support among stake holder groups
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Team Meetings

- Strategy Team - August 4, 2006, 11:30am. First Friday of the month, lunch.
 - Legal Team – July 28, 2006, 7:30am. Then Second Friday of the month, breakfast.
 - Finance Team – July 28, 2006, 11:30am, then second Friday of the month, lunch.
 - Community Relations Team – July 21, 2006, 7:30am. Third Friday of the month, breakfast.
 - Operations Team –July 21, 2006, 11:30am. Third Friday of the month, lunch.
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Today's Agenda

- Answer questions
 - Determine process
 - Determine Team agenda
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