

1. What is the basis for the 6-minute travel time criteria that appears in briefings and on maps? It doesn't appear to relate to any criteria in NFPA 710.

ORIGINAL RESPONSE: Question will be answered once we receive a copy of the 1710 standard.

Is it a locally developed criteria, due to the inability to reach many areas in 4 minutes travel time?

RESPONSE: National Fire Protection Agency developed the standard and the standard is adopted locally.

2. For this Task Force effort, can the Task Force agree to adopt the definition of Total Response Time that TriData used (see page 31 of their 2012 Report)?

RESPONSE: We are now using from the call into 9-1-1 to arrival on scene as total response time.

3. From Figure 19 in the 2012 TriData report, it appears there may be homes SW and NW of the current FS#8 location that may change to a greater travel time category. Please provide information, and maps if possible, to show the impact of moving FS#8 north to the proposed site at Old Dominion & N. 26th St. Show any areas that are not within 4- or 6-minute travel times from other stations, and that would change category (e.g., from 4 to 6 minutes or from 6 minutes to greater than 6 minutes).

RESPONSE: See FS8 Siting 6 minute Gain Map located on web page. Moving Station 8 to the site of Old Dominion and N. 26th would not create any extended travel times to the existing areas served by Station 8 all remain in the 4-6 minute time frame including those SW and NW.

4. Regarding the area in Fairfax County adjacent to the underserved area in N. Arlington (see Figure 20 in the 2012 TriData Report) please identify whether Fairfax County has any plans to address their underserved area in the future with upgraded response times, or whether they consider current service to their area to be adequate to their overall risk mitigation goals.

ORIGINAL RESPONSE: Fairfax will have a new station (44) scheduled for opening in East Tysons (Old Meadow Road between Rt 7 and Rt 123) sometime between 2019 and 2021. With this additional capacity we anticipate relieving FS01 (Mclean) of a good deal of their responses to the West end of their current first due.

Can you please explain how this will improve the response to the underserved areas in N. Arlington? Will they be available more often to provide first due response, and will that reduce the average response times to these areas?

RESPONSE: This will not improve response times to N Arlington however it will assist Fairfax in reducing their response times to the far end of Mclean (station 401). We cannot answer the unit availability question.

5 Can you confirm with Fairfax what plans they may, or may not, have to address areas over 4 minute travel time?

RESPONSE: We are unaware of any plans Fairfax has to address areas over 4 minute travel time

6. Does the County have a master plan that addresses the use of county land at Old Dominion & N. 26th Street? If so, please describe those plans. Have any previous commitments been made to DRCA, Marymount University, or other communities regarding this land?

ORIGINAL RESPONSE: There are no sector or area plans for this area and the General Land Use Plan (GLUP) is the primary land use policy. We are still confirming if any commitment if any have been made to DRCA, Marymount University, or other communities regarding this land.

UPDATED RESPONSE: The Arlington County Newsroom announcement dated July 18, 2015, is attached referencing the development of a park on some of the land at N 26th. <http://newsroom.arlingtonva.us/release/board-makes-fire-station-8-old-dominion-drive-commitments/>

7. Please provide an approximate cost estimate for vertical construction versus horizontal construction, to allow for discussion of the relative cost/savings of optional vertical construction to minimize the area of the site.

ORIGINAL RESPONSE: Cost estimates for vertical construction vs. horizontal construction is dependent on the design with the cost of vertical construction typical being more expensive because of structural elements, stairways, and elevators.

Vertical construction also means less for other building elements, possibly including foundation and roofing construction. Can you hazard a rough estimate of overall impact? Does Means have any programming level estimating guidance?

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Vertical construction also means less for other building elements, possibly including foundation and roofing construction. Can you hazard a rough estimate of overall impact? Does Means have any programming level estimating guidance?

RESPONSE: Means does not have a 'program level' estimating function to determine impacts of adding additional levels. At this time, we cannot develop a reliable rough estimate on the over all impact because it is dependent on the design of the building and the site conditions.

NEW QUESTIONS:

8. Identify the NFPA recommended times for first responding units versus second units and discuss the roles of those units.

RESPONSE: The first unit must arrive within 4 minutes all other units must arrive within 8 minutes NFPA 1710. Roles of the arriving units are based by call type fire, EMS hazmat etc. and arrival sequence first, second etc.

9. The 2012 TriData report notes call processing times that are about 90 seconds above NFPA standards, and turnout times that are about 30 seconds above the standard. Please describe what actions have been taken to improve these times, what more current data show, and describe any plans to come into conformance with NFPA regarding those times?

RESPONSE: Call processing times should be addressed by OEM. Turn-out times were addressed by the fire department through awareness education and policy. Facility lay-out (station 3) a few seconds longer since all of the living space is upstairs and crew status (training, PT, shower) are factors that weigh into turnout time.

10. TriData says that Northern Virginia has a "boundary-less" response system. Figure 20 shows that there is an area needing better response that includes north Arlington and southeastern Fairfax County. Please describe what steps would need to be taken to establish a joint fire station to cover that area, and what steps may have been taken to date, and what impediments are known to exist.

RESPONSE: Local leaders would need to agree to a long-term comprehensive study to look into the feasibility of combining services. Although we operate "boundary less" operationally and administratively this would be a significant undertaking.

11. Would another medic unit improve response times?

RESPONSE: Another medic unit could improve response times to a particular area depending on where it's located and unit availability. Because of the limited number of medic units only (7) it would be difficult to determine any significant improvements in response times to a particular area because of the demand for that type of resource.

12. How many times does Arlington respond to McLean Station 401 and vice versa?

RESPONSE: McLean 401 responded into Arlington 34 times in CY 15. We are verifying Arlington's response number into McLean.

13. How often is 30 due reached?

RESPONSE: Seldom only in events similar to 9-11 or large area brush fires that afflicted the areas several years back.

14. Could a sub station be added and keep Fire Station 8?

RESPONSE: Not a wise fiscal endeavor. Such a move would incur both capital expenses and personnel expenses and would not provide any needed relief presuming that the small station houses a medic unit that would often be in the core of the county for most of the day and responding outside of the county in other instances.

15. How is the Fire and Rescue traffic signal bypass maintained? When in the budget is an upgrade funded?

RESPONSE forthcoming

16. Have all Arlington fire stations addressed a mix gender workforce?

RESPONSE: All stations are capable of sleeping mixed gender. Not every station has a female assigned there but the potential for one working there presents its self every day.