



# Whitemarsh Township Fire Services Plan

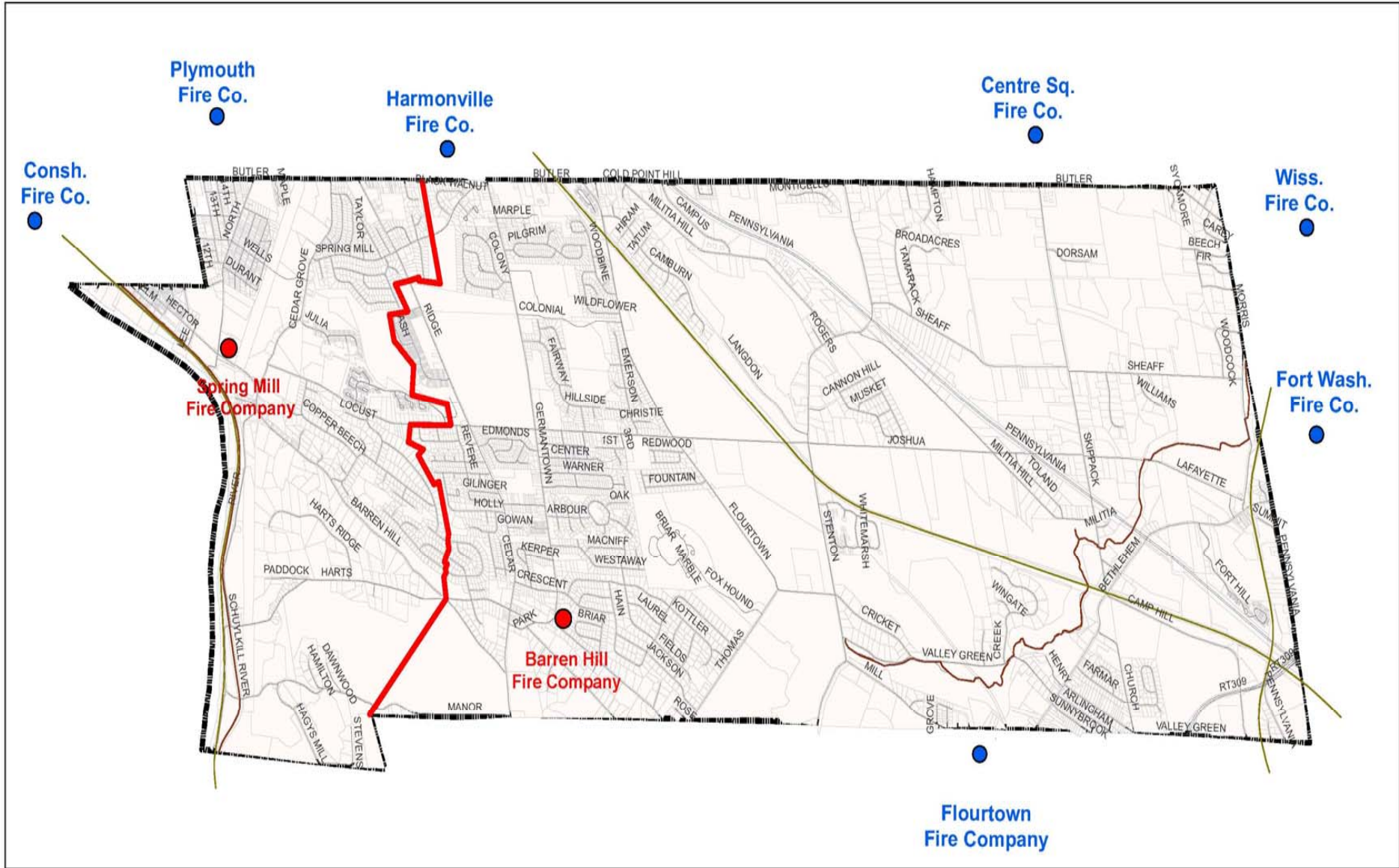
NOVEMBER 21, 2016

# OBJECTIVES

- Improve fire protection to the residents and businesses of Whitemarsh Township
- Maintain fiscal responsibility in providing high level of fire service and protection for the community

# RESPONSE

- Spring Mill Fire Company and Barren Hill Fire Company have split the response responsibilities for the Township. See map depicting coverage area.
- Response time will not be affected and in most cases improved with paid staff and available trained volunteers.
- Both companies will have 1.5 paid staff to allow better response to the Township.



# MUTUAL AID

- o The closest responsible resource will be dispatched and arrive first based on mutual aid assignments.
- o These include agreements with our adjacent fire companies of Harmonville, Plymouth, Conshohocken, Center Square, Wissahickon, Fort Washington and Flourtown Fire Companies to arrive first if they are the closest company until Spring Mill or Barren Hill arrive on scene.
- o Mutual Aide response will include these resources around the boundaries of the Township.

# STAFFING

- Spring Mill and Barren Hill adhere to the minimum staffing guidelines set forth by the Emergency Services Board (ESB) to have a total of 3 firefighters per Engine and 4 firefighters per Ladder Truck.
- Both Companies routinely have on average 9-10 trained and certified firefighters responding to fire calls.

# CERTIFICATIONS

- o 93% of Barren Hill and Spring Mill members are trained to the Firefighter I level.
- o They maintain NIMS Certifications in accordance with Emergency Services Standard operating procedures.
- o They adhere to clearly defined standards for all levels of firefighters in the company.

# SPECIALIZED RESCUE

- o Barren Hill Fire Company
  - o Maintain Technical Rescue Equipment
- o Spring Mill Fire Company
  - o Maintain Water Rescue Equipment and certified personnel
    - o Barren Hill will maintain certified personnel to assist Spring Mill



# COLLABORATION

- o Both will maintain standard fire suppression capabilities and rescue resources to maintain their first due response districts.
- o Both will maintain appropriate vehicle rescue equipment within each Company.
- o Future purchase of equipment and apparatus will be reviewed by the ESB to avoid duplication of equipment.

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- o Both Companies will continue to participate in community events.
- o Both Companies will jointly participate in Township newsletters and social media outreach to promote volunteering and fire company's activities.

# Membership Clearance Requirements

- o Barren Hill and Spring Mill will continue to require that all new members submit a child abuse clearance and criminal history clearance prior to admittance into each fire company
- o Barren Hill and Spring Mill will continue to require existing members to submit to a child abuse clearance and criminal history clearance every five (5) years.

# FINANCIAL

- o Balance of Fire Tax
  - o Maintain disbursement to Spring Mill and Barren Hill Fire Companies in order to provide improved fire protection.
  - o Create Capital Fire Account for future purchases of equipment and apparatus.
    - o Requests for funds will be reviewed by the Emergency Services Board for recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

# PROCESS

- o Ordinance considered for advertisement.
- o Board of Supervisors would consider adoption of the ordinance and plan at the December 1, 2016 meeting.
- o Improved Fire service arrangement would take effect immediately following Board's decision.