

EAST MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP ANNOUNCES PROPOSED FIRE SERVICE REORGANIZATION

EAST MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP, PA — October 21, 2026 — East Manchester Township released an informational resident guide detailing a proposed reorganization of its primary emergency services on October 16, 2026. The Board of Supervisors is scheduled to consider a resolution at its November 10, 2026 meeting to withdraw the Township's recognition of Eagle Fire Company as a primary provider, effective January 1, 2027. Under the proposed plan, Union Fire Company would become the Township's sole primary fire-service provider.

The proposed transition follows approximately 20 years of attempts to consolidate the two fire services without achieving a lasting solution. Administrative records maintained by the Township highlight persistent operational, compliance, and financial accountability concerns regarding Eagle Fire Company. Notably, Township records track a 6.3% call fail rate for Eagle Fire Company within the Township during the current year, representing 21 failed responses year-to-date.

To ensure public safety and responsible fiscal stewardship, the Township intends to concentrate municipal resources under Union Fire Company, which currently maintains a 0% fail rate on Township calls and operates on a balanced budget and has been the township's "first-due" on the call boxes for approximately four years. Union Fire Company's Chief has additionally served as the Township-appointed Fire Chief for more than 14 years.

The Township's core responsibility is to ensure that when a resident dials 911, an emergency crew reliably responds with the proper equipment every single time. By concentrating funding under one primary department, the Township can eliminate administrative duplication and maximize resources for essential staffing, training, and apparatus maintenance.

The Township explicitly emphasizes that this proposed administrative direction is not a finding or reflection that every volunteer or individual incident involving Eagle Fire Company is deficient. The Township deeply appreciates and recognizes the local volunteers who have dedicated their time to serve the safety of the community. Eagle Fire Company would generally continue to exist as a separate nonprofit corporation; however, the Township must direct its primary emergency designation to the provider demonstrating consistent operational and financial stability.

This administrative change does not stop fire protection services for any resident, regardless of their mailing address. While Union Fire Company's station is physically located approximately one mile farther away than Eagle Fire Company on one side of the

township, dispatch protocols will continue to utilize a robust network of secondary support. Depending on the nature of the emergency and personnel availability, York County dispatch will automatically route mutual aid resources from neighboring departments, including York Area United Fire & Rescue (YAUFR) and/or other mutual aid companies, to ensure comprehensive coverage across all sections of the Township.

Residents can access the complete two-page informational guide on the East Manchester Township website. The Board of Supervisors welcomes public review of the operational facts prior to the public meeting on November 10, 2026.