



## CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS

**To:** Mayor Graham and City Council  
**From:** Brent Saunders, Fire Chief  
Walter Denton, City Administrator  
**Date:** December 21, 2009  
**Subject:** Ordinance Establishing Service Fees for Non-Residents of the City of O'Fallon

**List of committees that have reviewed:** Public Safety recommended approval of the ordinance.

**Background:** The ordinance allows for the billing of non-residents for fire services provided. Fire services provided shall include, but not be limited to, vehicle accidents, vehicle fires, mitigation of hazardous material incidents, and technical rescue.

The Fire Department is responsible for nine miles of I-64 and fire personnel often spend considerable time and resources responding to vehicle accidents by non-residents. In effect, district taxpayers are subsidizing those responses.

The ordinance also will allow for the Fire Department to bill for extended incidents, such as hazardous material incidents. Currently, we would not be able to recover our costs for a major train derailment or highway chemical spill where the Fire Department's participation could span several days. This ordinance would establish a billing method for recovering those costs.

The purpose of the fire service fee is to recover cost associated with response to incidents where non-residents are responsible for said response. Non-residents are those individuals living outside the city limits or boundaries of the fire protection district.

The Fire District Act 70 ILCS 705/11f provides that a fire department may charge and collect fees for services rendered against persons, businesses and other entities who are not residents, at a maximum rate not to exceed \$250.00 per hour per apparatus and \$70.00 per hour per firefighter.

**Legal Considerations, if any:** None

**Budget Impact:** Estimated annual revenue is \$33,000.00

**Staff recommendation:** Approval