



City of McCleary

STAFF REPORT

To:	City Council and Citizens
From:	Assistant Fire Chief Odd DeBakker
Date:	October 31, 2025
Department:	Fire Department

Hello all,

Before the end of the year, Grays Harbor fire district 12 will change from utilizing East Grays Harbor Fire Rescue, (EGHFR), as their primary provider of emergency medical services and transport, to Olympic Ambulance. This will only effect members of the community living in the Fire district, not the citizens of McCleary. Their main benefit from this move will be to save their taxpayers money on availability fees and hopefully give them quicker service with a staffed ambulance residing in the service district. It is assumed we will have some adjustments that need to be made but will not affect service to the public.

The fire station is undergoing some needed updates and remodels, to become safer and increase usability. The facility will be getting the old, stained carpet removed and painting the floor of our quarters with a surface we an epoxy coating we can sanitize. Rerouting of the restroom access and some other projects to meet compliance with current WACs. We are currently researching to find an appropriate monitor for the air quality of station and apparatus bays. This will allow us to accurately see how much Diesel exhaust fumes, and other possible carcinogens that our firefighters may be introduced to, and if we need to pursue an exhaust fume extraction system or air scrubbing machines.

We as a department are solely volunteer, and with that being the case, are very manpower limited. We have actively pursued recruitment but have not seen as much success as in years past. Some of the biggest down falls of that, is response time to incidents, inspections and pre fire planning, maintaining of quality records, and general keeping up to date with standards of documenting training and assets. To actively try and mitigate this problem, we are enthusiastically looking into computer program available, the funding for these programs may be about \$5,000 annually.

Thank you for the opportunity and Stay Safe,

Assistant Fire Chief Odd DeBakker