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Regional Director – Montana
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March 30th, 2020

Chief William Rash
Billings Fire Department
2305 8th Ave. N
Billings, MT 59101

Chief Rash,

Thank you for the recent discussions surrounding Billings Fire recommendations on the temporary changes to Chapter 15 of the Health and Sanitation Article 15-700 – Emergency Medical Services ordinance. We are in support of a temporary change to the ordinance that will allow Basic Life Support Response to the low acuity call response codes - Alpha and Bravo following current priority dispatch standards until the declarations listed below are declared over.

- Federal Declared State of Emergency
- State of Emergency declared by Montana’s Governor.
- Stay at home order associated with non-work related or necessity related travel throughout the community.
- State of Emergency declared by Yellowstone County
- State of Emergency declared by the City of Billings

These are unprecedented times and we appreciate the efforts of the City of Billings that will allow American Medical Response to augment the current system demand to match the appropriate level of response when needed. In addition, these temporary changes will enhance our ability to maintain optimal responder safety and ensure sustained resources for future demand changes until this Pandemic is declared over.

If the City of Billings moves forward with these changes, we respectfully request a letter that relieves AMR of the requirements listed below. AMR also understands that these changes would only pertain to additional resources it staffs above its current ALS core schedule and that the change is not intended to reduce the response requirement to calls coded as Charlie, Delta and Echo i.e... ALS response level.

- Sec 15-703 pertaining to the requirements of staffing at the Advanced Life Support level twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week.
- Section 15-703(3) Response time requirement relief if the increase of Ambulance only response, response to Omega calls or if COVID -19 system volume increases to a point that it impacts the ability of available ALS transport resources for Charlie Delta and Echo responses during this declared disaster.

Thank you for remaining a partner in ensuring safety for all as we all wade through the management of this COVID-19 pandemic together.

Sincerely,


Rocco Roncarati
Regional Director
American Medical Response

