

RESOLUTION 25-XX

A RESOLUTION CREATING A COMMUNITY RESPONSE TEAM WITHIN THE CITY OF ROSWELL FIRE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the City of Roswell has experienced a significant rise in incidents related to mental health crises and substance abuse, placing an increasing strain on emergency response resources; and

WHEREAS, the growing number of such incidents requires substantial time and personnel from the City's police, fire, and emergency medical services, often diverting resources from other critical public safety needs; and

WHEREAS, the standard emergency response to these incidents currently involves multiple units, including two law enforcement officers, a fire truck, and an ambulance, with an average round-trip time of approximately two hours and an estimated cost of [\$500] per response; and

WHEREAS, in 2024, Roswell's emergency dispatch received approximately 3,332 calls classified as mental health or substance abuse-related out of a total of approximately 12,000 calls, potentially amounting to an estimated [\$1,666,000] in response costs for those incidents alone; and

WHEREAS, national best practices and data from other municipalities indicate that an alternative response model incorporating specialized crisis intervention personnel can improve outcomes for individuals in crisis while reducing the burden on traditional emergency services; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a Community Response Team within the Roswell Fire Department, consisting of no less than one law enforcement officer, one paramedic, one mental health clinician or social worker, and one peer-support specialist, would provide a more effective, compassionate, and cost-efficient response to crisis calls; and

WHEREAS, such a team would not only respond to mental health and substance abuse-related crises but also assist individuals in accessing appropriate care, provide de-escalation and crisis intervention services, and offer follow-up support to reduce repeated emergency calls and improve long-term outcomes;

PASSED AND ADOPTED this [INSERT DATE] by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Roswell, New Mexico.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THIS GOVERNING BODY,

That the City of Roswell hereby establishes a COMMUNITY RESPONSE TEAM, within the Roswell Fire Department, to enhance the City's response to mental health and substance abuse-related incidents, improve public safety, and ensure better resource allocation for emergency services. This TEAM Shall be administered consistent with the document included herein titled CREATING A COMMUNITY RESPONSE TEAM WITH THE CITY OF ROSWELL FIRE DEPARTMENT.

PASSED, ADOPTED, SIGNED and APPROVED the ____ day of _____, 2025.

CITY SEAL

Timothy Jennings, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Amalia Martinez, City Clerk