

Action Plan Development Committee

To ensure the action plan reflects the operational needs of the department and the community it serves, **Central Oregon Coast Fire and Rescue** established a planning committee to guide the development of the extrication equipment and training improvement initiative. The committee was composed of on-duty career firefighters, volunteer members, and the Fire Chief. This diverse representation ensures that the perspectives of leadership, frontline responders, and volunteer personnel are incorporated into the planning process.

The **Fire Chief** serves as the executive leader of the committee and provides strategic direction throughout the planning process. The Chief is responsible for aligning the action plan with the department's long-term goals, ensuring that the proposed improvements support community safety objectives, and coordinating approval through the department's Board of Directors. The Chief also oversees policy adoption, budget considerations, and the formal implementation of the plan.

On-duty career firefighters play a critical role in the committee by providing operational expertise and firsthand experience with vehicle extrication incidents. These members contribute insight into the limitations of current equipment, challenges encountered during responses, and the types of tools and training needed to safely extricate victims from modern vehicles. Their operational knowledge helps ensure that equipment purchases and training priorities are practical and effective for real-world emergency responses along **U.S. Route 101** and **Oregon Route 34**.

Volunteer firefighters are also essential members of the committee. As an important part of the department's response force, volunteers bring valuable community knowledge and operational experience from incidents across the district. Their participation ensures that the action plan accounts for the training needs and operational considerations of volunteer personnel who frequently respond to motor vehicle accidents and assist with extrication operations.

During the **development phase**, the committee evaluates current equipment capabilities, identifies gaps in training or resources, and recommends updated tools and training strategies. During the **implementation phase**, committee members assist in coordinating equipment acquisition, organizing training sessions, and integrating new rescue techniques into department operations. In the **monitoring phase**, the committee will review incident outcomes, training progress, and operational feedback to ensure the action plan continues to meet the department's goals.

The committee also supports regional coordination efforts with neighboring agencies such as **Yachats Rural Fire Protection District**, particularly for incidents occurring along shared response areas on Highway 101. Joint planning and training efforts help ensure that both departments operate efficiently during mutual aid responses.

By involving leadership, career personnel, and volunteer firefighters in the planning process, Central Oregon Coast Fire and Rescue ensures that the action plan is comprehensive, operationally realistic, and supported by the members responsible for carrying it out. This collaborative approach strengthens the department's ability to implement improvements and maintain long-term success in reducing roadway injuries and fatalities within the district.