



The Role of BLS Transport Integration in the Current System

EMS Delivery Model Advisory Group

Meeting #2 – Monday, May 16, 2016

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How does BLS transport integration work in the current system and what is its role?

- Currently Central Valley Ambulance Authority and Sedro-Woolley Fire Department are testing BLS integration.
- Fire District 13, Mount Vernon and Burlington have all expressed interest / willingness to engage in BLS transport integration.
- ? Role – should BLS integration be for surge capacity when multiple paramedic ambulances are on concurrent calls; or all the time to keep paramedics as available as possible for critical calls?



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What are the strengths, weaknesses and concerns related to BLS transport integration?

➤ STRENGTHS

- Allows paramedics to return to service sooner after evaluating low acuity patients
- Reduces frequency of paramedic ambulances being unavailable simultaneously
- Reduces paramedic ambulances response times by reducing frequency of responses to neighboring paramedic response areas
- Increased participation of BLS providers in all aspects of pre-hospital care and transportation



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What are the strengths, weaknesses and concerns related to BLS transport integration?

➤ **WEAKNESSES**

- Potential increased system cost
- Roles of agencies / SCEMS need to be more clearly defined by BOCC



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What are the strengths, weaknesses and concerns related to BLS transport integration?

➤ **CONCERNS**

- Quality of care provided by BLS providers (Emergency Medical Technicians)
- Cost of BLS transport integration to EMS levy
- Revenue shift from provider agencies
- Protecting existing paramedic jobs



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What are the strengths, weaknesses and concerns related to BLS transport integration?

➤ OTHER THOUGHTS / QUESTIONS

➤ NEXT STEPS



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Thank You