

Thurston County Fire Protection District 8

HR/LF POLICY



POLICY TITLE:	Mutual Aid & Automatic Response
POLICY NUMBER:	2-05-PO-00
REVISION:	3
DATE ISSUED/REVISED:	9 September 2025
BOARD APPROVAL SIGNATURE:	

It shall be the policy of the District to provide mutual aid within the scope of the current Countywide *Mutual Aid Agreement for Firefighting and Emergency Medical Services* with the most qualified staffing available.

I. Mutual Aid: is the joint response by District resources with another agency outside of the District. Mutual aid may be in the form of an automatic response, greater alarm response, providing back-fill coverage for another agency or regional/statewide mobilization. The District may provide requested resources to the extent certain levels of service are maintained within the District.

- 1) *Automatic Response:* the immediate joint response by the District with other agencies in pre-defined geographical areas, or, for pre-defined types of incidents. District resources are considered part of the “primary” and “first alarm” assignment.
- 2) *Greater Alarm Response:* deployment of District resources for a second or larger alarm incident outside the District.
- 3) *Back-fill Coverage:* deployment of District resources to provide stand-by coverage & response for another agency.
- 4) *Mobilization:* organized response to a major declared disaster. Refer also to *Policy 2-01 “Emergency Operations Organization”*.

II. Automatic Response (“Auto-Aid”): involves providing initial joint response into specific zones that are identified in this Policy and on the accompanying map. An automatic response may be considered the same as a response within the District itself. The Fire Chief or Designee will update the TCOMM run cards as appropriate.

III. Retained Level of Service: For all mutual aid except automatic responses, the Duty Officer shall ensure sufficient equipment and personnel to provide essential services within the District prior to deploying resources outside the District.

IV. Out of District Response: Mutual aid resources may be provided by the District in a coordinated and controlled manner identified at an approved procedural level.