



# **HYATTSTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.**

***Serving our Community since 1929***

(301) 831-8499, (301) 831-8248  
FAX: (301) 831-8901

25801 Frederick Road  
Clarksburg, Maryland 20871

April 9, 2025

Dear neighbor,

Our County Fire Chief, Corey Smedley, has proposed to **remove 100% of our career firefighter and paramedic staff and relocate them to other communities in Montgomery County**. These are staff that you support with your taxes! This is an existential threat to not only our firehouse but to your personal wellbeing. The plan will take effect sometime after July 1, 2025.

The effect this will have on you, your family and your property –

- Longer response time for EMS and fire services (including paramedic services) – they would have to come from Clarksburg or Urbana – **adding 6 plus minutes to their response to your emergency – and that's not considering the traffic!**
- **We have no fire hydrants in our community.** Our Hyattstown owned apparatus is sized larger to bring that water to your emergency. Surrounding stations **do not** have the same capability.
- **An increase in your property fire insurance ISO rate.** We have spent a great deal of money to equip our fire suppression units in Hyattstown to reduce the ISO rate in our community.
- Our Hyattstown owned rescue engine is specially equipped for auto accident extrication and other technical rescue emergencies. If that resource is not available, the next similar resource would need to come from Germantown or Frederick.
- The plan will leave the station “open”, there just won't be 24/7 career staff. There are not enough volunteers to replace the career staff 24/7. **Your need may go unanswered by Hyattstown.**

Actions you should take –

- Contact our Councilmember, Marilyn Balcombe, and let her know this redeployment plan is not acceptable –  
[Councilmember.Balcombe@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Councilmember.Balcombe@montgomerycountymd.gov)