

# DRAFT BUDGET

## FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026



1075 Princeton Street • Lewisville, TX 75067  
972.221.0911 • [DENCO.ORG](http://DENCO.ORG)

# Mission

The mission of the Denco Area 9-1-1 District is to provide a highly advanced and efficient enhanced 9-1-1 emergency telecommunications system as the primary emergency access for citizens and visitors in the district to quickly obtain the emergency services needed to protect life, health and property.

# Vision

The Denco vision is to maintain the highest level of public and partner agency confidence while providing service in a manner that fosters excellence, integrity and accountability. To be a recognized leader in the 9-1-1 profession and a valued partner of the public safety community.

## Goal 1

Provide and maintain advanced, effective 9-1-1 Systems that are constantly available and compatible with changing communication technologies

## Goal 2

Represent the public and partner agencies in ongoing development of 9-1-1 systems technologies and public policy

## Goal 3

Manage the Denco Area 9-1-1 District in an objective, efficient, effective and responsive manner ensuring long-term sustainability

## Goal 4

Increase public awareness of 9-1-1 issues and promote the proper use of the 9-1-1 system

## Goal 5

Provide training and support programs which enable Emergency Communications Center (ECC) personnel to effectively process 9-1-1 calls

# Denco Board of Managers



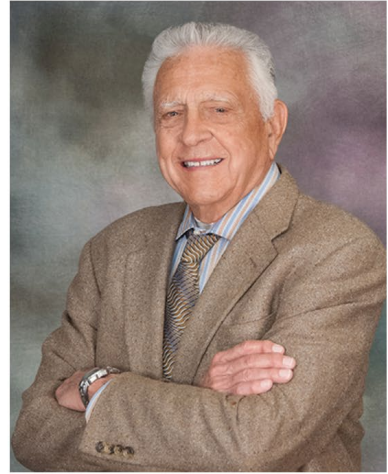
**Bill Lawrence**

Representing Denton County  
Commissioners Court, Board Chairman



**Sue Tejml**

Representing Participating Cities, Board  
Vice Chair



**Jim Carter**

Representing Participating Cities, Board  
Secretary



**Jason Cole**

Representing Denton County  
Commissioners Court



**Chief Eric Schlotter**

Representing Denton County Fire Chiefs  
Association

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**Gregory S. Ballentine**  
Executive Director



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## Section 1: Budget Message

Section 1 includes a memorandum from the Denco executive director providing a summary of the District's strategy for the fiscal year, anticipated revenues and projected expenses, along with a summary of significant changes from the previous fiscal year budget.

## Section 2: District Overview

Section 2 provides a brief summary about the history of the Denco Area 9-1-1 District. A summary narrative description of the assigned services, functions, and activities of all organizational units is included.

## Section 3: Budget Process and Financial Policies

Section 3 describes the process for preparing, reviewing, and adopting the budget. It also describes the procedures for amending the budget after adoption. District financial policies governing budget preparation and management are described.

## Section 4: Revenue

Section 4 presents a summary of the major revenue sources and amounts anticipated in fiscal year 2026.

## Section 5: Expenditures

Section 5 includes a summary of anticipated costs to be incurred by the District for equipment, services and payment of recurring expenses necessary to achieve the mission and goals of the agency.

## Section 6: Budget Summary

Section 6 provides the summary of both anticipated revenues and proposed expenditures in a single table, reflecting the percentage distribution of budget across the major budget categories, as well as the estimated Fund Balance.

## Section 7: Five-Year Projections

Section 7 includes the five-year projection summary depicting both the growth and decline of the District's fund balance projected for the next five years.

## Section 8: Reference Materials

Section 8 includes reference material that provides guidelines under which the District operates. Included are copies of resolutions defining the budget approval process, House Bill 1984 that provides the statutory requirements for budget approval, legislation under which Denco operates and Denco goals. It also provides background information about the 9-1-1 system, its terminology and the benefits it provides.

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# **Denco Area 9-1-1 District**

**Fiscal Year 2026  
Annual Budget**

## **Section 1**

**Budget Message**

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# Denco Area 9-1-1 District

1075 Princeton Street ▪ Lewisville, TX 75067

Phone: 972-221-0911 ▪ Fax: 972-420-0709 ▪ Denco.ORG

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To: Denco Area 9-1-1 District Board of Managers

Date: July 10, 2025

Subject: Denco Area 9-1-1 District Fiscal Year 2026 Financial Plan

In accordance with state statutes and Denco's governing resolutions, I am pleased to submit the proposed Fiscal Year 2026 budget for your consideration.

The proposed budget projects total revenues of \$6,625,000 and total expenditures of \$8,165,685. These estimates reflect a realistic financial outlook based on current data and expected trends. The budget reaffirms Denco's commitment to providing a state-of-the-art, high-availability emergency 9-1-1 system to residents of the district, while continuing to support the critical operations of our partner emergency communications centers.

A five-year financial forecast is included to guide long-term planning and ensure fiscal sustainability amid rising costs and ongoing declines in wireline revenue.

Key elements of the FY 2026 budget include:

- No new staff positions, but continued investment in our existing workforce through competitive compensation and professional development.
- A 2.4% cost-of-living adjustment tied to the Consumer Price Index and a 3% merit pool for performance-based salary increases.
- Possible compensation structure adjustments pending results from an independent salary analysis.

Strategic investments include:

- Enhanced cybersecurity including a biannual independent security audit.
- Ongoing software, training, certification, and quality assurance support for Emergency Medical Dispatch programs.
- Continued recruitment and pre-employment testing initiatives for Emergency Communications Centers in the district.
- Continuation of indoor mapping and vertical location projects to improve call location accuracy.
- Expansion of remote video training capabilities for in-district 9-1-1 personnel.
- Facility upgrades, including roof repairs, training room improvements, security camera replacements, screening wall reconstruction, and network cabling updates.

- Anticipated increases in operational costs across software, supplies, interpreter services, instructor contracts, and utilities.

In recent years, Denco has benefited from substantial grant funding to support Next Generation 9-1-1 initiatives. These funds have bolstered our reserves, enabling the planned technology investments outlined in this budget. As grant balances are drawn down, reserves will gradually decrease. Legislative advocacy will continue in 2027 to pursue a sustainable funding model, including an increase in the wireless 9-1-1 service fee.

No change is proposed to the wireline 9-1-1 service fee for FY 2026. Future adjustments will be evaluated to ensure alignment between revenues, operating needs, and reserve fund targets for upcoming system enhancements.

This proposed spending plan reflects the strategic direction and priorities of the Board of Managers. Thank you for your continued leadership and support of the Denco Area 9-1-1 District.

Respectfully submitted,

*Gregory S. Ballentine*

Gregory S. Ballentine, Executive Director



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# **Denco Area 9-1-1 District**

**Fiscal Year 2026  
Annual Budget**

## **Section 2**

**District Overview**

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# DENCO AREA 9-1-1 DISTRICT

## District Overview

### Formation of the Denco Area 9-1-1 District

#### **Legislation**

During its 1985 session, the 69th Texas Legislature passed Article 1432e (Section 772, Texas Health and Safety Code), Emergency Telephone Number Act, which provided for the creation, administration, expansion, funding and dissolution of emergency communication districts in certain counties in Texas. The Emergency Telephone Number Act is the legislation under which the Denco Area 9-1-1 District operates.

#### **Purpose**

Section 772.302, Texas Health and Safety Code, states the purpose of the Act to be the following:

*“To establish the number 9-1-1 as the primary emergency telephone number for use by certain local governments in this state and to encourage units of local governments and combinations of those units of local government to develop and improve emergency communication procedures and facilities in a manner that will make possible the quick response to any person calling the telephone number 9-1-1 seeking police, fire, medical, rescue and other emergency services.”*

#### **Creation of Denco Area 9-1-1 District**

In the 1980's citizens in Denton County were using a myriad of seven-digit phone numbers for Police, Fire, and EMS assistance. The Emergency Telephone Number Act (established 1985) laid the foundation for a better method. The purpose of the act was to establish the number 9-1-1 as the primary emergency telephone number to improve emergency communication and response. The act allowed for the creation of districts to counties with a population of more than 75,000.

In order to establish the District, an election was required within the proposed district jurisdiction. The election would allow for the establishment of the District and authorize the collection of a 9-1-1 emergency service fee. The election occurred on August 8, 1987, voters approved the emergency communication district with 81% of votes cast, and 9-1-1 service began three years later, on August 8, 1990.

Over the past several years, the District has experienced many internal and external influences that have changed the way it conducts business. For example, the Telecommunications Act of 1996 led to multiple new telephone companies entering the area. The explosion in the popularity of wireless telephones significantly affected call volume in virtually every area of the District. Identified needs for joint training and educational programs resulted in development of robust, cooperative activities on a district level and the evolution of technology has paved the way for implementation of Next Generation 9-1-1 services to include Text-to-911. Denco continues to build and maintain reliable 9-1-1 systems as technologies, populations, and public communication practices evolve. Denco Area 9-1-1 District provides:

- A fully redundant telecommunications network
- 24/7 support of call processing equipment
- Multiple 9-1-1 location databases
- Enhanced functionality to accommodate cell phones, hearing-impaired callers, and Text-to-911
- Training for emergency telecommunicators, supervisors, trainers, and responders
- Resource tools for hiring and retaining 9-1-1 telecommunicators
- Provide Texas licensure testing services for telecommunicators, peace officers, and jailers
- Digital mapping and addressing of rural areas to display caller's location
- Community education to promote appropriate use of 9-1-1
- Legislative and industry advocacy for 9-1-1 matters at local, state, and national levels

### **District Overview**

The District supports seven primary emergency communications centers operated by local government and two secondary emergency communications centers serving university campuses in the Denton Area. Emergency communications centers supported by the District include: City of Denton, County

of Denton, Town of Flower Mound, City of Highland Village, City of Lewisville, City of Roanoke, City of The Colony, Texas Woman's University and University of North Texas.

### **Major Accomplishments**

- 1995: First Digital 9-1-1 Tandem in Texas
- 1999: Interconnected ECCs with Frame Relay
- 1999: First in Texas for Phase I Wireless Location
- 2001: Began Tier 1 Support for 9-1-1 Equipment
- 2002: First (or Second) in Texas for Phase II Wireless
- 2006: Use of Microwave Network for Path Diversity
- 2010: Facility Addition to host Expanded Training
- 2014: First ESInet routed 9-1-1 call in Texas
- 2016: Implemented Text-to-911
- 2019: Constructed Denco Annex for Enhanced Survivability
- 2023: Implemented SD-WAN utilization of multiple networks
- 2024: Implemented video to 9-1-1 technology

### **Partner Jurisdictions**

The participating jurisdictions of the District are the following:

<i>Argyle</i>	<i>Hackberry</i>	<i>Northlake</i>
<i>Aubrey</i>	<i>Hebron</i>	<i>Oak Point</i>
<i>Bartonville</i>	<i>Hickory Creek</i>	<i>Pilot Point</i>
<i>Copper Canyon</i>	<i>Highland Village</i>	<i>Ponder</i>
<i>Corral City</i>	<i>Justin</i>	<i>Providence Village</i>
<i>Corinth</i>	<i>Krugerville</i>	<i>Roanoke</i>
<i>Cross Roads</i>	<i>Krum</i>	<i>Sanger</i>
<i>Denton</i>	<i>Lake Dallas</i>	<i>Shady Shores</i>
<i>DISH</i>	<i>Lakewood Village</i>	<i>The Colony</i>
<i>Double Oak</i>	<i>Lewisville</i>	<i>Trophy Club</i>
<i>Flower Mound</i>	<i>Little Elm</i>	<i>Unincorporated Denton County</i>

### **Governance Structure**

The Board of Managers is the governing body for the Denco Area 9-1-1 District. The county, participating cities and the Denton County Fire Chiefs

Association appoint members to the board. Members serve staggered two-year terms and are eligible for reappointment. The following members currently sit on the Board of Managers:

<b><u>Board Member</u></b>	<b><u>Represents</u></b>
Mr. Bill Lawrence, Chair	Denton County Commissioners Court
Ms. Sue Tejml, Vice Chair	Participating Municipalities
Mr. Jim Carter, Secretary	Participating Municipalities
Mr. Jason Cole	Denton County Commissioners Court
Chief Eric Schlotter	Denton County Fire Chiefs' Association
Vacant	Service Provider, Advisory (non-voting)

The Emergency Telephone Number Act states, "*...the board shall manage, control and administer the District. The board may adopt rules for the operation of the District.*" The legislation also allows the board to appoint a director of communications for the District who serves as its general manager. The director, with approval from the board, manages the services necessary to carry out the purposes of the Emergency Telephone Number Act.

### **Agency Services, Programs and Organization**

The Denco Area 9-1-1 District has established organizational units or program areas that support the overall mission of the agency. The organizational units include administrative services, technical services, geographic information services/data integrity, public education/outreach, emergency communications center support and the public safety training academy. Each of the organizational units require personnel and operational expenditures to provide all of the elements of the 9-1-1 system. The proposed budget provides for eighteen full-time staff positions to provide the planning, operations, and maintenance functions of the District. The organizational structure of the District includes program areas that serve the citizens, 9-1-1 emergency communication centers and emergency service providers within the district. As a small governmental agency with a lean staffing model, several personnel overlap support of more than one organizational unit. Therefore, within the budget framework, personnel services are not allocated to specific functions.

### **Administrative Services**

The Administrative Services function encompasses agency governance, executive leadership, oversight, and support operations. Key responsibilities include

legislative and regulatory advocacy, legal and human resources services, financial management, strategic planning, inter-agency coordination, and records management. This function also establishes internal controls to ensure compliance with agency policies, legal and contractual obligations, and accreditation standards. In addition to monitoring overall program effectiveness, Administrative Services supports the achievement of the agency's strategic goals, including:

- Ensure adequate technical and financial planning to support continuous enhancement of the systems to leverage technology advancements and integrate emerging communications methods.
- Actively participate in local, state and Federal legislative and regulatory processes to ensure that 9-1-1 service integrity focuses on the needs of citizens and public safety response agencies remain a priority.
- Maintain leadership roles in the Texas 9-1-1 Alliance, Association of Public Safety Communications Officials, National Emergency Number Association and other industry associations and standards setting bodies to support policy development and maintenance in accordance with the Denco Area 9-1-1 District mission, values, goals and objectives.
- Establish stakeholder communications opportunities to ensure partner agencies are engaged on relevant 9-1-1 industry trends and public safety service issues. Provide mechanisms for active engagement by partner agencies.
- Ensure the long-term financial stability of the Denco Area 9-1-1 District as a state-of-the-art communications network serving citizens and partner agencies through effective long-term financial planning.
- Ensure consistent service and financial equity throughout the district contributing to an enhanced quality of life for all citizens of the district.
- Maintain a conservative approach to establishment of service fees at a level to maintain the 9-1-1 systems and programs, and funding of capital investments.
- Establish a competent and stable workforce of industry leaders to achieve the Denco Area 9-1-1 District mission, goals, vision and objectives.

### **Technical Services**

Technical Services is Denco's most mission-critical function, focused on ensuring the continuous operation of the 9-1-1 system. This activity encompasses monitoring and maintaining network reliability, security, and performance; ensuring software functionality; conducting preventive hardware maintenance and critical repairs; and managing related responsibilities such as facility oversight, user



support, and dial plan maintenance. Technical Services staff play a key role in advancing the agency's strategic goals, including:

- Ensure the 9-1-1 system is comprised of industry leading redundancy, diversity, security, and failover systems to achieve maximum availability to citizens and partner agencies.
- Ensure as close to 100% up-time as possible within available resources for all critical components of the 9-1-1 system by planning, managing and performing system monitoring, maintenance and repair activities.
- Rapidly and effectively respond to emergency communications center requests for 9-1-1 system technical support.
- Maintain Denco equipment and facilities to ensure asset accountability and long-term functionality.
- Ensure Denco's security practices are continually enhanced and responsive to emerging threats, by applying the principles and best practices of risk management to improve the security and resilience of Denco's NG9-1-1 critical infrastructure and administrative systems. Establish and maintain procedures for real-time network monitoring, threat analysis, and early warning notifications of cyber threats and attacks.

### **Geographical Information Services/Data Integrity**

The Denco Area 9-1-1 District is responsible for maintaining the accuracy and integrity of public safety GIS data used for routing 9-1-1 calls and mapping caller locations within Emergency Communications Centers (ECCs). GIS data is collected from multiple sources, including direct contributions from local government partners. Denco staff review, standardize, and compile this information into a single, district-wide public safety dataset. This dataset is distributed to ECCs for use in 9-1-1 call mapping and, upon request, Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) systems. In addition, Denco GIS staff issue addresses for unincorporated areas of Denton County and ensure all location data used for 9-1-1 call routing remains accurate and up to date. GIS/Data Integrity staff contribute to the advancement of the following strategic goals:

- Ensure that 9-1-1 calls, from all sources, are quickly and accurately routed to ECCs and that ECCs have the most accurate, reliable, and usable data at all times.
- Ensure GIS data preparation for spatial routing by aggregating each partner jurisdiction's GIS data into a seamless district dataset to maximize use of clean data and superior geometry.

- Ensure accurate indoor and outdoor locations are visually depicted on detailed maps at emergency communications centers when accurate location data is obtainable from telecommunications service providers.

## **Education Services**

Denco Area 9-1-1 District Education Services encompass two crucial activities: community engagement and the public safety training academy.

Community Engagement: The Denco Public Education and Outreach program educates the public about the District's 9-1-1 system. Denco has long believed that an informed caller leads to a more successful 9-1-1 call. The public education and outreach staff engage citizens through various strategic approaches, which together constitute the integrated education and outreach program. Denco has developed a variety of materials to educate the public on specific 9-1-1 related topics and materials directed to specific audiences. Educational materials are distributed to citizens at public events, fairs and festivals and are provided to local partner agencies for distribution. Educational materials are placed in many public facilities. Denco coordinates media campaigns locally on jurisdiction specific information such as texting to 9-1-1 and with regional partners in metropolitan-wide broadcast media activities. The Denco Public Education and Outreach staff support the following strategic goals:

- Establish and maintain education programs for all demographics to contribute to educated 9-1-1 callers in the district; supporting the likelihood of more successful emergency calls.
- Establish and maintain awareness activities focusing on fast-changing technologies, such as mobile applications, SMS messaging, Real-Time-Text, wearable biometric devices, and the growing "Internet of Things" (IoT) that seek to connect to emergency services, and to mitigate public confusion and manage expectations.
- Participate in general awareness and education activities to promote citizen confidence in the 9-1-1 system as the most effective method to summon emergency help.

Public Safety Training Academy: Denco operates one of the most comprehensive and well-regarded 9-1-1 training academies in the region, leveraging both in-house expertise and contract instructors. The academy provides high-quality basic, intermediate, and advanced training for public safety personnel, along with specialized courses for fire services, emergency

medical dispatch, and supervisory or management roles. Denco's academy is a licensed training provider through the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) and is one of the few 9-1-1 academies in the nation accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). Training Academy staff play a vital role in supporting the following strategic goals:

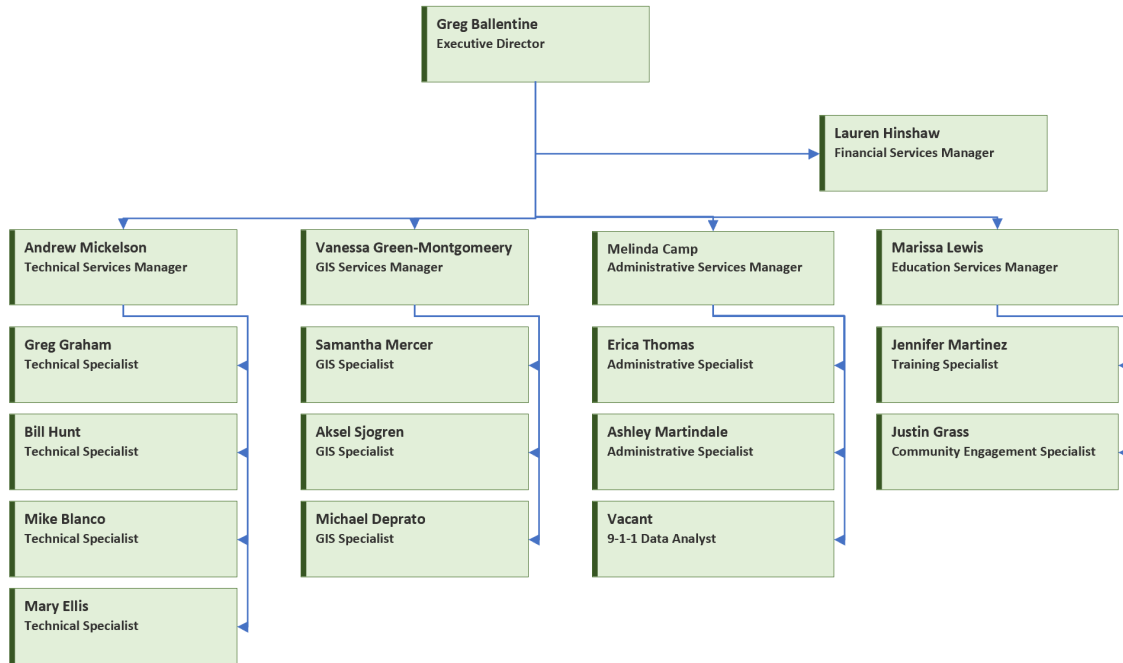
- Ensure high quality training programs and courses are available locally for telecommunications personnel of partner agencies to achieve all required basic licensing and continuing education requirements.
- Enhance basic training opportunities by providing high quality, industry relevant advanced training opportunities for partner agencies.
- Conduct continual training needs analysis to ensure training curricula remain contemporary and relevant.

### **Emergency Communications Center Support**

The Denco Area 9-1-1 District provides important support services to partner jurisdictions to enhance the ability to respond to calls for emergency assistance including support of the Emergency Medical Dispatching activities, recruitment and pre-employment testing, licensure testing, and analytics support. Denco staff support the following ECC support goals:

- Maintain support for Emergency Medical Dispatch activities of partner agencies to include providing the latest version of operating and quality assurance software and program support.
- Assist partner agencies to recruit and test telecommunicator candidates.
- Enhance and support opportunities to assist partner agencies retain high quality 9-1-1 staff and to minimize the adverse impact of telecommunicator turnover.

## **Staff Organizational Chart**



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# **Denco Area 9-1-1 District**

**Fiscal Year 2026  
Annual Budget**

## **Section 3**

**Budget Process and  
Financial Policies**

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# DENCO AREA 9-1-1 DISTRICT

## Budget Process

Texas statute requires that the District Executive Director prepare an annual budget for the District under the direction of the Board of Managers. The District fiscal year begins on the first day of October and ends on the last day of September of each calendar year. The budget process occurs over a seven-month period through the collective efforts of Denco staff members, supervisors/managers, the executive director and Board of Managers. Preparation of the budget is composed of six steps.

### **Step #1 - Preliminary Analysis, Planning and Forecasting**

The executive director formally initiates the annual budget process in March by engaging all managers and employees of the district. Denco notifies partner agency representatives responsible for overseeing the emergency communications centers of budget preparation and deadlines for notification of projects involving Denco's equipment or services. Initial submissions are due in April. The management team reviews the strategic plan and goals for the current fiscal year to determine initiatives that will complete and any that need to be carried forward. An examination of the current year budget is conducted to examine actual revenue trends, expenditure needs for the remaining period and a reforecast of end of year position.

Staff are challenged to consider activities and enhancements proposed for the following fiscal year, including identification of equipment, vehicle, software, facilities or other items needed over the next 5-year period for longer-term financial planning. Denco desires to identify all major expense items as far in advance as possible to allow accurate multi-year cost projections.

Staff identifies any program areas that will likely experience significant growth or activity reduction, and the potential cost impact associated with the change in activity. Additionally, Denco considers any program enhancements or new investment (tied to the mission statement and strategic plan goals) and develops revenue/cost detail. Finally, each year staff is challenged to consider



opportunities to reduce costs within current programs and operations without significantly degrading service quality.

## **Step #2 - Budget Development**

During May, the executive director, working with agency personnel, reviews all revenue trends, re-forecasted revenues and expenditures, planned projects and program requests from step #1 to prepare the proposed budget and recommended service fees for presentation to the Board of Managers.

After assessing relevant information, the executive director prioritizes proposed expenses and reviews all revenue sources to compile the proposed budget recommendations and draft document. If necessary, a budget workshop may be scheduled with the Board of Managers in advance of the formal proposed budget presentation.

## **Step #3 - Adoption of Draft Budget and Setting of Service Fees**

The executive director presents the proposed budget to the Board of Managers at the July board meeting. Board members discuss policy objectives and the proposed spending plan in relation to strategic plan, statutory and contractual obligations and Board priorities. The Board makes any modifications to the proposed budget prior to considering a resolution to adopt the draft budget and set the wireline 9-1-1 service fee for the following fiscal year.

## **Step #4 – Partner Agency Review of Draft Budget**

Following adoption of the draft budget, the executive director, on behalf of the Board of Managers, submits the draft budget to each of the governing bodies of the partner jurisdictions. In a transmittal letter accompanying the draft budget, the executive director will include a statement requesting that the governing bodies of each of the participating jurisdictions review the draft and submit any comments to the Board prior to or on the date the budget is scheduled for final consideration and adoption by the Board.

Denton County and the municipalities approving the draft proposed budget by resolution will submit a copy of the resolution to Denco. If the governing body of a municipality does not act on the budget before the sixty-first day after the date the body received the proposed budget for review, the budget is considered approved by the governing body as operation of law.

### **Step #5 - Final Adoption of Budget**

The Board of Managers considers final adoption of the draft budget at its regular meeting in September, occurring at least forty-five days after the July meeting. The executive director informs the Board of partner agencies approving, disapproving and commenting on the draft budget along with presenting any comments received. The Board makes any modifications to the proposed budget and passes a resolution adopting the final budget.

### **Step #6 - Implementation**

Within three business days of the Board meeting, the executive director, on behalf of the Board, will:

- send a letter to each of the governing bodies of the partner jurisdictions stating that the Board adopted the proposed budget without any changes, or
- send a copy of the budget adopted by the Board and include, in a letter, the differences between the proposed and adopted budget. If the adopted budget is different than the draft proposed budget the executive director will include a statement requesting approval of the Board's adopted budget by the governing bodies of the partner jurisdictions within sixty days of receipt.

### **Step #7 – Budget Amendment**

Texas statute permits the Board of Managers to amend the budget at any time during the fiscal year. If the budget amendment results in an increase in the bottom line, the Board of Managers will follow the same process for amendment approval as for adoption of the approved budget.

## Budget Calendar

The schedule for the budget approval process this year is the following:

**March 2025**: Preliminary Analysis, Planning and Forecasting.

**April 2025 – June 2025**: Budget Development.

**July 10, 2025**: The Board of Managers considers approval of the Draft Denco Area 9-1-1 District Fiscal Year 2026 Budget and Financial Plan and sets 9-1-1 service fees.

**July 11, 2025**: Partner jurisdictions are notified the Draft 2026 Budget is located on the Denco website for review and consideration.

**July 11 through August 27, 2025**: As required by statute, partner jurisdictions have 45 days to review the draft budget and provide comments to the Board of Managers for consideration.

**September 11, 2025**: The Board of Managers considers comments on the Draft 2026 Budget and adopts a final budget for fiscal year 2026.

**September 15, 2025**: If changes are made to the draft budget, Denco sends the approved budget to participating jurisdictions with a letter outlining the changes. If the draft budget is approved without changes, a letter is sent to jurisdictions advising of budget approval.

## Financial Policies

The Denco Area 9-1-1 District budget is developed and managed consistent with the policy framework of the Board of Managers. Current financial policies include:

### **Financial Standards**

The fiscal year of the District begins on October 1 and ends on September 30 of each year. The operating budget will be balanced with current, and projected, revenues and prior year surpluses greater than or equal to expenditures. The District, generally, does not spend more on routine expenses in any given financial period than it reasonably expects to receive in income. Excess cash balances are reserved for planned or capital expenditures of a non-recurring nature and unforeseen emergencies.

Routine replacement of capital equipment is treated as an operating expense for purposes of this standard but may be funded from accumulated balances identified through the budgeting process.

The District will make all capital improvements in accordance with an adopted multi-year plan for revenues and expenses, updated annually.

### **Basis of Budgeting and Accounting**

The budgetary and accounting policies governing District operations conform to generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). During the fiscal year, financial records and reports are developed on a cash accounting basis; revenues are recorded as they are received, and expenses are recorded as disbursements are made.

The formal audit at the end of the fiscal year transitions the method of reporting to a modified accrual basis of accounting in which revenues are recorded when accrued and expenses are recorded when incurred. Expenditures represent a decrease in net financial resources and are recorded when the fund liability is incurred, if measurable. Based on this transition from cash to accrual reporting, there are slight differences in the end of year financial statements consistent with GAAP. These modifications are fully disclosed by the auditor.

### **Independent Audit and Report**

Texas statute requires the Board of Managers to engage an independent financial audit of the district annually. The audit is performed as soon as practicable after the end of each fiscal year. Upon completion of the audit, the executive director presents to the Board and to each partner jurisdiction a sworn written statement of all funds received and expended by the District during the preceding fiscal year.

As a non-Federal entity, in fiscal years that Denco expends \$750,000 or more in Federal awards, Denco is required to have a single or program-specific audit conducted. An independent single audit is conducted for each year in which this spending threshold is surpassed.

### **Pension Plan Funding**

Denco participates in the Texas County and District Retirement System and annually contributes its actuarially determined contribution (ADC) as a minimum. Recognizing the inherent uncertainties surrounding public sector pensions, Denco desires to manage and smooth the volatility of its required ADC by maintaining the previous year's rate in years that the ADC rate drops. This excess contribution is evaluated annually and generally is kept within a range of 0 to 1 percentage points above the upcoming year's ADC. The Board of Managers, as part of its annual budget deliberations, will determine contributions taking into consideration overall funded status, recent trends in both the ADC and other budgetary needs.

### **Contingent Budget Planning**

The revenues and expenditures are monitored and reported monthly to the Board of Managers including an analysis of whether projected revenues and expenditures are forecast to end the fiscal year within budget. The executive director is ultimately responsible for determining when a projected shortfall requires corrective action.

### **Budgetary Controls**

The executive director and authorized management staff exercise budgetary control. A system of internal controls safeguard assets and ensure timely, accurate financial reporting. These controls are reviewed annually as part of the independent financial audit. Revenues and expenditures are reported to the Board of Managers monthly. If the executive director determines a projected shortfall requires corrective action, steps may include a variety of measures to

produce short-term savings to the district. With approval of the executive director, expenditure allocations are transferred between line items, provided the line-item adjustment does not exceed the total approved budget.

### **Budget Amendments**

Texas state statute permits the Board of Managers to amend the budget at any time during the fiscal year. If the budget amendment results in an increase to the bottom line, the Board of Managers will follow the same process for the amendment as for adoption of the approved budget.

### **Service Fee Revenue**

Texas statute authorizes the District to establish a monthly per-line fee from each telephone customer of up to six percent of the principal telephone service provider's base rate. Annually, the board establishes the service fee rate for the following fiscal year as part of the budget process. Texas Statute Sec. 772.314. Subsection D (e) requires the Board of Managers to "attempt to match the district's revenues to its operating expenditures and to provide reasonable reserves for contingencies and for the purchase and installation of 9-1-1 emergency service equipment." In addition to the fee established by the Board of Managers, the District also receives a portion of the statewide surcharge on wireless telephone service. The surcharge is assessed at the statutory rate per activated handset and is distributed to authorized 9-1-1 jurisdictions based upon population.

### **Investments**

Investments shall be made in conformance with the District's Investment Policy, with the primary objectives of:

1. Safety – preservation of capital in the investment portfolio;
2. Liquidity – portfolio remains sufficiently liquid to meet operating requirements;
3. Yield – earn the maximum rate of return allowed on investments within the policies imposed by safety and liquidity objectives, investment strategies, and state and federal laws governing the investment of public funds.

### **Grants**

The District will pursue grant opportunities based on financial need. Each project grant is evaluated on the financial need and the long-term sustainability of the project. The District will only accept project grants for one-time or capital items or when the continued funding of the program is incorporated into future budgets.



All grants and other federal and state funds are managed to comply with the laws, regulations, and guidance of the grantor, and all gifts and donations shall be managed and expended according to the wishes and instructions of the donor.

### **Reserve Fund Balance**

When making multi-year projections, accumulated funds are allocated to one of the following categories:

- Committed Fund Balance: Amounts that can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the Board of Managers are reported as committed fund balance. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Board of Managers removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action it employed to previously commit those amounts.
- Assigned Fund Balance: Amounts that are constrained by the agency's intent to be used for specific purposes, but are neither restricted nor committed, are reported as assigned fund balance.
- Unassigned Fund Balance: This classification represents a fund balance that is not assigned to other funds and has not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes within the general fund.

The District does not have any non-spendable, restricted, or committed fund balances at the end of fiscal year 2025.

When an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balances are available, the District considers restricted funds to have been spent first. When an expenditure is incurred for which committed, assigned, or unassigned fund balances are available, the District considers amounts to have been spent first out of committed funds, then assigned funds, then unassigned funds.

The Government Finance Officers Association recommends, at a minimum, that general-purpose governments, regardless of size, maintain unrestricted budgetary fund balance in their general fund of no less than two months of regular general fund operating expenditures. For FY2025, the projected end of year fund balance is \$10,669,340. This amount includes surplus reserve needs anticipated for future operations and technology upgrades.

## **Workforce Compensation**

To achieve Denco's mission and vision, the agency must attract, motivate, and retain highly qualified and dedicated employees. Employee compensation shall be externally competitive in the metropolitan area, following budgetary guidelines and financial responsibility. The District shall also strive for internal organizational equity in employee compensation.

The compensation philosophy reflects the importance District employees play in the delivery of public safety related services and programs that support partner agencies and directly serve the community. Denco's approach establishes the commitment to maintain comparability with jurisdictions that are most likely to affect recruitment and retention of the District's highly skilled workforce.

The small workforce of specialized personnel results in an extreme adverse impact when unexpected staff turnover occurs. The highly technical nature of systems, equipment and processes limits the recruiting pool from which to fill personnel vacancies in specific classifications. All compensation factors drive recruitment and retention. Denco strives to maintain an excellent benefits package as part of its overall compensation program.

The District's pay classifications have traditionally been set at a midpoint within the 65<sup>th</sup> to 75<sup>th</sup> percentile of comparator organizations in the primary labor market. The primary labor market is Texas 9-1-1 Districts, other local governments, and public/private Information Technology agencies for management and technical staff. For administrative and GIS staff, the counties of Denton, Collin, Dallas and Tarrant are considered the primary labor market.

At least every three years, the District conducts a market study utilizing a qualified independent contractor to establish benchmark positions based on job descriptions. During Fiscal Year 2025, Denco engaged a contractor to recommend the competitive posture of the organization and propose a plan of action. The analysis and recommendations will be completed during the summer of 2025. This budget proposal includes a 3% contingency to implement recommendations, if any.

Annually, the executive director will recommend a budget for general salary adjustments based upon the cost-of-living impacts of consumer price indexes, overall competitive posture of the organization, market rate adjustments, comparator organizations in the primary labor market and financial affordability. The proposed budget includes for the application of performance-merit increases in recognition of performance that meets and exceeds expectations. Despite the

existence of approved funding, merit increases are not automatic for any employee.

### **Assets, Technology Enhancements and Replacement**

Infrastructure, technology, and major equipment are the material foundation for providing services and meeting statutory obligations. The procurement, design, construction, maintenance, and operation of capital assets are a critical activity of the District and therefore require careful planning. Technology planning is extremely dynamic given the rapid pace of change in technologies used by the public to call for help, location and call delivery enhancements, uncertain fiscal resources and other external influences. The equipment replacement strategy serves as a planning tool; structured to present a meaningful, multi-year perspective of equipment needs.

The District defines capital assets as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$5,000 and an estimated useful life exceeding one year. Denco records such assets at cost when acquired or constructed and estimated lifecycle is determined for planned replacement purposes. The District maintains its physical assets at a level adequate to protect the District's capital investment, to minimize future maintenance and replacement costs, and to continue service levels.

The equipment replacement strategy is a five-year or longer forecast of equipment replacement needs. The plan alerts the Board and partner agencies of equipment replacement projects needed to maintain the efficiency of the 9-1-1 system and Denco services. The adopted budget becomes the first year of the plan. The remaining four years represent estimated replacement needs and the related funding.

Each year staff re-evaluate the equipment needs and adjust the schedule accordingly. The time periods specified for the strategies, projects and actions in the projections reflect the best estimates possible, but the District will modify timelines in response to changing priorities and economic conditions. The results of actual equipment refurbishments, extended life expectancy and more precise cost estimates will be included in the annual budget.

As the District does not issue debt for capital projects, the reserve fund balance will experience dramatic movement as Denco continues its save-spend-save cycle.

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# **Denco Area 9-1-1 District**

**Fiscal Year 2026  
Annual Budget**

## **Section 4**

**Revenue**

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# DENCO AREA 9-1-1 DISTRICT

## Revenue

The District has several revenue sources with 9-1-1 service fees accounting for the largest percentage. The 9-1-1 service fees are derived from wireline and wireless phone service in the district. Other sources of revenue include interest income, training course registrations, service contracts, disposal of surplus equipment, and grants.

The Board of Managers is required by Texas statute to assess and adjust the wireline 9-1-1 service fee, at least annually, to ensure that current revenue streams are sufficient to support current and future operational needs, as well as save for future capital improvement needs that deliver enhanced mission critical services.

The authority and parameters for levying the 9-1-1 service fee in the district are also statutorily defined. The Board of Managers set the service fee rate annually as part of the budget process. The service fee, as derived through this assessed rate, is based on a percentage of the "base rate charge," or its equivalent. The fee may not be imposed on more than 100 local exchange access lines or their equivalent for a single business entity at a single location, unless residents of the location use the lines.

The statutory definition of a base rate charge is the "rate or rates billed by a service supplier, as stated in the service supplier's charges approved by the appropriate regulatory authority, that represent the service supplier's recurring charges for local exchange access lines or their equivalent, exclusive of all taxes, fees, license costs, or similar charges."

With telecommunications deregulation, base rates are becoming antiquated from the rate-regulated system of the Texas Public Utilities Commission but have not disappeared completely. While local exchange carriers may still file tariffs, they are not subject to approval in deregulated areas. Most wireline Competitive Local Exchange Carriers (CLECs) and Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) providers do not have filed rates.

Annually, as part of the rate setting process, Denco identifies the principal service supplier by query into the 9-1-1 database and identification of the entity that provides the most central office lines within the district. Denco identifies the official base rate of the principal service supplier for both residential and business service.

For Fiscal Year 2026, the principal supplier for the district is Frontier Communications. Frontier Communications' general exchange Schedule of Rates is \$31.00 monthly for residential service and \$49.99 for Business Line/Trunk service.

The 9-1-1 service fee may be any amount set by the Board of Managers up to a maximum of six percent of the monthly base rate charged a service user by the principal service supplier in the district. Once the fee is set, it is applied districtwide to all residential and business classifications regardless of CLEC or signaling (i.e., VoIP) provisioning.

Based on these rates and the fee cap in Texas statute, the maximum allowable fees for FY2026 are \$1.86 per month for residential service and \$3.00 per month for business service. During the July 2024 Board meeting, the FY2025 wireline 9-1-1 service fees rates for residential and business lines were established by the board at:

\$1.50 for residential

\$1.80 for business

For several legislative sessions, bills have been introduced to increase the wireless 9-1-1 fee in Texas. In 2021 and 2023, the Texas Legislature authorized Federal and State grants to support the implementation and ongoing operation of next generation 9-1-1 services in lieu of a fee increase. During the 2025 legislative session neither grants nor a fee increase were authorized. Until such time as a sustainable revenue increase is authorized, the current wireline fees are recommended to remain unchanged.

### **Wireline Service Fee Assumptions**

Traditional wireline telecommunications providers will continue to experience a decline in total line count, as seen over the past several years. Competitive carriers offering VoIP service will also see reductions but at a slower



pace. Based on the 9-1-1 service fee level established by the Board of Managers, total wireline revenues anticipated for fiscal year 2026 are \$1,790,000.

### **Wireless 9-1-1 Service Fee**

The revenue associated with wireless 9-1-1 service is authorized in Texas Statute 771. The statute establishes the statewide emergency service fee for wireless telecommunications connections to provide for automatic number identification and automatic location identification of wireless 9-1-1 calls. The fee is imposed on each wireless telecommunications connection and the statute prohibits political subdivisions from imposing another fee on a wireless service provider or subscriber for 9-1-1 emergency service.

The wireless service provider collects the fee in an amount equal to \$0.50 a month for each wireless telecommunications connection from its subscribers and remits the money collected, minus an allowed one percent administrative fee, to the Texas State Comptroller not later than the thirtieth day after the last day of the month during which the fees were collected.

The Comptroller distributes wireless service fees collected to each emergency communication district that does not participate in the state program [*Denco does not participate*]. The amount distributed is the pro-rata share of total service fees collected, that is the same proportion of population of the area served, as the pro-rata population of the state.

A prepaid wireless 9-1-1 emergency service fee of two percent of the purchase price of each prepaid wireless telecommunications service purchased, by any method, shall be collected by the seller from the consumer at the time of each retail transaction of prepaid wireless telecommunications service occurring in this state and remitted to the Comptroller. A seller may deduct and retain two percent of prepaid wireless 9-1-1 emergency services fees that it collects under this section to offset its costs in administering this fee. The Comptroller distributes prepaid wireless service fees consistent with the procedures in place for wireless emergency services fees.

### **Distribution Percentage**

According to Texas Administrative Code, the Commission on State Emergency Communications (CSEC) shall use the most recent annual population estimates from the Texas Demographic Center to determine the proportionate amount of wireless and prepaid wireless service fees remitted attributable to each emergency communication district. In the Dallas/Ft. Worth metroplex, due to the

number of overlapping jurisdictions, CSEC modifies the adopted distribution percentages to account for changes in 9-1-1 service boundaries not reflected in the state demographer's population estimates. Denco Area 9-1-1 District, North Central Texas 9-1-1 and Tarrant County 9-1-1 District collaborate and reach consensus on this calculation to ensure its accuracy.

Denco Area 9-1-1 District's population percentage is calculated at 2.49%.

### **Wireless Service Fee Assumptions**

The amount of wireless service fee collected at the state level has continued to increase slightly over the past few years and is expected to remain relatively constant, with a slight increase. Based on this assumption, no change in the wireless service fee rate and the above noted distribution percentage, total wireless revenues anticipated for fiscal year 2026 are \$4,340,000.

### **Non-Service Fee Revenue**

Non-service fee revenue includes grant income, investment income, charges for services and sale of surplus property.

### **Non-Service Fee Assumptions**

- During Fiscal Year 2026, Denco does not expect to receive grant funding.
- Denco will continue to charge a nominal fee to training program participants from outside the district. Fiscal year 2026, training program revenue is estimated to remain steady.
- Denco and Denton County have a long-standing agreement for District staff to coordinate the issuance of addresses in unincorporated Denton County. This agreement will be continued at the previously established rate of \$20,000 per year.
- Estimated interest earned on investments is projected to be lower due to steady or dropping interest rates and decrease in fund balance.

Based on the noted assumptions, non-service fee revenues anticipated for fiscal year 2026 are \$495,000.

**DENCO AREA 9-1-1 DISTRICT FINANCIAL PLAN**

**Anticipated Revenues**

**Fiscal Year 2026**

	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Percent of Total Revenue</b>
<b>Wireline Service Fee Revenue</b>		
Business	\$ 1,250,000	18.9%
Residential	<u>\$ 540,000</u>	8.2%
Net Wireline Service Fee Revenue	\$ 1,790,000	27.0%
<b>Wireless Service Fee Revenue</b>	<u>\$ 4,340,000</u>	65.5%
<b>Total Service Fee Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 6,130,000</b>	<b>92.5%</b>
<b>Non-Service Fee Revenue</b>		
Grants and Contributions	\$ -	0.0%
Interest Revenue	\$ 440,000	6.6%
Contract Service Revenue	\$ 20,000	0.3%
Miscellaneous Revenue (Expenses)	<u>\$ 35,000</u>	0.5%
<b>Total Non-Service Fee Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 495,000</b>	<b>7.5%</b>
<b>Total Anticipated Revenues</b>	<b><u>\$ 6,625,000</u></b>	<b>100.0%</b>

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# **Denco Area 9-1-1 District**

**Fiscal Year 2026  
Annual Budget**

## **Section 5**

**Expenditures**

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# DENCO AREA 9-1-1 DISTRICT

## Expenditures

### **Expenses**

The total expenditures proposed in the fiscal year 2026 budget reflect a \$854,925 decrease in spending when compared to the estimated expenditures for fiscal year 2025; and a \$2,085,183 decrease in spending compared to the fiscal year 2025 approved budget.

### **Administrative Services – General Government**

The Fiscal Year 2026 budget is structured in alignment with the annual audit, accounting for both personnel and administrative expenditures in the combined category of general government. This category reflects organizational functions that support the overall operation of the agency. Expenses include personnel, benefits, business software, contract services, office equipment, travel and professional development for administrative functions. Expenditures proposed for fiscal year 2026 are \$3,293,385 or 40.3% of the total budgeted expenditures. Total personnel expenditures proposed in 2026 is \$2,643,435 or 32.4% of the total budget.

### **Personnel**

The Fiscal Year 2026 budget does not include the addition of staff positions.

Salaries reflect 3% for potential merit-based pay increases and 2.4% cost of living adjustment based on the consumer price increases in the Dallas-Fort Worth Consolidated Statistical Area (CSA) for the year ending in May 2025, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The salary and wage increase is necessary for the District to remain competitive. The Dallas-Fort Worth Core Based Statistical Area includes the counties of Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, Tarrant, and Wise. In early 2025, Denco contracted with an independent human resource consulting firm to conduct a thorough review of Denco's employee pay classifications to validate both internal equity and market appropriateness. The study examines similar jobs in the comparator organizations based on duties, competencies and qualifications. The analysis will be completed during the summer of 2025 and will include recommendations to ensure Denco remains competitive in the aggressive employment market. The proposed budget includes modest funds to implement recommendations, if any.

Total benefit expenditures proposed for fiscal year 2026 represent no increases to the required contribution rate for the Texas County and Districts

Retirement System (TCDRS), in which Denco and its employees are participants. TCDRS maintains a diversified investment portfolio to manage risk. Strong investment performance, exceeding the assumed investment return of 7.5%, led the TCDRS Board to credit 10.5% earnings to plan assets and boost systemwide reserves, which may be used to help offset future adverse outcomes. Investment gains and losses are recognized over five years to stabilize contribution rates.

Employers may adopt an elected contribution rate above the required rate to reduce future rate volatility. Consistent with Denco's long-standing commitment to maintaining a fully funded retirement plan and ensuring budget stability, the Fiscal Year 2026 budget includes an elected contribution rate of 10.00%, slightly above the required rate.

The budget includes a 9% increase in health insurance premiums. Denco employees are provided access to medical insurance through Texas Health Benefits Pool (formerly TML Health Benefits). Medical premium increases for employees are funded by Denco; family coverage costs are shared between Denco and employees with families with each contributing a fixed percentage of the premium. Dental insurance premiums are unchanged.

### Facilities

The proposed budget includes comprehensive funding for the ongoing operation, upkeep, and improvement of both the administrative and annex facilities. Routine expenses covered under this category include utility services (electricity, water, gas, and waste disposal), mandatory safety and compliance inspections, and general maintenance and repair services necessary to ensure the continued functionality and safety of both buildings.

In addition to recurring costs, the budget also incorporates several one-time expenditures aimed at preserving and enhancing facility infrastructure:

- **Roofing Repairs:** Minor roofing repairs are planned for both the administrative and annex buildings to address wear and tear, prevent potential water damage, and extend the lifespan of the existing roofing systems.
- **Screening Wall Replacement:** The deteriorated screening wall along the east side of the administrative building will be removed and replaced. This improvement will enhance both the visual appearance and structural integrity of the property perimeter.
- **Security System Upgrades:** The security camera system will be upgraded to improve facility monitoring capabilities. This includes the replacement of outdated equipment with modern, high-resolution, and network-integrated surveillance cameras.

- **Network Infrastructure Modernization:** The existing computer network cabling in the original area of the administration building, which has become obsolete, will be replaced with updated cabling to support faster, more reliable connectivity and ensure compatibility with current and future IT infrastructure needs.
- **Training Room Enhancements:** Additional electrical outlets will be installed in the floor of the training room to support the increased use of laptop computers in training courses. The proposed budget includes new training room tables with integrated power and new chairs.

These targeted investments are critical to maintaining the operational integrity of the facilities and supporting a safe, efficient, and technologically up-to-date working environment.

### **Direct Services**

Direct Services expenditures are the core mission of the District and include 9-1-1 technical and operational elements, Geographic Information Systems, database, rural addressing, the training academy, public education, and supporting capital projects. These services account for \$4,872,300 or 59.7% of the fiscal year 2026 budget.

### **Technical Services**

Technical Services is Denco's most mission critical activity; simply defined, as keeping the 9-1-1 system operational. Technical services staff monitor and maintain network reliability and performance; hardware and software functionality, preventive maintenance, repair, and several other activities such as facility, user, and system configuration maintenance.

### **9-1-1 Support and Managed Services**

The proposed budget includes funding for ongoing software support and managed services related to the 9-1-1 call-handling system. This support is critical to maintaining the reliability, security, and performance of the emergency communications infrastructure.

The software support component encompasses all necessary software patches, updates, and version upgrades for the call-taking platform throughout the

term of the service agreement. These updates ensure compliance with current industry standards and help maintain system functionality and security.

In addition to software maintenance, the managed services portion includes proactive system monitoring and management. Key features of the service include:

- Continuous monitoring of system performance and health
- Automated alerting to Denco personnel upon detection of incident triggers requiring intervention
- Regular deployment of critical virus protection updates
- Patch management services to address security vulnerabilities and performance issues

This investment represents the first annual installment of a five-year agreement that was initiated to provide stable, long-term support for the 9-1-1 call handling infrastructure. Ensuring consistent maintenance and proactive system management is essential to safeguarding the continuity and integrity of emergency response operations.

### Cybersecurity

The Fiscal Year 2026 budget provides continued funding for essential cybersecurity mitigation services delivered through a network of trusted partners. As the threat landscape continues to evolve, Denco remains committed to a proactive and multi-layered approach to cybersecurity, ensuring the protection of critical systems and sensitive data.

Denco personnel actively monitor and assess emerging threats and vulnerabilities, leveraging both federal and nonprofit cybersecurity resources to enhance situational awareness and response readiness. These include threat intelligence feeds, security best practices, and incident response support from organizations such as the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and other reputable entities.

In addition to staff vigilance, Denco maintains subscriptions for advanced network monitoring tools that are designed to detect and alert on potential intrusions and abnormal activity. These tools play a key role in real-time threat



detection and incident response, reducing the risk of data breaches and service disruptions.

As part of its broader cybersecurity strategy, Denco continues to migrate appropriate business operations to secure cloud-based platforms. This transition has resulted in improved system resilience, enhanced security postures, and operational cost efficiencies compared to maintaining legacy on-premise infrastructure. By leveraging the scalability, redundancy, and managed security features of modern cloud environments, Denco has significantly strengthened its cybersecurity framework while ensuring continuity of mission-critical operations.

### Microwave System

The Denco/Denton County jointly owned microwave system serves as vital infrastructure supporting the delivery of 9-1-1 calls and the operation of the Denton County Public Safety Radio System. This high-reliability communication backbone is essential for ensuring uninterrupted emergency communications across the region.

The Fiscal Year 2026 proposed budget includes funding for the continued operation and maintenance of this mission-critical system. Budgeted expenses cover routine operational costs as well as technical support services required to ensure optimal system performance and reliability.

In addition, the budget provides equipment replacement and engineering services associated with components approaching end-of-life. Proactive replacement of aging infrastructure is necessary to prevent service disruptions, maintain system integrity, and support evolving technology standards. This investment ensures the continued resilience and dependability of the public safety communications network.

### **Geographic Information and Database Integrity Services**

Denco has made substantial progress in its indoor mapping initiative, with all schools within the district now fully mapped and integrated into the emergency communications system. This achievement enhances situational awareness for 9-1-1 telecommunicators by providing accurate visual representations of caller locations within school facilities.

Building on this success, Denco staff are actively expanding the indoor mapping program to include other high-priority locations such as hospitals, event venues, shopping centers, hotels, and large apartment complexes. Staff are working in close coordination with facility managers and key stakeholders to collect and digitize indoor location data, ensuring that emergency responders have access to detailed, actionable information when seconds matter.

In parallel with mapping efforts, Denco continues to engage with wireless carriers and public safety data clearinghouses to improve the reception and interpretation of vertical (z-axis) location data, which identifies a caller's floor or elevation within a building. As indoor location technologies advance, Denco is contributing to national and industry-wide efforts aimed at translating vertical location data into precise, dispatchable location information.

Additionally, Denco is collaborating with local school districts to support compliance with new state mandates requiring the deployment of direct-connect panic buttons that link schools to 9-1-1 centers. As the compliance deadline approaches, Denco is working to encourage schools to ensure that panic button technology is compatible with the agency's indoor mapping platform. The requested level of integration will allow for the display of accurate location information during emergencies, supporting rapid and informed response by public safety personnel.

These ongoing initiatives represent critical investments in public safety infrastructure and reflect Denco's continued leadership in leveraging location technology to enhance emergency response capabilities.

### **Public Education and Outreach**

The Public Education and Outreach Program is a key component of Denco's mission to inform and engage the community about the District's 9-1-1 services and public safety initiatives. This program is designed to increase public awareness, foster community partnerships, and ensure that residents, businesses, and public officials understand how to effectively use and support emergency communication systems.

Denco's outreach function employs a multi-faceted strategy that includes direct engagement, media outreach, educational campaigns, and collaboration with community organizations. These efforts are part of a comprehensive,

integrated education and outreach framework aimed at promoting public safety and enhancing the effectiveness of 9-1-1 services.

In Fiscal Year 2026, Denco will continue to advance outreach efforts related to several high-priority initiatives, including:

- PulsePoint AED Registry: Encouraging public participation in registering Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) to enhance lifesaving capabilities in cardiac emergencies.
- Indoor Mapping: Educating stakeholders about the importance of accurate indoor location data for improving emergency response within large buildings and public facilities.
- Kari's Law and RAY BAUM's Act Compliance: Promoting awareness of legal requirements related to direct dialing and dispatchable location for multi-line telephone systems.

To support these initiatives, Denco will continue utilizing a combination of paid media, such as digital and print advertising, and earned media, including news coverage and community partnerships, to amplify key messages. Additionally, staff will maintain regular engagement with citizen groups, schools, and local governments through meetings, presentations, and events to provide updates on agency programs and gather community feedback.

### **Emergency Communications Center Support**

The proposed Fiscal Year 2026 budget provides continued funding for Denco's comprehensive operational support services delivered to partner jurisdiction Emergency Communications Centers. These services are critical to enhancing Emergency Communications Center capacity to respond efficiently and effectively to calls for emergency assistance.

Key areas of support include:

- Emergency Medical Dispatching (EMD): Denco will continue to provide long-standing support for the EMD program, including training, maintenance, and quality assurance. The budget also includes funding for EMD Academy Analytics, allowing for data-driven performance assessment and operational improvements.

Additionally, Emergency Communications Centers will maintain access to an EMD Skills Lab, which utilizes advanced artificial intelligence to generate realistic, interactive training scenarios designed to improve call-taker preparedness and decision-making under pressure.

- **Recruitment and Testing Support:** Denco supports Emergency Communications Center partners in recruiting qualified personnel and ensuring they meet state certification standards. This includes administering pre-employment testing and maintaining its designation as a licensure testing facility authorized by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE). As part of this role, Denco conducts licensing examinations for telecommunicators, police officers, and jailers.
- **Data Analytics and Technology Support:** The budget includes continued support for Motorola Vesta and Intrado eCaTs systems, which provide critical call data analytics and reporting capabilities. These tools enable Emergency Communications Centers to monitor call performance, optimize operations, and comply with state and federal reporting requirements.

These services reflect Denco's commitment to operational excellence and its role as a trusted resource for its public safety partners. By centralizing support functions, leveraging technology, and enhancing training programs, Denco helps ensure that Emergency Communications Centers are equipped to deliver high-quality emergency response services to the communities they serve.

### **Public Safety Training Academy**

Denco operates a Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) contract training facility and a nationally recognized, accredited 9-1-1 Training Academy. The Academy delivers high-quality training programs developed and instructed by a combination of experienced professional staff and contract subject matter experts. Programs offered span all levels—basic, intermediate, and advanced—and are specifically designed for public safety personnel, including specialized courses for Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD), fire dispatching, and supervisory or management roles.

To ensure the relevance and effectiveness of its training offerings, Denco has established a Training Advisory Committee composed of stakeholders from across the region. This committee provides strategic input and oversight for curriculum development. The proposed FY 2026 budget supports the continued practice of conducting an annual training needs analysis, allowing Denco to align course offerings with the evolving operational and professional development needs of Emergency Communications Centers across the District.

Denco provides all training programs at no cost to personnel from partner agencies within the district. Participants from out of district agencies are charged a nominal registration fee to support cost recovery. The District also funds certification and recertification costs for in-district telecommunicators in key areas, including:

- Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD)
- Communications Training Officer (CTO)

These investments ensure that Denco's partner agencies maintain the highest standards of professional readiness and compliance with industry best practices.

In honor of former Board Member Dr. Alan Groff, the Denco Board of Managers sponsors the Groff Scholarship Program. This competitive scholarship awards funding for telecommunicators to attend the Priority Dispatch Navigator Conference, a premier national event focused on advancing EMD practices and knowledge. Additionally, Denco provides scholarships to Emergency Communications Centers to support attendance at the Texas Public Safety Conference, reinforcing its commitment to professional development and leadership growth.

The proposed budget includes funding for the continued development of video-based training modules. These resources will support the rollout and ongoing use of new technologies and system features provided by Denco. The video modules are designed to enhance familiarity, reduce implementation time, and promote consistent understanding of new tools across all Emergency Communications Centers.

## DENCO AREA 9-1-1 DISTRICT FINANCIAL PLAN

### Proposed Expenditures

Fiscal Year 2026

	Proposed	Percent of Budget
<b>Personnel</b>		
Salaries	\$ 1,806,289	22.1%
Benefits	<u>\$ 837,146</u>	10.3%
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>\$ 2,643,435</b>	
<b>Administration</b>		
Office Expenses	\$ 58,200	0.7%
Contract Services	\$ 213,150	2.6%
Facilities	\$ 301,800	3.7%
Memberships/Subscriptions	\$ 10,500	0.1%
Professional Development	\$ 28,850	0.4%
Travel	<u>\$ 37,450</u>	0.5%
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>\$ 649,950</b>	
<b>Total General Government</b>	<b>\$ 3,293,385</b>	<b>40.3%</b>
<b>Direct Services</b>		
Operations	\$ 2,142,500	26.2%
Network Services	\$ 2,212,000	27.1%
Equipment	\$ 283,000	3.5%
Facilities — Annex	<u>\$ 234,800</u>	2.9%
<b>Total Direct Services</b>	<b>\$ 4,872,300</b>	<b>59.7%</b>
<b>Capital Projects Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Total Proposed Expenditures</b>	<b><u>\$ 8,165,685</u></b>	<b>100.0%</b>

# **Denco Area 9-1-1 District**

**Fiscal Year 2026  
Annual Budget**

## **Section 6**

**Budget Summary**



## DENCO AREA 9-1-1 DISTRICT FINANCIAL PLAN

### Summary of Anticipated Revenues and Proposed Expenditures Fiscal Year 2026

	Proposed	Percent of Budget
<b>Beginning of Year Estimated Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ 10,699,340</b>	
<b>Anticipated Revenues</b>		
9-1-1 Service Fee Revenue	\$ 6,130,000	92.5%
Capital Grants and Contributions	\$ -	0.0%
Interest Revenue	\$ 440,000	6.6%
Contract Services Revenue	\$ 20,000	0.3%
Miscellaneous Revenue (Expense)	<u>\$ 35,000</u>	0.5%
<b>Total Anticipated Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 6,625,000</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Personnel	\$ 2,643,435	32.4%
Administration - General Government	\$ 649,950	8.0%
Direct Services	\$ 4,872,300	59.7%
Capital Projects	<u>\$ -</u>	0.0%
<b>Total Proposed Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 8,165,685</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ (1,540,685)</b>	
<b>End of Year Estimated Fund Balance</b>	<b><u>\$ 9,158,655</u></b>	



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# **Denco Area 9-1-1 District**

**Fiscal Year 2026  
Annual Budget**

## **Section 7**

**Five-Year Projections**

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# DENCO AREA 9-1-1 DISTRICT

## Five-Year Projections

### **Five-Year Projections**

The Five-Year Financial Plan serves as a strategic tool to assist the Board of Managers in long-term financial planning and decision-making. This multi-year budget projection is designed to promote fiscal stability by forecasting future revenues, expenditures, and fund balance requirements. Its primary objective is to minimize volatility in service fee rates while ensuring that sufficient reserves are available to meet anticipated obligations—particularly those associated with major capital expenditures.

To support this goal, Denco staff proactively identify significant capital investments and operational needs as far in advance as possible. This forward-looking approach allows the District to prioritize high-cost projects that cannot be funded within a single fiscal year and to allocate resources in a deliberate and sustainable manner.

The Five-Year Financial Plan incorporates several key components:

- Revenue and expenditure projections based on historical trends and known factors
- Estimated impacts of economic conditions and cost drivers
- Planned use and replenishment of fund balance reserves
- Funding strategies for major one-time or non-recurring expenses

While the plan is subject to change based on economic conditions, regulatory requirements, or unforeseen needs, it serves as a financial framework that quantifies the fiscal policies established by the Board of Managers.

The accompanying Five-Year Projections table illustrates the District's projected financial position over the planning period and reflects Denco's commitment to long-term fiscal health and operational readiness.

### **Summary of Significant Projections**

The multi-year financial projections outline anticipated costs associated with both ongoing operations and significant one-time capital investments expected in the near to medium term. Operating expenses to sustain current programs and

activities have been adjusted to reflect a modest inflationary factor, ensuring realistic budgeting for routine cost increases.

### **Fund Balance Projections**

Denco's fund balance is an accumulation of revenues minus expenditures. Denco projects the final fund balance in the budgeting process and reports the total at the end of the fiscal year. The actual fund balance is audited annually. As Denco's ability to issue debt is severely limited, Denco utilizes fund balances for anticipated major expenditures that exceed the agency's single year revenue. Therefore, the agency experiences dramatic movement in fund balance reserves while it progresses through the planned save-spend-save cycles.

The agency projects to end fiscal year 2025 with revenue of approximately \$1,770,610 less than expenses, resulting in a net fund balance of approximately \$10,699,340. In fiscal years 2023, 2024, and 2025 Denco received significant grant funding contributing to the healthy reserve fund balance. The final grant revenues were received in fiscal year 2025. Going forward, Denco will begin to invest the reserve balance to support operations. The next several years should see continued reserve fund decreases as grant funds are spent. Legislative activities will continue in 2027 to obtain a long-term sustainable funding mechanism. Service fee rates will be adjusted in future years as necessary to align revenues to operational needs and to set aside reserve funds for future system enhancements.

# DENCO AREA 9-1-1 DISTRICT FINANCIAL PLAN

Five Year Projections							
Fiscal Year 2026							
	FY 2025 Estimated	FY 2026 Proposed	FY 2027 Projected	FY 2028 Projected	FY 2029 Projected	FY 2030 Projected	
<b>Beginning of Year Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ 12,469,950</b>	<b>\$ 10,699,340</b>	<b>\$ 9,158,655</b>	<b>\$ 7,498,334</b>	<b>\$ 5,477,220</b>	<b>\$ 3,525,513</b>	
<b>Revenue</b>							
Net Service Fee Revenue	\$ 6,105,000	\$ 6,130,000	\$ 6,257,000	\$ 6,300,000	\$ 6,345,000	\$ 6,395,000	
Capital Grants and Contributions	\$ 556,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Interest Revenue	\$ 532,000	\$ 440,000	\$ 400,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 325,000	\$ 275,000	
Contract Services Revenue	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	
Miscellaneous Revenue (Expense)	\$ 37,000	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 7,250,000</b>	<b>\$ 6,625,000</b>	<b>\$ 6,712,000</b>	<b>\$ 6,705,000</b>	<b>\$ 6,725,000</b>	<b>\$ 6,725,000</b>	
<b>Expenditures</b>							
Personnel	\$ 2,317,200	\$ 2,643,435	\$ 2,767,236	\$ 2,896,891	\$ 3,032,681	\$ 3,174,899	
Administration	\$ 534,450	\$ 649,950	\$ 673,539	\$ 698,019	\$ 723,425	\$ 749,791	
Direct Services	\$ 6,168,960	\$ 4,872,300	\$ 4,931,546	\$ 5,131,204	\$ 4,920,601	\$ 4,990,571	
Capital Projects	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 9,020,610</b>	<b>\$ 8,165,685</b>	<b>\$ 8,372,321</b>	<b>\$ 8,726,114</b>	<b>\$ 8,676,706</b>	<b>\$ 8,915,261</b>	
<b>Increase (Decrease) In Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ (1,770,610)</b>	<b>\$ (1,540,685)</b>	<b>\$ (1,660,321)</b>	<b>\$ (2,021,114)</b>	<b>\$ (1,951,706)</b>	<b>\$ (2,190,261)</b>	
<b>End of Year Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ 10,699,340</b>	<b>\$ 9,158,655</b>	<b>\$ 7,498,334</b>	<b>\$ 5,477,220</b>	<b>\$ 3,525,513</b>	<b>\$ 1,335,252</b>	

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# **Denco Area 9-1-1 District**

**Fiscal Year 2026  
Annual Budget**

## **Section 8**

**Budget Resolutions**

**House Bill 1984**

**District Legislation**

**9-1-1 Basics & Glossary**

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## DENCO AREA 9-1-1 DISTRICT

### RESOLUTION

#### DEFINING PROCEDURES FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF A BUDGET

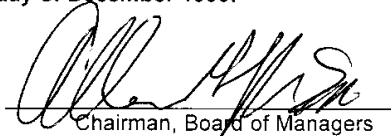
**WHEREAS**, Sections 772.309(b)&(c), Texas Health and Safety Code have been amended by the Texas Legislature to specify certain procedures for the consideration and approval of a budget by the Board and governing bodies of participating jurisdictions.

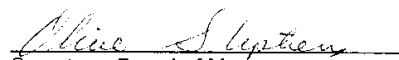
**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE DENCO AREA 9-1-1 DISTRICT BOARD OF MANAGERS:**

The Board's procedures for consideration and approval of a budget shall include the following:

1. Not later than the 45<sup>th</sup> day before the Board adopts a budget, the Executive Director on behalf of the Board will submit a draft of the proposed budget to each of the governing bodies of the participating jurisdictions. In a transmittal letter accompanying the draft of the proposed budget, the Executive Director will include a statement requesting that the governing bodies of each of the participating jurisdictions review the draft of the proposed budget and submit any comments to the Board prior to or on the date the budget is scheduled for consideration and adoption by the Board.
2. Once the Board adopts the budget, the Executive Director on behalf of the Board will within three days either 1) send a letter to each of the governing bodies of the participating jurisdictions stating that the Board adopted the proposed budget without any changes or 2) send a copy of the budget adopted by the Board and include in a letter the differences between the proposed and adopted budget. In the letter to the governing bodies of the participating jurisdictions, the Executive Director will include a statement requesting approval of the Board's adopted budget by the governing bodies of participating jurisdictions within sixty days of receipt.

**APPROVED and ADOPTED on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December 1999.**

  
Chairman, Board of Managers

  
Secretary, Board of Managers

An Act relating to the consolidation of emergency communication districts and to the approval of proposed budgets of certain emergency communication districts.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 771.001(3), Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

- (3) Emergency communication district" means:
  - (A) a public agency or group of public agencies acting jointly that provided 9-1-1 service before September 1, 1987, or that had voted or contracted before that date to provide that service; or
  - (B) a district created under Subchapter B, C, D, F, G or H, Chapter 772.

SECTION 2. Sections 772.309(b), (c), and (d), Health and Safety Code, are amended to read as follows:

- (b) the board shall submit a draft of the proposed budget to the governing bodies of the participating jurisdictions not later than the 45th day before the date the board adopts the budget. The participating jurisdictions shall review the proposed budget and submit any comments regarding the budget to the board.
- (c) if the governing body of a county, municipality, or other participating jurisdiction does not approve or disapprove the budget before the 61st day after the date the body received the proposed budget for review, the budget is approved by operation of law.
- (d) A revision of the budget must be approved in the same manner as the budget.
- (e) As soon as practicable after the end of each district fiscal year, the director shall prepare and present to the board and to each participating jurisdiction in writing a sworn statement of all money received by the district and how the money was used during the preceding fiscal year. The report must show in detail the operations of the district for the fiscal year covered by the report.
- (f) The board shall have an independent financial audit of the district performed annually.

## **SUBCHAPTER D. EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION DISTRICTS: COUNTIES WITH POPULATION OVER 20,000**

### **§ 772.301. Short Title**

This subchapter may be cited as the Emergency Telephone Number Act.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

### **§ 772.302. Purpose**

It is the purpose of this subchapter to establish the number 9–1–1 as the primary emergency telephone number for use by certain local governments in this state and to encourage units of local government and combinations of those units to develop and improve emergency communication procedures and facilities in a manner that will make possible the quick response to any person calling the telephone number 9–1–1 seeking police, fire, medical, rescue, and other emergency services. To this purpose the legislature finds that:

- (1) it is in the public interest to shorten the time required for a citizen to request and receive emergency aid;
- (2) there exist thousands of different emergency telephone numbers throughout the state, and telephone exchange boundaries and central office service areas do not necessarily correspond to public safety and political boundaries;
- (3) a dominant part of the state's population is located in rapidly expanding metropolitan areas that generally cross the boundary lines of local jurisdictions and often extend into two or more counties; and
- (4) provision of a single, primary three-digit emergency number through which emergency services can be quickly and efficiently obtained would provide a significant contribution to law enforcement and other public safety efforts by making it less difficult to notify public safety personnel quickly.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

### **§ 772.303. Definitions**

In this subchapter:

- (1) "Board" means the board of managers of a district.
- (2) "Director" means the director of communication for a district.



(3) "District" means an emergency communication district created under this subchapter.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

#### **§ 772.304. Application of Subchapter**

(a) This subchapter applies only to a county with a population of more than 20,000 or to a group of two or more contiguous counties each with a population of 20,000 or more in which an emergency communication district was created under Chapter 288, Acts of the 69th Legislature, Regular Session, 1985, before January 1, 1988, or to a public agency or group of public agencies that withdraws from participation in a regional plan under Section 771.058(d).

(b) This subchapter does not affect the authority of a public agency to operate under another law authorizing the creation of a district in which 9–1–1 service is provided.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

Amended by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 1405, § 32, eff. Sept. 1, 1999.

#### **§ 772.305. Additional Territory**

(a) If a municipality that is part of a district annexes territory that is not part of the district, the annexed territory becomes part of the district.

(b) A public agency located in whole or part in a county adjoining the district, by resolution adopted by its governing body and approved by the board of the district, may become part of the district and subject to its benefits and requirements.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

#### **§ 772.306. Board of Managers**

(a) A district is governed by a board of managers.

(b) If the most populous municipality in the district has a population of more than 140,000, the board consists of:

(1) one member for each county in the district appointed by the commissioners court of each county;

(2) two members appointed by the governing body of the most populous municipality in the district;

(3) one member appointed by the governing body of the second most populous municipality in the district;

(4) one member appointed as provided by this section to represent the other municipalities located in whole or part in the district; and

(5) one member appointed by the principal service supplier.

(c) If Subsection (b) does not apply to a district, the board consists of:

(1) the following members representing the county or counties in the district:

(A) if the district contains only one county, two members appointed by the commissioners court of the county;

(B) if the district originally contained only one county but contains more than one county when the appointment is made, two members appointed by the commissioners court of the county in which the district was originally located, and one member appointed by the commissioners court of each other county in the district; or

(C) if the district originally contained more than one county and the district contains more than one county when the appointment is made, one member appointed by the commissioners court of each county in the district;

(2) two members appointed jointly by all the participating municipalities located in whole or part in the district;

(3) one member appointed jointly by the volunteer fire departments operating wholly or partly in the district, with the appointment process coordinated by the county fire marshal or marshals of the county or counties in the district; and

(4) one member appointed by the principal service supplier.

(d) The board member appointed by the principal service supplier is a nonvoting member. If the board is appointed under Subsection (c), the principal service supplier may waive its right to appoint the board member and designate another service supplier serving all or part of the district to make the appointment.

(e) The board member appointed under Subsection (b)(4) is appointed by the mayor's council established to administer urban development block grant funds, if one exists in the district. Otherwise, the member is appointed by the other members of the board on the advice and recommendation of the governing bodies of all the municipalities represented by the member.

(f) The initial board members appointed by municipalities under Subsection (c)(2) are appointed by all the municipalities located in whole or part in the district.

(g) Board members are appointed for staggered terms of two years, with as near as possible to one-half of the members' terms expiring each year.

(h) A board member may be removed from office at will by the entity that appointed the member.

(i) A vacancy on the board shall be filled for the remainder of the term in the manner provided for the original appointment to that position.

(j) Board members serve without compensation. The district shall pay all expenses necessarily incurred by the board in performing its functions under this subchapter.

(k) The board may appoint from among its membership a presiding officer and any other officers it considers necessary.

(l) The director or a board member may be appointed as secretary of the board. The board shall require the secretary to keep suitable records of all proceedings of each board meeting. After each meeting the presiding officer at the meeting shall read and sign the record and the secretary shall attest the record.

(m) Voting members of the board may meet in executive session in accordance with Chapter 551, Government Code.

(n) A majority of the voting members of the board constitutes a quorum.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

Amended by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 76, § 5.95(82), eff. Sept. 1, 1995; Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 638, § 15, eff. Sept. 1, 1995. **§ 772.307. Powers and Duties of Board**

(a) The board shall control and manage the district.

(b) The board may adopt rules for the operation of the district.

(c) The board may contract with any public or private entity to carry out the purposes of this subchapter, including the operation of a 9–1–1 system.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

### **§ 772.308. Director of District**

(a) The board shall appoint a director of communication for the district and shall establish the director's compensation. The director must be qualified by training and experience for the position.

(b) The board may remove the director at any time.

(c) With the board's approval, the director may employ any experts, employees, or consultants that the director considers necessary to carry out the purposes of this subchapter.

(d) The director shall perform all duties that the board requires and shall supervise as general manager the operations of the district subject to any limitations prescribed by the board.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

### **§ 772.309. Budget; Annual Report; Audit**

(a) The director shall prepare under the direction of the board an annual budget for the district. To be effective, the budget must:

(1) be approved by the board;

(2) be presented to and approved by the commissioners court of each county in the district;

(3) be presented to and approved by the governing body of the most populous municipality in the district, if that municipality has a population of more than 140,000; and

(4) be presented to the governing body of each other participating jurisdiction and approved by a majority of those jurisdictions.

(b) The board shall submit a draft of the proposed budget to the governing bodies of the participating jurisdictions not later than the 45th day before the date the board adopts the budget. The participating jurisdictions shall review the proposed budget and submit any comments regarding the budget to the board.

(c) If the governing body of a county, municipality, or other participating jurisdiction does not approve or disapprove the budget before the 61st day after the date the body received the proposed budget for review, the budget is approved by operation of law.

(d) A revision of the budget must be approved in the same manner as the budget.

(e) As soon as practicable after the end of each district fiscal year, the director shall prepare and present to the board and to each participating jurisdiction in writing a sworn statement of all money received by the district and how the money was used during the preceding fiscal year. The report must show in detail the operations of the district for the fiscal year covered by the report.

(f) The board shall have an independent financial audit of the district performed annually.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

Amended by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 1406, § 2, eff. Aug. 30, 1999.

### **§ 772.310. Establishment of 9–1–1 Service**

(a) A district shall provide 9–1–1 service to each participating jurisdiction through one or a combination of the following methods and features:

- (1) the transfer method;
- (2) the relay method;
- (3) the dispatch method;
- (4) automatic number identification;
- (5) automatic location identification;
- (6) selective routing; or
- (7) any equivalent method.

(b) A district shall provide 9–1–1 service using one or both of the following plans:

(1) the district may design, implement, and operate a 9–1–1 system for each participating jurisdiction with the consent of the jurisdiction; or

(2) the district may design, implement, and operate a 9–1–1 system for two or more participating jurisdictions with the consent of each of those jurisdictions if a joint operation would be more economically feasible than separate systems for each jurisdiction.

(c) Under either plan authorized by Subsection (b), the final plans for the particular system must have the approval of each participating jurisdiction covered by the system.

(d) The district shall recommend minimum standards for a 9–1–1 system.

(e) A service supplier involved in providing 9–1–1 service, a manufacturer of equipment used in providing 9–1–1 service, or an officer or employee of a service supplier involved in providing 9–1–1 service is not liable for any claim, damage, or loss arising from the provision of 9–1–1 service unless the act or omission proximately causing the claim, damage, or loss constitutes gross negligence, recklessness, or intentional misconduct.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

Amended by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 638, § 16, eff. Sept. 1, 1995.

#### **§ 772.311. Primary Emergency Telephone Number**

The digits 9–1–1 are the primary emergency telephone number in a district. A public safety agency whose services are available through a 9–1–1 system may maintain a separate number or numbers for emergencies and shall maintain a separate number or numbers for nonemergency telephone calls.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

#### **§ 772.312. Transmitting Requests For Emergency Aid**

(a) A 9–1–1 system established under this subchapter must be capable of transmitting requests for fire-fighting, law enforcement, ambulance, and medical services to a public safety agency or agencies that provide the requested service at the place from which the call originates. A 9–1–1 system may also provide for transmitting requests for other emergency services such as poison control, suicide prevention, and civil defense.

(b) A public safety answering point may transmit emergency response requests to private safety entities.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

#### **§ 772.313. Powers of District**

(a) The district is a body corporate and politic, exercising public and essential governmental functions and having all the powers necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes and provisions of this subchapter, including the capacity to sue or be sued.

(b) To fund the district, the district may apply for, accept, and receive federal, state, county, or municipal funds and private funds and may spend those funds for the purposes of this subchapter. The board shall determine the method and sources of funding for the district.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

#### **§ 772.314. 9–1–1 Emergency Service Fee**

(a) The board may impose a 9–1–1 emergency service fee on service users in the district.

(b) The fee may be imposed only on the base rate charge or its equivalent, excluding charges for coin-operated telephone equipment. The fee may not be imposed on more than 100 local exchange access lines or their equivalent for a single business entity at a single location, unless the lines are used by residents of the location. The fee may also not be imposed on any line that the Advisory Commission on State Emergency Communications excluded from the definition of a local exchange access line or an equivalent local exchange access line pursuant to Section 771.063. If a business service user provides residential facilities, each line that terminates at a residential unit and that is a communication link equivalent to a residential local exchange access line shall be charged the 9–1–1 emergency service fee. The fee must have uniform application and must be imposed in each participating jurisdiction.

(c) The rate of the fee may not exceed six% of the monthly base rate in a service year charged a service user by the principal service supplier in the participating jurisdiction. For purposes of this subsection, the jurisdiction of the county is the unincorporated area of the county.

(d) The board shall set the amount of the fee each year as part of the annual budget. The board shall notify each service supplier of a change in the amount of the fee not later than the 91st day before the date the change takes effect.

(e) In imposing the fee, the board shall attempt to match the district's revenues to its operating expenditures and to provide reasonable reserves for contingencies and for the purchase and installation of 9–1–1 emergency service equipment. If the revenue generated by the fee exceeds the amount of money needed to fund the district, the board by resolution shall reduce the rate of the fee to an amount adequate to fund the district or suspend the imposition of the fee. If the board suspends the imposition of the fee, the board by resolution may reinstitute the fee if money generated by the district is not adequate to fund the district.

(f) In a public agency whose governing body at a later date votes to receive 9–1–1 service from the district, the fee is imposed beginning on the date specified by the board. The board may charge the incoming agency an additional amount of money to cover the initial cost of providing 9–1–1 service to that agency. The fee authorized to be charged in a district applies to new territory added to the district when the territory becomes part of the district.

(g) For the purposes of this section, the jurisdiction of the county is the unincorporated area of the county.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

Amended by Acts 1993, 73rd Leg., ch. 936, § 14, eff. Aug. 30, 1993; Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 1203, § 5, eff. June 18, 1999.

#### **§ 772.315. Collection of Fee**

(a) Each billed service user is liable for the fee imposed under Section 772.314 until the fee is paid to the service supplier. The fee must be added to and stated separately in the service user's bill from the service supplier. The service supplier shall collect the fee at the same time as the service charge to the service user in accordance with the regular billing practice of the service supplier. A business service user that provides residential facilities and owns or leases a publicly or privately owned telephone switch used to provide telephone service to facility residents shall collect the 9–1–1 emergency service fee and transmit the fees monthly to the district.

(b) The amount collected by a service supplier from the fee is due monthly. The service supplier shall remit the amount collected in a calendar month to the district not later than the 60th day after the last day of the calendar month. With each payment the service supplier shall file a return in a form prescribed by the board.

(c) Both a service supplier and a business service user under Subsection (a) shall maintain records of the amount of fees it collects for at least two years after the date of collection. The board may require at the board's expense an annual audit of a service supplier's books and records or the books and records of a business service user described by Subsection (a) with respect to the collection and remittance of the fees.

(d) A business service user that does not collect and remit the 9–1–1 emergency service fee as required is subject to a civil cause of action under Subsection (g). A sworn affidavit by the district specifying the unremitted fees is prima facie evidence that the fees were not remitted and of the amount of the unremitted fees.

(e) A service supplier is entitled to retain an administrative fee from the amount of fees it collects. The amount of the administrative fee is two% of the amount of fees it collects under this section.

(f) A service supplier is not required to take any legal action to enforce the collection of the 9–1–1 emergency service fee. However, the service supplier shall provide the district with an annual certificate of delinquency that includes the amount of all delinquent fees and the name and address of each nonpaying service user. The certificate of delinquency is prima facie evidence that a fee included in the certificate is delinquent. A service user account is considered delinquent if the fee is not paid to the service supplier before the 31st day after the payment due date stated on the user's bill from the service supplier.



(g) The district may institute legal proceedings to collect fees not paid and may establish internal collection procedures and recover the cost of collection from the nonpaying service user. If the district prevails in legal proceedings instituted to collect a fee, the court may award the district court costs, attorney's fees, and interest in addition to other amounts recovered. A delinquent fee accrues interest at an annual rate of 12% beginning on the date the payment becomes due.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

Amended by Acts 1993, 73rd Leg., ch. 936, § 15, eff. Aug. 30, 1993; Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 638, § 17, eff. Sept. 1, 1995.

#### **§ 772.316. District Depository**

(a) The board shall select a depository for the district in the manner provided by law for the selection of a county depository.

(b) A depository selected by the board is the district's depository for two years after the date of its selection and until a successor depository is selected and qualified.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

#### **§ 772.317. Allowable Expenses**

Allowable operating expenses of a district include all costs attributable to designing a 9–1–1 system and to all equipment and personnel necessary to establish and operate a public safety answering point and other related answering points that the board considers necessary.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

#### **§ 772.318. Number and Location Identification**

(a) As part of computerized 9–1–1 service, a service supplier shall furnish current telephone numbers of subscribers and the addresses associated with the numbers on a call-by-call basis.

(b) A business service user that provides residential facilities and owns or leases a publicly or privately owned telephone switch used to provide telephone service to facility residents shall provide to those residential end users the same level of 9–1–1 service that a service supplier is required to provide under Subsection (a) to other residential end users in the district.

(c) Information furnished under this section is confidential and is not available for public inspection.

(d) A service supplier or business service user under Subsection (b) is not liable to a person who uses a 9–1–1 system created under this subchapter for the release to the district of the information specified in Subsections (a) and (b).

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

Amended by Acts 1993, 73rd Leg., ch. 936, § 16, eff. Aug. 30, 1993; Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 638, § 18, eff. Sept. 1, 1995.

#### **§ 772.319. Public Review**

(a) Periodically, the board shall solicit public comments and hold a public review hearing on the continuation of the district and the 9–1–1 emergency service fee. The first hearing shall be held three years after the date the order certifying the creation of the district is filed with the county clerks. Subsequent hearings shall be held three years after the date each order required by Subsection (d) is adopted.

(b) The board shall publish notice of the time and place of the hearing once a week for two consecutive weeks in a daily newspaper of general circulation published in the district. The first notice must be published not later than the 16th day before the date set for the hearing.

(c) At the hearing, the board shall also solicit comments on the participation of the district in the applicable regional plan for 9–1–1 service under Chapter 771. After the hearing, the board may choose to participate in the regional plan as provided by that chapter.

(d) After the hearing, the board shall adopt an order on the continuation or dissolution of the district and the 9–1–1 emergency service fee.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

#### **§ 772.320. Dissolution Procedures**

(a) If a district is dissolved, 9–1–1 service must be discontinued on the date of the dissolution. The commissioners court of the county in which the district was located or, if the district contains more than one county, the commissioners courts of those counties acting jointly, shall assume the assets of the district and pay the district's debts. If the district's assets are insufficient to retire all existing debts of the district on the date of dissolution, the commissioners court or courts acting jointly shall continue to impose the 9–1–1 service fee, and each service supplier shall continue to collect the fee for the commissioners court or courts. Proceeds from the imposition of the fee after dissolution of the district may be used only to retire the outstanding debts of the district.

(b) The commissioners court or courts shall retire the district's debts to the extent practicable according to the terms of the instruments creating the debts and the terms of the orders and resolutions authorizing creation of the debts.

(c) The commissioners court or courts by order may adopt the rules necessary to administer this section.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

#### **§ 772.321. Issuance of Bonds**

The board may issue and sell bonds in the name of the district to finance:

(1) the acquisition by any method of facilities, equipment, or supplies necessary for the district to begin providing 9–1–1 service to all participating jurisdictions; and

(2) the installation of equipment necessary for the district to begin providing 9–1–1 service to all participating jurisdictions.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

#### **§ 772.322. Repayment of Bonds**

The board may provide for the payment of the principal of and interest on the bonds by pledging all or any part of the district's revenues from the 9–1–1 emergency service fee or from other sources.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

#### **§ 772.323. Additional Security for Bonds**

(a) The bonds may be additionally secured by a deed of trust or mortgage lien on part or all of the physical properties of the district and the rights appurtenant to those properties, vesting in the trustee power to sell the properties for payment of the indebtedness, power to operate the properties, and all other powers necessary for the further security of the bonds.

(b) The trust indenture, regardless of the existence of the deed of trust or mortgage lien on the properties, may include provisions prescribed by the board for the security of the bonds and the preservation of the trust estate and may make provisions for investment of funds of the district.

(c) A purchaser under a sale under the deed of trust or mortgage lien is the absolute owner of the properties and rights purchased and may maintain and operate them.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

#### **§ 772.324. Form of Bonds**

(a) A district may issue its bonds in various series or issues.

(b) Bonds may mature serially or otherwise not more than 25 years after their date of issue and shall bear interest at any rate permitted by state law.

(c) A district's bonds and interest coupons, if any, are investment securities under the terms of Chapter 8, Business & Commerce Code, may be issued registrable as to principal or as to both principal and interest, and may be made redeemable before maturity, at the option of the district, or contain a mandatory redemption provision.

(d) A district may issue its bonds in the form, denominations, and manner and under the terms, and the bonds shall be signed and executed, as provided by the board in the resolution or order authorizing their issuance.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

#### **§ 772.325. Provisions of Bonds**

(a) In the orders or resolutions authorizing the issuance of bonds, including refunding bonds, the board may provide for the flow of funds and the establishment and maintenance of the interest and sinking fund, the reserve fund, and other funds and may make additional covenants with respect to the bonds, the pledge revenues, and the operation and maintenance of any facilities the revenue of which is pledged.

(b) The orders or resolutions of the board authorizing the issuance of bonds may also prohibit the further issuance of bonds or other obligations payable from the pledged revenue or may reserve the right to issue additional bonds to be secured by a pledge of and payable from the revenue on a parity with or subordinate to the lien and pledge in support of the bonds being issued.

(c) The orders or resolutions of the board issuing bonds may contain other provisions and covenants as the board may determine.

(d) The board may adopt and have executed any other proceedings or instruments necessary and convenient in the issuance of bonds.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

#### **§ 772.326. Approval and Registration of Bonds**

(a) Bonds issued by a district must be submitted to the attorney general for examination.

(b) If the attorney general finds that the bonds have been authorized in accordance with law, the attorney general shall approve them. On approval by the attorney general, the comptroller shall register the bonds.

(c) After the approval and registration of bonds, the bonds are incontestable in any court or other forum for any reason and are valid and binding obligations according to their terms for all purposes.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

#### **§ 772.327. Refunding Bonds**

(a) A district may issue bonds to refund all or any part of its outstanding bonds, including matured but unpaid interest coupons.

(b) Refunding bonds shall mature serially or otherwise not more than 25 years after their date of issue and shall bear interest at any rate or rates permitted by state law.

(c) Refunding bonds may be payable from the same source as the bonds being refunded or from other sources.

(d) The refunding bonds must be approved by the attorney general as provided by Section 772.326 and shall be registered by the comptroller on the surrender and cancellation of the bonds refunded.

(e) The orders or resolutions authorizing the issuance of the refunding bonds may provide that they be sold and the proceeds deposited in the place or places at which the bonds being refunded are payable, in which case the refunding bonds may be issued before the cancellation of the bonds being refunded. If refunding bonds are issued before cancellation of the other bonds, an amount sufficient to pay the principal of the bonds being refunded and interest on those bonds accruing to their maturity dates or to their option dates if the bonds have been duly called for payment before maturity according to their terms shall be deposited in the place or places at which the bonds being refunded are payable. The comptroller shall register the refunding bonds without the surrender and cancellation of bonds being refunded.

(f) A refunding may be accomplished in one or in several installment deliveries. Refunding bonds and their interest coupons are investment securities under Chapter 8, Business & Commerce Code.

(g) In lieu of the method set forth in Subsections (a)–(f), a district may refund bonds, notes, or other obligations as provided by the general laws of this state.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

### **§ 772.328. Bonds as Investments and Security for Deposits**

(a) District bonds are legal and authorized investments for:

(1) a bank;

(2) a savings bank;

(3) a trust company;

(4) a savings and loan association;

(5) an insurance company;

(6) a fiduciary;

(7) a trustee;

(8) a guardian; and

(9) a sinking fund of a municipality, county, school district, and other political subdivision of the state and other public funds of the state and its agencies, including the permanent school fund.

(b) District bonds are eligible to secure deposits of public funds of the state and municipalities, counties, school districts, and other political subdivisions of the state. The bonds are lawful and sufficient security for deposits to the extent of their value when accompanied by all unmatured coupons.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

### **§ 772.329. Tax Status of Bonds**

Because a district created under this subchapter is a public entity performing an essential public function, bonds issued by the district, any transaction relating to the bonds, and profits made in the sale of the bonds are exempt from taxation by the state or by any municipality, county, special district, or other political subdivision of the state.

Acts 1989, 71st Leg., ch. 678, § 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1989.

## **Supplemental Information**

### **What is E9-1-1?**

Enhanced Nine-One-One (E9-1-1) is a single, easy-to-remember number used when reporting emergencies to fire, police and emergency medical service providers. The E9-1-1 system, operational in the Denco Area 9-1-1 District, is designed to automatically route any 9-1-1 call, placed from a telephone instrument (including wireless and Internet) within the District's geographical boundaries, to the proper emergency communication center (ECC) responsible for dispatching emergency services to the caller. (At the current time, there are limitations to both wireless and Internet location technologies.)

### **Benefits of E9-1-1**

The E9-1-1 system has enhanced the ability of emergency service providers to save the lives and property of citizens in the Denco Area 9 1 1 District. Some of the direct benefits of the emergency communication system provided by Denco are the following:

- Only one three-digit number to remember in an emergency situation.
- The 9-1-1 call is routed to the proper agency responsible for dispatching help to the caller.
- Trained telecommunicators answer 9-1-1 calls. (In the Denco Area 9-1-1 District, telecommunicators are trained to provide emergency medical dispatch, thus reducing response time for medical emergencies.)
- Telecommunicators have the equipment and training necessary to communicate with hearing/speech impaired callers using TTY equipment as well as via text messages to 9-1-1.
- The caller's name, address and telephone number, as well as the proper fire, police and emergency medical service designated to respond to the caller's address, is automatically provided to the telecommunicator; thus reducing total response time. In the event the caller is unable to speak, the telecommunicator has the ability

to dispatch help to the caller's location that is provided by the E9-1-1 system.

- All ECCs in the Denco Area 9-1-1 District are part of a common network, allowing each to transfer calls, conference multiple ECCs and/or share information within a closed system.
- ANI/ALI information provides a means to control and reduce prank calls.
- The public education programs associated with E9-1-1 promote citizen awareness and involvement with emergency service providers.
- The E9-1-1 system enhances local government's ability to address the ever growing public expectation of emergency services created by the technology vendors, the media and popular television programming.
- The E9-1-1 system is designed to allow ECCs the ability to directly transfer a caller to another public safety agency or poison control center.
- The E9-1-1 system will identify calls from wireless and Internet phones, advising the telecommunicator to ask proper questions to determine the location of the emergency. Phase I provides the caller's telephone number so that the telecommunicator has the ability to reconnect if the call is terminated. Phase II provides additional location information to telecommunicators. Location information for Internet phones (VoIP) is typically entered by the subscriber through a website.
- The system has the ability to identify telephone companies serving 9-1-1 callers, thus streamlining the process.

### **Glossary of Terms**

9-1-1 (Nine-One-One). A designated easy-to-remember, easy-to-call, three-digit emergency telephone number developed to provide citizens with a reliable, fast and convenient way to access fire, police, or medical service in the event of an emergency.

ANI (Automatic Number Identification). ANI is the feature that provides the caller's telephone number on a console at the ECC.

ALI (Automatic Location Identification). ALI provides the caller's name and address on a computer monitor at the ECC along with the name of the correct police, fire and emergency medical services designated to respond to the caller's location.



Callers should always know their location in the event the ALI information is not available because of limited technology.

Database. The 9-1-1 Database is the information accompanying a 9-1-1 call at the ECC. The information provided is the caller's name, address and telephone number, as well as the emergency service providers designated to respond to the caller's address. The database information is not always available from wireless and VoIP callers.

E9-1-1 (Enhanced 9-1-1). The system that is operational in Denton County providing SR, ANI and ALI (defined herein).

ECC (Emergency Communication Center). Formerly known as a Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP), it is the location of the equipment used to answer 9-1-1 emergency calls.

ESInet (Emergency Services IP Network). An ESInet is a managed IP network that is used for emergency services communications, and which can be shared by all public safety agencies. It provides the IP transport infrastructure upon which independent application platforms and core functional processes can be deployed, including, but not restricted to, those necessary for providing NG9-1-1 services. ESInets may be constructed from a mix of dedicated and shared facilities. ESInets may be interconnected at local, regional, state, federal, national and international levels to form an IP-based inter-network (network of networks).

GIS (Geographic Information Systems). The technology used to develop and display the mapped data used to locate 9-1-1 callers.

i3 or i3 ECC (See also NG9-1-1). NENA's Detailed Functional and Interface Standard for NG9-1-1 (i3), which describes an ECC that is capable of receiving IP-based signaling for delivery of emergency calls and for originating calls and is conformant to NENA specifications for such ECCs.

IWS (Integrated Workstation). The computerized 9-1-1 answering equipment provided by Denco that gives telecommunicators, in addition to the 9-1-1 function, additional tools such as mapping, non-emergency and radio communications integration. Also sometimes referred to as "call-handling" or "call-taking" workstation. Denco has 77 integrated call-taking workstations at its nine (9) ECCs.

NG9-1-1 (Next Generation 9-1-1). NG9-1-1 is an Internet Protocol (IP) based system comprised of managed Emergency Services IP networks (ESInets),

functional elements (applications), and databases that replicate traditional E9-1-1 features and functions and provides additional capabilities. NG9-1-1 is designed to provide access to emergency services from all connected communications sources, and provide multimedia data capabilities for ECCs and other emergency service organizations. Denco migrated to NG9-1-1 in April 2014.

Phase I. Wireless Phase I Enhanced 9-1-1 is the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) mandate to the wireless telephone industry and to 9-1-1 requiring the routing of wireless 9-1-1 calls to appropriate ECCs and the provision of the callers' ANI to the telecommunicators.

Phase II. Phase II provides the approximate geographic location of wireless callers, in addition to the FCC's Phase I enhancements.

Public Safety Telecommunicator. The individual answering the 9-1-1 calls; trained to communicate with persons seeking emergency assistance and with agencies and individuals providing such assistance.

SR (Selective Routing). Selective Routing provides automatic routing of 9-1-1 calls, based on the caller's location, to the appropriate ECC. The caller is not required to determine which public safety agency to call. Callers using wireless or VoIP telephones should know their location because the routing technology is not as accurate for these services.