

Town of Easton CT
Board of Selectmen & Board of Finance – Special Joint Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: Tuesday January 17, 2023 – 7:30 pm
Location: Easton Senior Center, 650 Morehouse Road; also on Zoom
Recording: <https://vimeo.com/showcase/easton-board-of-finance>
<https://vimeo.com/showcase/easton-board-of-selectmen>
(from 7:42)

Attendees: BOS Members in person: Dave Bindelglass, Bob Lessler, Kristi Sogofsky
BOF Members in person: Ira Kaplan, Art Laske, Michael Kot, Andy Kachele, Paul Skrtich, Jackie Kaufman (from 8:41, earlier via Zoom)
BOF Alternates in person: Michael Gutowski, Gregg Saunders, Maureen Williams

Absentees: None

Guests: Chris Truty (Zoom), ESCI Analysis Project Manager
Shawn Morris (Zoom), ESCI co-consultant and Greenwich CT Deputy Fire Chief
Christine Calvert, Treasurer and Finance Director
Jonathan Arnold, Chief of Emergency Medical Services
Wendy Bowditch, EMS Planning & Building Committee
John Foley, EMS Planning & Building Committee
Robert Klem, Fire Chief
Steve Waugh, First Assistant Fire Chief
Martin Ohradan, Career Firefighter
Jack Johnston, 1967-68 Volunteer Fire President, 1980's Fire Building Committee Chair

Call to Order: For BOS by First Selectman Dave Bindelglass at 7:31 pm
For BOF by Chair Art Laske at 7:32 pm

No appointment of alternates necessary. Art announces BOF Clerk Ira Kaplan will be Clerk for Joint Meeting.

1. (Agenda item #1) Presentation and discussion of the Fire and EMS System Analysis report by Emergency Services Consulting International (ESCI) (7:33)
Dave says no public comment is on the agenda, and the meeting purpose is the presentation of the report, and that no decisions or votes will be taken. Art offers remarks and invites Chris Truty to present.

Note: the Zoom connection was mostly successful, but spotty at times. On several occasions there was a short gap in the audio from Chris Truty, which will be evident in the recording. It is not a recording error, it was experienced at the meeting, but the gaps were short enough that we proceeded without interruption nor asking Chris to repeat himself.

Chris Truty introduces himself and co-consultant Shawn Morris, and presents slides (attached) summarizing ESCI report's findings and recommendations. Various Board members and guests ask questions and participate in discussion.

Chris Truty summarizes the collection of recommendations (8:25).

The presentation is completed and the floor is open for questions (8:41)

Andy expresses that the report is a public document, and should be accurate, even on portions that are not directly relevant to the conclusions and recommendations. Art advises that participants offering corrections to report should send them to Chris Calvert to collect and provide to ESCI.

Several participants ask questions and offer comments.

Questions from board members and guests are completed. Andy suggests inviting questions from public, as this is the only opportunity to publicly address questions directly to ESCI. Dave and Art agree (9:19)

No members of the public ask questions at this time.

There are no further questions for ESCI, and Chris Truty and Shawn Morris leave the meeting (9:22)

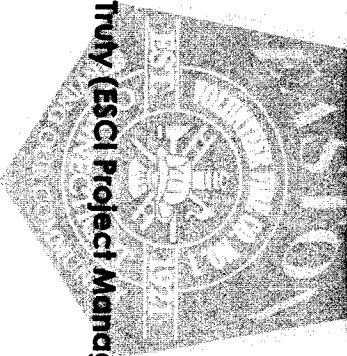
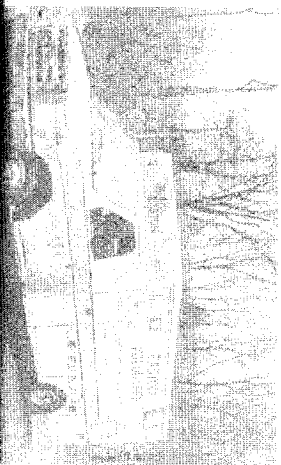
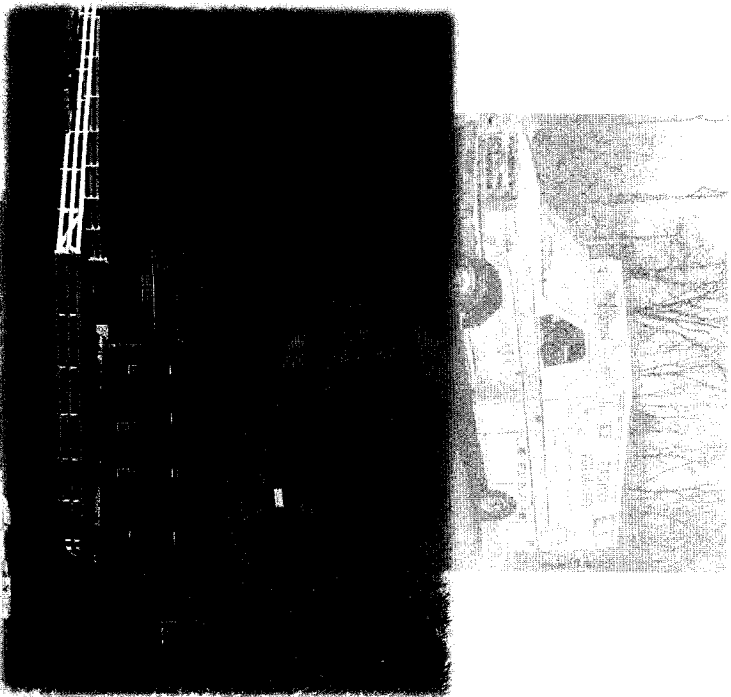
There is additional discussion among members and guests. Dave asks Fire and EMS to prioritize the recommendations.

There is one question from the public, Dana Benson is present and asks about cost of mutual aid responses from other towns. (9:38) There are no other questions.

2. Motion to adjourn BOF meeting by Mike K/Andy. Result: passes 6-0 at 9:41.

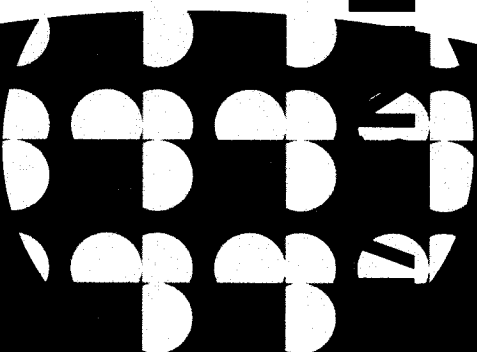
Motion to adjourn BOS meeting by Kristi/Bob. Result: passes 3-0 at 9:41.

Submitted 1/20/23 by Ira Kaplan, BOF Clerk and Meeting Clerk



Chris Truhy (ESCI Project Manager) - 1/17/2023

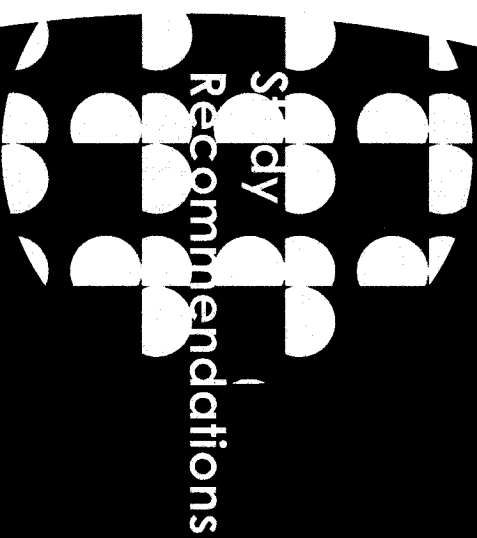
COMPREH FIRE/EMS ANALYSIS



ESCI Emergency Services
Consulting International

4 PRIORITY AREAS

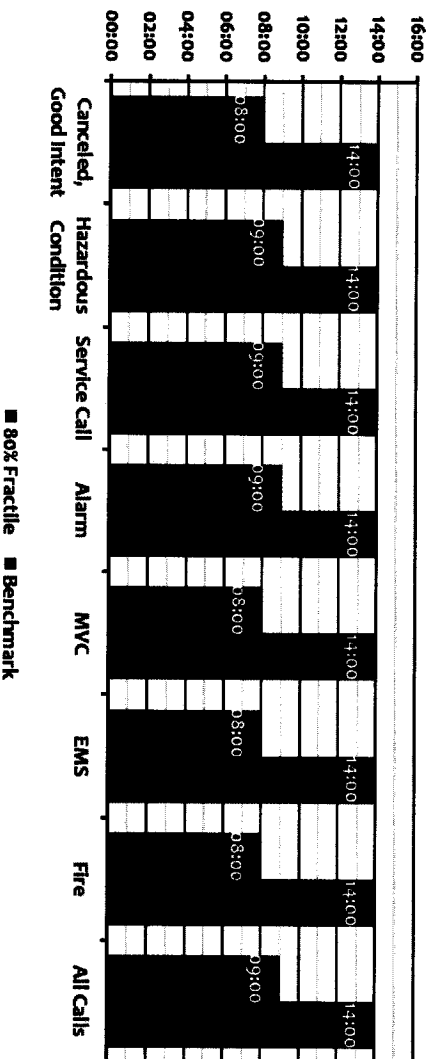
- **STAFFING/COMPENSATION**
- **ISO REVIEW**
- **COMMUNICATIONS/DISPATCH**
- **PUBLIC SAFETY CAPITAL**



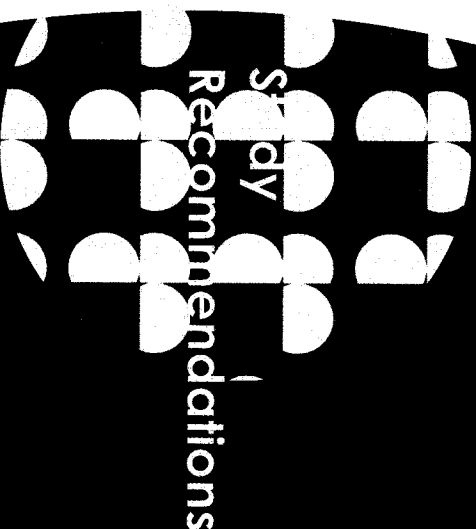
ESQ Emergency Services
Consulting International

STAFFING/COMPENSATION

- CAREER/VOLUNTEER MIX
- RESPONSE PROTOCOLS



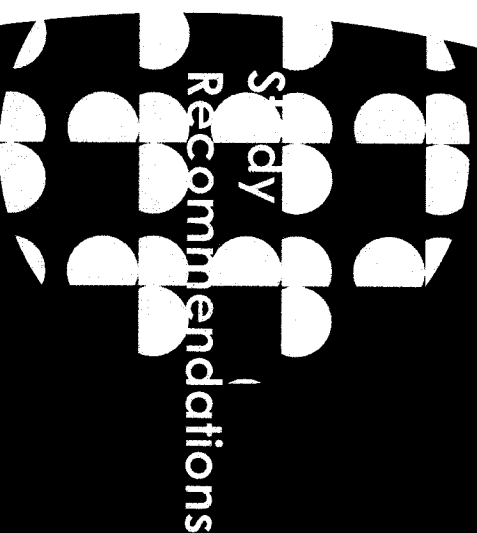
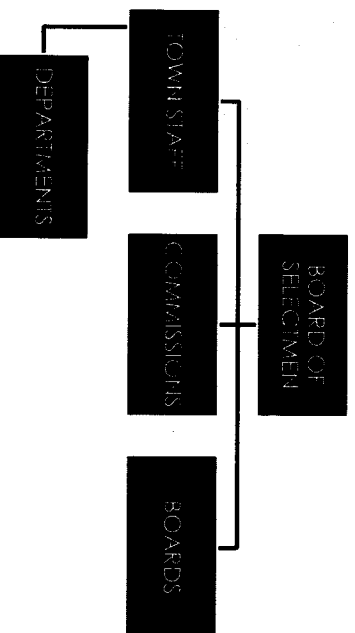
Response Standards?



ESD Emergency Services
Consulting International

STAFFING/COMPENSATION

- **VOLUNTEER**
- **RECRUITMENT/RETENTION**
- **FIRE AND EMS COMMISSIONS**



ISO REVIEW

- NORTH END WATER SUPPLY
- ISO IMPACT ON INSURANCE PREMIUMS

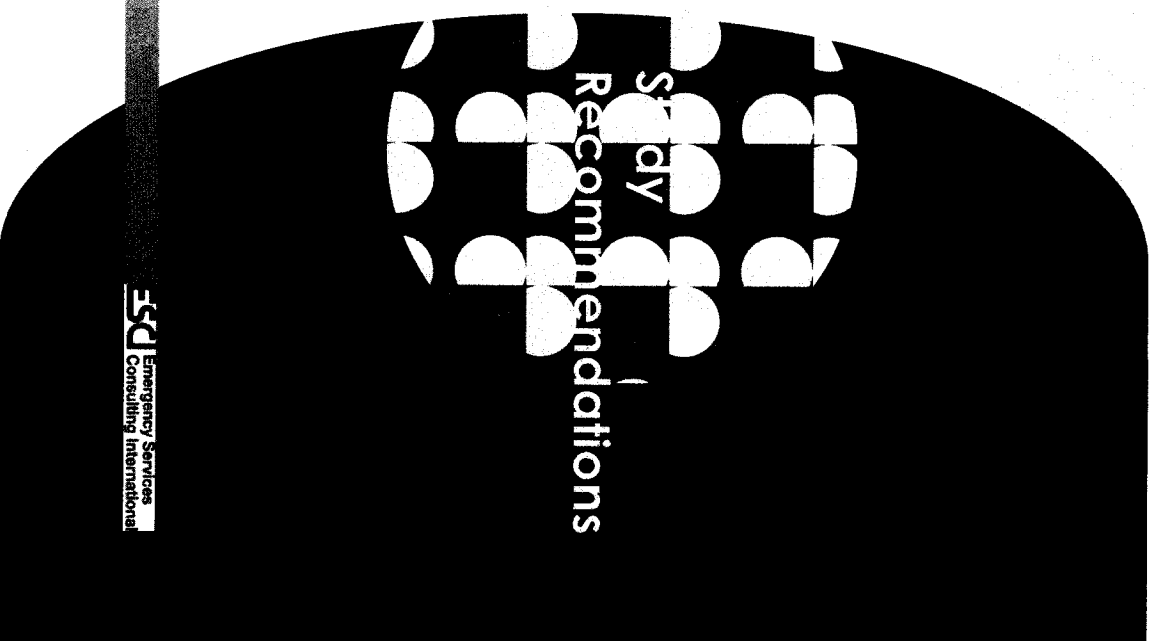
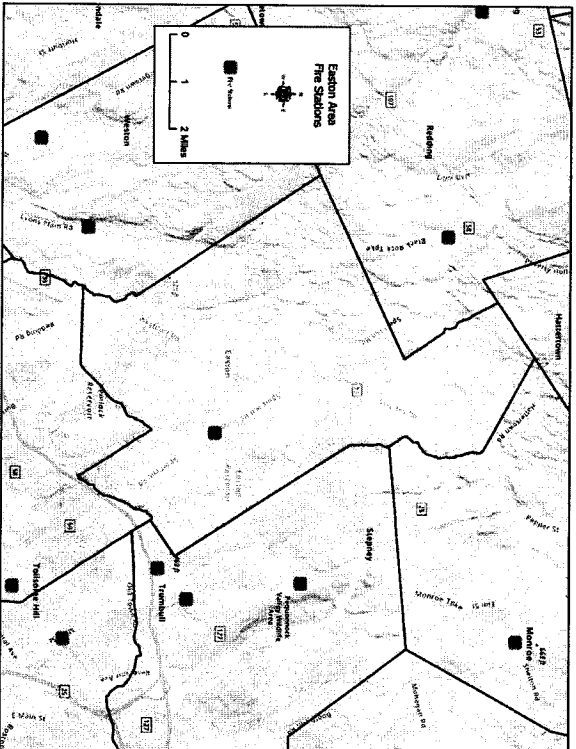
FSRS Feature	Earned Credit	Credit Available
Receiving and Handling Fire Alarms		
414, Credit for Telephone Service	1.80	2
422, Credit for Operator	1.80	3
432, Credit for Dispatch Circuits	3.00	5
440, Credit for Receiving and Handling Fire Alarms	6.30	10
Fire Department		
613, Credit for Engine Companies	8.38	10
623, Credit for Reserve Pumps	0.79	1
632, Credit for Pumping Capacity	6.00	5
640, Credit for Ladder Service	1.88	5
653, Credit for Reserve Ladder and Service Trucks	0.23	1
664, Credit for Distribution	4.75	1
671, Credit for Company Personnel	8.98	18
680, Credit for Fire Department	24.06	60
Water Supply		
627, Credit for Hydrants	6.88	20
631, Credit for Inspection and Condition	1.26	3
640, Credit for Water Supply	27.61	40
Divergence	-4.18	-
Total Credit:	63.79	100

CLASS 5/9

Study Recommendations

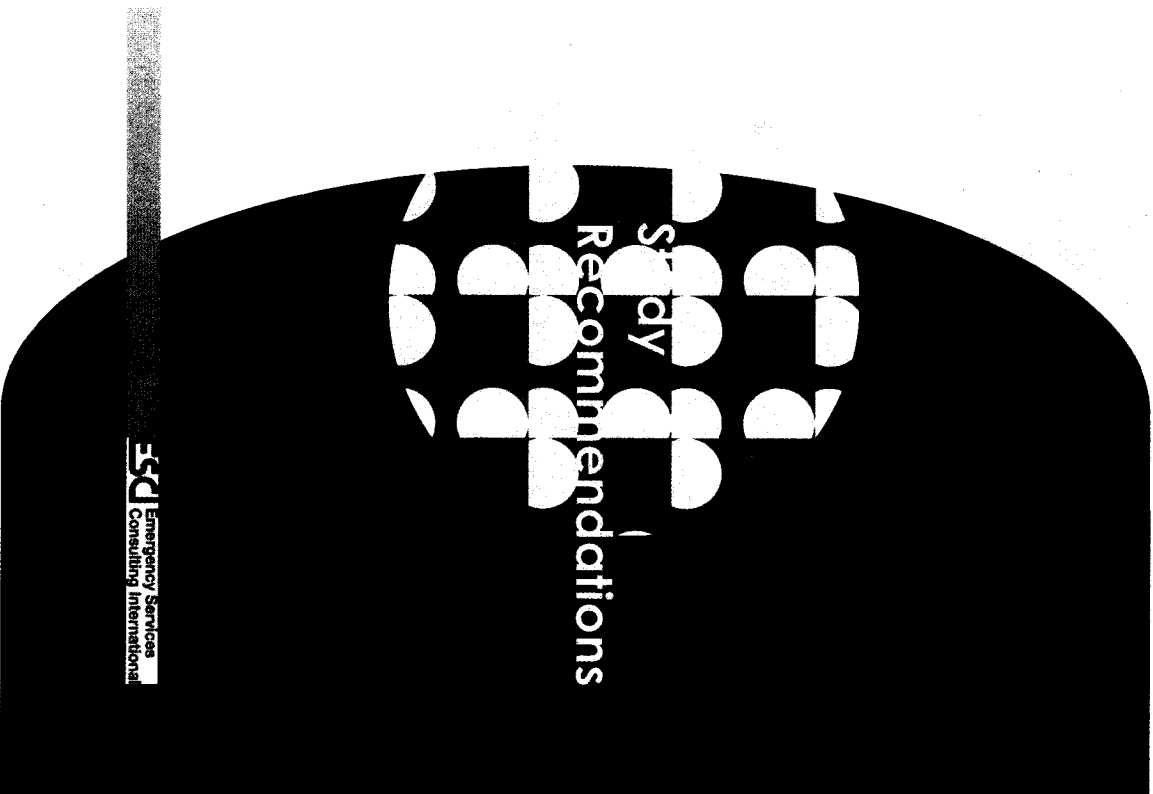
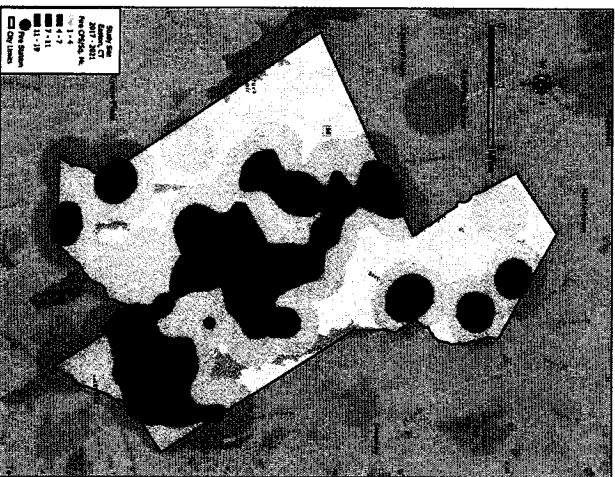
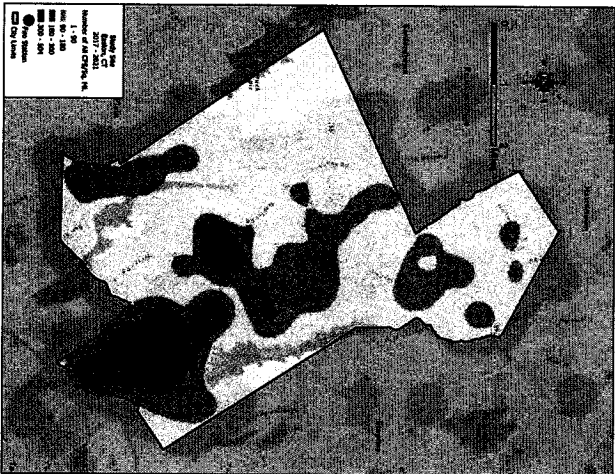
ESQ Emergency Services Consulting International

- **ADDITIONAL FIRE STATIONS VS. AUTOMATIC AID AGREEMENTS**



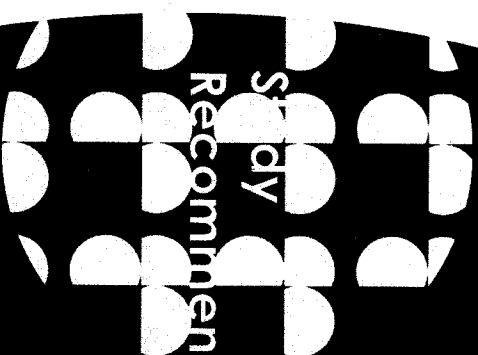
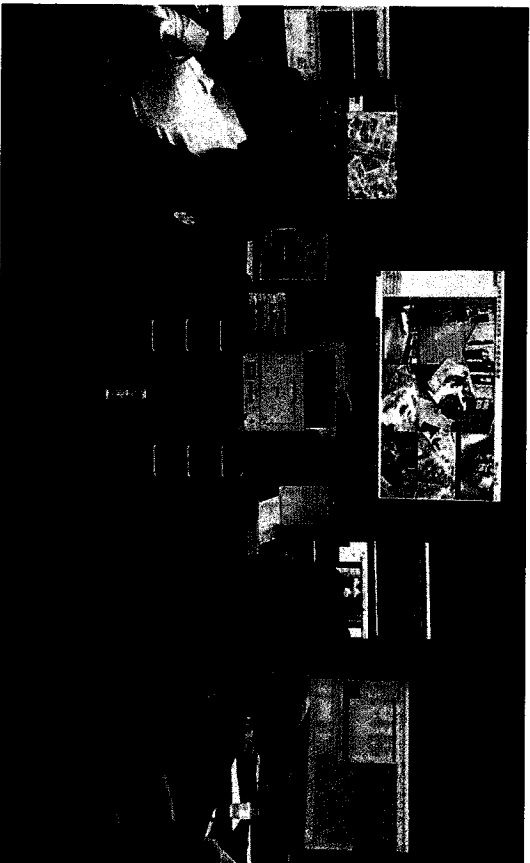
ISO REVIEW

- ADDITIONAL FIRE STATIONS VS. AUTOMATIC AID AGREEMENTS



COMMUNICATIONS/DISPATCH

- TOWN-WIDE COMMUNICATIONS
- REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

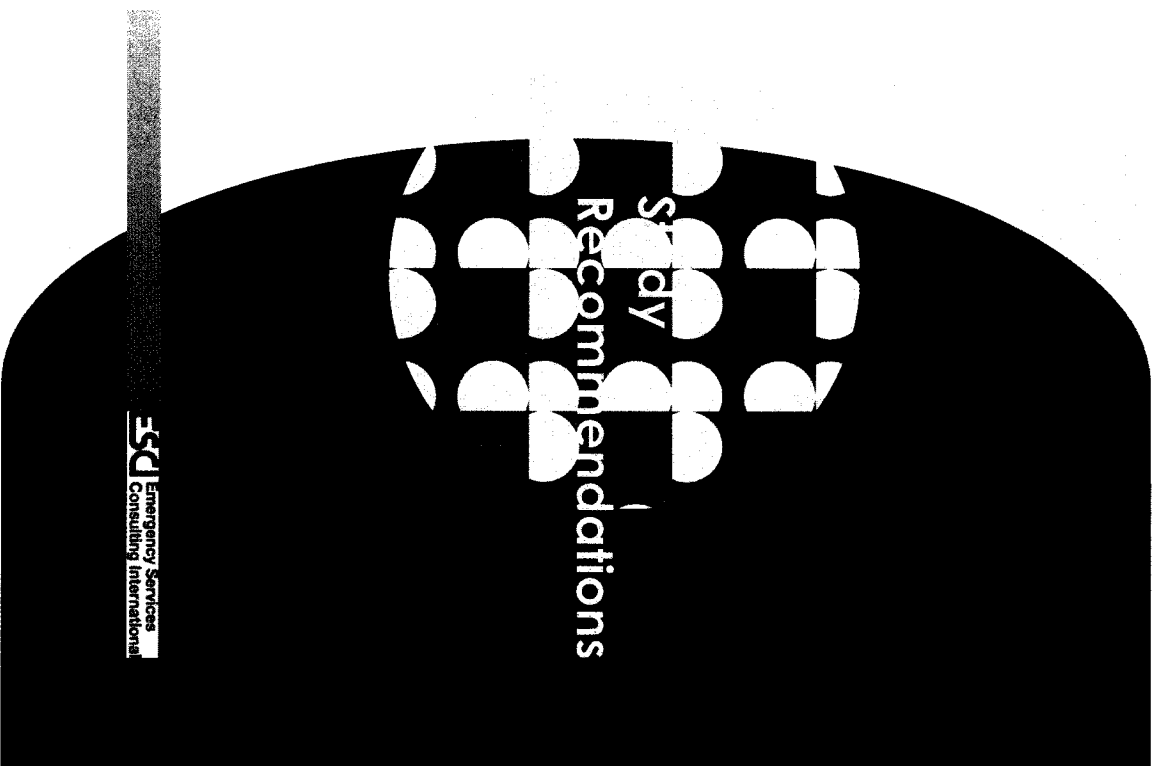
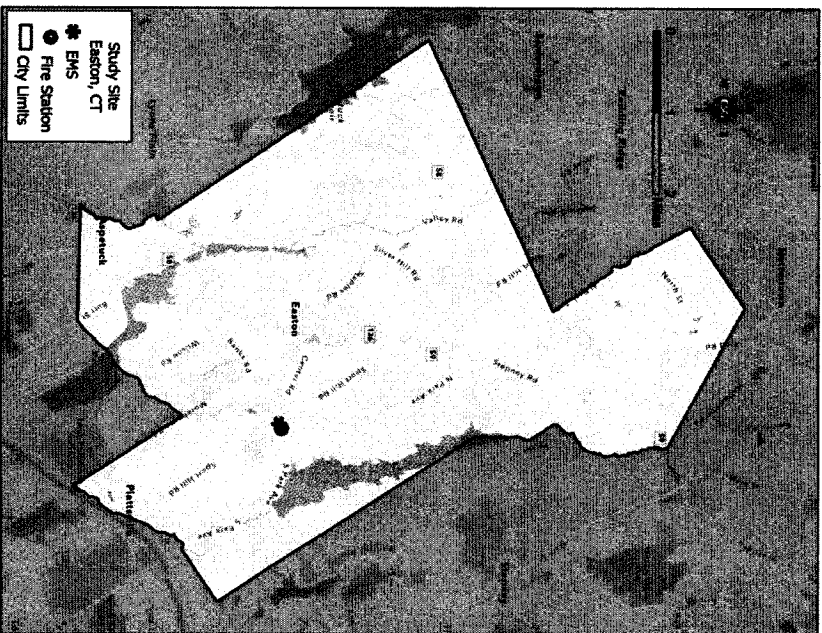


Study
Recommendations

ESQ Emergency Services
Consulting International

PUBLIC SAFETY CAPITAL

- EVALUATE
NEED FOR
TOWN EOC
CO-
- LOCATION OF
FIRE/EMS
APPARATUS
- EQUIPMENT
NEEDS AND
FUNDING



18 RECOMMENDATIONS

Documentation

- Relationships

Technology

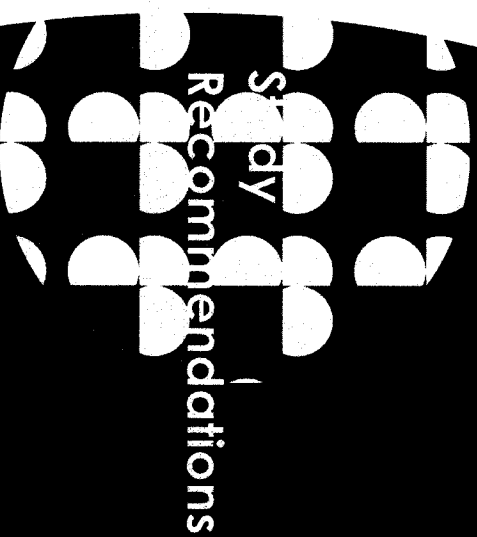
- Digitize
- Communications

EMS Facility

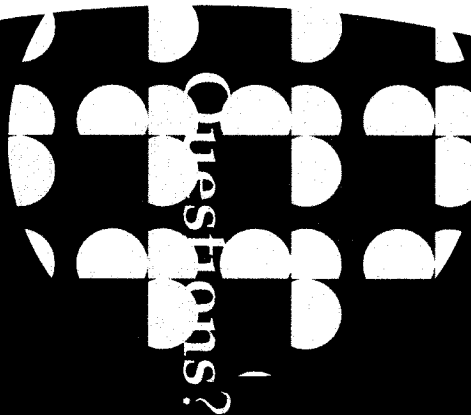
- New
- Alongside Fire

Performance Standards

- Participation
- Response



THANK YOU!



ES&I Emergency Services
Consulting International