

1 **PHILADELPHIA WATER DEPARTMENT RESPONSE TO TRANSCRIPT REQUEST**

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3 **TR-4.** WHAT TYPES OF SERVICES DOES THE FIRE DEPARTMENT PROVIDE
4 THAT ARE FUNDED THROUGH USER-BASED CHARGES. PLEASE
5 EXPLAIN HOW ANY EXISTING FIRE DEPARTMENT USER-BASED
6 CHARGES ARE RECOVERED.

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9 **RESPONSE:**

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11 There are five types of services that the Fire Department provides that are funded through user-
12 based charges: ambulance transports, consideration of fire code variances, emergency response
13 related to hazardous material incidents, emergency medical services (EMS) or fire suppression
14 presence at special events, and fees related to fire marshal expertise (expert witness fees,
15 consultation fees, and document preparation fees).

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17 Ambulance transport fees are authorized under a regulation that became effective on 7/9/09.
18 Fees are collected through the assistance of a medical coding subcontractor and billing
19 contractor. Fees are most commonly paid by insurance companies or self-payers. All revenue
20 in this category is deposited in the City of Philadelphia General Fund.

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22 Fees related to fire code variance are authorized under Bill 170167 (Section 4A904.6 of The
23 Philadelphia Code). Fees are provided prior to scheduling a hearing. All revenue in this
24 category is deposited in the City of Philadelphia General Fund.

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26 Emergency response related to hazardous materials incidents is authorized under PA Act 165,
27 Section 210-Recovery of Response Costs. The Philadelphia Fire Department prepares the bill
28 to the responsible party. Revenue for “hazmat” response is deposited in an account that is

1 segregated from the City of Philadelphia General Fund and is authorized solely to be used for
2 hazmat-related expenditures (e.g. supplies, equipment, salary)

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4 For certain special events, the Philadelphia Fire Department provides EMS or fire suppression
5 presence. Under certain circumstances, the Philadelphia Fire Department will either invoice a
6 group directly or invoice through the Managing Director's Office to recover costs related to the
7 overtime required for the additional presence. All revenue in this category is deposited in the
8 City of Philadelphia General Fund.

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10 The Fire Marshal's Office charges fees for certain services such as providing expert witness
11 testimony, expert consultation services, and document provision. Fees are based on the costs
12 associated with the time and/or materials involved. All revenue in this category is deposited in
13 the City of Philadelphia General Fund.

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16 **RESPONSE PROVIDED BY:** City of Philadelphia
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