

## **Response Time to Emergencies in West Falmouth Will Increase Dramatically with Closure of Station #4**

**Example:** Response time from each of Falmouth’s five stations to the intersection of Old Dock Rd. and Chapoquoit Rd. in West Falmouth Village is shown below.

<b>RESPONDING STATION</b>	<b>STATION LOCATION</b>	<b>TRAVEL TIME</b>	<b>TOTAL RESPONSE TIME*</b>
West Falmouth Station #4	555 West Falmouth Hwy.	1 minute*	<b>3 min 19 sec.- 4 min 46 sec</b>
North Falmouth Station #3	204 Old Main Road	8 Minutes*	<b>10 m 19 sec – 11m 46 sec</b>
Falmouth HQ Station #1	399 Main Street	8 Minutes*	<b>10 m 19 sec – 11m 46 sec</b>
East Falmouth Station #5	505 East Falmouth Hwy.	10 Minutes*	<b>12m 19 sec – 13m 46 sec</b>
Woods Hole Station #2	419 Woods Hole Road	12 Minutes*	<b>14m 19 sec – 15m 46 sec</b>

\* Road times estimated w/ Google Maps (which uses speed limit & traffic congestion estimates) and illustrates off-season drive times as sampled on 01.19.20, 10-11 pm. Summer daytime drive times will be higher.

\* **Total Response Time = Call-answering / processing time + Turnout time + Travel time:**

- **Call processing time** –elapsed time from the call being received at the PSAP to the dispatching of the first unit.
- **Turnout time** – elapsed time from when a unit is dispatched until unit changes their status to “responding.”

**The criteria for measuring fire / rescue response times include the following steps:**

- **Alarm Answering Time:** 15 seconds for 95% of calls; 40 seconds for 99% of calls
- **Alarm Processing Time:** 64 seconds for 90% of calls; 106 seconds for 95% of calls
- **Turnout Time:** 60 seconds for EMS responses; 80 seconds for fire responses

Average: Between 139 - 226 seconds, or 2 mins, 19 sec. and 3 mins, 46 sec.

- **National standards recommend 6 minute arrival for the first due Firefighters.**
- **The US Fire Administration and others use a 3-5 minute time for occupants to escape a fast moving structure fire.**
- **Chances of survival from a cardiac event decrease by 10% for every minute that CPR and an AED are not applied.**

### **FOR MORE ON FIRE & RESCUE RESPONSE TIMES-**

National Fire Protection Association <https://www.nfpa.org/>

NFPA 1710 Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Depart.

Additional Reference: <https://www.lexipol.com/resources/blog/understanding-and-measuring-fire-department-response-times/>