



NEWS RELEASE

From Mayor Dean DePiero

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, November 25, 2008

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PARMA MAYOR PODCAST: FIRE SAFETY AND FIRE DEPARTMENT PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

(PARMA) – Parma Mayor Dean DePiero’s monthly podcast this month features a conversation with Parma Fire Chief John French. Chief French updates residents on projects and programs currently underway by the Parma Fire Department. The podcast is available for listening on the city of Parma website, www.cityofparma-oh.gov.

“Chief French deserves a lot of credit for confronting the nation’s number one killer – heart disease – and giving our residents a tremendously better chance of survival,” said Mayor DePiero. “The Parma Fire Department and Parma Community General Hospital are breaking records when it comes to saving lives.”

The national standard for so-called “door to balloon” time is 90 minutes. That’s the maximum time it should take paramedics to get a patient from their home until doctors at the hospital inflate a balloon or stent to open a clogged coronary artery. The average time at Parma Hospital is 54 minutes. Its record time in opening the blocked artery of an arriving patient is 16 minutes.

“The Code Stemi program is as hi-tech as it gets,” said Chief French. “The paramedics use their cell phones to transmit data to the hospital’s Cath Team at Parma Hospital. This is a case where seconds count, and it’s a perfect example of professional teamwork at the highest level.”

Chief French also discusses the successful continuation of mutual aid with fire departments in neighboring communities. That too, he says, is a common sense way to save lives while giving area residents more value for their cost of service.

Other topics include: the prospects of regionalization such as the proposed concept of a Joint Dispatch Center, joint purchasing efforts with other municipal fire departments, alternate funding through grant availability and interoperability, the department’s ability to communicate on the same radio frequency with other fire and police departments during a crisis or emergency.

For more information, check the City of Parma website at www.cityofparma-oh.gov.

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