



Hinsdale County EMS Contribution Request to Town of Lake City

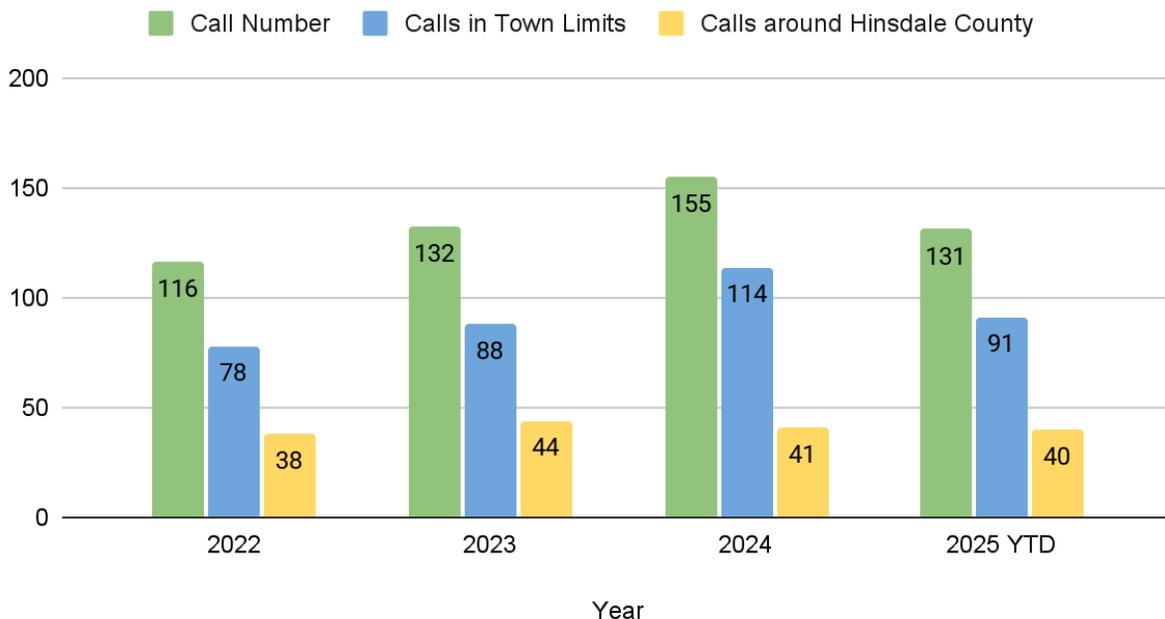
10-21-25

Town of Lake City Trustees,

Hinsdale County EMS (HCEMS) is requesting the Town of Lake City continue their annual contribution in order to assist in the sustainability of an emergency medicine program for the town of Lake City. Due to the increasing costs of running an ambulance service, HCEMS would like to ask the town to consider increasing their contribution for 2026. Last year, the Town of Lake City contributed \$16,000 toward HCEMS. Rising costs include dispatch fees increasing from \$20,844 in 2025 to \$30,486 for 2026, and inflation affecting supplies, medication, fuel, etc.

Ambulance services in more populated areas are able to turn a profit due to their high call volume. Some ambulance services in the Denver metro area manage 355 calls *per day*. With around just under 200 calls in a year, HCEMS does not serve enough patients to cover overhead costs, especially when 52% of our patient bills are paid with Medicare/Medicaid, which reimburses only 40% of charges - and potentially could be affected in the next year at the federal level.

HCEMS 2022-2025 YTD 911 Call Locations



HCEMS has worked hard to stabilize a professional emergency medical service for the good of this community that we all care for - and that comes with a price tag. HCEMS, Hinsdale County, and the county commissioners are committed to ensuring there are emergency medical services for residents of both the county and the town, and HCEMS is very appreciative for the continued investments that both Hinsdale County and the Town of Lake City make in our community's best interests. We ask that you take rising costs into consideration when determining the amount the Town of Lake City is able to put forward to support HCEMS for 2026.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Heidt', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Katherine Heidt

EMS Director

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