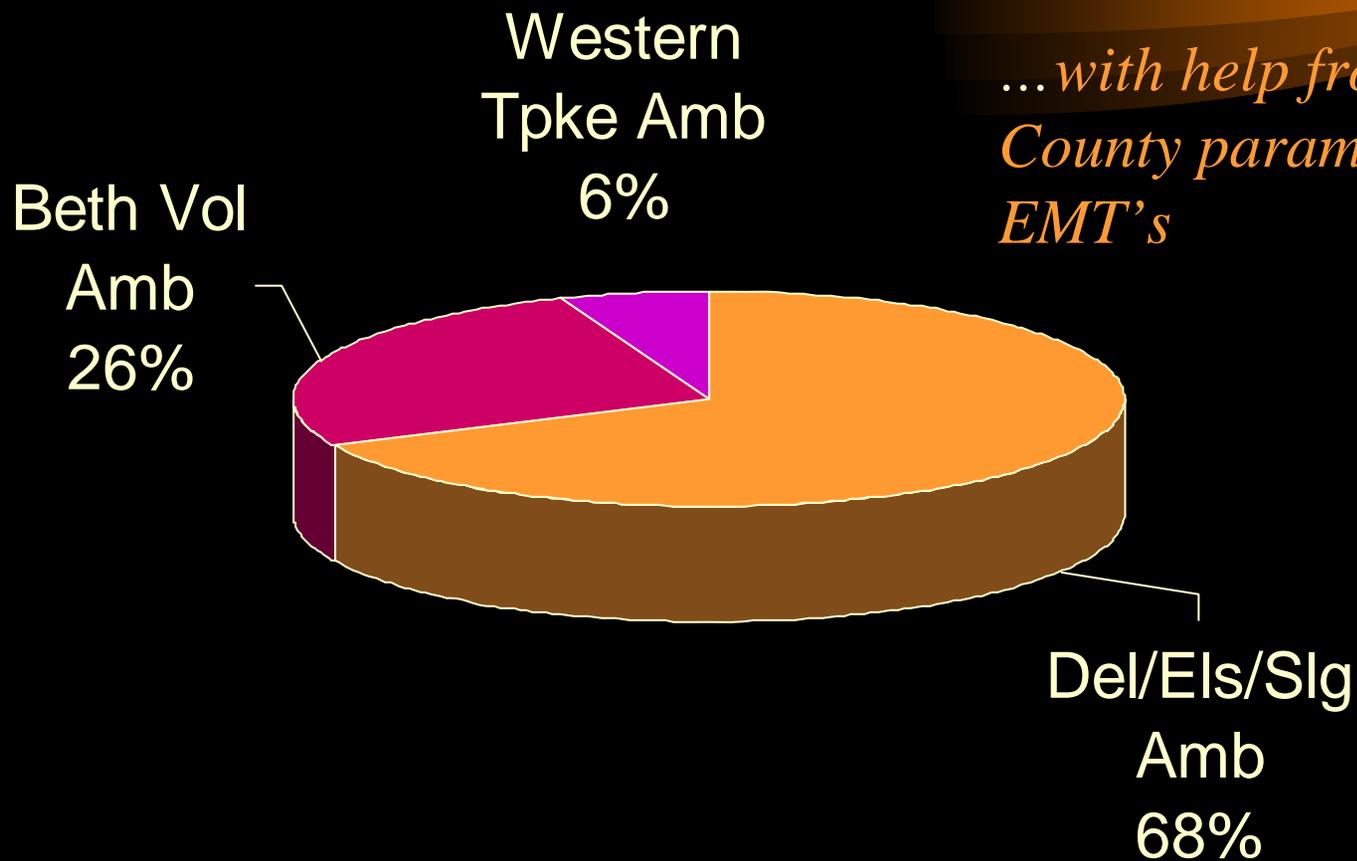


*Emergency Medical Services  
within the Town of Bethlehem*



December 12, 2007

# *One Town, Served by Three Providers*



*...with help from Albany County paramedics and EMT's*

# *Two Tiers of Service: BLS vs. ALS*

- Basic Life Support
- Patient Stabilization and transportation to hospital
- Volunteers, supplemented by paid EMT's from Albany County
- Advanced Life Support
- Paid paramedics
- Town contracts with Albany County Sheriff's Department, who runs this program.

# *Town's Role in Emergency Medical Services*

- Contracts with each ambulance company for BLS
  - Ambulance companies contract with Albany County for EMT's
- Contracts with Albany County for ALS
- Operates the 9-1-1 call center

# *Funding of Services*

- Budgets submitted to town by ambulance companies and Albany County
- Taxes are levied on the January tax bills
  - One line for BLS
  - One line for ALS

# *Controlling Costs*

- Managing budgets
- Recruiting and training volunteers
- Planning for future capital needs

# *Maximizing Revenues*

- New for DES/BVA in '08: insurance billing
  - Expected to provide a sizeable revenue stream
    - Controls future tax rates
  - Western Turnpike funds 95% of their budget through insurance billings (\$792,000)
  - 2008 budget: DES \$220,500, BVA \$50,000
    - Partial year of receipts during initial period
    - Over time, hope to realize similar funding levels

## *Summary of Budgeted BLS Costs*

	2007	2008	Increase
DES	309,000	529,500	220,500
BVA	242,250	406,300	164,050
WST	722,800	833,300	110,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,274,050</b>	<b>1,769,100</b>	<b>495,050</b>

*Base tax  
rate same  
due to  
insurance  
billing*

Increases largely from need to hire paid staff to supplement volunteers

# *Summary of Budgeted ALS Costs*

	2007	2008	Increase
ALS	1,028,911	1,141,518	112,607

Increase primarily from staffing costs, equipment, insurance and fuel.

# *Measuring True Costs to Provide Services*

- BLS costs charged to districts
- In 2001, began charging ALS to districts
- New in 2008:
  - Allocating the cost of 9-1-1 services
  - One person dedicated to 9-1-1 calls, 24/7
  - Cost = \$240,000
  - Will be added to base BLS budgets

# Summary of Tax Dollars

	2007 Tax	2008 Tax	Increase	Increase for a \$200,000 home
DES	301,590	464,095	162,505	\$14
BVA	216,551	259,324	42,773	\$10
WST	10,407	24,984	14,577	\$14
<b>Total</b>	<b>528,548</b>	<b>748,403</b>	<b>219,855</b>	

*Taxes  
Paid  
By a  
\$200,000  
Home*

*\$40*

*\$57*

*\$25*

Taxes = *Either* DES, BVA or WST

# Summary of Tax Dollars

	2007 Tax	2008 Tax	Increase	Increase for a \$200,000 home
ALS	564,000	648,000	84,000	\$5

*Taxes  
Paid  
By a  
\$200,000  
Home*

*\$38*

## *In Summary*

- Thanks to volunteers who are the backbone of the community's emergency medical responders
- Thanks to paid professionals who work with volunteers to provide first-rate, life-saving care
- \$200,000 home pays less than \$100 per year for EMT and ALS services
- Town will continue to work as a team to maintain high level of services at lowest cost

*Emergency Medical Services  
within the Town of Bethlehem*



December 12, 2007