

For Immediate Release
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Soddy-Daisy Turns Over Emergency Communications to Hamilton County 9-1-1

Partnership Enhances Response Times, Training and Technology for Citizens

Chattanooga, Tenn. -- The Hamilton County 9-1-1 Emergency Communications District will soon be handling 9-1-1 calls and emergency communications for the City of Soddy-Daisy, Tennessee. The Soddy-Daisy Commission made it official on September 18, 2025.

“Consolidating our emergency communications with Hamilton County 9-1-1 is the best decision operationally and financially for the citizens of Soddy-Daisy,” said Soddy-Daisy City Manager Burt Johnson.

Johnson said that Soddy-Daisy 9-1-1 currently operates with six telecommunicators and there is a need to add two to four more in the near future. That would add up to \$350,000 annually in operating costs, plus another \$300,000 plus to upgrade equipment and technology every three to five years. “Those funds can now be utilized for other needs for citizens of Soddy-Daisy,” said Johnson.

Hamilton County 9-1-1 Executive Director Jeff Carney said the consolidation ensures faster emergency response for the people of Soddy-Daisy. “It strengthens our entire county’s emergency communications system,” said Director Carney. “By bringing Soddy-Daisy into the District’s framework, we can provide cutting-edge technology, consistent training, and seamless interoperability for all first responders.”

Soddy-Daisy Police Chief Claude “Billy” Petty is excited about this consolidation process. “This new partnership will bring much-needed technology to our department, allowing us to enhance officer safety and improve our emergency response,” said Chief Petty. “By eliminating a step in the 9-1-1 process for medical emergencies, we will provide faster response times and more effective service to our citizens.”

Soddy-Daisy Fire Chief William “Dusty” Morgan is also in favor of the move. “The consolidation will greatly improve interoperability with surrounding agencies,” said Chief Morgan. “Our fire department will be utilizing a more robust and secure radio system for emergency communications.”

For Soddy-Daisy 9-1-1 employees who accept positions with Hamilton County 9-1-1, pay and hire dates will be preserved, while personal leave accrual will increase from 15 to 19 days. Employees will also remain on their current shifts. Just as importantly, this

partnership ensures Soddy-Daisy telecommunicators will benefit from the same nationally recognized training and professional development opportunities as Hamilton County 9-1-1 staff—training that translates into faster responses and immediate, life-saving interventions for callers. Under the District’s umbrella, Soddy-Daisy employees will also have access to career paths in leadership, technology, training, and more—opportunities not possible in a smaller PSAP (Public Safety Answering Point).

The decision to have Hamilton County 9-1-1 take over emergency communications for Soddy-Daisy was approved by the Hamilton County 9-1-1 Board of Directors on September 18, 2025, and goes into effect on October 29, 2025.

Dr. Richard Brown, chairman of the Hamilton County 9-1-1 Board of Directors, said Soddy-Daisy now joins one of the best emergency communications network and service delivery entities in the nation. “It gives me great honor to welcome the city of Soddy-Daisy to the countywide emergency communications partnership and service delivery,” said Dr. Brown. “I thank the Mayor of Soddy-Daisy, its elected commissioners, and their public safety leaders for moving forward this important initiative for their citizens. I also extend a heartfelt thanks and sincere appreciation to members of our Board of Directors for their ongoing leadership and approval of this new partnership with the City of Soddy-Daisy.”

With the addition of Soddy-Daisy, Hamilton County 9-1-1 now serves all municipalities and unincorporated parts of Hamilton County, except for the Town of Lookout Mountain.