

Contra Costa County



Fire Protection District

February 10, 2014

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Jeff Carman, Fire Chief

RE: Fire Chief's Report

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- The District developed and published an operational plan for calendar years 2014 and 2015. The plan is not a strategic plan, but rather an operational plan that directs the District on its priorities for the next year. During calendar year 2015, the District will develop a business plan for all of its major divisions that will transfer to a strategic plan in fiscal year 2016-17.
 - New apparatus are on order and are expected to begin delivery in the fall. A more specific production schedule will be forthcoming. The order was ten engines, three trucks, and one large rescue truck. All of these are much-needed replacements for an aging fleet of heavy apparatus.
 - In January our firefighters responded to a reported structure fire in Martinez. On arrival they were confronted with two well-involved structures. A second alarm was immediately called, followed by a third alarm, bringing 13 fire companies and a total of 45 firefighters to the scene. Ultimately, it was determined that the cause of the fires was arson and our arson investigation team responded. Their investigation determined that a total of eight fires were started resulting in approximately \$1 million in damages. A suspect has been arrested and is being held on \$1.5 million bail.
 - The District is currently working on the development of an annual report for 2014. It is our hope that this report will work to educate our customers, our stakeholders, and our own personnel on the large volume of work we do throughout the year. The goal is for the report to be released in March.
 - Academy 47 graduated on January 16, putting 14 more firefighters on the street. As a result, we were able to reopen Fire Station 11 in Clayton on the same day and also open a two-person squad at Fire Station 1 in downtown Walnut Creek. Fire Station 11 was critical for us to reopen due to their call volume and their geographical location in the District. The addition of the squad at Fire Station 1 will allow us to have additional staff available for the risk posed by the high-rise structures located in Walnut Creek as well as providing some relief to the number of calls Quint 1 responds to. Academy 48 began on February 2 with 11 more firefighters that will graduate in the spring.
 - The District continues to work with the City of San Pablo on a contract for services agreement for the District to provide a two-person squad assigned to Fire Station 70 in San Pablo. The contract was approved by the City in early January, and pending approval of the contract by the Fire Board of Directors, the service will begin May 1. Although many more resources are needed in West County, adding two additional firefighters will help offset the 3,500 calls that Engine 70 runs annually.