



May 10, 2016

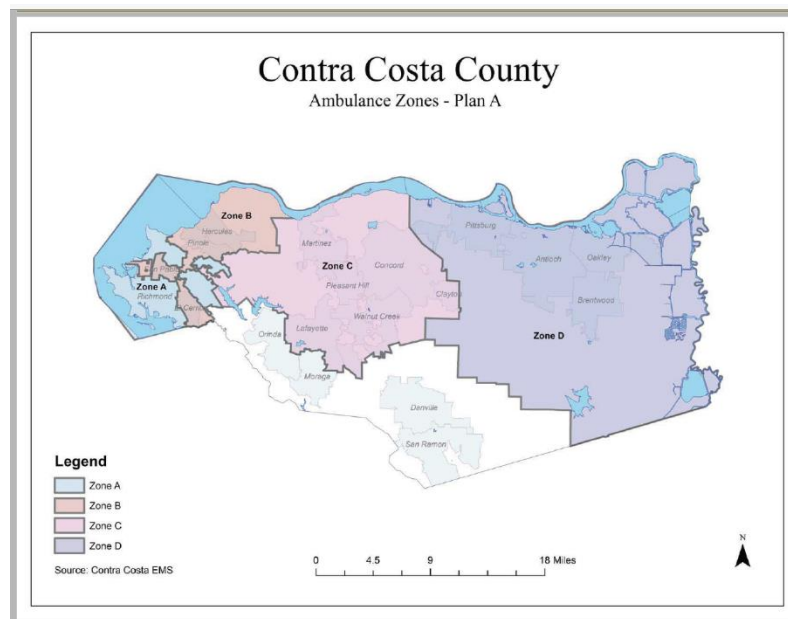
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Jeff Carman, Fire Chief
RE: Fire Chief's Report

- The newly established ambulance transport program has completed its first quarter of operation. The consolidation of the dispatch centers gives us the ability to reduce call-transfer times which reduces overall response times. Further workflow adjustments will occur on or about June 1 which will complete the transition in the communication center.

In the first quarter, our ambulances responded to 18,632 incidents (204 incidents per day). Of those incidents, there were 17,264 transports (189 per day).

The compliance rate has improved in all response zones as compared to 2015:

	Zone A (Richmond)	Zone B (West)	Zone C (Central)	Zone D (East)
2015 Q4:	94.61%	93.32%	91.32%	92.84%
2016 Q1:	95.32%	94.75%	94.07%	94.33%



Despite the improvements in all zones, the deployment model will include an increase in ambulance hours for the next sixty (60) days to ensure compliance is maintained as we adjust to additional changes in staffing and communications. At the end of this period, we will reevaluate the data and adjust ambulance hours accordingly.

- Academy #49 will graduate on May 17 increasing District personnel by twenty (20) firefighters. Many of these firefighters will fill existing vacancies, and the others will provide the needed personnel to re-staff Engine 6 in Concord. Recruitment is underway for Academy #50 which will begin in early fall. These recruits will fill vacancies that are projected to occur as a result of retirements and the reopening of Engine 16 in Lafayette.
- The rebuilding of Fire Station 70 in San Pablo continues to progress. The City of San Pablo has proposed a land swap which will allow us to build the new fire station while our personnel remain in the existing station thereby eliminating the need to secure temporary housing during construction. The new property is appropriately situated in that we will be able to maintain efficient response times in West County.
- The District has been selected by the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) to participate in the new statewide deployment of hazardous materials response teams. This program will provide the District with a fully-equipped response apparatus and the necessary initial and refresher training for up to seventeen (17) firefighters. The focus of the program is to offset the associated hazards of transporting crude oil by rail. However, when called upon, the teams will be used to respond to all forms of hazardous materials emergencies. While the District is currently served by the Contra Costa Health Services Hazardous Materials team, the new response teams will combine the capabilities of firefighting and hazardous materials response resulting in the ability to provide a more robust response in both the county and state. The total value of the award is approximately \$2 million, not including the refresher training which will be provided on an ongoing basis.
- The District recently hired two (2) new fire investigators to fill vacant positions which are critical in maintaining the substantial workload of the Investigations division. Between January 1 and April 30, 2016, the arson unit investigated 222 fires. Of those fires, 151 were either confirmed arson or suspicious. As a result of the work of our investigators, seven (7) adults and one (1) juvenile were arrested.
- The District is currently in discussions with the City of Pinole and the Rodeo-Hercules Fire District regarding a proposal that the District provide administrative oversight for those fire agencies. With the retirement of both fire chiefs, the possibility has arisen for a single chief officer to oversee the District's west division, Pinole Fire, and the Rodeo-Hercules Fire District as an opportunity to streamline operations and provide for consistent policy, direction, and vision.