



December 12, 2017

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Jeff Carman, Fire Chief

RE: Fire Chief's Report

- Fire Station 16 (Lafayette): On December 5, 2017, the Board approved the CEQA and authorized the demolition of the building. The demolition contractor has been identified, the demolition is set to occur in December, and the front end specifications are nearing completion. The authorization to advertise for construction bids is on the December 12, 2017 Board agenda. Jointly, with Capital Project Management and our Construction Manager, we will release bids in the first week of January to our prequalified contractors. The bid process will close the first week of February.
- Fire Station 70 (San Pablo): The architect is now drafting the full construction drawings. We expect to begin the plan review process in spring 2018. Following plan review, we anticipate going to bid in the summer of 2018. Construction costs seem to be escalating on a widespread scale. We will take steps to expedite the bid process in any way possible.
- The 2017 Contra Costa County Annual Workplace Giving Campaign was a great success this year yielding \$124,850, a 56% increase over last year's total pledges! I want to thank my assistant, Latonia Ellingberg, and the co-chair's assistant, Tamra Hardin, for all of the effort they put into this year's campaign. And a very special thank you to all of the County employees who were able to extend their generosity and contribute during the 2017 campaign.
- Fire Academy #51 is at its midpoint with 28 recruits. They will take midterms this week and are expected to complete the academy in February 2018.
- The District's administrative office relocation project continues to move forward. The final walkthrough was completed in mid-November, and the actual move will occur in January 2018.
- The ambulance transport program continues to exceed performance expectations. While the requirement is to arrive on scene within a specified time frame, the District has been able to maintain 95-97% compliance in all zones 90% of the time. This means that ambulances arrive more quickly than required by contract which allows

firefighters to be available for other incidents within their response areas in a timelier manner.

- Fire Station 19 in Briones has long been the home of our reserve firefighter program. Over the years, interest in the program has waned, and the number of firefighters has declined. One of our newest Battalion Chiefs, Paul Silva, has taken over the program and hopes to give it new life. The District recently received a grant for new protective equipment for the reserve firefighters, and we will soon begin a recruitment process to try and attract individuals with genuine interest in the program. Our hope is to have a much more robust program in service prior to the start of the 2018 fire season.
- The EMS agency recently hosted the Second Annual EMS Survivors Reunion, an opportunity for victims whose lives were saved in the pre-hospital setting to be reunited with their first-responder lifesavers. This high-end event was spearheaded by the EMS agency along with a number of donors and was a very meaningful and emotional occasion for everyone present.
- The Fire District has been actively participating in a new program offered through the health department to reduce the number of mentally ill patients who will require fire and police involvement. Twelve to fourteen percent of our transports to medical facilities are patients who need some type of mental health treatment. We are hopeful that this new program will significantly reduce that number resulting in fewer police and fire calls and our ability to recapture that newly unbound fire and police capacity for the benefit of our emergency response system.