



April 10, 2018

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Jeff Carman, Fire Chief

RE: Fire Chief's Report

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- Fire Station 16 (Lafayette): The Fire District and Capital Projects held a pre-construction meeting with the project team on Wednesday, March 28, 2018. The contract has been executed, and the District intends to deliver a notice to proceed for April 12, 2018. The District will host a groundbreaking ceremony on Wednesday, April 11, 2018, at 4 p.m.
- Fire Station 70 (San Pablo): The architectural drawings are approaching 90% complete. The District expects to have a pre-submittal meeting with the City of San Pablo in April 2018 and submit for a building permit shortly thereafter. We anticipate bidding the project in summer 2018.
- Fire Station 9 (Pacheco) and Fire Station 86 (Bay Point): District staff continues to meet regularly with County Capital Projects and the architect. We are still early in the design phase. Following conceptual development, we will initiate the CEQA review process.
- The Fire District's hazardous materials program continues to progress. The contracts with State OES are in process, and the apparatus and equipment are ready for delivery. As a result of delays at OES, we have missed our deadline of being operational by March 1, 2018. However, after the contract has been signed and the apparatus and equipment have been delivered, we will be fully operational.
- The Fire District recently implemented an advanced intra-facility transport program within the county. This new business model was a requirement of the ambulance contract, and it provides a new opportunity for medical facilities to transport their patients between facilities. In the past, there were only two options: a basic level of transport; and anyone above the basic level required a nurse, which is costly. The new model allows a paramedic to provide an intermediate level of care in a more timely fashion and at a reduced cost. To date, the District has performed only one of this type of transport, but we believe the new model will be used more frequently as more facilities become aware of its availability.

- Similar to many others, our Fire District has been operating with numerous Fire Engineer vacancies over the last several years. Thanks to a concerted effort by labor and management, I am pleased to report that we have recently completed our Fire Engineer testing process and now have a list of 25 qualified candidates.
- Three members were promoted to the rank of Fire Captain this month to fill the new vacancies created by the reopening of Engine 1 in Walnut Creek. Captain Rafael Ochoa will be assigned to the new Hazmat Team at Fire Station 87; Captain Sean Tracey will be moving to Pleasant Hill to start his probationary assignment; and Captain Ronald Geraghty, currently assigned to station 8, has been with our District for a little under 10 years and was previously a member of the Stockton Fire Department for eight years.
- The Fire District has been working with the local hospitals on the issue of “wall time” in their emergency rooms. As I have reported in the past, the number of times our ambulance crews and patients wait for over an hour to be transferred to the care of hospital staff has been on the increase for several years and has reached a critical level. Our staff began working with the hospital CEOs and staff to develop ways we can work together to reduce those wait times, and I believe that we are making progress. At a minimum, we have a better understanding of the situation at the hospitals, and we are discussing how we can be of assistance to each other.