



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

November 13, 2018

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Jeff Carman, Fire Chief

RE: Fire Chief's Report

- Fire Station 16 (Lafayette): The large concrete pour was completed on October 23. The exterior walls of the entire building have now been framed; and the roof trusses are scheduled for delivery on November 12. Although the overall schedule is a few weeks behind, progress continues and the project is making up time wherever possible.
- Fire Station 70 (San Pablo): Revised architectural drawings were submitted to the City of San Pablo and they have responded with their comments. On the Board's agenda today (November 13), there is an item requesting approval to go out to bid. The bid process is open to the already established list of prequalified contractors. The schedule calls for us to return to the Board after the first of the year in order to award a bid.
- Fire Station 9 (Pacheco) and Fire Station 86 (Bay Point): Conceptual layouts have been completed for both stations and the CEQA process has begun.
- The Fire District is proud to report that accreditation of our firefighter academy training program, facilities, and curriculum has been approved by the California State Fire Marshal Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. Accredited Local Academy (ALA) status has been earned by only 20 fire academies statewide. The District acknowledges Assistant Fire Chief Lon Goetsch and the Training and Safety Division staff for their hard work which has resulted in the accreditation of our academy.
- Academy 52, the first accredited academy in the history of the District, continues to move forward. Four recruits have left the academy, which leaves 27 remaining. It is not unusual to see a 20% attrition rate over the course of an academy. The recruits are scheduled to graduate in February 2019 and will fill existing vacancies and staff Engine 16 in Lafayette.

- As we reported last month, the Fire District has concerns about developments for which property tax allocations alone will not support adequate levels of fire and emergency medical response. The District is planning to host a meeting in mid-January for the city managers we serve to discuss Fire District operations including finances and future development.
- Fire Marshal Robert Marshall has officially departed from the Fire District. Until further notice, Deputy Chief Broschard will also function as the Interim Fire Marshal, and recruitment for a permanent replacement will soon begin.
- Fire District personnel recently inspected several of our new apparatus scheduled for delivery late this calendar year. Amongst those deliveries are four Type I engines and a 100' ladder truck.
- This last month was extremely busy for the Fire District. Over the course of one shift, the District experienced two 2-alarm commercial fires and a major incident involving a fire in an underground vault housing several large natural gas pipelines. Additionally, the District experienced a fire in an underground drainage tunnel in Pittsburg. Because the tunnel is a confined space, the District was forced to let the fire burn itself out prior to making entry. Entry the next day identified a large structure that had been built several hundred feet into the 1500' tunnel.
- Although the temperatures are cooler and the days are shorter, the county has experienced several red-flag fire days over the last month. This is the time of year those areas with larger fuels are most susceptible to large, fast growing fires. The county has had several days where pre-positioned resources have been made available through the State OES Mutual-Aid System at no cost to the county.