

MXCAB Public Comments

May 12, 2021

Bryan Scott, Chair, East County Voters for Equal Protection

Good afternoon, members of the Measure X Community Advisory Board. My comments today are to call your attention to the fact that 130,000 residents of eastern Contra Costa County were without responsive fire services for nearly 17 hours during the first three months of this year.

This means that when an emergency call came in during this time, when East Contra Costa Fire Protection District was “unavailable,” the response had to come from a neighboring agency, and a much more distant fire station or responding location.

Ten medical emergency calls came in during this “unavailable time.” It is unclear how long it took for help to arrive, but it could easily have been 15, or 20 minutes. Maybe longer.

No other fire district in the County has ANY “unavailable time.” When asked about this, Fire Chiefs said they may not be able to provide a first-response from the nearest station, but in no instance are they ever unable to respond.

Included in this Public Comment is the “**Monthly Operational Report**” published by the East Contra Costa Fire Protection District on April 14. See Pages 5, 7 and 9 for the facts.

The County Board of Supervisors put in motion the events that cause this public safety emergency when the Board consolidated three fire districts into one, in 2002. At the time, the Supervisors promised to address the funding problem.

Because they didn’t address the funding problem, East County taxpayers have died, and are continuing to die. Homes are burning down.

“Discovery Bay has lost three residents to cardiac arrest because engines were unavailable to respond,” ECCFPD Captain Gil Guerrero told the Local Agency Formation Commission in May, 2016, according to meeting minutes.

He actually detailed all three cases when he spoke to the government officials. Listen to Captain Guerrero’s testimony for yourself, beginning at 2:13:50 hrs. of the recording of the May 11, 2016 meeting. His testimony ran for about five minutes.

You can find it by clicking here: <https://www.contracostalafco.org/meetings-and-public-hearings/meeting-archive-2016/> Scroll down to the May 11, 2016 meeting, and then click and scroll forward to the 2:13:50 hrs. point in the recording.

It is up to this Advisory Board to recommend that the Supervisors dedicate 15% of the proceeds of Measure X to now address this public safety emergency. Lives are at stake.

Thank you.

Appendix: ECCFPD Operational Report for March, 2021

East Contra Costa Fire Protection District

Meeting Date: April 14th, 2021

Subject/Title: Receive Operational Update for March 2021

Submitted by: Ross Macumber, Battalion Chief

RECOMMENDATION FOR ACTION

Receive operational update March 2021.

SUBJECT BACKGROUND

This report summarizes District activities for the month of March 2021.

Calls for service:

There were a total of 650 service calls in the month of March, with an average response time of 8:33 minutes. In the month of February the District ran 591 calls with an average response time of 8:39 minutes. In the calendar year of 2020, the District ran 7639 calls for service with an average response time of 8:29 compared to calendar year of 2019, where the District ran 7679 calls for service with an average response time of 8:19.

Calls for Service						
Service Area	2021 March			2020 Calendar Year		
	Calls	Ave Resp Time	90% Resp Time	Calls	Ave Resp Time	90% Resp Time
Brentwood West	181	8:04	11:00	1854	7:55	10:40
Brentwood East	146	7:41	10:17	1723	7:37	11:07
Discovery Bay / Bryon	78	10:58	14:49	956	9:43	15:41
Oakley	175	7:39	10:30	2147	7:15	9:52
Knightsen	31	9:00	11:40	354	9:49	13:11
Bethel Island	26	14:27	18:00	388	14:16	17:42
Marsh Creek / Morgan Ter.	13	10:24	15:51	217	10:48	15:09
Total	650	8:33	12:30	7639	8:29	12:52

Engine Company Roll Outs				
Engine Company Roll Outs	March	% of Total	2020	% of Total
52 - ECCFPD	334	42%	3591	38%
53 -ECCFPD	277	34%	3454	37%
59 - ECCFPD	134	17%	1628	17%
16 - CAL Fire	20	2%	233	2%
Auto Aid Received	39	5%	483	5%
Mutual Aid Received	0	0%	13	0%
Total	804	100%	9402	100%

Looking at the response times by Areas:

- **Brentwood West** had 181 calls in the month of March with an average response time of 8:04 minutes. In February there were a total of 142 calls with an average response time of 8:00 minutes. In the calendar year of 2020 the area had 1854 calls for service with an average response time of 7:55.
- **Brentwood East** had 146 calls in the month of March with an average response time of 7:41 minutes. In February there were a total of 146 calls with an average response time of 7:26 minutes. In the calendar year of 2020 the area had 1723 calls for service with an average response time of 7:37.
- **Discovery Bay/ Byron** had 78 calls in the month of March with an average response time of 10:58 minutes. In February there were a total of 75 calls with an average response time of 11:02 minutes. In the calendar year of 2020 the area had 956 calls for service with an average response time of 9:43.
- **Oakley** had 175 calls in the month of March with an average response time of 7:39 minutes. In the month of February there were a total of 158 calls with an average response time of 7:27 minutes. In the calendar year of 2020 the area had 2147 calls for service with an average response time of 7:15.
- **Knightesen** had 31 calls in month of March with an average response time of 9:00 minutes. In the month of February there were a total of 15 calls with an average response time of 9:12 minutes. In the calendar year of 2020 the area had 354 calls for service with an average response time of 9:49.
- **Bethel Island** had 26 calls in the month of March with an average response time of 14:27 minutes. In the month February of there were 38 calls with an average response time of 15:33 minutes. In the calendar year of 2020 the area had 388 calls for service with an average response time of 14:16.
- **Marsh Creek/Morgan Territory** had 13 calls in the month of March with an average response time of 10:24 minutes. In the month of February there were a total of 17 calls with an average response time of 9:29 minutes. In the calendar year of 2020 the area had 217 calls for service with an average response time of 10:48.

Auto aid:

In the month of March, the District received auto aid from Contra Costa County Fire 39 times, with them sending 61 engines, of which 27 arrived on scene. The District sent auto aid to Contra Costa County Fire 32 times providing them with 40 engines, of which 17 arrived on scene. During the month of February, Contra Costa County Fire came into the District 39 times with 49 engines, arriving on scene 16 times and we responded into Contra Costa County Fire 28 times with 38 engines with 15 arriving on scene.

<i>Automatic Aid with Contra Costa County Fire 2021</i>	<i>CCCFPD</i>	<i>ECCFPD</i>
<i>Month</i>	<i>Incidents/Assigned/Arrived</i>	<i>Incidents/Assigned/Arrived</i>
January	40/53/18	25/30/10
February	39/49/16	28/38/15
March	39/61/27	32/40/17
April		
May		
June		
July		
August		
September		
October		
November		
December		
<i>Total</i>		

*In 2020, the District received auto aid from Contra Costa County Fire **483 times with 678 engines** and the District sent auto aid to Contra Costa County Fire a total of **346 times with 439 engines**. In 2019, the District received auto aid from Contra Costa County Fire **552 times with 851 engines** and the District sent auto aid to Contra Costa County Fire a total of **352 times with 434 engines**. In 2018, the District received auto aid from Contra Costa County Fire **612 times with 1063 engines** and the District sent auto aid to Contra Costa County Fire a total of **362 times with 409 engines**.*

Major Incidents/ Reduced Responses and Mutual Aid Requests:

In the month of March, the District responded to 8 residential structure fires, 0 commercial structure fires, 4 vehicle fires, 0 large vehicle fires, 3 vegetation fires and 19 exterior fires. The District also responded to 19 vehicle accidents, with an additional 4 requiring rescue, 5 vehicle vs. pedestrian accidents, 1 motorcycle accident, and 2 bicycle accidents

Operational Personnel:

The District is currently budgeted for 47 personnel.

POSITION	AUTHORIZED	FILLED
Chief	1	1
Administration	4	4
Fire Marshal	1	1
Deputy Fire Marshal	1	0
Fire Inspectors	2	2
Fire Permit Technician	1	1
Battalion Chief	4	4
Captain	9	9
Engineer	9	9
Firefighter	15	11
TOTAL	47	42

[illegible]

DATE= Date during which district had gap in coverage

TIME UNAVAILABLE = Time of day in which district had gaps in coverage

TOTAL TIME = The total time of gap in coverage

INCIDENT= Number of incidents during this time gap?

TYPE= Type of incident (medical, fire, etc)

WHO HANDLED = Which agency handled the incident

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