




CONTRA COSTA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

November 8, 2022

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Lewis T. Broschard III, Fire Chief

RE: Fire Chief's Report

- Contra Costa Regional Fire Communications Center Accreditation Update. Late last month, the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch® conveyed to the CCRFCC that it has been approved as an Emergency Medical Dispatch Center of Excellence. The CCRFCC now has the distinguished honor of being the 311th Emergency Medical Dispatch Accredited Center in the world. Accreditation is the highest distinction given to emergency communication centers, exemplifying our staff and communities' commitment to rigorous quality processes and continuous improvement. This tremendous accomplishment comes as a result of long and hard work by our entire Communications Division staff, most particularly our skilled and professional dispatchers. We expect this recognition to allow us to provide enhancements to our emergency ambulance deployment resulting in improved resource reliability to the public.
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- Operations Update. In spite of the welcome reprieve from more typical fire weather, fall has been an exceptionally busy period for firefighters with 142 multi-unit responses in September alone. These included 14 working residential structure fires, three working commercial fires, and 17 major vehicle accidents that required rescue.
 - Fire Weather Update. Fall weather has been favorable with brief early rains and generally lower temperatures and humidity than typically experienced this time of year. The result has been fewer and less dangerous vegetation fires than in recent years. Fuel moistures, however, remain exceptionally low, and a return to seasonally normal temperatures could quickly raise fire danger. We continue to monitor weather conditions day-by-day with an eye toward reducing seasonal vegetation fire responses when warranted. On November 1, we reduced our seasonal dozer and hand crew staffing back to winter staffing.
 - Hazmat Update. Hazmat program training tempo has been high this fall as we work to maintain full staffing for this critically important program. Several firefighters completed their initial hazmat training program late last month. Additionally, six current program members participated in an FBI/Cal OES weapons of mass

destruction training in Monterey. The instruction included one day of classroom instruction by the FBI followed by a day of possible real-world scenarios. An additional 30 Con Fire Hazmat program members participated in a local WMD training at our training campus in Concord.

- Marine Program Update. Our District's extensive coastline, along with many inland waterways, both natural and manmade, present numerous waterborne risks we seek to mitigate with our marine and water rescue programs. Last month, 24 of our marine program boat operators trained in-house with National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) instructors to hone skills and bolster staffing ahead of a possible reassignment of fire boat resources to the eastern portion of the District. We also trained four additional members for our swift water rescue program at a two-day course of instruction in Colma.
- Paramedic Program Update. An industry-wide challenge, paramedics remain in short supply requiring constant attention and creativity in attracting, training, and retaining these skilled medical professionals who undergird our ability to provide Advanced Life Support EMS Districtwide. As a result of our ongoing efforts, two firefighters completed their year-long training process recently and are awaiting accreditation. Our numerous efforts in this regard this fall also included sponsoring an additional eight firefighters in a paramedic training program being managed by an outside vendor, and hiring another vendor to work with us to explore providing paramedic training in-house.
- Fire Prevention Update. The District attended the Antioch BIG Truck event last month with Dozer 220 and hauler, Hazmat 86, a Type 6 wildland fire engine and one of our brand new Rivian 4x4 electric vehicle pickup trucks – the first electric all-wheel drive vehicles in the county and the first such vehicle delivered to a first responder agency anywhere. Our two Rivian trucks have been assigned support roles in the Fire Prevention Bureau and our Training Division where their potential for further fire service deployment is being evaluated. This fall, the two EVs will be outfitted for emergency response and incident command functionality including fire markings, radios, and lights and siren.
- Measure X-funded Wildfire Hardening Program for Residents Update. The Fire Prevention Bureau continues to work with Crew 12 to assign Measure X-funded wildfire mitigation projects throughout the county. As Crew 12 transitions its primary focus to mitigation work later this month, a web-based tool has been established on the Con Fire webpage for residents to request community mitigation projects. We are requesting that applicants work with their



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Contra Costa County Wildfire Mitigation Program

This program is supported by Measure X Funding. This request form should be used for community project proposals and not for privately owned properties.

shill@cccfd.org [Switch account](#)

The name and photo associated with your Google account will be recorded when you upload files and submit this form. Only the email you enter is part of your response.

* Required

Email *

Your email

local fire department for support and recommendations before applying. Current mitigation work includes shaded fuel breaks, community chipping days, evacuation route cleanups, fire trail clearances, fuel reduction, assistance with Firewise projects, and dead tree removal in common areas.

- Pinole Contract for Fire Protection Services. The contracts were approved and executed by the City and District with the LAFCO application submitted for the November 9 LAFCO meeting. We anticipate approval from LAFCO at this meeting with an anticipated operational effective date of March 1, 2023.