



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

May 16, 2023

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Lewis T. Broschard III, Fire Chief

RE: Fire Chief's Report

- Operations. A second company began service mid-April out of Fire Station 92 in Brentwood. The four-person crew started on a modified Type 1 pumping apparatus but has since moved to a reserve ladder truck. We are awaiting delivery of a front line ladder truck for FS 92.



A trial period started this month for staffing one firefighter on Water Tender 95 in Oakley. The purpose of the additional firefighter is to address water supply issues in non-hydranted areas of east county without degrading the capability of the existing Fire Station 95 three-person engine company.



Wildland fire preparation and training, including fire trail maintenance, has been delayed because of late season rains. Fire road maintenance is especially difficult this year due to wet conditions and the degraded state of these roads as a result of heavy winter and spring rains. Numerous slides and washouts will require a multi-year plan to repair the damage.

Dozer 220 began seasonal staffing this month; and Crew 12, our fire control worker hand crew, expanded from off-season staffing effectively doubling its size and providing 12-hour shifts, seven days a week.

- Training. Lateral Academy 59 graduated and began their field training at the end of April making 14 firefighters available for staffing mid-May.
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS). As of this month, all areas of eastern Contra Costa County have been upgraded to full-time permanent Advanced Life Support emergency medical service with all crews now staffed with at least one paramedic.
- Special Operations. A Con Fire-hosted multi-agency hazmat drill took place at our Training and Safety Campus in Concord earlier this month. The event was sponsored by Cal OES and included hazmat teams from Contra Costa and Solano counties.

- Fire Prevention Bureau. During the month of April, the Bureau focused on implementing the Exterior Hazard Ordinance after it was adopted on April 4, 2023. Weed abatement standards remain the same, but a new software system was implemented to track complaints and work orders for non-compliant parcels.

The deadline for weed abatement this year is June 4 for the entire District.

Contracts have been approved for a CEQA consultant to perform the necessary environmental studies for the Lafayette/Walnut Creek Shaded Fuel Break. Evaluation site surveys for rare plants and blooming flowers began May 1.

The contractor for Measure X fuel mitigation projects was also selected and work is anticipated to start in May to assist Crew 12 on mitigation efforts throughout the county.

- Support Services. After working through the insurance claim process and consulting with subject matter experts, we are now hopeful Truck 1 will be repairable. The vehicle will have to go back to Wisconsin to the manufacturer where the engineers can better assess the damage it suffered in the February 18 highway incident and determine the ability to bring it back to factory specifications. This process could take six-to-12 months, which is significantly better than the 46-plus month delivery time for a new ladder truck to be manufactured.



Four new fire engines arrived from the manufacturer in Wisconsin this month and are currently being outfitted for deployment to the field later this month.

The new crew transport vehicle for Crew 12 is complete and being delivered to the District this month.

A new Type 3 wildland firefighting engine was completed at the factory in Idaho and will be delivered to the District later this month in time for deployment for fire season.

- Fire Station 9. We are proceeding with our back-up plans to design a new station on the current Fire Station 9 site at 209 Center Street in Pacheco. The site has some challenges with the nearby creek and flood plain. We have met with the selected architect to kick off the project.

We will simultaneously continue conversations with Airport staff and Public Works in hopes of a future aviation site for fire at the airport on the already identified site.

- Fire Station 90. Site plans and floor plans have been established, and we have engaged the City of Brentwood. Specific electrical and communications equipment plans are in process. Late summer, the bridging documents should be complete and ready for bidding.



- Fire Station 94. Lot line adjustments on both sides of the project are in process. These need to be finalized in order to release the architect on the footprint of the newly adjusted lot. We will use the same architect for bridging documents at Fire Station 90, also in Brentwood. Making modifications to the lot line on both sides would increase the functionality of the fire station.

This station will also be constructed using the design build method.



***Very preliminary rendering of Downtown Brentwood Fire Station 94*

- Contra Costa Regional Fire Communications Center. The architect has submitted buildable plans, for the remodel of the communications center, to the City of Pleasant Hill for plan review. The goal is to go out to bid in summer 2023. This remodel will greatly enhance our ability to process and dispatch 911 emergency calls for service.