

February 2017 Newsletter Footnotes

¹ In December 2016, the LACoFD Planning Division Chief explained that the current parcel tax funds the minimum level of service that it deems to be safe and responsible, and further explained the consequences of dropping below that minimum level. She stated the District “*entered into the contract with PVE in 1986 at the minimum service level. Palos Verdes Estates is somewhat isolated, with few surrounding resources due to the Pacific coast bordering a major part of Palos Verdes Estates, as well as the circuitous road network in the PV Peninsula. Being minimally staffed, there is no other service configuration we can offer Palos Verdes Estates. The City is currently minimally staffed as follows:*

- *The 3-person engine company is constantly staffed with one captain, one firefighter specialist, and one firefighter/paramedic. The firefighter/paramedic acts as a firefighter when assigned to the engine company, and he/she rotates with paramedics on the paramedic squad, so that PVE has two operating paramedics at all times. The captain and firefighter specialist are certified EMTs.*
- *The 2-person paramedic squad is constantly staffed with two paramedic firefighters.*

The next closest paramedic squad is housed at Fire Station 106 in Rolling Hills Estates. If the Paramedic Squad was eliminated, the response times from Station 106 to areas of Palos Verdes Estates would exceed 12 minutes, and the prolonged response times would jeopardize lives. It would also diminish service in Rolling Hills Estates, which we would not authorize. The alternative of having three paramedics on the engine company is not a service configuration we offer, nor would we operate in such a configuration since the receiving hospital is not located in Palos Verdes Estates. During patient transport, Palos Verdes Estates would be unprotected.

Our agreement, Section III. Funding, (C) indicates services would not be performed unless Palos Verdes Estates has appropriated sufficient funds to cover the annual fee. At risk is the possibility that Palos Verdes Estates would be in default of the agreement if funding is not available. Default of the agreement would place our future service, as well as the 80 percent cost share in a new Station 2, in serious jeopardy.” (Source: December 15, 2016 email from LACoFD Planning Division Chief)

² The City of Hermosa Beach, with a very similar service and staffing levels, provides Fire and Paramedic Services with in-house personnel at a current cost of approximately \$6.0 million per year. Due to continual cost increases, the condition of the station, and staffing considerations, the City of Hermosa Beach is currently evaluating if LACoFD is a lower, long-term sustainable option for Fire and Paramedic Services. If Palos Verdes Estates contracted with the City of Torrance for Fire and Paramedic Services, the cost would generally and roughly be \$12.1 million per year. (Source: March 28, 2016 email from Torrance City Manager)

³ Budget presentation herein is for illustrative purposes only. The City Council would direct the appropriate budget reductions to be implemented.

⁴ This does not include loss of interest income from reserves used to meet short-term contract obligations nor does this anticipate a potential increase in revenue from the implementation of new or increased fees-for-service.

⁵ Includes use of PVE Police Headquarters serving as a Community Center from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; 26,762 hours of service; 22 total personnel; and response time approximately 5 minutes per emergency call. (Source: September 2016 LASD quote)

⁶ Includes use of PVE Police Headquarters serving as a Community Center from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; 33,436 hours of service; 28 total personnel; and response time approximately 5 minutes per emergency call. (Source: September 2016 LASD quote)

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