

DRAFT – 9/10/18 dp

LOS ALTOS HILLS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT

COMMUNITY REPORT FY 2017-2018

To the Los Altos Hills County Fire District Community:

As we move into the new fiscal year of 2018 - 2019, it is worthwhile to reflect on what the District accomplished in FY 2017-2018. The public and elected officials expect accountability of all persons entrusted with the use of public dollars.

The District's mission is to protect the lives, property and environment within the District from fires, disasters and medical emergencies or incidents – through education, community participation, prevention and emergency response services.

This Report summarizes the highlights of the District's efforts from 2017--2018 to fulfill our mission.

Priority Core Programs:

- **Fire Contract Agreement:** Renewed the Fire and Emergency Medical Services Agreement between the City of Los Altos and Los Altos Hills County Fire District and Santa Clara County Central Fire Protection District. On November 15, 2016 the Los Altos City Council unanimously approved the 10 year 2017-2026 Fire and Emergency Medical Services Agreement, a contract that renewed a three-way agreement between County Fire, Los Altos Hills County Fire District (LAHCFD) and the City of Los Altos. LAHCFD also ratified the agreement Tuesday, November 23. Santa Clara County's Board of Supervisors, which directs County Fire, also ratified the agreement. The agreement stipulates that County Fire will continue to provide fire suppression services, paramedic transport services and community education for emergency preparedness services to Los Altos and LAHCFD.
- **Fuel Management** – High priority of fuel management due to wildland fire threats through monitoring & enforcement of weed & brush abatement; Dead Tree Removal Program. Due to the drought, continued in depth-review of our tree fuel management program will be maintained. Our goal is to minimize the fuel load in our wild land interface by removing dead pine trees and Eucalyptus trees.
- **Fire Flow Infrastructure** –Evaluation of options to improve the provision of fire flow water to fight fires is a top priority of the District. To that end a study of water lines was undertaken in 2017-18 to assess adequacy of fire flows to improve and prevent seismic outages. Based on the results of that study, a joint public works project will be undertaken in 2018 with Purissima Hills Water District to upgrade and improve fire flows in Los Altos Hills County Fire District. Additional efforts are underway to explore options with CA Water.
- **Disaster Preparedness** – Support development for Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT); and transition of training oversight to Office of Emergency Services

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- **2015-2020 Strategic Plan Implementation of Goals** – Addressing water issues of fire flow; administrative oversight; New Commissioner Orientation; development and approval for General Manager position to assist in evolving complexity of negotiating and implementing interagency joint public work contracts.

As always, the Commission appreciates receiving comments from our citizens on ways to improve our services and programs.

Respectfully submitted,

*George K. Tyson, President
Los Altos Hills County Fire District*