



 **Fire Chiefs Report**
 *April 14, 2021*

Fire Station Maintenance

- Chief Williams provided a brief update on ongoing fire station maintenance projects.
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JPA Updates

- Chief Dutch has participated in several meetings regarding the Unfunded Accrued Liability (UAL) legacy costs and evaluation of the current JPA contract. Discussions have focused on cost allocation methodology, administration rates, UAL percentages, and operational components. Additional meetings are planned. There is potential to dissolve the current contract and enter a new agreement, which would require Board approval.
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Amador Plan for Station 20

- I will be meeting with Chief Blankenheim on Friday to review and sign the agreement. Special thanks to Chief Blankenheim for his assistance in completing this agreement.
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American Rescue Plan Act

- The American Rescue Plan Act, signed into law on March 11th, provides \$1.9 trillion in coronavirus relief to State and Local Governments. Approximately \$65 billion is allocated to counties, with El Dorado County receiving roughly \$37 million. Specific guidelines for fund allocation are still forthcoming. Fire districts are collaborating with the County CAO's office to align on needs and funding requests. Unlike previous relief packages, the timeline for these funds extends through 2024. We are compiling a prioritized list of needs and will submit a request once guidance is finalized.
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Hiring Update

- Nine candidates are currently progressing through the pre-employment process, with two additional prospects under consideration.
 - The pre-employment process is being expedited to onboard new personnel as quickly as possible.
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City of Placerville

- Continued collaboration with City staff through attendance at staff and City Council meetings.
 - Appreciation is extended for the joint meeting with the Placerville City Council regarding the public safety building project. This is a significant initiative that addresses the facility needs of both firefighters and City police officers.
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Fire Prevention Update

- Crews are actively conducting annual defensible space inspections district-wide.
 - Captain Stirling and Captain Shepard are reviewing prevention bureau processes with the goal of modernization and streamlining.
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District Information

- Construction on Engine 17 at Pierce is underway, with a projected completion in May 2021. Project progress photos are being shared via social media.
- The Pollock Pines Camino Fire Safe Council installed a new defensible space sign at Station 21.
- I have participated in Harvest Season Traffic meetings, alongside City and Cal Trans representatives, to address traffic impacts in the Camino area and Highway 50 in Placerville. These ongoing efforts aim to identify solutions to reduce congestion.
- A community meeting and public education event is scheduled for May 15th in Strawberry, with Captain Shepard and Engine 17 in attendance.
- The LAFCO process for island annexations will be on the April 28th agenda. Pending landowner ballot results, this may conclude the process.
- Our request for \$68,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) funds to offset tourism-related costs was approved by the County. We are refining processes to better document tourism impacts on the District. If funded again next year, we anticipate providing a more detailed report and request.
- Chief Williams and I held an online meeting with the US Forest Service regarding the rent/use agreement for Station 16 (Kyburz). The current agreement requires updating to better cover operational costs.

- Regarding the shared service agreement with Diamond Springs, internal challenges within Diamond Springs have led us to respectfully pause the partnership while they work through these issues. Our Fire Prevention Officers continue to maintain networking and support relationships with Diamond Springs and other County FPOs, including backup Chief Officer assistance.