

CLACKAMAS FIRE DISTRICT #1



August 25, 2008

Information Regarding Clackamas Fire District #1

South End Fire Station Update

Clackamas Fire District #1's Station 17 (South End) opened its doors for service to the community of Oregon City on July 1, 2008 for around-the-clock fire and emergency medical coverage. On that day, over 150 employees, citizens and dignitaries took part in an opening ceremony.

The month of July was a busy month for the new station and fire personnel assigned there.

Squad 17 responded on a total of 73 alarms during the month of July, an average of 3 per shift. These alarms consisted of:

- 19 fire responses
- 40 emergency medical aids
- 4 motor vehicle crashes
- 8 public assists
- 2 move-ups

Squad 17 was also called to provide mutual aid assistance to neighboring Canby Fire District for two serious motor vehicle accidents with help from Life Flight medical helicopter.

Daily activities for the crews at Squad 17 included 39.5 hours of training, hydrant maintenance, area familiarization drills, map updates, fire station projects and details, and station tours.

We have been well-received by the public since moving in July 1st. Citizens have stopped by to "check us out" and say how thankful they are for us being here. In fact, there have been several comments about how fast our response times have been in the South End area.

On behalf of all the firefighters at Station 17, we are very proud to serve the citizens of Oregon City.

Lt. Rob Rector



More Firefighters to be Hired

In April, the Fire District was awarded the SAFER (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) Grant in the amount of \$1.26 million, which will be allocated over four years. The purpose of the grant is to enhance local fire departments' abilities to comply with staffing, response and operation standards established by NFPA 1710. The Fire District received applications from more than 70 candidates for the lateral entry firefighter positions. Applicants were from Oregon, Washington, California, Arizona and even as far away as Iowa. Due to only having six months from the time the SAFER Grant was awarded to the time the firefighters need to be placed in the stations, applicants needed to currently be trained firefighters with other agencies. The District has made 13 conditional offers of employment for potential new firefighters. They are currently going through the pre-employment process.

Oregon City Update

The purchase of the Hilltop and South End Fire Stations has been completed. All documents have been signed and recorded. The John Adams Fire Station will be leased from the City by the Fire District.

Fire District Survey

Much of the Fire District's success can be attributed to our commitment to common goals shared by all Fire District members. These goals are outlined in our Strategic Plan. The Fire District has been guided by a strategic plan for over ten years now, and we are currently working on an update to guide us in the future.

Please take ten minutes to complete a survey about our services. You can do this on-line, www.clackamasfire.com, or you can pick up a paper copy of the survey at any of our community fire stations and offices. You can complete it at our location, or we will provide a postage-paid envelope so you can mail it to us when have completed it.

The information you provide is being gathered, evaluated and reported to the Fire District's staff and Board of Directors by an independent organization that assures accuracy with the information and anonymity for you.

OSHA Inspection

The Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OR-OSHA) conducts inspections of agencies every few years. The purpose of OR-OSHA is to advance and improve workplace safety and health for all workers. On August 18, an inspector from OR-OSHA conducted an inspection of the Fire District. The inspection went well and the inspector was very impressed with the employees and the organization's attitude towards safety. Thank you to Safety Officer Dave Phillips, Battalion Chief Ken Horn and the employees who were interviewed. Safety Officer Phillips

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has been very diligent in ensuring that the most up-to-date safety standards are observed by the District and that the most updated information is available to all employees. This was the inspector's first audit of a fire service agency, so the Fire District set the bar high for the fire agencies that will be audited next.

Window Lock Campaign

Recently, after several incidents of children falling out of second and third story windows, Canby Fire District and the Clackamas Fire District met with local media at the Oregon City Home Depot. Together, we wanted to distribute information about the use of window locks. These are very inexpensive devices that mount onto a window frame and only allow the window to open so far. These devices are a true lifesaver. They still allow for the window to be open enough for air flow, but not far enough for a child to fall out. After the story ran on local stations, the Vice-President of Home Depot Inc. heard about the story and wanted to donate hundreds of these devices to the community through the fire departments. The Clackamas Emergency Services Foundation and Firefighters Local 1159 also stepped up and bought hundreds more to put onto fire engines across the County. This is a great example of the community, local business and local fire services working together to do great things for the citizens we serve.

National Night Out

National Night Out is the largest single event that the Fire District attends. There were a total of 17 separate events that fire apparatus and crews attended. There were 15 different events on one night within a three hour time period. Some crews did attend more than one event, which kept them busy.

The Fire District has been attending these events for many years. We are always well received and the crews always enjoy the time spent with the citizens they serve. Many events have food

and entertainment, and sometimes the fire crews are the entertainment. This relationship with our neighbors and citizens is solidified and expanded at this event every year. Many questions about the Fire District are answered and a greater understanding of how neighborhood associations and the Fire District work together is achieved.

During National Night Out the crews open up the fire trucks and fire engines and allow children and adults to see up close the equipment that is carried on the different pieces of apparatus. Sometimes, the crews will pull fire hose and let anyone squirt some water to get a feel for the job these crews do each day. Also, important prevention messages are relayed to our citizens and many times literature, stickers, plastic fire helmets and other items are passed out as a reminder to practice good fire and life safety.

As always, we are proud to serve the citizens of this Fire District and try to attend as many events as we can. Please give us at least three weeks notice if there is an event you would like to see us attend and we will do our best to make that happen. If you have any questions about the Fire District and how we operate or what we could do better, never hesitate to call us and we will listen. Our Community Liaison Officer is Steve McAdoo and his office number is 503-742-2693.



LOCAL STATION ACTIVITIES

See station summary.

District-wide

Total number of calls during July = 1,383

Total number of calls January – July 2008 – 9,162

