

COUNTY OF EL DORADO

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April 21, 2020

Mr. Francis Edwards
Chair, Board of Directors
Garden Valley Fire Protection District
P.O. Box 408
Garden Valley, CA 95633

Dear Chairman Edwards:

This is in response to your letters, dated February 24, 2020, in which you requested, on behalf of the Garden Valley Fire Protection District Board of Directors, financial assistance from the County of El Dorado. While sympathetic to your district's struggles, the County is not able to offer support in the manner requested at this time.

As you are aware, the Board of Supervisors designated an ad hoc committee of two of its members to address funding and sustainability of fire and emergency medical services within the County. This ad hoc committee and the Chief Administrative Officer have facilitated several meetings of the local fire districts to discuss long-term solutions. The consistent theme throughout these discussions has been to encourage organizational efficiencies and consider the fire service as a countywide system. The Board has offered its support to assist districts with reorganizations or infrastructure improvements that would further the goals of increased collaboration and efficiency.

It is our understanding that the Board of Directors, at its February 5, 2020 meeting, was presented with several options that would have enhanced interagency coordination and system efficiencies, and chose not to pursue any of those opportunities. Should the Board of Directors choose to reconsider one of the options presented at its February meeting or bring forth another proposal that furthers the goals of organizational efficiency and system-wide thinking, we would be very amenable to considering ways in which the County could assist in those efforts.

We look forward to continued discussions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian K. Veerkamp".

Brian Veerkamp
Chair, Board of Supervisors