

County of El Dorado Joe Harn, Auditor-Controller 330 Fair Lane Placerville, CA 95667

Mr. Harn,

The El Dorado County Fire Protection District is requesting \$600,000 of development impact mitigation funds, to expand and create necessary living spaces at fire station #17, located at 6430 Pony Express Trail, Pollock Pines.

History of Station 17

Station 17 was originally designed and built for the Pollock Pines Volunteer Fire Department in 1956, to support the local volunteer firefighters. In 1973, the Pollock Pines Fire Department entered into an agreement with El Dorado County to house a medic unit at the fire station, along with the Fire Chief. In 1982 there was an addition made to the station, which added a new apparatus bay allowing for the previous apparatus bays to be repurposed for interior spaces for the firefighters. The fire station at that time was staffed with a medic unit and one firefighter. In 1988 the fire district increased the daily staffing with an additional firefighter for a total of 4 personnel on duty. In January of 2021, the district increased the staffing level on Engine 17 to 3 personnel to meet increased population and demands for service. The original design and intent of the fire station was not meant to provide adequate living spaces and necessary facilities to meet the needs of the now five firefighters that are on duty daily.

Population & Development Growth within Pollock Pines

Over the years that Station 17 has served the community of Pollock Pines, there has been a significant increase in population. The increase in population has a direct correlation to the increase in structures, both residential and commercial. Historical population for Pollock Pines:

- 1980 1,941
- 1990 4,291
- 2000 4,728
- 2010 6,871
- 2020 7,156

The Pollock Pines community has seen an increase of residents from 2000 to 2020 of 52.3%.



In conjunction with the increase in population, additional structures have also been built to meet the demands of the increased population. The following data was obtained from the County Building Department showing the building permits for structures within the Pollock Pines community:

- 2012 43
- 2016 52
- 2021 66

Increases in Calls for Service

The community of Pollock Pines has seen a steady increase in population and development of residential housing, commercial development and supportive facilities over the past years. The increase of residents and development has a direct correlation to the call volume and demands placed on not only the firefighters at Station 17, but the surrounding fire companies as well. Station 17 has seen the following increases in call volume:

2010 – 1,370 2015 – 2,327 2020 – 1,948 (Covid-19, initial onset had a significant decrease in calls)

Proposed Increases to Station 17

The current configuration of Station 17 is not conducive to the daily operational needs of 5 firefighters working 48-hour shifts. The station has undergone several attempts at rearranging spaces to increase functionality of the facility, however, the station lacks the basic necessities to accommodate 24-hour staffing with firefighters. The increased population and development within Pollock Pines has created a need for additional firefighters, however, the station is not able to meet the needs of this staffing increase. Our plans for creating necessary living spaces and accommodations include:

- Adding an additional bathroom / shower
- Adding a kitchen and dining area to meet staffing levels
- Creating additional dormitory spaces accommodate increased staffing level
- Addition to Fire Captains office
- Adding a laundry and cleaning room for personnel and equipment

With the increases to the population, emergency responses, calls for service, residential and commercial buildings within the Pollock Pines area, there was clear need to increase our staffing levels over the years to meet these demands. The growth within the community has provided the funding through development impact mitigation fees to



offset the construction costs associated with this project to accommodate the increased staffing, now required to meet the increased demand for services.

It is important that the district is able to fund this project using our development impact mitigation fees. The need to add and create areas at the fire station are directly tied to the increased development of residential and commercial buildings within the Pollock Pines Community and surrounding areas serviced by Station 17.

The El Dorado County Fire Protection District remains committed to protecting the lives, properties, and environment for the citizens within our communities. The creation of additional necessary living spaces within the fire station will increase the ability of our firefighters to effectively meet the needs of the communities they serve.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Tim Cordero Fire Chief

CC: Jennifer Franich, Principal Management Analyst File



June 29, 2022

County of El Dorado Don Ashton, Chief Administrative Officer 330 Fair Lane Placerville, CA 95667

Mr. Ashton,

The El Dorado County Fire Protection District is requesting \$600,000 of development impact mitigation funds, for the purchase of a new ladder truck. The ladder truck will be placed at Station 28, 3860 Ponderosa Road, Shingle Springs, CA 95682. This is a new piece of equipment, 105' ladder truck, expanding our service capabilities within the fire district. The cost of the ladder truck is estimated at \$1.2 million.

History Of The Need For A New Ladder Truck

The establishment and subsequent commercial development within the business park in Shingle Springs, south of highway 50 has created discussions within our district for the need of a ladder truck to service this new development for several years. Currently, the response for a ladder truck to this area within our district would be from our fire station in Placerville, or mutual aid from Diamond Springs or El Dorado Hills.

In addition to the commercial development in Shingle Springs, there is also significant development underway at the Red Hawk Casino, with the addition of a multi-story hotel and entertainment center built upon their parking garage. We have also experienced commercial growth within other areas of the district, with several hotel and apartment complexes in process. Thus, creating a need to expand our capabilities with an additional ladder truck.

Funding Sources

El Dorado County Fire Protection District has a contract for fire protection with the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians since 2008. The current construction underway within the Red Hawk Casino, has increased our need to expand our apparatus fleet to include an additional ladder truck. The Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians property is a Sovereign Nation and not subject to fees such as our development impact fees. The Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians has recognized the impacts to our district with the new construction and has committed to contribute 50% or \$600,000 of the cost of a new ladder truck for the district. Our fire district is requesting \$600,000 of development impact mitigation funds to cover the remaining 50% for the purchase of a new ladder truck.



Summary

The El Dorado County Fire Protection District has taken a proactive approach to funding our fire apparatus, with the Board of Directors approving annual allocations to the apparatus account. Unfortunately, the district does not have the financial depth to fund this account at a level necessary to include additional apparatus beyond our frontline fleet of Type 1 and Type 3 fire engines. The generous support from the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, coupled with the commercial development within the district has provided the ability for the district to expand our fire apparatus fleet and enhance the level of service to the community and surrounding fire districts.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Tim Cordero Fire Chief

CC: File