

FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF LOMPOC: A PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

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PROJECT OBJECTIVE

Provide a plan that supports future capital, operational, and administrative decision-making and budgeting so Lompoc's fire services remain efficient, responsive, and cost-effective.

FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES

- Fire Prevention
- Code Enforcement
- Fire Suppression
- Emergency Medical Response
- Dispatching & Communications
- Rescue
- Hazardous Materials Response
- Disaster Response Planning
- Maintenance

GENERAL PLAN PROVIDES POLICIES

- Public Services Element
 - Goal 4 Minimize loss of life and reduce injuries due to fires and medical emergencies
 - Goal 5 Minimize property damage due to fires
 - Goal 9 Provide, safe, attractive, and efficiently designed facilities to serve public needs

POLICIES, CONT'D.

■ Safety Element

- Goal 1 Prevent injury, death, social, and economic disruption resulting from an extraordinary emergency
- Goal 3 Ensure adequate fire protection in wildland fire hazard areas while maintaining protection of biologically sensitive habitats
- Minimize risks associated with seismic activity

PRIMARY CONCLUSIONS

- FD provides effective and economical services
- Lompoc experiences a moderate level of service demands
- Major structure fires or other emergencies are relatively rare occurrences
- Urban-wildland interface fire threat could increase
- Great majority of calls are for EMS
- FD needs additional resources and staff to meet growth and increasing demands
- FD's facilities are inadequate to serve its area

CONCLUSIONS, CONT'D.

- Engines, vehicles and equipment are adequate, BUT tow vehicle and brush truck need to come on line
- Code enforcement services are adequate, but organizational structure is unusual
- City should consider using built-in systems (sprinklers, etc.) to limit need for more response resources

CONCLUSIONS, CONT'D.

- Cooperation with neighboring agencies is good, BUT governing agreements need updating
- Funding mechanisms need further evaluation to finance services in new areas
- The 911/Dispatch Center's operations need more FD involvement and internal coordination

ROA ANALYZED 10 SERVICES

- Response Times: Effectiveness and Accountability
- Personnel Costs and Staffing Methods
- Current Response Services
- Emergency Service Demands and Responses
- FD Facilities
- FD Apparatus, Vehicles, and Equipment

SERVICES ANALYSIS, CONT'D.

- Building and Fire Life Safety Program
- Mutual Aid, Automatic Aid, and Cooperative Agreements
- 911 Dispatch and Communications Services
- Emergency Management Services Program

A RECOMMENDED IMPLEMENTATION ACTION PLAN

- Current substation should be closed and be replaced with a new and larger station on/near the airport
- To maintain adequate staff, the City needs to determine if it will use constant staffing or a relief staffing (3 costs are offered)
- 8 other recommendations include:

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN, CONT'D.

- More FD command and management staff may be needed in the future
- The FD could benefit from some internal team-building and communications training
- Cooperative and other aid agreements should be reviewed and updated
- Fire Station 1 should be evaluated for its seismic vulnerability

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN, CONT'D

- Formal FD participation in managing dispatching/communications services is needed
- Dispatching/communications staff duties and assignments need reviewing
- FD should examine how 911 center's MIS can be used to improve services
- City should continue to regularly evaluate codes and standards, including requiring sprinklers in new areas.

THANK YOU!

Vern Hamilton and I look forward to discussing our recommended plan and to answering your questions.