

**REPORT
FOR SHFPD BOARD MEETING MARCH 6, 2024**

TO: SHFPD Board of Directors
FROM: Rich Shotall, President
SUBJECT: Station 20 Supplemental Funding

RECOMMENDATION:

President Shortall recommends that the Board authorize Director Tom Finn to negotiate a contract with the Town of San Anselmo to enhance emergency response capability from Fire Station 20 on Butterfield Road.

BACKGROUND:

The Ross Valley Fire Department has approved expanding fire apparatus staffing to 3 firefighters per engine company. This staffing model is consistent with minimum staffing levels in all Marin Fire Departments. In order to accommodate the additional staffing, each Ross Valley fire station will require modifications to existing facilities.

Station 20 requires additional sleeping quarters and some infrastructure improvements. These design changes will also create much needed space on the apparatus floor to eliminate the need to back the apparatus in from Butterfield Road which obstruct traffic and at times creates a safety concern. In addition, space will be created to deploy a new four wheel drive response vehicle equipped with a fire pump/hose, water and space to evacuate two patients on backboards.

At this time there is not a piece of equipment at Station 20 that can access the steeper fire roads leading to the ridgetops that surround Sleepy Hollow. There have been several recent incidents where there were delays in response for medical calls. Medical evacuations have sometimes required use of a helicopter with limited terrain for landing. The new four wheel drive vehicle will be able to provide a quick attack on a small fire and rapid evacuation of patients.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Towns of San Anselmo and Fairfax will provide the necessary funding for improvements at Stations 19 and 21. This proposal will authorize a negotiation between the Town of San Anselmo and the SHFPD to share the expense of the required Station 20 improvements. The overall cost of the project is \$2.4M. The SHFPD share is projected as \$1M. When complete, these improvements will extend the useful life of the Station 20 years or more and improve service from Station 20 to the residents of the Sleepy Hollow Fire Protection District.