

WINCHESTER STATION

Serving Los Gatos Since 1965



**SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT
TOWN OF LOS GATOS MONUMENT SIGN**

Executive Summary

The Santa Clara County Central Fire Protection District is proposing to negotiate the purchase of the last two lots (lots B & C), located under the current Winchester station on the corner of Lark Ave and Winchester Blvd. The District recently contracted with Valbridge Property Advisors (Attachment A) to conduct an up-to-date appraisal of the two parcels which show the current appraised value of both parcels. With the new appraisal in mind, the District would like to move forward with the Town in negotiations for the sale of Parcels B and C to the District. This will allow the district to build a modern fire station capable of housing critical resources for the Town of Los Gatos. This includes the ability to house wildfire specific resources that protect the wildland urban interface areas of the town.

BACKGROUND

The Santa Clara County Central Fire Protection District has been proudly serving the town or Los Gatos since 1970. Over the years, the Fire District has evolved with the town and the changing needs of the citizens we serve. Some highlights include moving District headquarters to the town in the 1980's, the addition of



*Current Station Built in 1965

paramedics on all apparatus in the 1990's, increased staffing levels for both emergency operations staff and support staff, becoming the first department in the county to staff an all-district wildfire response strike team and becoming the first internationally accredited fire agency within the county of Santa Clara.



*Type III Wildland Engine

Currently, Fire District administration is focused on replacing critical infrastructure and equipment for the communities we serve. This includes the recent purchase of six new wildland firefighting type III engines, a new water tender, and three new quick

response wildland fire type VI engines. We currently have five new type I engines, a new hazardous materials unit, and a new aerial tiller unit on order. In addition to increasing the response capability of the fleet, the Fire District is in the permitting phase to build two new fire stations; one in Redwood Estates and one in Monte Sereno.



*Type VI Quick Response Engine

*2500 Gallon Water Tender

On the horizon is the replacement of the current Winchester Fire Station. This station serves the northern part of the town of Los Gatos and houses a truck company and a urban search and rescue (USAR) unit, which is part of our special operations task force. The current station was built in 1965 and was designed to house a single company (4 or less personnel). A lot has changed in the town since 1965 and the current station needs to be rebuilt to better support our community and house the critical resources needed for today's risks.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

The new Winchester fire station will represent a 12-15 million dollar investment into the town of Los Gatos for critical infrastructure that will support emergency operations today and into the future. This investment will provide the town with a state of the art fire station designed to support and house additional personnel and equipment. This includes the ability to house wildfire specific emergency vehicles designed to address the growing needs of wildfire protection in the town's wildland urban interface area. The new station will be built to essential facility standards ensuring the station will be in service and available for the public after a large area disaster such as an earthquake.



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The District would seek input from the town on final station design elements to ensure the overall look and feel of the new station represents the town it protects. Once the additional two lots are purchased and consolidated into one parcel, the District will contract with an architectural firm to begin programming and design of the new station. The District estimates the new station will be built within 2-3 years after the procurement of the architectural firm.