

Untitled

Commission Meeting

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Comments:

Esteemed Representatives,

Please consider the following points regarding your decision on LaMadera Fire Station:

1. East Mountain fire response/resources will decline significantly for both structure and Wild land fires.

a.) LaMadera has served as a valuable water source for fires throughout the East Mountains, including house fires in the Sandoval fire district, structure fires both North and South sides of NM14 in Bernalillo county, Motel fire Rt 66, Tijeras House fire, etc. This service was provided by two tenders with firefighters and support teams capable of drafting and shuttling water. A majority of fires on this side of the mountain do not have access to hydrants and rely on a team approach to shuttling water to fires, with all the EM fire teams pitching in to support. A typical large fire will see tenders from Bernalillo, Tijeras, Santa Fe, even Stanley and Moriarty. The LaMadera fire station was an integral part of that team.

b.) The loss of a Type 6 engine and Tactical tender staffed by 11 Red Card certified wild land firefighters and three engine bosses. This team has backed up the forest service fire team, been on out of state deployments, supported Santa Fe, Bernalillo, and Torrance county brush fires as well as those in district.

How can we explain eliminating an inexpensive, volunteer fire suppression resource, particularly if some tragedy were to happen?