

# Santa Rosa Fire Station #5 Resiliency & Relocation Project

## Design Concept Narrative

### ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN NARRATIVE:

The design and construction of this new fire station offers unique and challenging opportunity to create an exciting, modern, functional, and comfortable facility for the City of Santa Rosa. This station will be built to last, decrease response time, and provide the community with a landmark structure. The proposed facility not only meets the operational requirements for the fire fighters working out of the station but provides an iconic civic structure and immense value to the public.

This relocation of the permanent Fire Station 5 to the proposed site will improve service, allow for upstaffing, and serve as a forward command post in the event of large emergencies in the future. The station is designed in accordance with WUI (Wildland Urban Interface) requirements to provide maximum fire resilience to help protect and serve the community.

Our approach to the design of this project minimizes adverse effects on the exterior environment, enhances the quality of the indoor environment, and minimizes consumption of energy, water, and construction materials.

Fire Station interior space program includes 6 sleeping quarters inclusive of a captain's dormitory suite and 3 additional single occupancy restrooms with showers. The design proposes individual restrooms to easily accommodate variations in gender makeup of the future staff. Additionally included is a triple wide apparatus bay, publicly accessible lobby area, office space, fitness room, fire equipment cleaning and storage spaces. We have positioned these spaces, so they are directly accessible to a private, secure, shaded outdoor patio which accommodates a built-in BBQ, landscaping, and exterior seating.

### CIVIL DESIGN NARRATIVE:

The existing property is undeveloped and consists of moderate to steep slopes ranging from approximately 4% to 45%. The existing ground slopes to a drainage swale located along the southeastern portion of the property, which conveys stormwater to an existing culvert that ultimately discharges stormwater across Stagecoach Road. The proposed development is designed to accommodate the ranging slopes on the property and minimize development footprint by incorporating different levels of elevation for pedestrian and vehicular access. The different levels will be accomplished with the use of retaining walls, strategically located to align with the project program and existing site conditions. The multi-level approach also allows for the design to satisfy California Building Code accessibility requirements. Grading and drainage design are proposed to match existing grading and drainage patterns.

The proposed development will be served by City of Santa Rosa water and sanitary sewer utilities located within Stagecoach Road Improvements within the city right of way consists of new concrete sidewalks, driveway entrances and removal of existing medians within the public road to allow for access to the fire station.

#### LANDSCAPE DESIGN NARRATIVE:

The proposed Santa Rosa Fire Station 5 location offers a variety of borrowed landscape. While the proposed developed area is compact and efficient, the open space to the East and South offers views of natural rolling hills and an open swale and grassland. We have sited live oaks in the open space as replacement for trees lost in the fire and as mitigation for trees removed for construction. The trees are spaced to provide an area between the canopies, in keeping with defensible space requirements. The streetscape planting areas will be refreshed with new street trees and low evergreen plantings, in keeping with the defensible space guidelines and the City's standards. The proposed plant palette provides interest and green relief for pedestrians as well as opportunities for beneficial insects. We have selected plants that deer are generally not interested in. Adjacent to the building, we have proposed a restrained planting palette with more architectural, year-round interest, that will be low maintenance and thrive in an arid condition. The plant palette reflects the modernity of the building, providing textural interest against the clean lines of the architecture.

The site irrigation will be designed to meet the City Water efficient landscape ordinance as well as City Design Standards. We propose using subsurface drip irrigation for most plantings, trees will have deep root bubblers, while the storm water plantings will likely be on a high efficiency spray system. The irrigation system will be dedicated to one meter, backflow for both onsite and offsite plants. The irrigation controller will be evapotranspiration based ("SMART") and will be programmable to shut off during rain events.