FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Public Safety Subcommittee

October 24, 2023

Scott Westrope, Fire Chief

UPDATES

October 24 Updates:

- Staffing
- Fire Stations
- EOC
- Fleet
- Recruitment and Diversity Task Force
- Countywide Sale Tax Measure (proposed)

Updates under separate agenda items, October 24:

- SAFER Grant Implementation
- Vegetation Management

Future Updates, January 23

- Countywide Sale Tax Measure
- Ground Ambulance Contract and FRALS Contract

Staffing Updates

- Position Control List – 157 FTE:
- Operations
  - Two vacant positions
  - Academy in works to include SAFER employees (12)
- Fire Prevention
  - Full staffing
- Administration
  - Full staffing

Fire Stations

Fire Station 5 (Fountaingrove):

- Construction underway (grading/site preparation)
- Physical construction beginning approximately June 2024
- Estimated completion date April 2025

Fire Station 8 (Roseland):

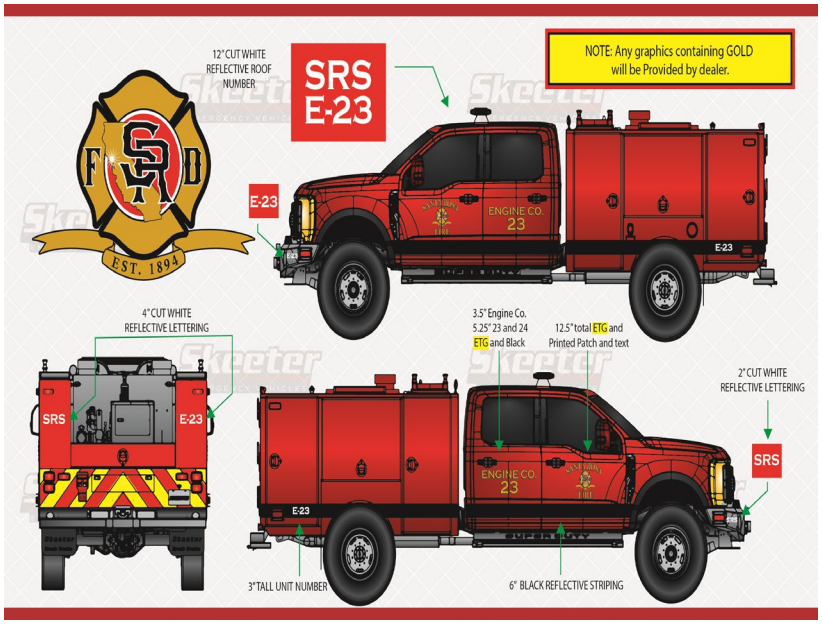
- Finalizing community feedback for Hearn Hub
- In the design phase of the design/build process
- No finite start date or completion date

Emergency Operations Center

Based on $1M federal earmark with 33% cost match

- Goal is a full time, “hot” EOC
- Project manager selected and engaged
- RFP completed to select firm to engineer and design seismic retrofit requirements
  - Currently under negotiations with selected consultant - on schedule for November pending cost and approval authority
  - Design completed within 120 days, tentatively estimated at March 2024
- Once the seismic retrofit design is complete, RFP will be issued for construction phase
  - Estimated to begin April 2024

Fleet



Current apparatus on order:

- Type 1 Fire Engines – 7
  - First arriving (2) – Spring 2024
  - Second arriving (5) – Fall 2024
- Type 6 Fire Engines – 2
  - Fall 2023
- Quick Attack Vehicles – 2
  - Purchased by the Santa Rosa Fire Foundation via a grant from the Community Fund
  - October/November 2023

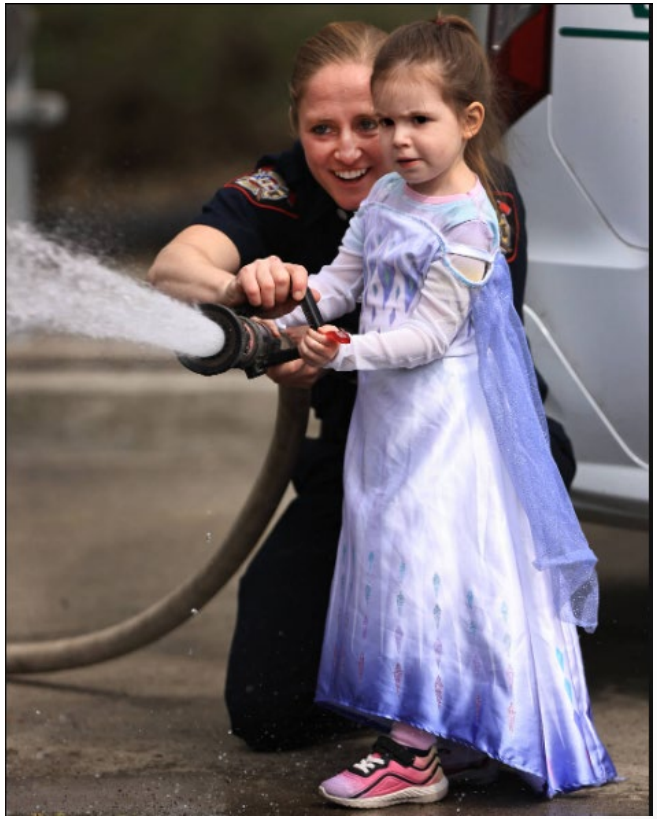
Planned orders:

- Tillered Ladder Truck – 1
  - 4-year delivery time

Recruitment and Diversity Task Force

Recruitment and Diversity Strategic Plan

- Reimagined with SEED Collaborative to the “SRFD Equity Plan”
- Developed Recruitment and Diversity Task Force (RDT)
  - Institutionalize the structure to implement, monitor, and evaluate the seven recommendations of the Equity Plan
- Enhanced engagement and outreach
  - Schools
  - Civic Organizations
- Women in Public Safety Day
- Working on funding mechanism for Explorer Post



Proposed Sales Tax Measure

Countywide Fire Service Sales Tax Measure:

- ½ cent general sales tax
- Revenue goes directly to local fire departments
- Qualified and placed on March 5, 2024 ballot

Santa Rosa to receive:

- Approximately $9M per year in direct allocation
- Additional $1.525M in savings with indirect funding
- Construct two new fire stations / one relocated station
- Hire 35 new employees:
  - Two new engine companies
  - One new heavy rescue company
  - One additional on-duty Battalion Chief
  - Two additional vegetation management inspectors

Questions?