Menlo Park Fire Protection District
Town of Atherton
Joint Meeting – April 29, 2015
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Meeting Objectives

• To maintain and improve relations
• To discuss important issues
• To better understand how the Fire District and Town each operate
• To collaboratively move forward together to better serve the community
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Menlo Fire History

• 1874 – A Fire Company was formed
• Faxon Dean Atherton was the first Fire Chief
• 1900 – First Fire Building and wagon were acquired
• 1916 – Fire District Established - More than likely because of Camp Fremont
• 2016 will be the District’s 100 year Anniversary
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Town of Atherton/Fair Oaks
- 1874 Fair Oaks – FD Atherton
- Incorporated 1923
- Population – 7,159 (2013)
- Area – 5.49 square miles
- Elevation 59 ft.
- 2,530 Housing units
- One fire station
- #1 Forbes List of most expensive zip code in the US FOR 2014 – Median price $9 million
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Fire Station 3

- 32 Almendral Avenue, Atherton
- Built 1937 - Rebuilt 1998
- Single Bay, back-in, three member crew staffing an Engine Company
- Responded to 723 incidents in 2014
  - Fires 30 (4.14%)
  - EMS 374 (51.72%)
  - Service Calls 118 (16.32%)
Fire Prevention/Code Enforcement for 2014

- 281 permits out of 1610 District wide or 17.5% were in Atherton
- Fees $116,702.16 for residential construction site reviews, basements, sprinkler systems, gates, tents and solar systems
The World of Deployment

The Fire District is:
- A ‘network’ of Fire Stations
- A configuration of response units (9)
- Uses a staffing model (25)
- Not specific to the Town (District)
- Uses a move and coverage model
- Has an elected Fire Board who appoints the Fire Chief and is responsible for policy and budget decisions
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Response Areas

- Station driven
- Geographically situated
- Time based

Goal
- 1 minute call handling
- 1 minute turn-out time
- 4 – 6.59 minute response time
- 8 minutes all units on-scene
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Response Area

- 79% of Fire Station 3”s response area is in Atherton
- The Fire District “network” covers the rest
- 5 Fire Stations directly cover the Town
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The Atherton Response Network

- Station 1 – 34% of response area
- Station 3 – 79% of response area
- Station 4 – 37% of response area
- Station 5 – 27% of response area
- Station 6 – 28% of response area
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The Larger County Network

How it works
• Common Dispatch
• Automatic Aid Agreement
• ALS Engine Companies
• Move and Cover
• Expanded Alarm Plan
Primary Response Routes

Why they are important

• Our Mission - Protection of Life and Property
• Response Times are critical
• Movement is key
• Reflex time is important and dynamic
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**Primary Routes in Atherton**

- 20 Routes or Roadways
- Critical to maintaining response times
- Important for secondary units, backfill and movement of Ambulances and Law Enforcement
- Atherton has excellent routes with minimal problems
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Response Blocks

• Computer Aided Dispatch
• 34 Blocks
• 340 Dispatch Type Codes
• Various unit response profiles or configurations
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**Incident Information**

- Tracked by category (NFPA)
- Tracked by station and unit
- Tracked by time
- Tracked District wide - Not by jurisdiction
- Tracked by Agency – Aid given and Aid received
Station Ordering

Response Block 18 (50 Deep)

- FS-05, 1, 3, 6, 11, 77, 9, 4, 2, 10, PAF-1, 12, 7, 16, 13, 18, 14, PAF-3, 8, 19, 20, 15, 26, 23, 28, PAF-6, 25, 24, 21, 27, 17, 32, 34, 58, 33, 35, 37, 38, 51, 52, 40, 64, 61, 63, 62, 41, 44, 94, 65, 71
Response Category Examples:

- Single Engine (Medical Incidents, Alarm Soundings, Odor call, Investigations)
- Traffic Accident – Two Engines, Truck and a Battalion Chief
- Full Assignment – Three Engines, Truck and a Battalion Chief
- Structure Fire – Five Engines, one Trucks, Two Battalion Chiefs
- Greater Alarm – 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th (Eight Engines, Two Trucks, Four Battalion Chiefs)
- Other Packages – Haz-Mat, Water Rescue, Air Craft Down, Shooting, etc.
Medical Incident

- March 5, 2015 (9.05 pm)
- Catalpa Drive, Atherton
- Engine 1, Battalion 1, Medic 107
- Response time 4.45 minutes
- Teenage male – Cardiac arrest
- Resuscitation started at 9.09 pm
- Transported to Stanford Hospital and Survived!
Structure Fire

Response Block 3
• Shearer Drive
• April 1, 2015 @ 4.52 am
• 3000 Square foot home fully involved in fire
• Response time 2.50 minutes
• Engines 3, 6, 5, 1, Truck 1, 9, Battalion 1 and 2
• Defensive Fire, vacant home, cause suspicious
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Vehicle vs Train

Response Block 12
• Station Lane, Atherton
• December 16, 2014 (7.31 pm)
• Response time 4.24 minutes
• Engine 3, 6, 5 Truck 1 & Battalion 1
• Non-injury, vehicle was drug 1500 ft. and vehicle and locomotive were on fire upon arrival
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**Budget in Brief**

How we efficiently use tax dollars

- Adopted Budget Revenues for 2014/2015 $34,495,500.00 (91.34% Property Tax)
- Expenditures – Wages $23,310,100.00 (68.82%)
- Operating Expenses $7,111,500.00 (21%)
- Debt Service $950,100.00 (2.8%)
- Transfers to CIP $2,500,000.00 (7.38%)
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Reserves

- Deficit Reserve $18,128,125.00
- PERs Stabilization $1,8856,233
- CIP Fund Balance $23,059,847
- Station 2 - $TBD
- Station 6 - $8,200,000.00
- Station 4 - $10,100,000.00
- Station 1 - $13,500,000.00
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**LAFCo Budget**

- Average cost per station $4,927,929.00
- 115 FTE’s
- Population 100,000
- Area 30 Square miles
- 8 Facilities
- 9 Primary Units plus reserves
Opportunities to work together – Group Discussion

• Primary response routes and traffic management
  • El Camino
  • Marsh
  • Fair Oaks
  • Almendral – Signal (HAWK)

• Emergency Preparedness – Civic Center EOC/Disaster Planning/CERT

• Information Only - Standards of Cover and Nexus Study