

CITY OF SEBASTOPOL CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM REPORT FOR MEETING OF: October 7, 2025

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To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers
From: Fire Chief Shepley Schroth-Cary
Deputy Chief Dave Bray
Subject: Informational Presentation from Gold Ridge Fire Department on First Quarter
Statistics/Volunteer Participation

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RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the City Council receive the informational presentation.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Gold Ridge Fire Department will provide an overview of first-quarter service statistics, including response activity, incident trends, and volunteer participation. The presentation is intended to keep the Council and community informed about operational performance, volunteer engagement, and progress since the transition of fire services to Gold Ridge.

BACKGROUND:

The City's reorganization of fire services to Gold Ridge Fire Protection District, represented a significant milestone in ensuring sustainable and effective fire protection for Sebastopol. Gold Ridge now has full responsibility for fire services for the City of Sebastopol to include operations, staffing, and emergency response within the City's jurisdiction, while maintaining a strong focus on volunteer participation and community engagement.

DISCUSSION:

The presentation tonight will include:

- Transition Update
- Volunteer Participation
- Station Improvements
- Fire Prevention Update
- Statistics

City Council Goals/Priorities and/or General Plan Consistency:

This agenda item represents the City Council goals/priorities as follows:

Goal 2: PUBLIC SAFETY
Strengthen the public's safety and improve the quality of life. Includes supporting our first responders (police, fire, public works), responding to emergencies, protecting people, property, and businesses, and engaging in emergency preparedness community outreach, public education and prevention activities.

Goal 4: HIGH PERFORMANCE ORGANIZATION
Emergency Preparedness/Management
Restoring public trust
Improve Public Communications

City of Sebastopol General Plan:

Goal CSF 5: Provide Effective, High Quality, and Responsive Police and Fire Services to All Areas of the City

Goal SA 3: Protect the Safety of Life and Property by Ensuring Emergency Preparedness

Action SA 3c: Continue to publicize and regularly update information at City Hall, other public locations, and via the City website related to emergency and disaster preparedness including evacuation routes and specific steps to take in the event of a flood, fire, earthquake, or other emergency

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact with receipt of the presentation.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

This item has been noticed in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and was available for public viewing and review at least 72 hours prior to schedule meeting date. The City has also used social media to promote and advertise the City Council Meeting Agenda Items.

As of the writing of this staff report, the City has not received any public comment. However, if staff receives public comment from interested parties following the publication and distribution of this staff report such comments will be provided to the City Council as supplemental materials before or at the meeting.

RESTATED RECOMMENDATION:

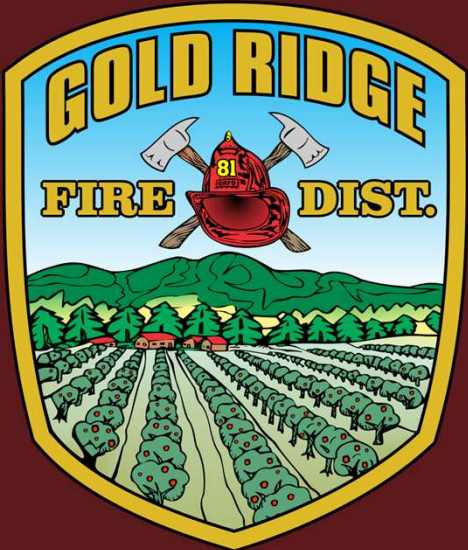
That the City Council receive the informational presentation.

CITY COUNCIL OPTION(S):

None. Item is informational Only

ATTACHMENT(S):

Presentation



FIRE DISTRICT UPDATE


10/7/2025 SEBASTOPOL CITY
COUNCIL MEETING

Presented by:
Fire Shepley Schroth-Cary and
Deputy Chief Dave Bray

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AGENDA

- Transition Update
- Volunteer Participation
- Station Improvements
- Fire Prevention Update
- Response Statistics



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VOLUNTEER PARTICIPATION

*Out of County Response
Improved Training (Zone 8 Partners)
2 FFs in Firefighter 1 Academy
1 FF in EMT Academy*

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VOLUNTEER PARTICIPATION – TRAINING JULY – SEPTEMBER 2025

- **Auto Extrication:** Cutting, Airbags, vehicle stabilization, and scenarios
- **Company Officer Development:** Wildfire and Structure Fire Response
- **SCBA:** Rescue, survival, safety, and FF drags/removal
- **VEIS:** Vent, Enter, Isolate, Search, and ladder throws
- **Structure Fire:** 1.75" and 2.5" hose lines, Salvage and Overhaul



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VOLUNTEER ATTRITION

Volunteer firefighters are community members with family and work obligations comparable to those of others.

The District's goal is to support their continued involvement by encouraging them to return to service as their schedules allow.

Joe Pogar (Age - Firefighter of the Year)

Ray Senn (Age - Firefighter of the Year)

Mitch Lamb (Age)

Saul Rodriguez (U.S. Marines)

Nate Demartini (Personal Commitments - Family)

Ethan Arrington (Nursing School - Career)

Knightley Priest (Moved to Petaluma - still GFD Volunteer)

Exit interviews were conducted with volunteers.

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STATION IMPROVEMENTS

24 Hour Staffing

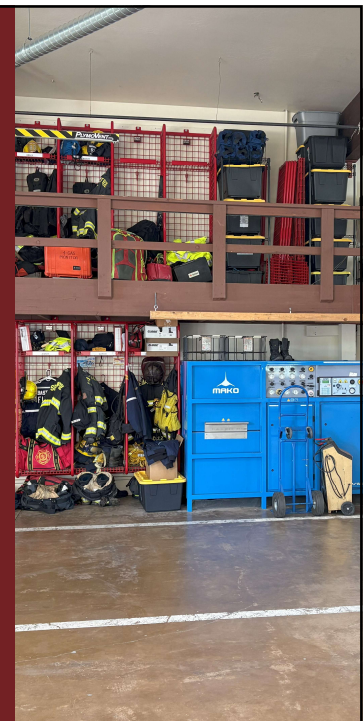
New Nozzles

New Plymovent System

Turnout Lockers

New 500# Ice Machine

Station Organization



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DORM ADDITIONS

*Three Separate Dorms
For 24 Hour Staffing*



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NEW APPARATUS BAY DOORS

*\$85,000 Improvement
(In Progress)*



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FIRE PREVENTION

- Initial challenges with program access corrected
- Contract for residential/commercial construction plan review and inspection by H&S Associates
- Full-time Inspector
- Company-level Inspections
- Hiring of additional full-time fire prevention personnel



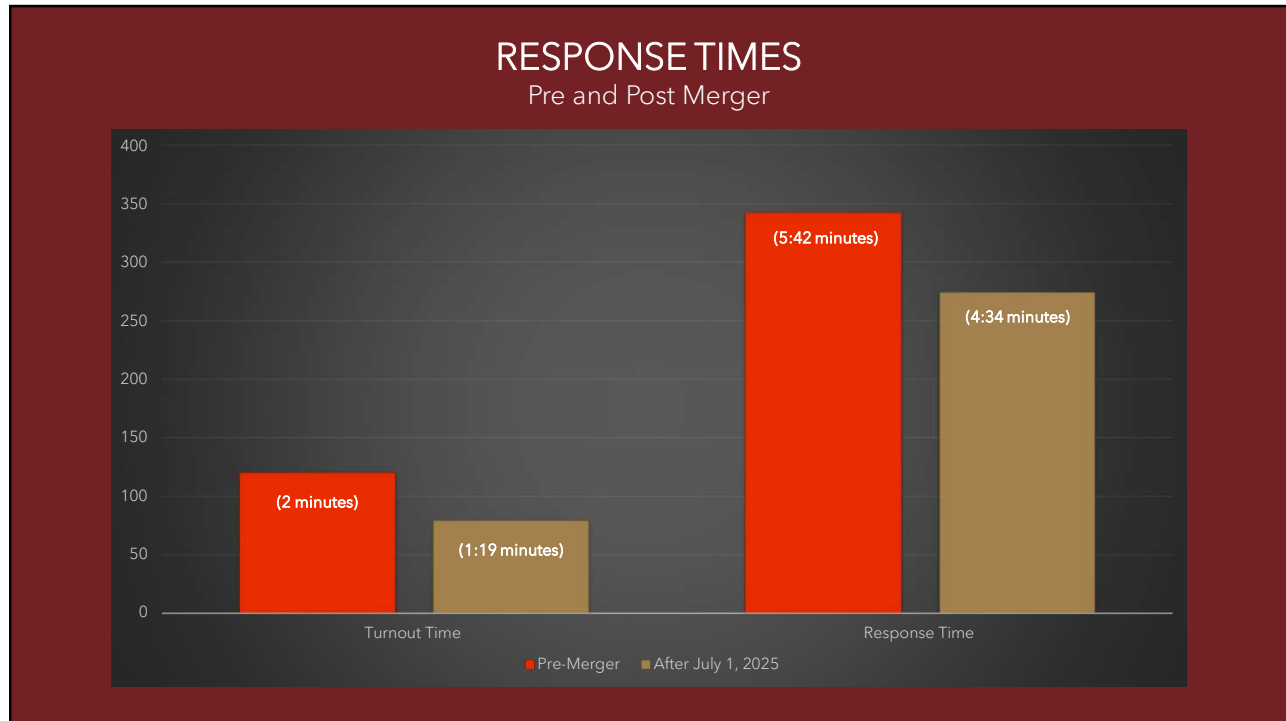
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RESPONSE STATISTICS

Every response demonstrates our readiness, efficiency, and commitment to delivering exceptional service when it matters most

Metric	July 1 - Sept. 26	Target	Actual
Call Volume	~ 3 months	N/A	345 Calls
Volunteer Response	Call Attendance	N/A	560 Volunteer Responses
Volunteer Training Hours	Total Training	Drills & Online	845 Hours
FS 83 Turnout Time	Seconds Average	120 sec (CG Study)	79 sec
FS 83 Response Time	Minute Average	5:42 min (Matrix Study)	4:34 min

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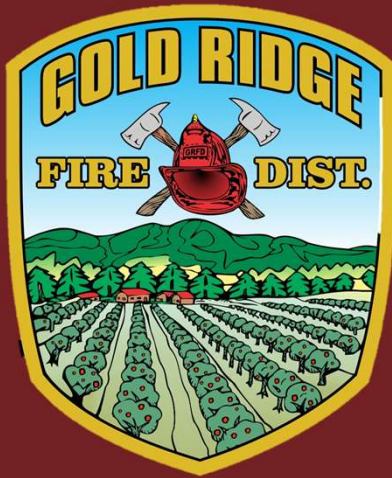
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FINAL TAKEAWAY

The City of Sebastopol and our surrounding neighbors are benefiting from improved emergency response, training, and experience of our paid and volunteer firefighters.

The image block contains three photographs. The top photo shows a fire truck with firefighters standing around it. The bottom-left photo shows firefighters working on a fire hydrant. The bottom-right photo shows a firefighter holding a fire alarm.

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THANK YOU

Fire Chief Shepley Schroth-Cary

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www.GoldRidgeFire.org