

COUNTY OF HAWAII FIRE COMMISSION
FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT
July 9, 2003

Budget

- Status quo budget for FY 2003/2004 approved. Includes:
 - Funding of 3 FEO positions for Ocean View
 - Funding for 2 Fire Prevention Inspectors
 - \$424,600 USFA grant match
 - (Kalaoa as fire station will be put in FY 04/05 budget).

Alternative Funding and Grants

- USFA grant purchase—demonstration of thermal imager.
- Deputy Chief and Accountant attending Managing Federal Grants workshop on July 9/10, 2003.
- ODP FY 2004 grant update: \$2.25 million earmarked for County of Hawaii, of which Fire Department has submitted for over \$700,000 for equipment purchases to enhance HazMat (\$360,000 for HazMat vehicle for West Hawaii), Urban Search & Rescue, and EMS.

Capital Improvement Projects

- Kalaoa Fire Station
- Fire Administration & Support Facility
- Training Facility

Promotions and Hiring

- Second hire of Firefighter Recruits scheduled for August 1, 2003.
- Recruitment for Firefighter Recruits closed June 24, 2003.
- Actively working to fill the following positions:
 - Chief Mechanic and subsequent Equipment Mechanic
 - Battalion Chief for Fire Auxiliary Services Division
 - Three Fire Rescue Specialist positions at Waiakea Fire Station

Operations Division

- KMC Closure
- Ocean View Station. Request to all personnel for transfers to position—deadline is July 22.
- Leadership Development for FEOs during July/August.

Prevention Division

- Received permission from Honolulu Fire for Plans Review and Target and High Hazard site inspections training for Fire Inspectors after July 10.
- Captain Anthony Guillermo on light duty and assigned to the Kona Prevention office.
- Night inspections conducted on June 26, 2003 (Thursday) in coordination with Liquor Control inspectors at liquor establishments in Kona. Inspections revealed blocked and obstructed exits, overcrowding and extensive use of extension cords. Will be initiating follow-up letters with merchants and maintenance inspections to ensure compliance.

Training Division

- Firefighter Recruits began their EMT training on July 7, 2003.

Volunteer Division

- Volunteer Fire Chief's meeting on July 19 at 1000 at Ocean View station.

EMS Division

- Delivery of new medic.

Fire Auxiliary Services

- Two new dispatchers continuing with their training. They are beginning to talk on the radio and answer business phones, as well as monitor 911 calls.
- Pacmers Grant: Information System Support (ISS) is working with the military on this grant. ISS sub-contracted Pacific Wireless for the project. We recently submitted to them our department's statistics on radio and vehicle resources, as well as our mission and vision statements.
- Microwave Project: Working on tying up loose ends with co-locators and lease agreements, and are holding up ordering of equipment and materials until this is complete. Looking at starting project at the end of September.

New Projects/Business

- RMS Training scheduled for August 11 – 13, 2003.

- Attended Weed & Seed Program meeting on June 16, 2003. Program's goal is to reduce crime and improve the quality of life and to have a self-sustaining community.
- Involved in West Hawaii Fuels Management Group. Meeting held July 3, 2003.
- Fourth of July
 - Fireworks Permits Issued:
 - 20 Admin
 - 4 Central
 - 3 Kona
 - Fireworks related incidents:
 - 9 brush fires
 - 1 dumpster fire
 - 1 burn to hand incident

Public Relations

- American Cancer Society Relay for Life in Hilo on July 19/20, 2003.
- Will again be involved in Hawaii Island United Way/KTA Bag Brigade during August. Police Department invited to participate.

Request to Fire Commissioners to provide HazMat orientation presentation to Commissioners at August meeting.