

COUNTY OF HAWAII FIRE COMMISSION
FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT
January 10, 2007

Budget

- FY 2007/08 Budget: Our department will be meeting with the Department of Finance to present our program and supplemental budgets on January 12, 2007. Supplementary budget requests circulated to Commissioners.

Alternative Funding and Grants

- FEMA FY 2005 Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant: (Plymo-Vent) Drawings submitted for permits; awaiting approval before installation can begin. Waiting on electrical upgrade at Central station as contractor wants to start with Central.
- FEMA FY 2004 Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant: (Burn Trailer) Manufacturer will be coming on January 16-18, 2007 to take care of rust issue and few warranty items. Awaiting signature on MOU to take trailer to airport to begin training.
- FEMA FY 2006 Fire Prevention & Safety Grant: Strategic planning committee Public Education/Public Relations working on grant proposal for fire safety & education trailer. Grant period closes on January 12, 2007.

Capital Improvement Projects

- Makalei Fire Station: Consultant contract currently being routed for execution. Allotment request for additional \$15,000 for design funds approved by Finance.
- Pahoa Fire Station: Contract should be starting soon for demolition of existing buildings, grubbing and grading.
- Fire Administration & Support Facility: Negotiating fee proposal with consultant for design.
- Central Fire Station: No new developments. Still awaiting approval to change of site use from Federal HUD (from housing to public service facility).
- Central Fire Station Retrofit Project: Notice to Proceed with construction to commence January 8, 2007 with completion on or before May 17, 2007.
- Captain Cook: Durant Media 5 consultant awaiting fee proposal, expected within a week.
- Paauilo Volunteer Station: Notice to Proceed has been initiated with Architects Pacific Inc. to proceed with the design (December 22, 2006 to May 31, 2007). Meeting held

with design consultants to determine building needs. Agreement reached with DPW to use part of the area currently fenced (area fronting H-19) for the station.

Promotions and Hiring

Active recruits include:

Open-Competitive Recruitment

Fire Fighter Recruit: Agility test has been scheduled for January 20 to obtain candidates for 36th and 37th classes.

Internal Recruitment

Fire Equipment Operator assessment being developed. As soon as assessment established will be notifying candidates.

Need to establish Special Ops BC position, then internal recruitment for BCs and fill those slots.

Emergency Operations Division

- Reviewing reimplementation of HFD-7A until the RMS program is put into effect
- Reviewing rescue protocols/procedures and revision if necessary
- Platoon Captain/BC meeting outlining department objectives for the platoon (January-February)

Support Services Division

Auxiliary Services Bureau:

FCCC:

- Master Street Addressing Guide (MSAG) meeting at Planning Department with Clayton Yugawa (head of Data Systems) to discuss resolution of MSAG 911 discrepancies, included an overview of MSAG operations. Conference call with Jayne Nantkes of Hawaiian Telcom.
- Met with HPD on co-location plans for Fire and Police Dispatch Center.
- As requested at last month's meeting, Chief provided a report on PWC changing Hawaii County over to new microwave community system. Transition going smoothly. Goal is to improve communications.
- At prior meeting, Commissioner Bertsch asked about the hardening of Pepeekeo (retrofit of tower) project by DWS. Requested we research background to determine if there is a way we can tap into DWS fund source for future projects?
Per AC Mento, at the time, Dept. of Water was the most convenient source of unobligated funds for a transfer to pay for the retrofit.

Warehouse:

- Discrepancy on MSA mask order from Fisher Safety - wrong sizes sent. Waiting for vendor to assist with correcting order.
- Partial equipment issued to Engine 21 and Engine 19. Still waiting for more equipment to come in.

Maintenance Shop:

EMS Bureau:

- Announcing the retirement of Captain Lester Inouye. We would like to thank him for his dedicated service.
- ePCR: Electronic patient care report (ePCR) training began on Dec. 04, 2006. All licensed MICTs were targeted for training. Interested EMT's and Chief Officers were encouraged to attend. "Total roll-out" date is January 16, 2007.

Prevention Inspection Bureau:

- Announcing the promotion of FF Gene Nakashima to Fire Inspector I and the hiring of retired Fire Captain Michael Matsui as HFD's fireworks auditor
- Fireworks Report: Fireworks incident statistics and fireworks permit report provided to Commission.

Training Bureau:

- 35th Class well into essentials and in second month.
- 34th Class attending EMT portion of training. All going well. Will be a few more weeks before they come out to stations.
- Captain Tracy Yanagi is back in Training.

Volunteer Section:

- Announcing the retirement of Captain Russell Enriques, we would like to thank him for his dedicated service.
- Announcing that Captain Clyde Komatsu is assuming duty as the East Hawai'i volunteer trainer and Captain Ralph Yawata as the West Hawai'i volunteer coordinator.
- Next Volunteer Chiefs meeting is on Saturday, January 13, 2007, 1000, at Aupuni Conference Room.
- Volunteer report by Tom Brandt.

New Projects/Business

- **Ocean Safety**: Meetings to be held with Ocean Safety personnel on January 9 (Hilo) and 11 (Kona). Meetings will also be scheduled for our personnel as follows:
 - West Hawaii: January 11 at 1:30 p.m., Kailua Fire Station
 - East Hawaii: January 18 at 1:00 p.m., Central Fire StationFire Commissioners will be invited to attend.
- **Fire Science – Spring Semester**: To begin January 8 through May 14. (about 6 firefighters signed up through our office) tuition to be waived; 2 wildland courses and aircraft course by Kerry Inouye.
- **Cruise Ships**: As requested by Commissioner Browne, per Chief Mento, the numbers are increasing:
 - 2004 Hilo 21 Kona 31
 - 2005 Hilo 39 Kona 54
 - 2006 Hilo 59 Kona 60

These numbers reflect the amount of EMS call for non-Hawai'i residents at Hilo and Kailua Piers, not specifically cruise ship visitors. In regards to cruise ship visitors - the Kona numbers are probably a little high – there are a lot of other visitor activities, like parasailing, dinner cruises, dive charters etc. going on at Kailua pier. It's a safe assumption that not every tourist that needs 911 on Kailua Pier is off a cruise ship. In Hilo, the only non-residents on the pier are cruise ship visitors, therefore the Hilo numbers are a better reflection of actual cruise ship medical emergencies.

- **Firewise**: Request to agendaize report by Denise Laitinen of Firewise during February meeting. She requests to provide overview of CWPP for Ocean View and Volcano.

PUBLIC EDUCATION/RELATIONS

- **Station Christmas Decorating Contest**
 - West HI: 1st - South Kohala; 2nd – Kailua; 3rd – North Kohala
 - East HI: 1st – Honokaa; 2nd – Waiakea
- **American Heart Walk**: Saturday, February 10, 0800, Liliuokalani Gardens. More info to follow.