

HAWAII FIRE COMMISSION
FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT
March 12, 2008

Budget

- FY 2008/09 Budget: Mayor sent to Council his FY 08/09 budget, which included the following for our department:
 - \$1.6 million for helicopter (Chopper 1).
 - \$193,486 for Isaac Hale Beach Park.
 - \$85,715 for Fire Protection S &W (department adjustment)

Will be presenting our budget to the County Council on April 1 at 1330.

Alternative Funding and Grants

- FEMA FY 2004 Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant: (Burn Trailer) Still awaiting MOU for signature from DOT.
- FEMA FY 2007 Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant: (Video Teleconferencing Equipment) Committee sent out survey to all stations, Training, Dispatch and Admin to collect data to help them determine station needs. Surveys due by March 14.
- FEMA FY 2007 Fire Prevention & Safety Grant: Status quo. (Strategic Planning Public Education/Relations committee submitted grant proposal for safety and education trailer (\$103,606).
- FEMA FY 2008 Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant: Opened on March 3; closes on April 4. Garrett Kim and BC Coloma taking lead to apply for health/wellness program.
- State Department of Transportation Safe Highways Grant: Grant period has not yet opened; will apply for OSHA approved safety vests.

Capital Improvement Projects

- Makalei Fire Station: Continuing to moving through design process. Met on final draft design plans to stay within budget: cost projected at \$8 million; we have budgeted \$6 million. Trying to see where we can reduce costs without scrimping. Public comments process opened. Hope to award contract by summer; groundbreaking by end of year.
- Pahoa Fire Station: Still moving on schedule; targeted for May completion; however, there may be delays for moving into the building due to off site improvements.

- Fire Administration & Support Facility: Still moving on plans & design. Phase I: Seen tremendous increase in cost due to bringing two agencies together. Trying to work within budget and get built as planned.
- Central Fire Station: Draft Environmental Assessment has been completed and submitted to the Office of Environmental Quality Control (OEQC) for publication and public comment.
- Central Fire Station Retrofit Project: Public Works exploring possibility of dry walling the kitchen area if they cannot do the stucco.
- Captain Cook: Additional apparatus bay will not be built due to concerns regarding the traffic circulation in the rear parking area. ADA & hazard abatement project will proceed. Working with Captain Cook crew to secure temporary quarters (off Napoopoo Road--National Park facility).
- Keaau: No new developments.
- Honokaa: Harry Yada has submitted 2 sites for consideration for the Honokaa station. These are very preliminary and are parcels that Harry sees that may be available.

Promotions and Hiring

Open-Competitive Recruitment

- Ocean Safety: Selectee for ½ time position will be hired on March 16. Four positions for Isaac Hale Beach Park filled on March 1.
- Storekeeper (EMS): Thomas Clark hired March 3. Will be introduced at next meeting.

Internal Recruitment

- Fire Captain: Assessment Center held on March 10. Presently reviewing results.
- Fire Apparatus Trainer: Applicant being considered; working with HR on details for movement.
- FEO: (For 2 previously deployed employees). Completed assessment and working on eventual promotion for Applicants being considered this time for promotions. Working with DHR on details of promotions since dates will be retroactive (per USERRA).

Emergency Operations Division

- Lava Flow/Viewing: AC Mento on loan to Civil Defense as project manager for eruption.
- CST Exercise: To be held on March 25 for Hazmat personnel (Kona & Hilo)

Ocean Safety

- Met with Councilmember Pilago—moving forward to try to get Big Island study completed.

Support Services Division

Auxiliary Services Bureau:

Communication Section:

- Security camera installed outside fire dispatch.

Warehouse

Maintenance Shop Section

EMS Bureau:

- ePCR committee met to discuss EMSTAT 5 evaluations and new wireless pen held in Waimea on February 6, 2008. Users conference to be held in April.

Inspection Bureau:

- Arson Detection Canine Program: Inspector Robert Perreira will be attending a training to become an arson detection canine handler. Program sponsored by Firemans Fund Insurance. Once certified, will be the only program in the State.

Training Bureau:

Operations Section

Recruit Training:

36th Recruit class- Commencing with clinical portion of EMT-B on Medics 1, 3, 5, 10, and Hilo Medical Center.

37th Recruit Class- Completed First Responder and Haz Mat Operations training.

Explorer Program:

Interviews for third Explorer class held on February 29 with 22 prospective candidates

Volunteer Section

- Report by Mack Goddard: FFI training coming along fine. Kanehoa Volunteer Company coming on line.

New Projects/Business

- Complaint by Anand Angelika: Unable to verify her complaint—no incident in our RMS.
- GIS Project: Working with Data Systems to create maps with layers to show incident activity.

Employee/Public Relations

- Hawaii Fire Department 6th Annual Reunion: Event scheduled for March 15 cancelled.
- American Red Cross Hats Off Campaign: Held in Kona and Hilo on March 8 to raise awareness and money for American Red Cross.
- EMS Week: Continuing to plan for 8th annual EMS Week with grand finale to be held on Sunday, May 25 with Family Walk/Run event at Liliuokalani Park.