



August 11, 2010
Agenda Item 11

TOWN OF DISCOVERY BAY CSD

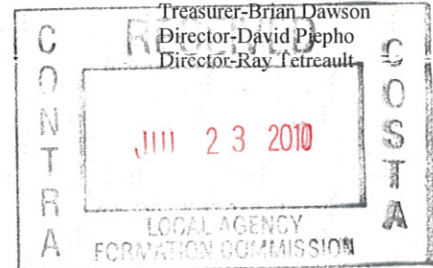
1800 Willow Lake Road, Discovery Bay, CA 94505-9376
Telephone: (925) 634-1131 Fax: (925) 513-2705

July 22, 2010

Contra Costa County
LAFCo
Attn: Lou Ann Texeira, Executive Officer
651 Pine Street, Sixth Floor
Martinez, CA 94553

Board Members

President-Kevin Graves
Vice President-Mark Simon
Treasurer-Brian Dawson
Director-David Piepho
Director-Ray Tetreault



RE: Decision by East Contra Costa County Fire protection District to close Fire Stations in Byron and Discovery Bay

Dear Ms. Texeira:

As you are aware, the East Contra Costa Fire Protection District Board (ECCFPD) voted to close fire stations in Byron and Discovery Bay, effective July 16, 2010 at 8:00 am. The Discovery Bay Community Services District (CSD) Board of Directors would like to express its continued opposition to that action.

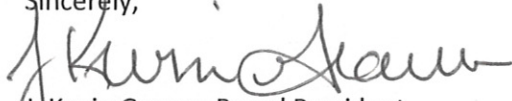
While we recognize the fiscal constraints facing the ECCFPD, the CSD Board questions the necessity of closing these two (2) stations without first fully vetting all available options. The ongoing cost to maintain those two (2) stations during the current fiscal year is negligible compared to the lives that have been put in jeopardy as a result of the action taken on June 29, 2010. Response times for life threatening emergencies will have increased significantly as a result of the closures.

In August 2009, LAFCo conducted a Municipal Service Review of all fire and emergency medical services in the County. In that review LAFCo established benchmarks for response times to "...achieve a maximum running time of three (3) minutes or 1.5 miles from the first-due station, to achieve response times of five (5) minutes 90 percent of the time...". The Discovery Bay CSD Board is concerned that this benchmark will be further compromised by the closures.

It is important to note that the closure of the Byron station and the relocation of the Quick Response Vehicle (QVR) to another location dramatically denigrate emergency medical response times in the Vasco Road transportation corridor. We believe this to be an unacceptable level of emergency response service for east Contra Costa County.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Discovery Bay Community Services District, we encourage the Contra Costa County Local Agency Formation Commission to investigate the ECCFPD's recent action to close fire stations in Discovery Bay and Byron to be a breach of their fiduciary and life saving responsibilities to all residents of Contra Costa County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Kevin Graves".

J. Kevin Graves, Board President
Town of Discovery Bay CSD

RH/ca

Cc: Board of Directors, Town of Discovery Bay CSD
Mary N. Piepho, Supervisor Contra Costa Board of Supervisors, District III
Hugh Henderson, Acting Fire Chief
East Contra Costa Fire Protection District



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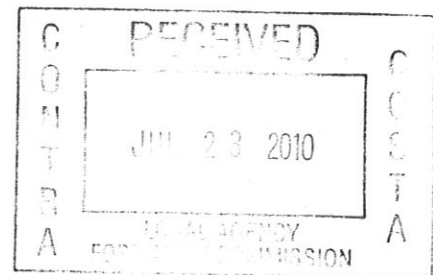
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July 22, 2010

Mr. Erick Stonebarger
Board of Directors – President
East Contra Costa Fire Protection District
134 Oak Street
Brentwood, CA 94513



RE: Closure of Fire Stations

Dear President Stonebarger:

The Town of Discovery Bay Community Services District (CSD) Board of Directors would like to express its disappointment in the June 29, 2010 action of the East Contra Costa Fire Protection District Board (ECCFPD) to close Fire Stations in Byron and Discovery Bay. This letter serves as a formal protest of that action.

While we recognize the fiscal constraints facing the ECCFPD, the CSD Board continues to question the necessity of closing these two (2) stations without fully vetting all available options. The ongoing cost to maintain those two (2) stations during the current fiscal year is negligible compared to the lives that have been put in jeopardy as a result of the action taken on June 29, 2010. The ECCFPD's decision to close stations without exploring each and every possible option is negligent.

The CSD also questions the legality of the decision to close the two (2) stations. The ECCFPD Board apparently did not follow requirements as required under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The CSD Board contends that the decision to close the stations was done without proper authority, thus making the closure an unlawful act under CEQA.

Furthermore, the Town of Discovery Bay Community Services District never received "Official" notification that Station 58 in Discovery Bay would be closing on July 16, 2010 at 0800 hours. No notice, letter, email, phone call, or other method of notification has been received by this body as of the writing of this letter. We believe it is common practice to notify agencies within whose jurisdictions Board actions such as that of the ECCFPD would impact.

Sincerely,


J. Kevin Graves, Board President
Town of Discovery Bay CSD

RH/ca

Cc: Hugh Henderson, Acting Chief

John M. Gioia, Chairperson, Contra Costa Board of Supervisors

Mary N. Piepho, Supervisor Contra Costa Board of Supervisor, District III

Lou Ann Texeira, Executive Officer, Contra Costa LAFCo

Board of Directors, Town of Discovery Bay CSD

Richard J. Howard, General Manager, Town of Discovery Bay CSD