

Rodeo-Hercules Fire District closing one of its stations because of budget cuts

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The Rodeo-Hercules Fire District is temporarily closing one of its two stations because of ongoing budget problems, fire Chief Charles Hanley announced in a news release Thursday.

The district's Rodeo station closed Thursday. The district will continue to serve residents in Rodeo and Hercules through its remaining station in Hercules.

Hanley said the agency is struggling with plummeting revenues and the loss of more than \$2 million annually from state and local property tax shifts. Hanley, who also serves as Pinole fire chief, noted this is the second station in the area to close in less than a year.

"As your Fire Chief, I want to assure you that these actions were not taken lightly or without significant changes to staffing, existing practices and the full cooperation and sacrifice of each member of the organization," Hanley said in the release.

Check back later for updates to this story.