



## MEMORANDUM

April 29, 2024

**To: Board of Fire Commissioners  
Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District**

**Fm: Charles A. Moore, Fire Chief**

**Re: Chief's Report for May 2024**

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### 1. Dual Language Social Media

We are pleased to announce that Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) will enter into a contract with Aumada Marketing, LLC, to create a Spanish-language Facebook page. The page will help us improve outreach efforts to our Spanish-speaking residents by sharing timely information on Fire District programs and initiatives and information on risk reduction methods. The service will include translating press releases and other messages and improving communications with local Spanish media.

Nos complace anunciar que TMFPD se asociará y firmará un contrato con Aumada Marketing, LLC para crear una página de Facebook en español. La página de Facebook nos ayudará a mejorar los esfuerzos de divulgación a nuestros residentes de habla hispana al compartir información oportuna sobre los programas e iniciativas del Distrito de Bomberos, junto con información sobre los métodos de reducción de riesgos. El servicio incluirá traducciones de comunicados de prensa y otros mensajes, así como interacciones mejoradas con los medios de comunicación locales españoles.

### 2. Green Waste Collection

The green waste event on April 18 received 369 loads at the East Lake location and 165 loads at Lemmon Valley. To help visualize the amount of material TMFPD collected, it would fill about 55 large 40-yard construction dumpsters, reflecting an estimated average of 4 yards per load.

We accept green waste from all Washoe County residents.

### 3. Regional RT-130 Wildland Exercise

During the month of May, our Training Division, in cooperation with the Sparks Fire Department, will conduct twelve days of regional wildland fire exercises.

**AGENDA ITEM #8A**

The course number - RT-130, is an annual requirement of the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) Standards. This exercise will serve to refresh our skills in complex and multi-agency fires.

RT-130 drills involve some online and classroom training, followed by skills individually performed by the crews of an engine company. This year, mimicking several similar events across the western United States, regional department joined together to form an exercise centered around a simulated wildland fire in the Galena Creek Park area of Mount Rose Highway. At least seven different agencies to include TMFPD, City of Sparks, City of Reno, Carson City, North Lake Tahoe, and Central Lyon County joined together in a multi-agency Task Force format to respond to a simulated fire. The Crews performed:

- Crew briefings
- Located various spot fires using GPS devices
- Develop a structure protection plan and a values at risk assessment
- Respond to a simulated injury to a firefighter on the line
- Establish a 1000-foot hose lay that would be cut off by fire
- Deploy fire shelters as if they were being overrun

All of these tasks were supported by role players with scripts, radio communications between resources, command, and simulated aircraft, and completing logistical tasks such as requesting supplies and documenting their actions. The reaction so far has been extremely positive with two recurring themes in agency comments:

1. “This has been the most realistic scenario to date that gives opportunities for all personnel at all ranks to practice their skills.”
2. “The idea of bringing all of the agencies together in one location to train, just as they would when they respond to a fire, has enhanced cooperative relationships and provided the opportunity for each agency to learn the capabilities of each other.”

This regional exercise meets one of the District’s strategic goals of cooperative training efforts to strengthen a seamless response across agency borders to incidents.

#### **4. Fuels Reduction Grants and BLM Community Fire Assistance Program**

TMFPD, in cooperation with the Carson City Fire Department (CCFD), has applied for grant funds under a Community Fire Assistance Program sponsored by Nevada BLM. The program is intended to directly benefit communities adjacent to BLM jurisdictions through fuel reduction efforts. TMFPD’s application seeks 1.26 million dollars to improve defensible space through hazard fuel reduction on private parcels in East Washoe Valley. CCFD, which will operate as a sub-award under TMFPD, uses a similar defensible space prescription in the communities in North Carson City. Both areas that our departments seek to improve indirectly benefit the adjacent federal land on the south end of the Virginia mountain range and the state land at Washoe Lake State Park. The overall intent is to utilize TMFPD or CCFD Wildland Fuels staff to reduce hazard fuel on at least 25% of the almost 2000 private properties in the project areas to prevent large catastrophic fires from occurring within or coming from outside the communities.

This grant opportunity would establish a cooperative agreement between our department and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), allowing the grant program to expand beyond the initial award to other areas that are shown to provide a similarly direct and indirect benefit. We intend to foster this agreement by adding new project areas along the eastern border of our district, which generally borders BLM land.

Along with our cooperation with CCFD, we have pursued additional application support to improve our chances of an award. We have worked with the Nevada Division of Forestry, Washoe County Roads, Washoe Valley Alliance, and South Valleys Citizen Advisory Board. We have obtained letters of support from Senators Cortez-Masto, Rosen, and Congressman Amodei.

Fire Prevention and Safety Grant.

Additionally, TMFPD has applied for \$550,000 to enhance our existing curbside chipping program through FEMA's Fire Prevention and Safety Program. TMFPD Wildland and Fuels Division is fiscally limited to 3-4 days each spring and fall to offer curbside chipping to the elderly, disabled, or low-income populations in our district. An award from this grant would allow TMFPD to offer a consistent service of two days each month throughout the year. This grant award would also allow the department to acquire a third-party software platform, Fire Aside, to provide a new signup venue for the public and improve TMFPD staff workflows to increase program effectiveness. The overall intent of this grant opportunity is to bolster our curbside chipping program to offer more availability to all TMFPD residents while prioritizing the elderly, disabled, and low-income populations in our district.

**5. Capital Projects Update: This report will discuss the progress of the Apple Fire Station, Hidden Valley Apparatus Bay, and Washoe Valley Consolidated Fire Station and provide details on the historical and future timeline.**

Three primary methods of project delivery and contract structure were discussed for these projects. A summary of these methods is described here for background. They include design-build, design-bid-build, and construction management at risk.

**Contract Structure:**

- **Design-Build:** The client contracts with a single entity (the design-builder) for the design and construction phases.
- **Design-bid-build:** The client contracts separately with a designer/architect for the design phase and then puts the project out to bid for construction, with a separate contract awarded to the lowest bidder.
- **Construction Management at Risk:** The client contracts with a construction manager and an Architect during the design phase and establishes a guaranteed maximum price. The construction manager then oversees the bidding process for subcontractors and construction.

Here is a timeline of important benchmarks for the Washoe Valley Fire Station development:

9/17/2019. A Deployment Plan analysis was presented to the Board of Fire Commissioners, and the need to consolidate the two Washoe Valley Fire Stations was identified and recommended.

09/17/2019. The Board directed staff to perform due diligence and negotiate a purchase and Sale Agreement for the acquisition of 6 acres of property (previously identified) for a future consolidated fire station.

03/31/2020. The Board approved the Purchase and Sale Agreement for six acres of land to construct a consolidated Washoe Valley Fire Station.

04/06/2020. The land sale was finalized.

02/01/2022. A proposal for architectural services for Hidden Valley was presented to the Board.

9/6/2022. The Board was presented with the recommendation to close Bowers due to health concerns and the cost of remediation to the building, which was leased from the State of Nevada.

11/01/2022. The lease termination between the State of Nevada and TMFPD was approved by the Board.

12/13/2022. Washoe Valley Fire Station design consultants. One approval was for Wood Rodgers, and one was for H+K Architects.

12/12/2023. The Board approved an additional proposal for H + K Architects.