

East Contra Costa Fire Protection District

Meeting Date: April 8, 2020

Subject/Title: Prevention Division Update

Submitted by: Steve Aubert, Fire Marshal

Prevention Division

We are pleased to announce the hiring of our Prevention staff has begun. Inspector Mark Rezac, our District's first Fire Inspector, Inspector Christy DeMaria, and our Fire Permit Technician Nicole Donovan have joined our team as of March 1st, 2020.

Both the Fire Inspectors and I attended the California Fire Prevention Institute (CFPI) Conference in Buellton CA at the beginning of the month. The CFPI conference is held on an annual basis and provides an opportunity for continual education and best practices in Community Risk Reduction and Fire Prevention.

Our fire records management system transfer is well underway and anticipate to test run it in the shadow during the month of April with going live by May 1, 2020. We are also looking at bringing in an additional service contract with a 3rd party inspection, testing, and maintenance (ITM) software. The goal of the program is to achieve a higher compliance rate of the required maintenance frequencies of automatic sprinkler systems, fixed fire systems, and fire alarm systems. The second software program we are looking at bringing into the District is a pre-fire plan software program that takes information from our data sources, Tablet Command, utilized for dispatch, and the County assessor's information providing first hand target information for the operations crews responding to incidents within the District. Both of these two programs work towards are strategic initiative E1. Define and implement a cost effective plan review and inspection program to reduce current and future emergency needs.

Engineering New Construction

Permit activity in March was steady with the previous month's activity. A total of 88 projects were submitted for permits during the month with a significant number of these being single family residential sprinklers and multi-lot permits. Inspection requests remain steady as well for new construction projects keeping staff busy.

Plan Review / Permit Revenue for the month of March was \$31,139.21

Code Enforcement

Re-inspections of schools have been continuing on this month and we are working with each of the schools on a correction plan to bring them into compliance. We started inspections of public assemblies and mercantile occupancies, but due to the Public Health restrictions have had to put a hold on further annual inspections at this time. We received a number of different complaints of which when we can have turned those into their annual inspections. With the restrictions in place, staff have been diligently working through the old database cleaning up our information so that we have a clean transfer into Zoll Fire RMS.

Operational Permits invoiced for the month of March was \$15,398.50

Investigations

Our newly developed District Investigations Policy is final and has been found to be useful to both Operations and the Prevention Divisions. We have prepared and have circulated for review a standardized table for fire loss information based on the International Code Council. The table brings formal square footage cost of the results of fire loss.

For the month of March, we completed investigations for 1 Criminal and assisted with 3 Accidental fires. We continue to work with our Police Allied Agencies to support their efforts in the course of their investigations.