

Proposal from FDAC County Fire Reorganization committee

The scope of the effort was to explore alternative organizational possibilities for County Fire with the realization that County Fire may fail financially in its current configuration in a matter of a couple of years.

These are ideas generated by a three person committee of the FDAC.

1 – Reduce Amador stations from 5 to 3

Suggest Pajaro Valley Fire District annex South County area with County Fire paying the LAFCO fees.

Remove the Corralitos station as an Amador Station thus removing its yearly expense.

Relocate the Big Creek and Fall Creek stations to a combined station at the Davenport station.

End up with three Amador fire stations, instead of five, thus reducing the total yearly expense.

Increase support for all volunteer fire companies but especially those in the north coast due to this realignment of Amador stations.

Today (Approximate)	Revenue Areas	Tomorrow (Approximate)
153,494	South Skyline - Estimated Revenue	153,494
328,457	Bonny Doon - Estimated Revenue	328,457
575,965	Corralitos - Estimated Revenue	0
480,802	Loma Prieta - Estimated Revenue	480,802
72,579	Davenport and North - Estimated Revenue	72,579
1,611,300	2012-13 Available Revenue 2013-14	1,035,335
5 x197,772 = 988,860 61.3% of revenue	Annual cost of Amador Stations	3 x197,772 = 593,316 57.3% of revenue
622,440 = 38.6%	Revenue remaining after Amador cost - available for all other operational costs	442,019 = 42.6%

2 - Ask current fire agencies what they would support

There has been no known effort in the past to engage every fire agency in the county in the survival of County Fire. The county has no legal obligation to maintain a fire department but it is in the best interests of all agencies to have County Fire as a viable entity as without it each bordering agency would most likely be called upon for at least the most demanding of emergency services within the former County Fire area.

Each fire agency should be asked what is in their best interest in regards to County Fire.

If they agree that in lieu of County Fire being dissolved they would take a portion then the county may stipulate that they would pay the LAFCo fees to make that happen.

It may be possible to create a process that allows these annexations without CSA-48 funding going away. That funding would be critical as any agency agreeing to annex an area of County Fire must be assured of at least that level of financial support.

It was thought that this option is viable at the moment and needs to be explored in depth.

3 - CSA-48 Special Assessments

Each area within CSA-48 can petition their voters to approve a special assessment paid only by their residents for exclusive use of that area. The creation of level-of-service scenarios could guide this effort by giving voters options to choose from areas like 3-person engines or paramedics or high-trained and equipped search and rescue teams, among many other options.

It was thought that this option might be used to improve services within a certain area but that might cause friction in other areas. This idea is awaiting an opinion of County Counsel on legality issues.

Areas explored:

Prop 172; JPA’s; Consultant study; all volunteer county fire; a department within county government.