

FIRE PROTECTION

For your convenience, we have provided space below for your answers. If you choose to answer these questions in the form of a letter, please number your responses to correspond to the questions. We would very much appreciate a response by **Friday, June 12, 2009**. Please return the completed questionnaire to Jaime Murillo in the Planning Department at JMurillo@city.newport-beach.ca.us.

1. Please evaluate the following statement for accuracy. If any of the information contained in the text below is incorrect or should be updated, please indicate the needed revisions below.

The Newport Beach Fire Department (NBFD) is responsible for reducing loss of life and property from fire, medical, and environmental emergencies. In addition to fire suppression, NBFD also provides fire prevention and hazard reduction services. The Fire Prevention Division works in conjunction with the City's Planning, Public Works, and Building Departments to ensure that all new construction and remodels are built in compliance with local and State building and fire codes, including the provision of adequate emergency access and on-site fire protection measures.

There are eight fire stations strategically located throughout the City to provide prompt assistance to area residents. The NBFD currently employs 146 full-time and 170 seasonal employees to provide 24-hour protection and response to the City's residents and visitors. NBFD is divided into four divisions: operations, fire prevention, training, and administrative. The NBFD divides its **fire suppression** staff into three shifts per **month**, with **approximately 39** personnel working each shift. ~~with an overall total of 112 Fire Suppression and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel working at the eight Newport Beach fire stations each day.~~ Of the NBFD employees located at the eight NBFD stations, seven paramedics serve per shift. Two are always on duty at Stations 2, 3, and 5 with paramedic ambulances. In addition, Station 8 has 1 paramedic firefighter that rides on the engine.

The NBFD also handles incidents associated with hazardous materials. The NBFD's goal is to protect the public health and the environment throughout the City from accidental releases and improper handling, storage, transportation, and disposal of hazardous materials through coordinated efforts of regulation, management, emergency response, enforcement, and site mitigation oversight. ~~The hazardous materials personnel are responsible for in-house training and education, and do not respond to emergencies. In case of a hazardous materials emergency, Huntington Beach Fire Department or Orange County Fire Department is called.~~ **A mutual aid hazardous materials response team is requested from one of the County's 4 hazardous materials response provider agencies.**

Station No. 2 serves and would continue to serve the existing City Hall project site. This station is located at 475 32nd Street and serves the Lido area of the City. This station is staffed by two captains, two engineers, **three** firefighters, and two firefighter paramedics **each shift**. Equipment at this station includes one fire engine, one ladder truck, and one paramedic van. The average response time for Station No. 2 is just over 4 minutes (Newport Beach General Plan Update EIR 2006).

Station No. 3 would serve the proposed project site. This station is located at 868 Santa Barbara Drive and serves the Newport Center area of the City. This station is staffed by one battalion chief, two captains, two engineers, **three** firefighters, and two firefighter paramedics. Equipment at this station includes one fire engine, one ladder truck, one paramedic van, and one battalion chief. The average

response time for Station No. 3 is approximately 4.5 minutes (Newport Beach General Plan Update EIR 2006).

2. Please verify the information below and indicate if any change in response time (post project) is anticipated.

	Existing City Hall Site/Station No. 2	Proposed City Hall Site/Station No. 3
Approximate distance from the closest fire station to the site (miles)	0.12	2.35
Current response time from the closest fire station to the site (minutes)	3	5
After project implementation, approximate response time from the closest fire station to the site (minutes)	3	5

Are the current average response times to emergency and nonemergency calls unchanged from 2005 (e.g., Station 2 response time is approximately 4 minutes and Station 3 response time is approximately 4.5 minutes)? Is it still the Department's goal to arrive within a 5-minute response time to 90 percent of all structure fire calls in the City and within a 10-minute response time to the remaining 10 percent?

No.

The objective, which now includes; dispatch time, time to dress in protective gear and travel time, is 7 minutes and 20 seconds, 90% of the time. The driving component of that aggregation remains 5 minutes 90% of the time and 10 minutes for the remaining 10% of the time.

3. According to the 2006 General Plan Update EIR, Fire Stations 2, 3, and 5 responded to 2,011 medical emergency calls in 2004, which is within the number of calls (2,500) recommended by the Insurance Service Organization (ISO) when rating a community for insurance rates. Has the number of medical emergency calls Stations 2, 3, and 5 respond to increased since 2004? If yes, approximately how many calls did these stations respond to in the most recent available reported year?

From 1/1/08 to 12/31/08 there were approximately 3,446 emergency medical calls in the response areas of Fire Station 2, 3 and 5

4. Are there any current plans for expansion of Fire Department facilities, services, or staff or to construct a new facility? If yes, please explain.

The Fire Department is currently exploring options in order to improve service to the Newport Coast area. One option is the addition of a fire station. The Department has also advised the developers of the Banning Ranch project in West Newport that an additional fire station will be required to provide service to that development.

5. Because the proposed project includes the relocation of existing City Hall uses (except Station 2) and reuse of the existing City Hall structures, it is anticipated that the proposed project would result in a net increase of 295 employees within the City. No residential units are proposed as part of the project. Would the project substantially increase response times or create a substantial increase in demand for staff, facilities, equipment, or Fire or other emergency services (e.g., as a result of increased call volume)?

No

6. Will the Newport Beach Fire Department be able to adequately serve the existing community and the proposed project? If not, can you recommend any measures for mitigating project impacts that might be incorporated into the project?

The proposed project will be serviceable with the Department's current staffing and resources.

7. Please provide any additional comments or questions you would like to see addressed in the environmental analysis for this project.

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Date: 5/22/09

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