Orange County Fire Authority

Request for Approval of Paramedic Engine 56

Proposed Date of Implementation July 1, 2015

Contact(s) for Further Information

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Summary

The Orange County Fire Authority is opening a new station to serve the rapidly developing region located near the intersection of the Ortega Highway and Antonio Parkway in the community known as Sendero, the first phase in the ongoing development of the southern aspect of Rancho Mission Viejo.

This enhancement of service requires approval from Orange County Emergency Medical Services to add a new advanced life support unit, as defined in Policy #705.00.

Background

New Advanced Life Support Unit Criteria:

A. Justification

a. The Orange County Fire Authority seeks authorization to add Paramedic Engine 56 to enhance regional advanced life support capability to primarily serve the rapidly expanding Rancho Mission Viejo communities of Sendero, Ladera Ranch, Esencia, Coventry Hills, and the Ortega Highway corridor from eastern San Juan Capistrano to the County line, including Casper’s Park and the Cleveland National Forest. Additionally, Paramedic Engine 56 will provide service to San Juan Hills High School and multiple primary schools in development, as well as over 55 age restricted residential communities. Currently, this response area is protected by BLS Engine 7 and Medic 7, located west of Interstate 5, in the City of San Juan Capistrano, 3.5 miles from Station 56’s response area, and Paramedic Engine 58, located 2.7 miles north in the Ladera Community.

B. Geographical location and boundaries of proposed service

a. Station 56 is located at 56 Sendero in unincorporated Orange County, near the intersection of the Ortega Highway and Antonio Parkway. The boundaries are as noted above and are graphically illustrated in the attached map.
C. Justification for variances from Resolution 79-240.
   a. This request is consistent with Resolution 79-240
      i. Paramedic Engine Company 56 will serve considerably more than 16 square miles.
      ii. Based on the current call volume of the first due area for Station 56, it is anticipated that there will be approximately 1000 calls per year.
      iii. Currently, ALS response from Medic 7 exceeds five minutes to Station 56’s proposed first due area.

D. Workload analysis of the impact on contiguous ALS units.
   a. OCFA Strategic Services estimates approximately 1000 calls per year, based on current responses to the area served by Station 56, as well as anticipated growth with the addition of 3,500 homes in the next two years. These calls would have primarily been handled by Medic 7, with those of Coventry Hills and Ladera Ranch being served by Paramedic Engine 58. The addition of Paramedic Engine 56 will result in an average reduction of response times of six minutes and 30 seconds for the area served.

E. Proposed time frame for implementation
   a. Station 56 is scheduled to open July 1, 2015

F. Telecommunications
   a. Paramedic Engine 56 will commit to communications as required in Policy #705.00.

G. Medications, Supplies, Equipment, Record Keeping, and Documentation
   a. Paramedic Engine 56 will maintain a drug and solution inventory, as well as basic and advanced life support equipment, as specified by Orange County Emergency Medical Services.
   b. The Authority agrees that Paramedic Engine 56 will meet all Orange County Emergency Medical Services documentation and reporting requirements.

H. Staffing/Operations/Training
   a. Paramedic Engine 56 will provide two paramedics and comply with all training requirements of Orange County Emergency Medical Services.

I. Address and Phone Number
   a. 56 Sendero, Rancho Mission Viejo, CA 92694
   b. No phone number assigned as yet

Links:
- Map of Sendero

Attachment:
- Map of Station 56 Response Area
Proposed FS56 First Due Area