



EL CERRITO-KENSINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

10900 San Pablo Avenue ▪ El Cerrito ▪ CA ▪ 94530

(510) 215-4450 ▪ FAX (510) 232-4917

www.el-cerrito.org



DATE: April 19, 2023

TO: Mary Morris-Mayorga: General Manager

FROM: Eric Saylor: Fire Chief

RE: **Fire Chief's Report for the April 2023 Fire District Board Meeting**

Operations

In March, multiple winter storms struck Kensington, triggering downed trees and power outages. The fire department staffed additional units as part of an OES pre-staged strike team at station 72 during storm events to assist with the increased call volume and any major disaster. During the storm events, the fire department assisted with flooding and removing downed trees in roadways.

Administration

The executive fire chiefs of Contra Costa County meet to discuss a request for Measure X funds to assist with the replacement of outdated radios. In addition, the fire department continues to work with our partners in Alameda County, including Berkley Fire Department and Albany Fire Department, to solidify shared response agreements. Contra Costa County is renumbering its fire stations and units. Starting in May, the following changes will occur in the numbering of ECKFD:

- Battalion 71 to Battalion 5
- Station 71 to Station 51
- Station 72 to Station 52
- Station 65 to Station 55

Training

The fire department initiated training for future engineers that will continue through May 2023. In addition, planning for a large-scale wildland drill between El Cerrito/Kensington Fire, Berkley Fire, Oakland Fire, and Organa-Moraga Fire started. The exercise will occur in May of 2023 and involve an initial response to a fire in the Berkley Hills.

Citizen Engagement

ECKFD Continues to meet with the CERT program manager to begin recruiting new members and plan our first CERT drill and volunteer academy in 2023. Until St 65 is completed, we plan to meet at El Cerrito city hall for our first orientation. CERT members will learn to assist with setting up an emergency operations center (EOC) and coordinate actions with the neighboring CERT team and KARO ECHO.