



San Mateo's New Fire Station 25 Begins Construction

Replacement of Aging Facility Ensures Service Stays in Community

San Mateo, CA — On Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2019, the City of San Mateo joined the San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department (SMCFD) to celebrate the ground breaking of a new Fire Station 25. The modernized station will be located on a 0.41 acre parcel at the corner of Borel Avenue and Shafter Street. It will take the place of the current Fire Station 25 at Barneson and Alameda de las Pulgas, a facility now too small to accommodate modern equipment and personnel.

The new station will consist of a single engine bay within a two-story structure totaling 4,950 square feet. The new building has been designed to house and support a typical three-person crew and captain and includes an office, kitchen and dining area, day room, exercise room, private sleeping rooms, bathroom facilities, lockers and storage areas, and an emergency generator.

"Our stations need more space because today's response apparatus is bigger due to the diversity of calls we now go to," said San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department Chief John Healy. "When the original station was built in 1954, we didn't respond to medical calls, or hazmat calls; we didn't have paramedics on staff like we do now either. Each of those tasks requires specialized equipment, which requires bigger apparatus, and more storage space in the station itself."

The new station will also accommodate more private sleeping and living quarters, meeting the necessities of the diverse SMCFD staff.

"The old model of a single dorm for all employees is antiquated," said Healy. "The standard for new fire stations is for private bedrooms in stations, which the new station will have."

The project is a joint effort of the SMCFD, and the City's Public Works, Parks and Recreation, and Planning departments. Development of the project has gone through an extensive community engagement process that started in 2016. On Nov. 5, 2018, San Mateo City Council unanimously approved the project to move forward. On Oct. 21, 2019, council approved the award of construction to Concord's Sausal Corporation.

The new station is set to begin construction next week and is expected to open in 2022.

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Mayor Papan Joins Fire Station 25 Groundbreaking Celebration (left to right): Sausal Corporation's Adam Baca, Architect Bill Louie, San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department Fire Chief John Healy, City of San Mateo Parks and Recreation Director Sheila Canzian, San Mateo Councilmembers Rick Bonilla and Eric Rodriguez, Mayor Diane Papan, San Mateo Councilmember Joe Goethals, former councilmember Maureen Freschet, City Manager Drew Corbett, and Public Works Director Brad Underwood on the site of the future Station 25 in San Mateo on Nov. 12, 2019.

