

Why Keep Templeton Fire and Emergency Services? For more than 120 years, Templeton Fire and Emergency Services has been a proud and important part of our community. If TCSD is forced to close your Fire Department and Templeton's ONLY fire station, it is uncertain whether or not operations would be provided by Cal Fire. What is certain is that our community would lose local control of this vital lifesaving service.

If Templeton Fire and Emergency Services was forced to dissolve, the loss would impact Templeton residents and the entire North County. No one agency can safely mitigate large incidents such as freeway accidents, structure or wildland fires alone. Templeton receives assistance from Atascadero, Paso Robles and Cal Fire for large emergency incidents. Templeton provides assistance to our neighboring communities as well. The loss of Templeton Fire and Emergency Services would eliminate a valuable resource to the North County. *(Information provided by Scott Jalbert, San Luis Obispo County, Cal Fire Chief and Templeton Resident.)*

Cal Fire is a valuable partner, but already stretched thin. If our fire service is handed over to Cal Fire, Templeton would most likely be served by County Fire Engine 30, located in Paso Robles. Engine 30's primary response area is over 60 square miles and one of the busiest engines in SLO County. It is possible that simultaneous incidents could occur, which would create longer 911 response times for a fire or medical emergency in Templeton.

► **In the last 2 years, Cal Fire (Engine 30) could not respond to 13.9% of Templeton's 911 emergency calls because they were already committed to another incident.**

Community Input Is Welcome

As we evaluate Templeton Fire and Emergency Services needs, we want to make sure that we include our community. We welcome input from you in our study process. Please share your opinions by emailing Chief Bill White at: chief@templetoncsd.org

For more information, visit our website: www.templetoncsd.org

Or call us at:
(805) 434-4911

May 7, 2019 • 7 pm

Board Workshop:

TCSD Board discussion on proposal to seek community support for a local parcel tax.

Address:
206 5th Street

Emergencies don't just happen between the hours of 8 am and 5 pm...

So why is Templeton Fire and Emergency Services' fire station only staffed between the hours of 8 am and 5 pm?



Templeton Fire and Emergency Services

Serving the Templeton Community for over 120 years!

PLEASE READ for important information on Templeton's growing fire and emergency services dilemma.

The Challenge:

Our Templeton community is at risk when a medical emergency, fire, natural disaster or other emergency strikes.

Templeton Fire and Emergency Services, a division of the Templeton Community Services District (TCSD), has one fire station that serves our community of 8,000 residents. Due to limited property tax funding from the County, the Templeton fire station is only staffed from 8 AM to 5 PM daily. Nights are currently covered voluntarily by firefighters when available.

This leads to longer response times and occasionally our emergency service crew is unable to respond to after-hours 911 calls. Meanwhile...

- ▶ **Templeton Fire and Emergency Services has experienced a 75% increase in service calls since 2010.**
- ▶ **Sixty percent (60%) of all calls for service are for emergency medical incidents.** This includes responding to victims of heart attacks, stroke, traumatic injury, car accidents, youth sport injuries and other medical emergencies.

The American Heart Association states that brain deterioration starts between four and six minutes after a person stops breathing. The average 911 response time for Templeton Fire and Emergency Services is 6 minutes. Even a one-minute delay in response time increases mortality rates.

Current staffing levels at Templeton Fire and Emergency Services are not adequate to provide full time fire protection. Additional funding is required to staff our fire station 24 hours per day, 7 days a week.



Solutions Update:



In order to protect lives and property, improve response times and provide fire and emergency response coverage 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, Templeton Fire and Emergency Services has been aggressively working towards a solution that would provide a sustainable and reliable fire and emergency service delivery model.

- 1** In 2017, the TCSD Board of Directors voted to create a Community Facility District (CFD) for new residential and commercial development to ensure that new development pays their fair share of the increase in demand for emergency services. This anticipated future funding, unfortunately, will not address the Fire Department's current funding shortfalls.
- 2** The District asked the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors for a remedy in the form of an increased share of our property tax allocation. Templeton Fire Department's only source of funding comes from property taxes.
 - ▶ **Our current property tax allocation from the County was established in 1976 and is about 8.4%.**
 - ▶ So, of all the property taxes paid by TCSD property owners, only 8.4 cents of every dollar you pay to the county comes back to the District.

After numerous meetings over the past several years, the Board of Supervisors denied our specific request to increase our property tax share.

- 3** A remaining sustainable and reliable option available to the District is to seek community support for a local parcel tax. This allows your local Fire Department to provide lifesaving fire and medical emergency services 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.



Funds from the proposed measure would be used to:

- ▶ **PROVIDE** essential local fire protection and emergency medical services 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.
- ▶ **REDUCE** 911 emergency response times.
- ▶ **RECRUIT AND RETAIN** qualified firefighters.