

**ROSS VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT
STAFF REPORT**

For the meeting of December 11, 2024

To: Board of Directors

From: Dan Mahoney, Fire Chief

Subject: Receive an Update on the Recent Ross Valley Paramedic Authority Meeting as they Relate to the Town of Ross Letter Requesting a One-Year Delay in the Closure of Fire Station 18.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the RVFD Board receive an update on the current situation. Staff also recommends the Board defer any action regarding a one-year delay on the closure of Fire Station 18.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

On October 14, 2024, Ross Valley Fire Board President Thomas Finn received a letter from Ross Town Manager Christa Johnson (directed to do so by the Ross Town Council in a 5-0 vote) requesting “an amendment to the Ross Valley Fire Department (RVFD) Joint Powers Authority Agreement (JPA) dated January 1, 2022, to allow for a one-year delay in the closure of the Ross Fire Station 18”.

The letter states the one-year delay will enable the Ross Valley Paramedic Authority (RVPA) to complete its comprehensive study and engage in transparent Board discussions about the future of the RVPA Joint Powers Agreement. An email was also received by RVPA Executive Officer Chief Jason Weber stating that the Town of Ross is requesting a lease agreement be agreed on before December 31, 2024.

The following RVPA meetings have taken place or are scheduled:

- **November 21, 2024** - An RVPA Special Meeting (Attachment #1) was held that included discussions around the next steps related to the Citygate report. Two working groups were formed, one to “Strengthen The JPA” and one to “Increase Fiscal Accountability and Transparency”. Several resolutions were passed to support the mission of the working groups mentioned above. A closed session was also held (Negotiating Party: Town of Ross, Under negotiation: Terms and conditions of lease).

- **December 5, 2024** - An RVPA Regular Meeting (Attachment #2) was held. The RVFD Board packet will be distributed prior to this meeting. Chief Mahoney will provide a verbal update.

At this time, staff feels additional deliberations on the RVPA Board would be beneficial before taking action on the letter received from Ross regarding “ a one-year delay in the closure of the Ross Fire Station 18”.

Staff will remain engaged with the RVPA discussions and will provide the Board with updates and recommendations in future Board meetings.

FISCAL IMPACT

There are no fiscal impacts to this report.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment #1 – RVPA Board Packet for November 21, 2024

Attachment #2 – RVPA Board Packet for December 5, 2024