



**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT**



**OFFICE OF SUPERVISOR JOHN GIOIA,  
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY BOARD OF  
SUPERVISORS**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CON FIRE ANNOUNCES CONSTRUCTION, BREAKS GROUND ON  
NEW FIRE STATION 70 IN THE CITY OF SAN PABLO**

**Station Will Replace Temporary Facilities in Use Since 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake**

**CONCORD, CALIF., April 24, 2019** – Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors Chair and District I Supervisor John Gioia and Contra Costa County Fire Protection District (Con Fire) this week announced start of construction of the new Fire Station 70 in the City of San Pablo. When complete the new station will replace temporary Fire Station 70, which has been in service nearby since the permanent one was severely damaged in the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake.

When completed, Fire Station 70 will better support District firefighters, allowing for better quality of life, health, training and community interaction. The three-bay station will be built to modern earthquake standards to ensure its availability for facilitating disaster preparedness and response, including a potential location for a West County disaster-response command post.

Fire Station 70 will be named the Captain Matthew Burton and Engineer Scott Desmond Memorial Station in recognition of the ultimate sacrifice made by these Con Fire firefighters in the early morning hours of July 21, 2007. Responding on Engine 70 to reports of a structure fire on nearby Michelle Drive, Captain Burton and Engineer Desmond tragically lost their lives attempting to rescue a couple trapped in their burning home. As a result of their sacrifice, the Con Fire Advisory Fire Commission recommended, and the Fire Board (County Board of Supervisors) authorized, the new fire station dedication in their names.

“This new state of the art fire station is the result of a great partnership between Con Fire and the City of San Pablo and will improve fire and emergency medical services for this community,” said Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors Chair and Fire Board Director John Gioia.

Total cost for the new station is \$13.5 million with the City of San Pablo contributing \$4.5 million to the project. Construction will begin in May with station commissioning in the first half of 2020.

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## Con Fire Breaks Ground on Fire Station 70 in San Pablo – 2/2/2

“Today is the culmination of a five-year collaborative effort between our city and Con Fire to get our firefighters into a beautiful and long overdue permanent fire station,” said Rich Kinney, Mayor, City of San Pablo. “In the weeks and months ahead, excitement is going to grow here in San Pablo’s emerging downtown as the new Fire Station 70 grows on this vacant lot. We are grateful for the opportunity to contribute to this project and for our many partners who’ve worked hard to make this possible.”

“We are pleased to announce construction of our long-awaited permanent Fire Station 70 in San Pablo, offering enhanced facilities to support emergency services to the city and neighboring communities,” said Lewis T. Broschard III, Fire Chief, Contra Costa County Fire Protection District. “This project, in partnership with the City of San Pablo and Contra Costa County, is a tangible demonstration of our commitment to providing needed critical resources to the communities we serve.”

Designed with cancer prevention in mind, the station will include state-of-the-art gross decontamination showers, turnout extractors, a decontamination sauna, and modern systems for extraction of diesel exhaust particulates. The new station’s training props will allow for considerable training opportunities for crews including ladder work, rappelling and indoor all-weather training.

A groundbreaking ceremony for the new Fire Station 70, with elected officials from the County and City of San Pablo making remarks and participating in a gold-shovel event, took place April 23 at the construction site, 1800 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, San Pablo.

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*Contra Costa County Fire Protection District (Con Fire) -- a recognized fire service leader -- provides fire and emergency medical services to more than a million people across its 304 square-mile District area, and through mutual aid, in and around the 20 cities and unincorporated communities of Contra Costa County, California. With few exceptions, county emergency ambulance transport services are provided by Con Fire through its unique sub-contractor Alliance model. In 2018, the District responded to nearly 75,000 fire and EMS emergencies and dispatched some 95,000 ambulances, providing expert medical care on more than 74,000 ambulance transports. The District, with 25 fire stations and more than 400 employees, is dedicated to preserving life, property and the environment.*

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