FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CON FIRE ANNOUNCES REOPENING OF FIRE STATION 4 IN WALNUT CREEK

Recession-Shuttered Fire Station Again Serving Southern Unincorporated Walnut Creek and Surrounding Area

CONCORD, CALIF., August 29, 2022 – The Contra Costa County Fire Protection District (Con Fire) today announced the reopening of Fire Station 4 in Walnut Creek after nine years of closure due to Great Recession financial pressure.

Fire Station 4 serves the southern portions of unincorporated Walnut Creek and surrounding areas. Its operational status is expected to reduce response times in its service area, reducing the need for responses to fire, medical and other emergencies from other nearby stations.

The station is staffed by a three-firefighter engine crew that will respond on either a structural firefighting engine or a Type 3 wildland firefighting engine. Its reopening was timed to ensure availability of this added firefighting resource ahead of our area’s historic height of wildfire danger in September and October.

“Today marks the return of a much-needed Con Fire engine and crew to Fire Station 4 after a nine-year, Great Recession-caused closure,” said Lewis Broschard, fire chief, Contra Costa County Fire Protection District. “An operational Fire Station 4 will mean shortened response times for fire, medical, and other emergencies in its service areas and surrounding communities.”

Broschard added, “I’m grateful for the support of our staff and elected officials, and the patience of residents leading up to this reopening.”

Extensive renovations were made in recent months to modernize the 66-year-old station, including a new kitchen and bathrooms as well as remodeled office space and living quarters.

The reopened Fire Station 4 brings the district’s complement of operational fire stations to 31, spanning the county from Fire Station 70 in San Pablo to Fire Station 95 in Oakley. Plans are underway to construct and open additional fire stations in east and central county in the coming years.

Fire Station 4 was originally constructed in 1956. At the time of its construction, it served the area as part of the Central Fire Protection District, which covered the incorporated City of Walnut Creek and approximately 32 square miles of surrounding land, including the unincorporated Pleasant Hill area.
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The Central Fire Protection District provided fire service to the area from 1921 to 1964. On December 29, 1964, Central Fire merged with the Mt. Diablo Fire Protection District to form the beginnings of today’s Contra Costa County Fire Protection District, Con Fire.

A ribbon cutting ceremony for the reopened Fire Station 4, with elected officials from the County making remarks and participating, was scheduled for today.

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About Contra Costa County Fire Protection District (Con Fire) – With annexation of the former East Contra Costa Fire Protection District (ECCFPD) in July, 2022, Con Fire now provides fire and emergency medical services to more than 750,000 residents in 11 cities and 10 unincorporated areas across our expanded 553 square-mile jurisdiction. Annexation resulted in absorption of the resources and people of the former ECCFPD, adding 294 square miles of service area. The District now comprises 31 fire stations and nearly 500 employees. Through our unique ambulance Alliance, the District delivers EMS and ambulance transport services to much of Contra Costa County. In 2021, the District responded to some 83,000 incidents of all types, including nearly 43,000 fire and EMS emergencies, and dispatched 100,000 ambulances, conducting more than 75,000 ambulance transports. Con Fire remains dedicated to preserving life, property, and the environment.

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