



VOLENTE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Travis County Emergency Services District No. 14
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Volente, Texas 78641

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www.VVFD.net

July 22, 2011

Bella Vista Homeowners Association
Deer Creek & Cypress Canyon Homeowner Association
Twin Creeks Homeowner Association

Dear Community Representatives,

As you are all aware, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 14 has been responsible for the delivery of emergency services to your communities since their inception. During the early years, The Volente Fire Department was the primary service provider. During the rapid build out of the communities, the ESD contracted with the City of Cedar Park for service delivery in this area, while continuing to be responsible for service delivery for the rest of the District. This allowed the ESD to enhance the capabilities of the Volente Fire Department in a responsible and economically viable manner to match our capabilities to the needs of the entire ESD.

Over the past year, the ESD entered into talks with the city to restructure the contract on terms that the ESD could sustain into the future while providing like service to the total service area of the ESD. As you aware, the city and ESD got very close on a revised agreement, but in the end a revised agreement was not reached.

The Volente Fire Department is again responsible for primary coverage for all response areas within the ESD. A lot has changed with the Volente Fire Department since we serviced the area before. The fire department has transitioned from an all-volunteer department to a combination fire department. Today, our first due Engine Company is staffed with a minimum of 3 state commissioned fire fighters / EMT's, backed up with qualified volunteer fire fighters / EMT's. Each engine is equipped with firefighting, medical and technical response equipment to provide a wide range of response capabilities. Our personnel are well trained and have numerous years of experience working for departments within the Central Texas region, state wide as well as out of state. Our career staff meets or exceeds the standards as set forth by the State of Texas.

We are currently raising the training level of our EMS personnel to have EMT-Intermediate credentialed personnel. This will allow us to provide several additional medical procedures that are not available to the basic level EMT's. In addition, the fire departments within Travis County work very closely to ensure that effective firefighting resources are available for all emergencies within the county. This has been accomplished by a county wide CAD system and a regional radio system, mutual and

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auto aid agreements along with standardized response protocols to ensure that proper resources are available for all emergencies within the county.

Additionally, the department has updated its response apparatus to better serve the diverse service area that the ESD encompasses. We have 2 Class A engines- fire trucks (a primary and a backup), a water tender, (for bringing firefighting water to the scene in non-hydrant areas) as well as two brush trucks to support the critical urban interface that encompasses the majority of the ESD. Our first due brush truck is CAFS (Compressed Air Foam System) equipped, which provides the most current technology for fighting wildland fires.

You can be assured that when you or a neighbor calls 9-1-1, appropriate resources will be coming your way. Law enforcement services continue to be provided by Travis County and EMS transport services continue to be provided by Austin / Travis County EMS.

One area that we would ask that you help communicate to your neighbors is a change of phone number to contact the Fire Dispatch Center for automatic fire alarms. Please ask your neighbors to notify the Austin Fire Dispatch Center at 512-476-4333. This will ensure that there is no delay in notifying the fire department of automatic fire alarms. This only applies to alarm systems that are monitored by an alarm company.

The fire department is available for community education, parades etc. The fire department was asked to attend two of your community parades over the past 4th of July holiday. These were Bella Vista, their first parade, as well as Twin Creeks. There was a great turn out for both of them. Myself and the crews enjoyed meeting with residents and answering their questions. We appreciate the invitations.

The members of the Volente Fire Department looked forward to providing services to your communities. Please don't hesitate to contact me should you have any questions. My office number is 512-258-1114.

Respectfully,



Walter Groman, CFO
Fire Chief

CC: ESD Board
Fire Department Board