



UPDATE: Clements Rural Fire Protection District

For over 77 years, the Clements Rural Fire Protection District (“Fire District”) has been providing fire protection and emergency medical services to our local rural community of Clements. The Fire Protection District is a single-purpose special district independent from the San Joaquin County and it is governed by an independent Board of Directors elected directly by voters. The Fire District has 25 “on-call” firefighters and one full-time Fire Chief.

The District’s revenues are generated from property taxes and an annual special tax currently paid by the local property owners. **This tax has not been increased since its inception in 1983**, while costs and salaries have increased significantly.

The Fire District needs additional revenue to hire and retain professional firefighters, replace and repair aged apparatus and equipment, and to ensure the fire station facilities are properly maintained. In order to continue to perform its critical life-safety work, the Fire District is considering proposing a special tax increase to local voters on the March 2020 ballot. The funds raised will stay local and will be used in the District’s service area. By law, the City of Stockton, San Joaquin County, the State, or any other agency cannot take these funds or use them for other purposes. The Fire District will be providing information regarding this proposal to the local community and encourages you to participate in this important process and decision.

Current Services Provided

Clements Rural Fire Protection District provides emergency response and fire protection services within the District’s boundaries. These services include:

- ❖ Emergency Medical Response (EMT and Basic Life Support)
- ❖ Structure Fires
- ❖ Vegetation Fires
- ❖ Water Rescues
- ❖ Traffic Collisions
- ❖ Hazardous Materials Incidents

The Needs of the District

Clements Rural Fire Protection District has established these top priorities:

- ❖ Retain current experienced firefighters
- ❖ Hire additional firefighters
- ❖ Maintain, repair and replace fire trucks and equipment
- ❖ Maintain and improve the fire station facility

Retain and Hire Firefighters.

Currently, the District has one full-time Chief, and 25 on-call firefighters. Without additional funding, the Fire District is unable to retain our local and experienced firefighters - before they move on to better pay and benefits offered by other fire agencies.

Maintain, Repair and Replace Fire Trucks and Equipment.

In 2017, the National Fire Protection Association Standard 1911 recommended fire fighting apparatus should be replaced when it is over 15 years old. In order to meet the Standard 1911, the next engine to be replaced is the “first-out structure engine” which is 16 years old.

Maintain and Improve the Fire Station Facility.

The Fire District’s fire station needs constant maintenance to ensure our firefighters are in a position to provide their critical services. Also, the Fire District needs to improve the fire station to provide appropriate sleeping quarters for our male and female firefighters.

