

EL CERRITO-KENSINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT



10900 San Pablo Avenue • El Cerrito • CA • 94530 (510) 215-4450 • FAX (510) 232-4917 www.el-cerrito.org

- **DATE:** October 16, 2024
- TO: Mary Morris-Mayorga: General Manager
- **FROM:** Eric Saylors: Fire Chief

RE: Fire Chief's Report for the October 2024 Fire District Board Meeting

Operations



With the help of the CHP copter, the El Cerrito fire department effected another rescue in Tilden Park. The copter picked up one of our firefighters as a rescue technician and flew to the patient. Once they arrived, the rescue technician hoisted the patient and flown them out of the park to a waiting ambulance.



Specialized crews in the El Cerrito fire department continue to assist the battle against wildfires across the state. Capt. Hoyer-Nielsen, Engineer Janes, FF Becker and FF Driscoll responded to the Line Fire in San Bernardino County. Our crew protected structures and improved containment lines. The Line Fire has burned 39,000 acres and was 3 large wildfires burning in southern Ca.



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E5 E51 responded to a fire in Richmond and assisted with salvage and overhaul. Salvage and overhaul are preserving personal property after the fire has been suppressed. The fire crews will remove water and smoke from the building while gathering and protecting personal valuables. The crews know that pictures and family heirlooms are irreplaceable and make an extensive effort to protect those items from further damage. Crews will also check with occupants to see if they need anything out of the home, such as car keys, IDs, or wallets/purses. Once the firefighters know you are out of the house safely, they do their best to protect your possessions.

Training



The fire department completed its annual trench training in El Cerrito. The training consisted of a multi-agency drill with El Cerrito-Kensington Fire, Contra Costa County Fire, Richmond Fire, and Albany Fire for working a trench rescue. EBMUD has a large trenching project in El Cerrito, and a trench collapse will bring multiple agencies together to rescue victims. The drill ensures our firefighters will not become victims of a trench collapse themselves and that we work effectively with our neighboring agencies.



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Public Outreach



Engine 51, led by Captain Gagne, attended the El Cerrito Royale Grandparents Day Carnival with El Cerrito PD. The fire department was present to offer support to the event and address any questions surrounding fire safety or emergency medical services.



During a neighborhood walk with a Firewise community, Fire Marshal Beckman assisted residents with information on improving their wildfire resilience. The Firewise designation is neighborhood-driven, with all participants working toward a common goal. The El Cerrito-Kensington Fire Department assists all residents with home hardening and wildfire resilience information.