

AGENDA
CITY COUNCIL, SPECIAL MEETING
JOINT MEETING OF THE NEWMAN CITY COUNCIL,
PATTERSON CITY COUNCIL AND
WEST STANISLAUS COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD

MAY 22, 2008
7:00 P.M.

LOUIS J. NEWMAN MEMORIAL BUILDING
649 ORESTIMBA ROAD
NEWMAN, CA 95360

1. Call To Order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Declaration Of Conflicts Of Interest.
4. Items From The Public.

While the City Council welcomes and encourages participation in the meetings, it would be appreciated if you would limit your comments to 3 minutes so that everyone may be heard. Matters under the jurisdiction of the Council, and not on the posted agenda, may be addressed by the general public at this time. However, California law prohibits the Council from taking action on any matter which is not on the posted agenda unless it is determined to be an emergency by the City Council.

Items From The Public - Agenda Items.

Any member of the audience desiring to address the Council on a matter on the agenda: please raise your hand or step to the podium at the time the item is announced by the Mayor. In order that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak, any person addressing the Council will be limited to a maximum of 3 minutes unless the Mayor grants a longer period of time.

Please state your name and address for the record.

5. Review and Discuss Westside Fire Consolidation Study.
6. Discussion of Issues Important to the Westside (Information Only - No Action).
7. Adjournment.

Calendar of Events

May 22 - City Council Joint Fire Study Meeting - L. J. Newman Memorial Building - 7:00 p.m.

May 25 - Fun Run - 9:00 a.m.

May 27 - City Council - 7:00 p.m.

June 6 - Orestimba Flood Control - 1:00 p.m.

June 8 - City Softball Game

June 9 - NCLUSD Board Meeting - 7:15 p.m.

June 10 - City Council - 7:00 p.m..

June 11 - Baseball Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

June 12 - Recreation Commission - 7:00 p.m.

June 19 - Planning Commission - 7:00 p.m.

June 24 - City Council - 7:00 p.m.

CITY OF PATTERSON
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

**Joint Meeting of the
Patterson City Council, Newman City Council and
West Stanislaus County Fire Protection District Board**

**Thursday, May 22, 2008
7:00 p.m.**

**L.J. Newman Memorial Building
649 Orestimba Road
Newman, California 95360**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk at (209) 895-8014. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. [28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title II]

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Statements of Conflict**
- 4. Items from the Public**

Any member of the audience desiring to address the Council regarding a matter on the agenda, please raise your hand or step to the podium at the time the item is announced by the Mayor. The public wishing to address the Council on items that do not appear on the agenda may do so; however, Council will take no action other than referring the item to staff for study and analysis and shall place item on a future agenda (Resolution 92-25).

In order that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak, any person addressing the Council will be limited to a maximum of five (5) minutes unless the Mayor grants a longer period of time (Resolution 92-25).

- 5. Review and Discuss Westside Fire Consolidation Study**
- 6. Discussion of Issues Important to the Westside (Information Only - No Action)**
- 7. Adjournment**



**City of Newman
City Manager's Office
Memorandum**

**Date: May 16, 2008
To: City Council
From: Michael E. Holland, City Manager**

Subject: Joint Meeting – Fire Study

Attached is a copy of a staff report prepared for the May 22nd Joint meeting between the Cities of Patterson and Newman and West Stanislaus Fire Protection District. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

City Manager's Report
May 22, 2008 Special Meeting

Item #: 5

Subject: Review and Discuss Westside Fire Consolidation Study

Discussion: The Cities of Patterson and Newman along with West Stanislaus Fire Protection District commissioned a study to look at the feasibility of consolidation or some other type of organization to better serve the West Side of Stanislaus County. The study was performed by City Gate Associates. Attached is a copy of the power point presentation presented by City Gate that outlines there findings.

At the completion of the study, a committee made up of two Councilmembers from the cities and two board members from the district met to review the findings and make recommendations. The recommendation of the committee was to discontinue further study into consolidation but to look into some of the recommendations of the study that may facilitate consolidation or some other cooperation in the future. Those recommendations are as follows:

- 1. Work together to ensure consistency throughout operating procedures, policy documents, and business programs (i.e. software, etc.). Standardization will enhance mutual aid between the agencies and would be valuable should consolidation occur in the future.**
- 2. Explore the possibility of hiring a Training officer to work for the three agencies to provide better and more consistent training of volunteers and full-time firefighters.**
- 3. Continue to explore other methods of cooperation which will provide better service to citizens on the West Side and provide more efficient fire prevention and protection services.**

The committee recommended bringing these actions back to a joint meeting of our Councils and boards for approval. Based on that approval staff will work together to implement the recommendations.

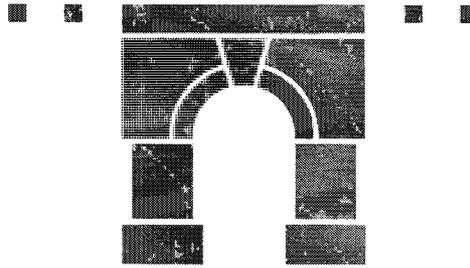
Cost: The cost of the training officer has not yet been explored. Staff recommends with approval of this item we will work together to prepare a plan for this position including cost and the recommended cost to each agency.

Budget Impact: None at this time.

Recommendation: Review and Discuss Westside Fire Consolidation Study and Make Recommendations for Further Investigation.

Department Head

City Manager



CITYGATE ASSOCIATES, LLC
FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

Fire Department Consolidation

Newman-Patterson-West Stanislaus
County Fire Protection District

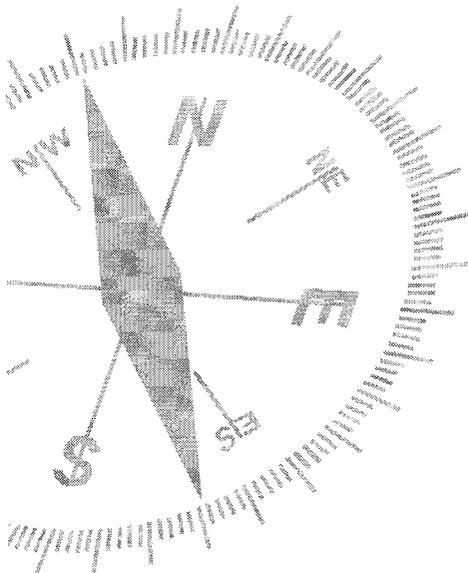
Executive Leadership Briefing

Purpose and Scope of Mid-Project Report

- ▶ Present preliminary findings on key issues
- ▶ Overview of general consolidation benefits, obstacles, and form
- ▶ Current service levels in each agency
- ▶ Recommended service levels in each agency
 - Patterson, Fire District and Newman
 - Headquarters Services
 - Governance Options
- ▶ Recommended next steps
- ▶ Gain direction on study next steps and report form

Overview of Types of Governance

- ▶ Dependent or Independent Fire District
- ▶ Joint Powers Authority (JPA)
- ▶ Contract(s) for Service



Challenges Facing Small Community Fire Services

- ▶ OSHA safety regulations
 - 2-in/2-out regulation for building fires
- ▶ California OSHA regulations on Volunteer
 - Training the same as career firefighters
 - Protective clothing and policies the same as career
- ▶ Need for trained, certified Incident Commanders
- ▶ Need for modern, safe apparatus, tools and facilities
- ▶ Need for an overhead staff to provide and document the above



Current Service Levels

Patterson

- ▶ Shared headquarters staff with Fire District
 - 1 Fire Chief
 - 2 Division Chiefs (Training and Prevention)
 - 2 Office Support
- ▶ Two fire stations, one new on west side
 - Main Station staffed with Volunteers
 - 2nd station staffed with 2-career per day minimum, station not “first-due” into District areas...
- ▶ 39 Volunteers
- ▶ Apparatus fleet okay
- ▶ Current population 20,875 in approx 5 square miles
- ▶ General Plan Buildout 30,000 residents, could be higher...

Current Service Levels *Comparative Expenditures*

Agency	2007-08 Budget Estimate
Newman	\$105,323
Patterson	\$1,775,681 (prior to new MOU)
Fire District (GF Operating Budget Only)	\$810,000

Recommended Fire Service Models at **Present Population/Development** *Newman*

- ▶ 1 Full-time Fire Chief/Fire Marshal
- ▶ 2 firefighters on-duty on a 40-hour week
- ▶ Continue a strong volunteer program
- ▶ Increase locally-based training
- ▶ Increase volunteer stipend to improve recruitment and retention
- ▶ Consider paid-call firefighters
- ▶ Continue in shared building and programs with the Fire District

Additional Cost: \$356,413

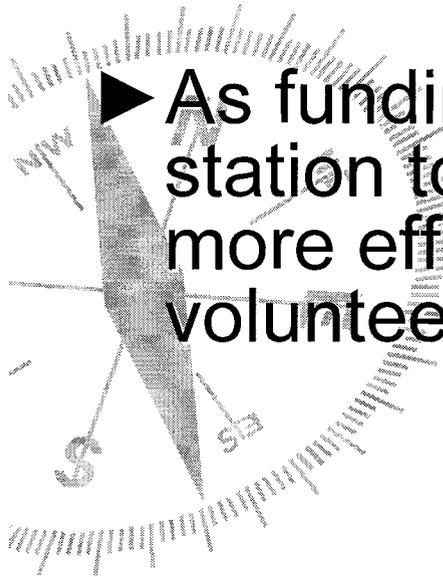
Recommended Fire Service Model as Patterson Growth Warrants

Phase Two - \$803,949

- ▶ As development warrants add a 3rd east side station with staffing starting at 2 per day

Phase Three - \$363,147

- ▶ As funding is available increase staffing at the 3rd station to 3 per day –providing 9 total on duty for a more effective response force before the volunteers can arrive



Recommended Fire Service Models at Present Population/Development *Fire District*

Phase Two - \$439,184

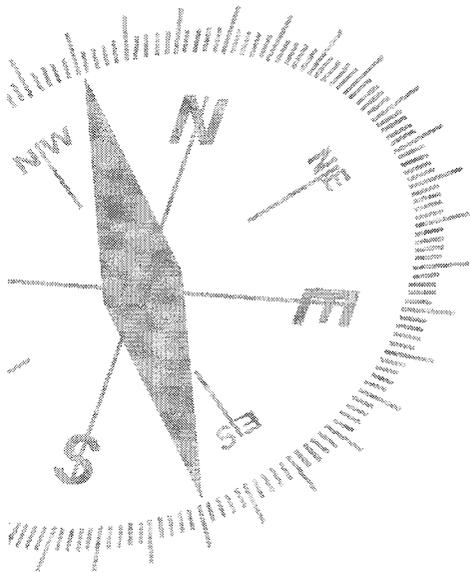
- ▶ Staff two stations (Crows Landing and Westley) with 2 firefighters each on a 40hr/week

Phase Three - \$803,949

- ▶ Staff 2 career 24/7/365 at Diablo Grande



Likely Fire Service Levels at Build Out of Each Agency



Likely Need at Current General Plan Build-out - *Patterson*

- ▶ A 3-4 station department
- ▶ Each station staffed with 3 per day
- ▶ A total of 27- 36 line F/F's
- ▶ A headquarters staff of 5 Chief officers, plus clerical support and 1 Fire Inspector
- ▶ Volunteers and paid-call programs continue
-- IF they can be found...

Likely Need at Buildout

Fire District

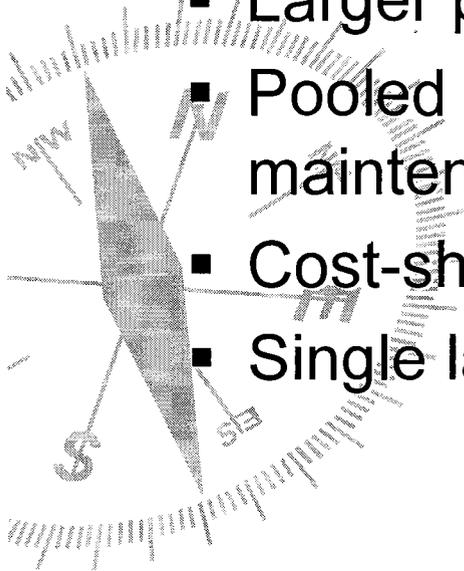
- ▶ Current number of fire stations
- ▶ 3 stations staffed with 3 career/day
- ▶ 36 line firefighters
- ▶ 5 Chief Officers
- ▶ 1 Fire Inspector
- ▶ 2 Administrative support



Service Level Improvements Expected from Consolidation

► *Line Staff Merger Benefits*

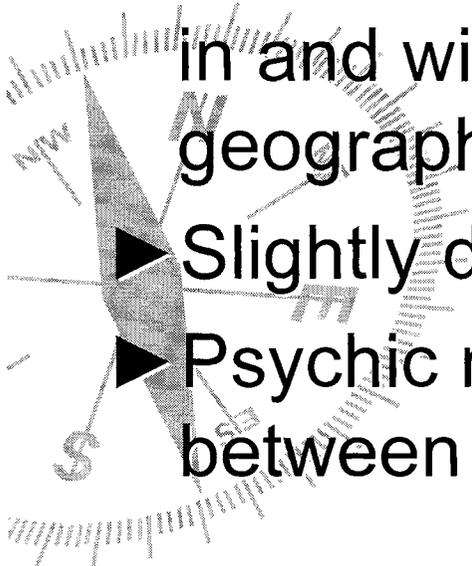
- Common operating policies
- Common training of Volunteers
- Increased recruitment and promotion pool
- Larger pool for career and paid-call relief coverage
- Pooled apparatus and tools purchase AND maintenance
- Cost-shared headquarters staff pool
- Single labor relations entity



Operational Impediments to Consolidation

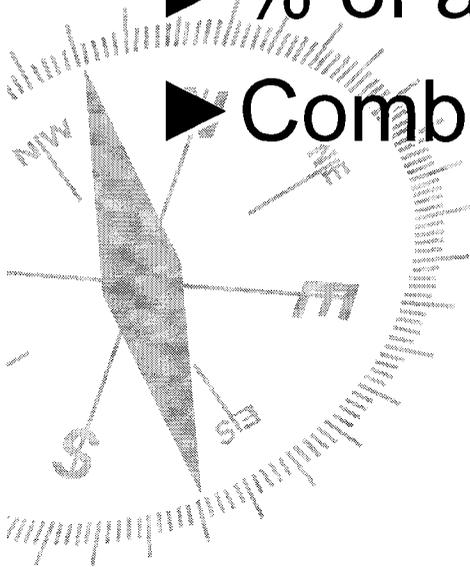
Volunteer Identification Issues

- ▶ With consolidation, a full-time employee cannot be a volunteer for any of the three agencies - will require paying overtime
- ▶ Volunteers are more likely to be recruited who live in and will be volunteers in a smaller geographically identifiable community
- ▶ Slightly different volunteer cultures in each agency
- ▶ Psychic rewards provided by the agencies differ between agencies



Cost Sharing Formula Illustration

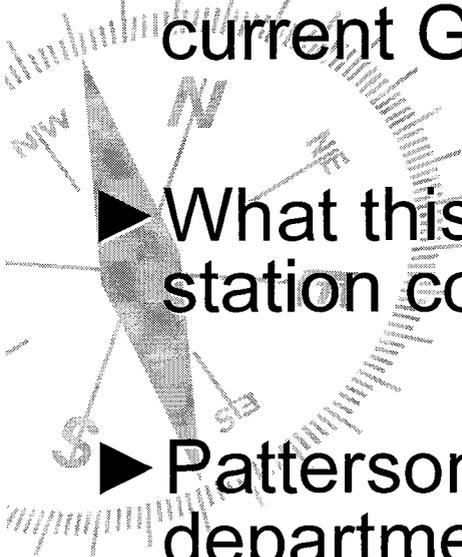
- ▶ % of population total
- ▶ % of calls for service
- ▶ % of assessed valuation
- ▶ Combination of the three



Impediments to Consolidation

Very Different City Growth and Patterns

- ▶ Patterson and Newman are 12 miles apart - about 17 + minutes driving time meaning they cannot provide effective second responder service to the other
- ▶ Patterson expects to reach 30,000 population at current General Plan build-out, could be more...
- ▶ What this means is that Patterson will need a 3-9 station configuration
- ▶ Patterson could consider a stand-a-lone fire department if they need more than four stations.



Impediments to Consolidation

District Future Growth and Patterns

- ▶ Fire District has no population center except Diablo Grande, which is too far out and isolated to assist anyone else;
- ▶ The only likely growth is industrial at Crows Landing, which will generate little revenue based on County property tax projections;
- ▶ No added residential growth is likely in the foreseeable future because it will require sewer and water which means a master-planned development like Diablo Grande;
- ▶ Patterson and Newman will absorb the residential growth in the region for years to come, making any new development in the District not very likely.

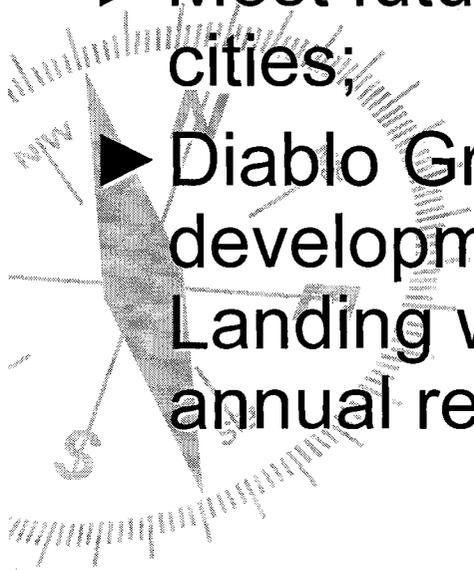


Impediments to Consolidation

Fiscal Form and Capacity

Fire District

- ▶ Current Revenue is property tax with limited likelihood of an increase that does more than keep pace with inflation;
- ▶ Most future residential growth will be in the two cities;
- ▶ Diablo Grande revenue is restricted for use in that development and industrial development at Crows Landing will generate only a few thousand dollars annual revenue.

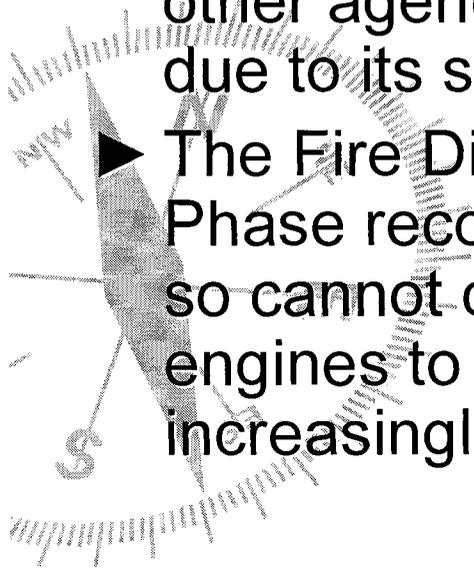


Impediments to Consolidation

Fiscal Form and Capacity

Patterson

- ▶ Using Current financing arrangements, 85-90% of future fire costs will be borne by CFDs in the City, limiting the use of the fire resources to first responder within the City;
- ▶ Patterson will be a net contributor to fire protection in the other agencies in any merged/consolidated department due to its size and fiscal capacity;
- ▶ The Fire District cannot probably afford even the first Phase recommendations without a new assessment and so cannot contribute more than volunteer staffed fire engines to a fire in Patterson whose department will be increasingly dependent on a full time career staff.



Next Steps

- ▶ Asses the obstacles to a complete consolidation;
- ▶ Make a policy choice on how to proceed;
- ▶ When and what type of public report?
- ▶ If an abbreviated report is desired, should the remaining study budget go towards assisting Patterson and the District to re-design a contract-for-service structure?

