

Mescal J-6 Fire District Five Year Plan

Budget Year 2014-2015

The five year plan identifies goals and objectives for the operation of the Mescal J-6 Fire District, and is the only way to access funds set aside in the Reserve Account. The plan is a joint effort of the Command Staff and Governing Board. The plan is approved by the Governing Board and implemented by Command Staff who shall report to the board at least every six months regarding progress in obtaining the goals set forth in the plan.

2014-2015

- 1) Acquire funds and develop district owned property north of Station 1 as a parking area. Discontinue use of neighbor's property south of the station. Work with Cochise County to improve the district owned drainage easement north of Station 1 to eliminate the open ditch and associated hazards.
- 2) Acquire funds and evaluate repairs, maintenance and modifications (including expansion, if necessary) of the pole barn at Station 2 to better serve district needs.
- 3) Acquire funds and improve the heli-pad at Station 2 as necessary to keep it safe, functional and operational.
- 4) Acquire funds and develop water storage system within the district to improve capacity as needed for fire suppression and fire fighting.
- 5) Acquire funds and complete landscaping project at Station 2. Make improvements necessary to comply with ADA.
- 6) Acquire funds for landscaping, an ADA compliant parking lot, and renovation & construction at Station 3.

**** Following are ongoing projects that carry over from year to year. ****

- 7) Continue working with J-6 Ranch Subdivision developers to insure the subdivision is fire code compliant and structures are defensible in case of fire or other emergencies.

- 8) Acquire funds and make payments on tender. Retire the debt as soon as fiscally possible.
- 9) Acquire funds and continue to make required and additional payments on new truck as agreed at time of purchase. Retire the debt as soon as fiscally possible.
- 10) Acquire funds and evaluate need to purchase additional property suitable for training areas, sleeping quarters, classrooms and office space as the district grows and needs increase.
- 11) Acquire funds, identify and correct maintenance issues with facilities and equipment in a timely manner.
- 12) Inventory and evaluate personal protective equipment (PPE) to determine needs. Acquire funds and replace/repair as necessary.
- 13) Develop vehicle/equipment procurement, rehabilitation and replacement schedule. Begin funding and acquiring as soon as fiscally possible. Examples: brush truck, engine, tender, thermal imaging camera, extrication equipment, etc.
- 14) Evaluate communication/dispatch system and identify areas needing improvement with the goal of receiving 100% of calls in our service area. Establish relationships necessary to make that happen and begin funding as soon as possible.
- 15) Evaluate calls to establish patterns and implement program to staff trained personnel at peak call times. Goal is to staff at least one EMT on all shifts. Encourage volunteers to obtain training through graduated pay scales based on level of training. Include program whereby volunteers and less trained personnel can be paid per call if they are available and in district by previous agreement.
- 16) Continue sending representatives to AFDA conferences. Schedule at least two trainings per month for volunteers to address training deficiencies identified by command staff.
- 17) Review Policies & Procedures, Standard Operating Guidelines, employment practices and accounting issues to assure compliance. Revise as necessary.

2015-2016

- 1) Items not completed in 2014-2015 will roll into the 2015-2016 plan. Ongoing items will also be included.
- 2) Continue developing staffing program with goal of staffing full time and at least one EMT each shift. Reduce response time within district.
- 3) Evaluate need for additional command staff to include lieutenants and captains. Establish and fund stipend program to compensate additional command staff.
- 4) Evaluate billing program and make adjustments to make the program more effective and increase collection rate.
- 5) Work with insurance companies to identify ways to improve ISO rating. Implement programs as funds are available.
- 6) Improve community outreach program through website and other means such as yard sales, fireman's ball, bar-b-ques, etc.

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- 13) Develop vehicle/equipment procurement and replacement schedule. Begin funding and acquiring those purchases as soon as fiscally possible (brush truck, engine, thermal imaging camera, extrication equipment, etc.).
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2016-2017

- 1) Any items not completed 2015-2016 will be automatically included in the 2016-2017 plan. Ongoing items will also be included.
- 2) Evaluate water storage capacity and see if additional investment is necessary to serve district needs.
- 2) Develop community outreach services including free blood pressure checks, website, fire prevention services, first aid station and other services.
- 4) Develop annexation and subscription policies to service areas outside district boundaries.
- 5) Begin to staff para-medics with anticipation of providing a higher level of service for EMS and MVA calls.
- 6) Evaluate feasibility of grant writing and benefits to the district.

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2017-2018

- 1) Any items not completed in 2016-2017 will be automatically included in the 2017-2018 plan. Ongoing items will also be included.
- 2) Expand staffing of para-medics and explore possibility of purchasing a transport capable vehicle for the district.
- 3) Explore possibility of contracting with State fire agencies, Forest Service and BLM to generate additional revenue for the district.
- 4) Develop line of communication with other entities in the district to include ADOT, DPS, CCSO, Union Pacific Railroad, Kinder-Morgan, SW Gas.
- 5) Develop community emergency planning in connection with faith based organizations in the community. Identify evacuation plans and safe areas where people can be cared for in case of emergency.
- 6) Continue to explore feasibility of grant writing and hiring a grant writer.

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2018-2019

- 1) Any items not completed in 2017-2018 will be automatically included in the 2018-2019 plan. Ongoing items will also be included.
- 2) Begin fully staffing at least one para-medical on each shift.
- 3) Assess the feasibility and acquire funding for transport capable vehicle to serve district needs.
- 4) Explore ways to expand community outreach and involve residents in the operation of the fire district.
- 5) Begin actively pursuing grants to supplement cost of operating the district and relieve some of the burden on district taxpayers.
- 6) Develop district Haz-Mat plan in cooperation with corporate partners in the district.

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