



Benton County Fire Protection District No. 4

2604 Bombing Range Rd.
West Richland, WA 99353
(509) 967-2945
www.bcf4.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: March 19, 2015
Contact: Commissioner A.J. Hill
Cell (509) 521-0852 Commissioner403@bcfd4.org

Fire District 4 reports back on bond projects

[West Richland, Wash.] – In 2010, the Board of Fire Commissioners for Benton County Fire District 4 issued a non-voted general obligation bond for one million dollars to be raised over the course of six years. The purpose of the bond was to complete projects that supported the Emergency Medical Service program approved by voters the same year.

Five years later, those bond projects are on track and close to being finished. In an effort to improve transparency, we would like to report back on what has been accomplished to date:

- In the next few weeks, fire district residents in the Bombing Range Road area will see construction begin on a new storage facility. Construction is expected to take three months. This project is important to provide storage space for emergency apparatus that supports EMS for fire district residents. Project cost: \$300,000.
- Two demonstration ambulances were purchased to support the EMS program. These ambulances were equipped with the latest life-saving equipment, such as heart monitors, power stretchers, oxygen tanks, and defibrillator or “shock” paddles, as well as needed medical supplies. Project cost: \$400,000.
- Station 410 on Harrington Road was remodeled to allow for 24-hour staffing. These improvements allowed Fire District 4 to staff two stations full-time and improved emergency response times for district residents by three minutes on average. Project cost: \$200,000.
- Fire District 4 purchased land in Red Mountain to be the home of a new fire station. The goal is to improve response times in the western portion of the fire district. Project cost: \$100,000.

The bond includes an annual payment of \$180,000 over six years to finance these projects, and will be paid off on time. In 2014, Fire District 4 received an “A+” rating from Standard and Poor’s, the world’s foremost source of independent credit ratings.

Benton County Fire District 4 provides fire and emergency medical service (EMS) to 15,000 people over 53 square miles, including the City of West Richland. Approximately 36 volunteer and career firefighters, emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and six paramedics respond to an average of 1,200 calls per year.

###