

From: [Williams, Reginald](#)
To: [Downtown West Project](#)
Subject: FW: Need for New Fire Station for Diridon
Date: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 12:46:24 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Reginald O. Williams
Assistant Fire Chief
San Jose Fire Department
Phone: 408-794-7001



From: Hill, Shannon
Sent: Monday, April 13, 2020 10:13 AM
To: Williams, Reginald <Reginald.Williams@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: RE: Need for New Fire Station for Diridon

Great, thanks for your help Reggie.

Have a good week!

Shannon Hill, Planner
Planning, Building & Code Enforcement | Environmental Review Section
City of San José | 200 East Santa Clara Street
Shannon.Hill@sanjoseca.gov | (408) 535 - 7872

From: Williams, Reginald
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2020 2:54 PM
To: Hill, Shannon <Shannon.Hill@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: RE: Need for New Fire Station for Diridon

Shannon,

Please see the responses to the questions. Please let me know if further clarification is needed.

1. For a fully equipped Fire Station (e.g., Engine Company, First response, paramedics, etc), what is a desirable size of land site, square footage of facility, resource/equipment need and number of fire officers/personnel? Is there a prototypical model of a fire station for the area that can be shared?
 - a. Station 37 property size is 27,000 square feet. A fire station's property size can range from 26,000- 28,000 square feet determined by zoning setbacks.
 - b. Station 37 square footage is 8,107. The average fire station square footage built in the last 12 years is 7,835 square feet
 - c. Type 1 Engine: \$683,476.65
 - d. Budget for 14 personnel: \$4,130,000 (FY 2022-2023)
 - e. Fire Station 37 Design is based on Station 21. Station 21 is used as our model.
2. What is the desirable minimum distance (s) from a fire station to its service area if the maximum efficient service was to be provided to that area?
 - 4-minute travel time maximum
 - Maximum spacing from adjoining response areas
 - Access to thoroughfares
 - Closer proximity for high density areas

3. Is there a desirable officer (fire personnel)/population ratio for the city?

The San José Fire Department emergency response performance measures include response time performance and fire mitigation (fire spread). Department resources are deployed out of 33 Fire Stations to provide citywide coverage.

The Department response time standards are based upon two minutes for 911 call processing, two minutes for turnout time (responder reflex time to en route), and four minutes for travel time. In FY 2018-2019 the Department met its travel time standard only 43% of the time (80% standard).

In comparison to fire departments across the US, SJFD is far below per capita staffing levels across all regions.

Current City population: 1,030,119 Sworn Personnel: 711 (56-hour) FF/1,000: 0.49

Table 1:		Population Protected	
Region	Work Week	250,000 or more	25,000 to 249,000
Northeast	40-45 hours	1.77	2.06
	46-51 hours	1.96	2.27
	52-60 hours	*	1.69
Midwest	40-45 hours	*	1.75
	46-51 hours	1.73	1.41
	52-60 hours	1.33	1.43
South	40-45 hours	*	2.06
	46-51 hours	1.28	1.59
	52-60 hours	1.38	1.72
West	40-45 hours	*	1.10
	46-51 hours	*	1.49
	52-60 hours	0.93	0.99

Table 1: Career Firefighters per 1,000 Population, 8/16 1 NFPA Research, Quincy, MA (For All Career Fire Departments, 2013-2015)

The City of San Jose is the tenth largest city in the nation however typically ranks at the bottom of the fifty largest cities in the US.

Agency	Rank	# of Residents per FF	FF per 1,000 Residents
Washington, DC	1	273	3.67
Memphis	2	366	2.73
Cincinnati	3	414	2.41
Rochester	4	419	2.39
Baltimore	5	425	2.35
Boston	6	451	2.22
Cleveland	7	498	2.01
Pittsburgh	8	499	2.01
Columbus	9	529	1.89
Nashville-Davidson	10	536	1.86
Newark	11	553	1.81
Houston	12	579	1.73
Seattle	13	605	1.65
Milwaukee	14	614	1.63
Chicago	15	655	1.53
San Francisco	16	663	1.51
Denver	17	668	1.5
Charlotte	18	675	1.48
Oklahoma	19	695	1.44
Austin	20	729	1.37
New York City	21	749	1.33
Dallas	22	749	1.33
Portland	23	750	1.33
Atlanta	24	751	1.33
Philadelphia	25	771	1.3
Indianapolis	26	773	1.29
Miami	27	795	1.26
Detroit	28	798	1.25
Fort Worth	29	805	1.24
San Antonio	30	839	1.19
Tucson	31	861	1.16
Jacksonville	32	899	1.11
Minneapolis	33	918	1.09
El Paso	34	949	1.05
Boise	35	952	1.05
Phoenix	36	978	1.02

Los Angeles	37	1100	0.91
Miami-Dade	38	1191	0.84
San Diego	39	1291	0.77
San Jose	40	1805	0.55

Table 2: Uniformed Fire Officers Association 2011 (Firefighters per Population 2009/2010 Source: US Census 2009 data and Individual Fire Department)

4. There are certain design concepts that have been helpful in fire protection (e.g., sprinkler equipment, fire resistant landscaping/vegetation, and defensible space, etc.). Does the FD require any of these or other features in areas that lack adequate fire protection? Is there a credit system or penalty for developments that may or may not have these features?

No, the fire department does not require additional fire protection equipment outside of that which is required by the California Fire Code (CFC) for commercial buildings and critical infrastructure. Unlike fire stations constructed in wildland urban interface (WUI) areas of the city, a fire station built in the DSAP would not require fire resistant landscaping, defensible space, or engineered windows and roofing specific to WUI construction. There is no credit for adding or eliminating fire protection design features which fall within the city's local ordinance or the CFC.

5. Can SJFD provide any additional relevant information that may help establish the need for a fire station in a particular area?

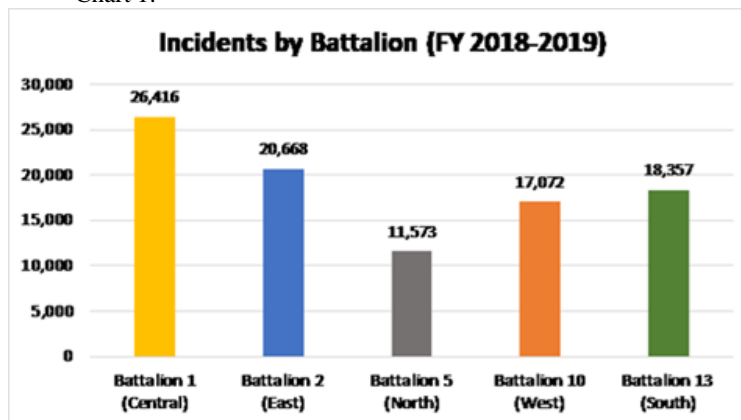
The Department expects an increase in service demand based on the draft capacity scenarios comparison and recent household emergency response demands. This increase will have a direct impact on surrounding fire stations and the Fire Department's response system as a whole. Table 3 provides a rough projection of service demand increase based on the number of additional residential units planned for the DSAP.

Table 3:

Residential	DSAP Total Residential	Est. Increase Service Demand	Opportunity Sites Residential	Est. Increase Service Demand	Combined Est. Increase Service Demand
2014 DSAP	2,588	751			751
Option 1A	8,582	2,489	3,582	1,039	3,528
Option 1B	11,977	3,473	6,977	2,023	5,496
Option 2	18,113	5,253	13,113	3,803	9,056
Option 3	11,029	3,198	6,029	1,748	4,946
Option 3B	12,619	3,660	7,619	2,209	5,869

The DSAP is located in the Fire Department's response area designated as Battalion 1. Battalion 1 continues to be the busiest of the Department's five Battalions responding to 26,416 request for service in FY 18/19 as reported in the *Fire Department Call Volume Report* [\[1\]](#) to the Public Safety, Finance & Strategic Support Committee on March 4, 2020 (see Chart: 1). The projected increase in population that will accompany build-out of the DSAP will increase Fire Department service demands in the central area of the city and negatively impact response time performance system-wide.

Chart 1:



The Fire Department has five battalions geographically located throughout the city that provide fire, medical, and other emergency and non-emergency services required of an all risk fire department. These battalions are located in north,

south, east, west, and central San José. Each Battalion contains a subset of fire stations that provide response in a smaller geographical area.

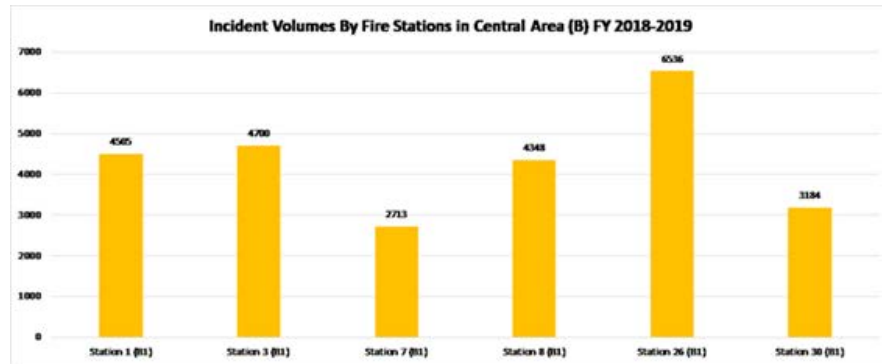
Table 4:

Battalion	Location	Stations
Battalion 1 (DSAP)	Central	1, 3, 7, 8, 26, 30, 33*
Battalion 2	East	2, 11, 16, 19, 21, 24, 31
Battalion 5	North	5, 20, 23, 25, 29, 34
Battalion 10	West	4, 6, 9, 10, 14, 15
Battalion 13	South	12, 13, 17, 18, 22, 27, 28, 35

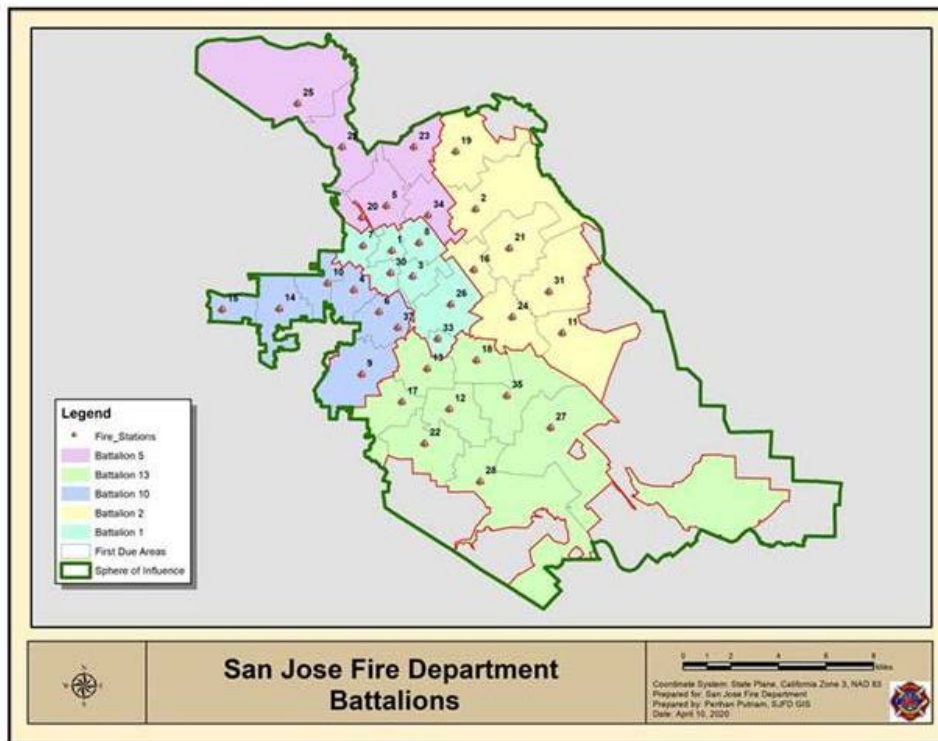
*Station 33 remains closed.

Fire department operational performance is a function of three considerations; resource availability/reliability, department capability and overall operational effectiveness. Resource availability continues to be a challenge due to increasing call volume city-wide. This occurs when responders from a given station are unavailable due to service demands and another request for service is received for their jurisdiction. This second request results in the dispatch of the next closest station to the emergency, often resulting in a delayed response. Chart: 2 provides a graphical representation of the total number of events by stations located in the central area during FY 18/19. Fire stations located in the DSAP (Stations 1, 3, 8, & 30) are amongst the busiest stations in the city and are less reliable as a resource due to high call volumes. Fire Station 4 is west of the central area and responded to 4,356 calls for service in FY 18/19. This stations ability to support the central area is poor and unreliable due to their call volume.

Chart 2:



City of San José Fire Response Area



Have a great weekend and stay safe!

Reginald O. Williams
 Assistant Fire Chief
 San Jose Fire Department
 Phone: 408-794-7001



From: Hill, Shannon
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2020 2:11 PM
To: Williams, Reginald <Reginald.Williams@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: RE: Need for New Fire Station for Diridon

No problem, Robert Manford (Deputy Director of Planning) drafted the questions to support City management staff's coordination with Google.

Thanks,

Shannon Hill, Planner
 Planning, Building & Code Enforcement | Environmental Review Section
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From: Williams, Reginald
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2020 2:07 PM
To: Hill, Shannon <Shannon.Hill@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: Re: Need for New Fire Station for Diridon

Thank you Shannon. Who is the audience for this response? Who's asking?

Reginald O. Williams
Assistant Fire Chief
San Jose Fire Department
Phone: 408-794-7001

From: Hill, Shannon <Shannon.Hill@sanjoseca.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2020 2:02:50 PM
To: Williams, Reginald <Reginald.Williams@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: RE: Need for New Fire Station for Diridon

Hello again Reggie,

I have provided some additional clarification below about what is being asked.

Typically if a project includes fire prevention design features, they may be credited based on the formula used to determine fair share contribution (i.e., their monetary contribution is reduced). Without those features, a higher contribution may be paid.

If you still have questions, please let me know, and I'll coordinate getting answers ASAP.

Thank you,

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From: Hill, Shannon
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2020 12:42 PM
To: Williams, Reginald <Reginald.Williams@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: RE: Need for New Fire Station for Diridon

Hi Reggie,

I did not draft these questions. However, I believe the intent of that question is to determine if there is a monetary option for mitigating impacts or a monetary penalty for impacts. I will also ask for additional clarification as well.

Thanks!

Shannon Hill, Planner
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From: Williams, Reginald
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2020 12:37 PM
To: Hill, Shannon <Shannon.Hill@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: RE: Need for New Fire Station for Diridon

Shannon,

Can you simplify what this question is asking?

4. **Is there a credit system or penalty for developments that may or may not have these features?**

Reginald O. Williams
Assistant Fire Chief
San Jose Fire Department
Phone: 408-794-7001



From: Hill, Shannon
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2020 11:47 AM
To: Williams, Reginald <Reginald.Williams@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: RE: Need for New Fire Station for Diridon

Hi Reggie,

No problem, and thanks for the update.

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From: Williams, Reginald
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2020 11:41 AM
To: Hill, Shannon <Shannon.Hill@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: RE: Need for New Fire Station for Diridon

Funny you should ask. I am tinkering away at it now. Let me check on the Chief but we are hoping to get this to you today. It's a little more comprehensive than I wanted it to be, but we are getting questions from Planning and Housing regarding this topic.

Reginald O. Williams
Assistant Fire Chief
San Jose Fire Department
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From: Hill, Shannon
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2020 11:31 AM
To: Williams, Reginald <Reginald.Williams@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: RE: Need for New Fire Station for Diridon

Hi Reggie,

I just wanted to follow up with you on the information requested below. Has the chief had a chance to pull the information together, or do you need more time?

Thanks!

Shannon Hill, Planner

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From: Williams, Reginald

Sent: Friday, April 3, 2020 10:58 AM

To: Hill, Shannon <Shannon.Hill@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: RE: Need for New Fire Station for Diridon

Yes, next Friday will be more than enough time to pull together the information.

Thanks Shannon, have a great weekend and stay safe!

Reginald O. Williams

Assistant Fire Chief

San Jose Fire Department

Phone: 408-794-7001



From: Hill, Shannon

Sent: Friday, April 3, 2020 10:56 AM

To: Williams, Reginald <Reginald.Williams@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: RE: Need for New Fire Station for Diridon

Hi Reggie,

Great, thank you. We need responses as soon as possible, as we want to include your responses into the EIR's analysis of cumulative impacts to establish the need for a new Fire Station in the DSAP area and to calculate Google's fair share contribution. However, we are requesting input from other departments on the EIR by April 10th (next Friday).

Is that enough time for the chief to pull together the information?

Thanks!

Shannon Hill, Planner

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From: Williams, Reginald

Sent: Friday, April 3, 2020 7:28 AM

To: Hill, Shannon <Shannon.Hill@sanjoseca.gov>

Subject: RE: Need for New Fire Station for Diridon

Hi Shannon. I have provided this to the Fire Chief for his input. When would you like it back by?

Reginald O. Williams
Assistant Fire Chief
San Jose Fire Department
Phone: 408-794-7001



From: Hill, Shannon
Sent: Thursday, April 2, 2020 3:33 PM
To: Williams, Reginald <Reginald.Williams@sanjoseca.gov>
Subject: Need for New Fire Station for Diridon

Hi Reggie,

Our Deputy Director (Robert Manford) had some follow up questions to support the analysis in the Downtown West EIR and in support of negotiations with Google. We realize SJFD staff are overstretched, but we would appreciate you providing your input ASAP, so we can assist with meeting the needs of SJFD.

1. For a fully equipped Fire Station (e.g., Engine Company, First response, paramedics, etc), what is a desirable size of land site, square footage of facility, resource/equipment need and number of fire officers/personnel? Is there a prototypical model of a fire station for the area that can be shared?
2. What is the desirable minimum distance (s) from a fire station to its service area if the maximum efficient service was to be provided to that area?
3. Is there a desirable officer (fire personnel)/population ratio for the city?
4. There are certain design concepts that have been helpful in fire protection (e.g., sprinkler equipment, fire resistant landscaping/vegetation, and defensible space, etc.,). Does the FD require any of these or other features in areas that lack adequate fire protection? Is there a credit system or penalty for developments that may or may not have these features?
5. Can SJFD provide any additional relevant information that may help establish the need for a fire station in a particular area?

Thank you in advance for your assistance!

Shannon Hill, Planner

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^[1] <https://www.sanjoseca.gov/home/showdocument?id=55406>