



# JUST THE FACTS

*Learn about the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District*  
**FIRE & EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONSE MEASURE**

**The Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District—commonly known as Metro Fire—serves a population of over 720,000 in a 359 square mile service area.** Metro Fire is one of the largest fire agencies in the State of California, operating 41 stations in 23 distinct communities throughout unincorporated Sacramento County, Citrus Heights, Rancho Cordova, and a portion of Placer County.

## Ever-Growing Call Volume and Population Growth Strains Local Fire & Emergency Response Services

Metro Fire responds to over 100,000 emergencies every year, whether that's a structure fire, medical emergency, natural disaster, wildfire, flooding, or earthquake. In the last 10 years, emergency calls have increased by 30% for medical emergencies and 40% for fire emergencies. Anytime a fire engine is used for a medical emergency, it isn't available to respond to a fire. Our stations were not built to fit the number of personnel and vehicles needed to meet today's call volume. These capacity issues affect our ability to respond to emergencies quickly.

## Aging, Deteriorating Stations and Emergency Vehicles Could Lead to Unsafe Working Conditions and Impact Response Times

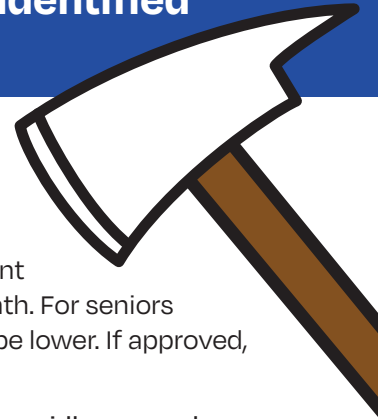
More than half of our fire stations are over 50 years old, and many have never been updated to meet today's standards. They are now too small to house the amount of emergency vehicles and personnel needed to respond to an increasing number of emergency calls. These fire stations also have heightened risk of firefighter exposure to cancer-causing indoor air pollution. Additionally, 73% of Sac Metro's fire engines will reach the end of their useful lifespans in the next few years. Deteriorating facilities run the risk of violating work safety regulations without improvements and hinder our ability to attract and retain qualified firefighters.

## Rapid Response Times Can Be the Difference Between Life and Death

Currently, 4 out of 10 medical calls in Metro Fire's jurisdiction have a 20 plus minute response time. Similarly, every minute a fire doubles in size exponentially increasing the risk of damage and destruction.



# Measure O Could Provide Locally Controlled Funding for Identified Facilities, Vehicle, and Equipment Needs



The needs identified in a recent comprehensive capital needs assessment far exceed the current budget. To address these needs and meet the growing public safety demands of the communities we serve, the Board of Directors of the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District has placed a \$415 million Fire & Emergency Response Bond Measure, Measure O, on the November 2024 ballot. Measure O would cost \$19 per \$100,000 of assessed value—not current market value—or about \$78 per year for the typical property taxpayer, or about \$6.50 per month. For seniors who have owned their homes for a long time, and have lower assessed values, the cost could be lower. If approved, Measure O could be used to address identified needs, including:



Replacing outdated and deteriorating lifesaving equipment



Improving aging fire stations to meet current work safety conditions



Ensuring continued reduction for our firefighters' exposure to cancer-causing air pollution



Equipping stations to more rapidly respond to medical and fire emergencies simultaneously to keep up with growing call volume



Providing additional emergency response equipment, fire engines, ambulances, and other vehicles so first responders can arrive on the scene quickly



Constructing new stations in high-population areas to reduce response times

## Addressing Identified Facilities, Vehicle, and Equipment Needs Could Maintain Response Times, Fire Protection, and Lifesaving Services

By addressing identified facilities, vehicle, and equipment needs, Metro Fire would be able to continue providing fire protection and lifesaving services to the community, including:



Maintaining 911 fire response and emergency medical response times



Supporting rural fire protection and emergency medical response services



Sustaining local fire protection



Attracting and retaining qualified professional firefighters and paramedics



Protecting natural disaster response and wildfire prevention

## Measure O Requires Mandatory Fiscal Accountability Provisions and Local Control

Measure O would include strict fiscal accountability requirements, including:



A detailed project list outlining the exact use of funds



An independent Citizens' Oversight Committee to review the use of funds



Public disclosure of all spending



By law, all funds would stay local to Metro Fire's community and could not be taken away by the State.



Independent annual financial and performance audits

### We Want to Hear from You!

Community input will be a critical component of our planning process, so we welcome your feedback and questions. For more information or to provide feedback, please visit our website at [www.metrofire.ca.gov](http://www.metrofire.ca.gov) or contact us at [MeasureO@metrofire.ca.gov](mailto:MeasureO@metrofire.ca.gov).

