



VENTURA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 8, 2020

**** INVITE TO COVER ****

Ventura County Fire Department to hold a groundbreaking event for a new fire station in the Upper Ojai area

CAMARILLO, Calif. – The Ventura County Fire Department and distinguished officials will celebrate the coming of a new fire station with a groundbreaking event in Upper Ojai on Thursday, January 16, 2020, hosted from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

VCFD Fire Chief Mark Lorenzen, County Supervisor Steve Bennett, County Executive Officer (CEO) Mike Powers and Assistant CEO Mike Petit will join local firefighters in celebrating the start of construction with an official groundbreaking ceremony at 9:45 a.m. for new Fire Station 20.

***NOTE: Parking will NOT be permitted at the current site. Please park at the existing site of Fire Station 20, located at 12727 Santa Paula- Ojai Road. Event attendees, dignitaries and media will be shuttled to the groundbreaking.**

“The new station is a direct result of our desire to provide the best possible service to the community members in Upper Ojai,” said VCFD Fire Chief Mark Lorenzen. “This project has been in the making for years. We’re excited to break ground on the new station, which will better accommodate our firefighters and additional rescue equipment.”

The new \$7.3 million fire station will be built on a 2.3-acre site approximately a half-mile west of the current station along Highway 150. The 8,504 square foot facility is anticipated to be complete by early 2021. It will include two pass-through engine bays, two offices, a fitness room, kitchen, dining area, and living quarters for four firefighting personnel. The original fire station was built in 1959.

"In the last 60 years, we've outgrown the current site as service demands have increased in the area. This new station will allow firefighters to store larger equipment needed to fight brushfires and support operations with updated technology," commented Engineer Mike Des Forges, VCFD Public Information Officer.

The new site of Fire Station 20 is located at 12000 Santa Paula- Ojai Rd. Ojai, Ca 93023. It was approved by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors in September 2019, accepting the bid from Ardan Construction.

For more information on Fire Station 20's groundbreaking, contact VCFD's Public Information Office at (805) 389-9769.

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