



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

FIRE DEPARTMENT

1320 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063-3294
(323) 881-2401

DARYL L. OSBY
FIRE CHIEF
FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

November 1, 2013

TO: EACH SUPERVISOR

FROM: DARYL L. OSBY, FIRE CHIEF

UPDATE: CONCERNS REGARDING THE COLLEGE AFFILIATION PROGRAM AND CONSTRUCTION AT THE DEL VALLE REGIONAL TRAINING CENTER

This is to provide an update to your Honorable Board on the memorandum dated May 9, 2013 (attached), regarding two issues facing the Los Angeles County Fire Department (Department). The first issue involves an audit of the College Affiliation Program (CAP) by the State Chancellor's Office. The second issue pertains to the surface rights to construct facilities at the Del Valle Regional Training Center.

COLLEGE AFFILIATION PROGRAM

As reported in the Board memo dated May 9, 2013, County Counsel had prepared a final draft of an agreement which would resolve issues contained in the audit, and submitted it to College of the Canyons (COC) on April 19, 2013. Department chief officers and executives from COC have come to an agreement and the new Instructional Services Agreement (ISA) was signed on August 15, 2013. Therefore, under the delegated authority of the Fire Chief, we have signed a multi-year agreement with COC that corrects all of the issues contained in the audit.

COC administrators and members of the California State Fire Marshal's office continue to pursue a regulatory change to State guidelines governing ISA online education. The change will allow public safety agencies to operate under the most recent regulations for online education used by California colleges. This will increase instructional consistency Department-wide and enhance training through the use of multi-media.

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November 1, 2013
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DEL VALLE REGIONAL TRAINING CENTER

As mentioned in the Board memo dated May 9, 2013, the Department has been working with representatives from the Chief Executive Office, Real Estate Division (CEO/RED), County Counsel and Public Works to establish a capital project for design construction on the electrical and water infrastructure at the Del Valle Regional Training Center. The Department has also been exploring funding options.

As an update, the Department has submitted a Board letter tentatively on the agenda scheduled for November 5, 2013, which seeks approval from your Honorable Board to authorize the Director of Public Works (or her designee) to execute a geotechnical and environmental consultant services agreement with Langan Engineering and Environmental Services. This service agreement will provide for geotechnical engineering, materials testing and inspection services during the design and construction of proposed improvements at the Del Valle site.

I will provide your Board with another update on the Del Valle Regional Training Center construction project by May 1, 2014.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (323) 881-6180.

DLO:mc

Attachment

c: William T Fujioka
John Krattli
Gail Farber
Brence Culp
Georgia Mattera
Rex Ball
Scott Kuhn
Sergio Vasquez
Monica Garcia
Randi Tahara
Joseph Charney
Susan Nissman
Rick Velasquez
Sussy Nemer



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DARYL L. OSBY
FIRE CHIEF
FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

May 9, 2013

TO: EACH SUPERVISOR

FROM: DARYL L. OSBY, FIRE CHIEF *DLO*

UPDATE: CONCERNS REGARDING THE COLLEGE AFFILIATION PROGRAM AND CONSTRUCTION AT THE DEL VALLE REGIONAL TRAINING CENTER

This is an update to the memorandum dated March 11, 2013 (attached), informing your Honorable Board of two issues facing the Los Angeles County Fire Department (Department). The first issue is an audit of the College Affiliation Program (CAP) by the State Chancellor's Office. The second issue pertains to the surface rights to construct facilities at the Del Valle Regional Training Center.

COLLEGE AFFILIATION PROGRAM

1. As previously reported in the Board memo dated March 11, 2013, County Counsel, the Department and College of the Canyons (COC) agreed upon key elements of a path forward to resolve issues contained in the audit. County Counsel submitted a final draft to COC on April 19, 2013, and is waiting for feedback.
2. As reported in the Board memo dated March 11, 2013, Department chief officers and executives from COC continue to discuss the issue of asynchronous on-line training with officials from the State Fire Marshal's office and the State Chancellor's office. Discussions indicate that there is support at the State level for a regulatory change which will allow fire departments to use on-line training, as most college institutions currently allow. The Department is expecting a regulatory change by fall 2013. As stated earlier, this solution will increase accountability and consistency amongst various Department facilities, enhance the training experience through the use of multi-media, and address the issues identified in the audit.

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3. Effective February 2013, all Department firefighter series personnel began using COC's on-line learning platform, "Blackboard," to complete daily drill assignments. This training format has received high praise and favorable reviews from firefighters in the field. The Department will continue to produce high quality learning videos for the "Blackboard" platform.

DEL VALLE REGIONAL TRAINING CENTER

The Department continues to work with representatives from the Chief Executive Office, Real Estate Division (CEO/RED), County Counsel, and Public Works to establish a capital project for design construction on the electrical and water infrastructure. The Department is currently exploring funding options.

I will provide your Board with another update on these two important issues by November 1, 2013. If you have any questions, please contact me at (323) 881-6180.

DLO:en

Attachment

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