



**Town of Atherton  
Office of the Mayor  
91 Ashfield Road  
Atherton, California 94027  
Phone: (650) 752-0500  
Fax: (650) 614-1212**

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October 19, 2015

Virginia Chang Kiraly, President  
Menlo Park Fire Protection District  
170 Middlefield Road  
Menlo Park, CA 94025

***SUBJECT: PARTICIPATION IN THE TOWN OF ATHERTON CIVIC CENTER PROJECT –  
EMERGENCY SERVICES***

Dear President Kiraly:

As you know, the Town is in the design phase of the most significant public facility improvement project in our history. This project involves the design and construction of a new Civic Center for our Town – which we expect to define our community for the next 50+ years. This is an ambitious project that gives us the opportunity to think out of the box and to redefine our needs and how we deliver services for the next few generations. We want the District to be a part of this project. We also think that the District would be a great partner in assessing how to best service our common customers now and in the future.

The City Manager asked your Fire Chief to consider the opportunity to address both today's issues and tomorrow's service needs by getting in on the ground floor of this project – before it's too late. We want the Fire District to participate by housing an Emergency Response Team, enhancing communications, creating a response space within the new Emergency Operations Center (EOC), or planning for the future growth and response needs of the District by developing permanent space at the site.

Staff-to-staff the response to our request was not what the City Council anticipated and, frankly, we think that this is a unique opportunity for forward thinking and to enhance the District's services. Therefore, without any disrespect to the Chief, the City Council has asked that I put this request directly to the Fire Board itself. Please ask your Board to consider participating in the Town's Civic Center Project in an effort to address future Atherton (and District) emergency response needs. The possibilities include office/bunk space dedicated to the District within the Town's EOC to facilitate the placement of an Emergency Response Team onsite 24/7 (now or in the future); financing of improved communication systems; technology enhancements to the Town's EOC to improve regional response and collaboration; and much more – now is the best time to be at the table and discuss these needs for the future.

Sincerely,

Rick DeGolia, Mayor

cc: City Council | Correspondence Archive