



# Federal & State Mandates

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# Fire District Overview

- 155 Square Miles
- Communities Served
  - Alamo, Blackhawk, Town of Danville, Diablo, City of San Ramon, Southern area of Morgan Territory and the Tassajara Valley (all in Contra Costa County).
- Population of 170,000
  - Varies from dense in the urban core to sparse in rural areas.



## Jurisdiction

- Internationally Accredited
- ISO Class 2
- Bordered by two fire agencies and a state park
- Geographically diverse
- Significant growth



# Services

- Structure Firefighting
- Wildland Firefighting
- ALS Treatment and Transport
- Technical Rescue Team
- Hazardous Material Team
- Community Risk Reduction
- Dispatch Services



# Facilities

- 9 Career Stations
  - 1 Volunteer Station (FS37)
- Communications Center (FS31)
- Communications Center Annex
- Administration Building
- Essential Services Warehouse
- Training Site



# Companies

- 15 Career Companies
  - 10 Engines (Type 1/Type 3) 3/0 Staffing
  - 3 Trucks (T31, T34, T35) 3/0
  - 2 Ambulances (PM31, PM39) 2/0
  - (3) Rescue/Medic Units (Cross-staffed)
    - FS32, FS34, FS35
- Special Units
  - HM35, USAR34, CS131, BS31



# Governance

- Independent Special District
- Five-member Board of Directors
  - Elected at-large
  - Serve staggered four-year terms
- Monthly Meetings / Special Meetings
- Standing Sub-committees
- FC oversees day-to-day operations



# Budget FY09/10

- Revenue
  - \$52,042,709
    - Property Taxes (94%)
    - Ambulance Transport Fees (5%)
- Expenditures
  - \$53,663,469
    - Salaries and Benefits (84%)
    - Services and Supplies (9%)



# California Special Districts

- 3,300
- Services from A-Z (Airports to Zoos)
- \$38B Annually
- Focused Service
  - Water, Electricity, Mosquito Abatement, Fire Protection, Sewage Treatment, Recreation/Parks, Irrigation, Cemetery, Harbor and Port, Hospital, Transit.



# What is a Special District

“a special district is a separate local government that delivers a limited number of public services to a geographically limited area”



# Distinguishing Characteristics

- Special districts are a form of government
- Special districts have governing boards
- Special districts provide services and facilities
- Special districts have defined boundaries



# What a Special District is Not

- Special districts are not state government
- Special districts are not county governments or cities
- Special districts are not school districts
- Special districts are not “Mello-Roos” districts or benefit assessment districts
- Special districts are not redevelopment agencies



# Types of Special Districts

- Single function versus multi-function
  - San Ramon Valley Fire District vs. Dublin San Ramon Services District
- Enterprise versus non-enterprise
  - EBMUD vs. EBRPD
- Independent versus dependent
  - BART vs. CCCFPD



## State & Federal Mandates

- The federal government and the States impose dozens of mandates on local governments
- Sometimes local governments can apply for reimbursements for enacting specialized services that are ordered by lawmakers



# Personal Liability

- AB 1127 eliminated immunities of government personnel from civil and criminal prosecution
- SB 1207 required all Volunteer Firefighters to meet the same training requirements as Paid Firefighters



## Bottom-line Training Mandates

- Fire departments must train all employees to perform safely in every aspect of their job which involves risk or hazard
- Firefighters must train to state-mandated or nationally-recognized “industry standards”



## Local Impact

- There is a long list of specific mandates for training of fire personnel
- Some mandates require significant effort to achieve and have a large financial impact
  - Two-in, Two-out when operating in IDLH atmospheres



# Management Process

- Planning
  - Strategic Plan
  - Standards of Cover
  - Self-Assessment Manual
- Control
  - Business Plan
  - Annual Operating Budget