

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Sylmar Neighborhood Council

Name: Diane Valencia

Phone Number: [818-687-8684](tel:818-687-8684)

Email: Diane.Valencia@SylmarNC.org

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(14) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

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Impact Information

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Council File Number: 15-1252-S1

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Item Number:

Summary: The Sylmar Neighborhood Council supports the identification of short-term, intermediate and long-term solutions to reduce emergency response times and increase fire protection facilities in our community. We respectfully request that these solutions include the construction of additional fire stations to better align Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) resources with our community's population and geography.

- Sylmar's population has grown significantly, from approximately 40,349 in 1970 to approximately 79,000 in 2014, with little change in LAFD resources or staffing in our community. During that time, Sylmar's Station 91 assumed shared responsibility for fire protection services for the City of San Fernando after San Fernando closed their own fire department.
- Station 91's district serves one of the largest geographic areas within the entire City.
- Sylmar has had a long history of large-scale disasters and emergencies; Loop Fire, Sylmar Earthquake, Sylmar Tunnel Explosion, Northridge Earthquake and the Marek Fire. The Sayre Fire in 2008 caused the worst loss of homes in the history of the City of Los Angeles.
- In 2006, Council File No 03-2160 discussed the possibility of building a Regional Fire Station to serve Sylmar and surrounding communities. It was noted that during the 5 years preceding the initial study on this project that the demand for service had increased by 29% in Sylmar. No station was built.
- In 2006, there was a groundbreaking ceremony for the intended construction of new Fire Station 31 in Sylmar. Construction was never commenced.
- The City had previously expressed an interest to purchase one or both firehouses in the City of San Fernando. The City ultimately, did not purchase these properties - they were sold to other buyers.
- Response times in areas of Sylmar are well over those experienced in other communities within the City and are not aligned with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standards.