

MOTION

In January of 2015, the Los Angeles Fire Department announced that it was reorganizing its operations into four geographic bureaus: Central, South, Valley, and West, with the goal of making the Department more responsive to the communities it serves by moving command personnel into offices in their respective bureaus.

The Operations Valley Bureau encompasses the entire San Fernando Valley and includes Battalions 10, 12, 14, 15, and 17. Currently, Fire Station 83 located at 4960 Balboa Boulevard in Encino, serves as its headquarters.

Unfortunately, the site wasn't designed with the geographic bureau model in mind and it is insufficient for its needs. The Operations Valley Bureau needs facilities that can serve as its hub for public safety in the San Fernando Valley. The men and women who work for this Bureau should have a more permanent space that allows them to run their critical operations efficiently and smoothly. The commanding officers and other staff previously had office space in dilapidated trailers at Fire Station 88 that were also insufficient for operational needs.

The City should explore the feasibility of replacing the trailers with shipping containers that have been converted into modular office space. There have been recent reports about the conversion of shipping containers into well appointed, modern, and economical office, retail space, and residential housing. For example, in Alabama there is a development project that is made entirely of used shipping containers that is three stories tall and total 14,440 square feet once completed and includes retail and office space.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Los Angeles Fire Department and the Department of General Services, with the assistance of the City Administrative Officer, to report on the feasibility and costs of replacing the dilapidated trailers at Fire Station 88, located at 5101 Sepulveda Boulevard in Sherman Oaks, with shipping containers that have been converted into modular office space and any other alternatives the Departments identify that are equally quick and cost effective.

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ORIGINAL

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