



Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue

304 FIRST STREET
INDIAN ROCKS BEACH, FLORIDA 33785-2587

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www.psfrd.org

FIRE CHIEF
JEFFREY DAVIDSON

PUBLIC FACILITIES ANNUAL NOTICE OF CHANGE
AS REQUIRED BY
CHAPTER 189.08

Adopted by the Board of Fire Commissioners on February 15, 2022.

Background: The Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District (District) provides this information to assist in the development of comprehensive plans and to foster coordination between the District, the Pinellas County EMS Authority, Pinellas County Fire Authority, Town of Belleair Shore, City of Belleair Beach, City of Indian Rocks Beach, and Town of Indian Shores. In November of 2020, the District's Fire Commission adopted the Optima Resource Modeling Pinellas Suncoast Stations Optimization Study (Optima Study). The Optima Study was commissioned to identify the most advantageous locations for each of the District's fire stations from a service delivery and response time perspective. The Optima Study not only evaluated service delivery and response times within the District, but also considered impacts on neighboring agencies from a more regional perspective.

This Optima Study shows that three Fire/EMS stations are needed to provide services within PSFRD; Station 26 in Indian Shores, Station 27 in Indian Rocks Beach, and Station 28 in the unincorporated area of Oakhurst.

Station 26 – 18395 Gulf Boulevard, Suite 101, Indian Shores, FL 33785

Legal Description: PARK BANK PROFESSIONAL OFFICE BUILDING CONDO UNIT 1

The District is actively pursuing the building of a permanent Fire/EMS station for Indian Shores through community partnerships. The ideal site for the station would be near the Indian Shores Municipal Complex, located at 19305 Gulf Blvd, Indian Shores, Florida. This relocation is consistent with the results of the Optima Study for coverage in the District as well as the surrounding communities.

Station 26 provides fire protection, fire prevention, and advanced life support emergency medical service to the District and other areas in Pinellas County, including emergency medical services to the Town of Redington Beach, the Town of North Redington Beach, and the Town of Redington Shores through automatic aid agreements and closest unit response agreements. The District is an active participant in the surrounding fire service delivery systems through the automatic aid agreements and operates a unit defined within the Pinellas County fire community as an ALS Squad. This unit is staffed with a two full time positions, with a minimum of one Lieutenant and one Paramedic assigned.

The current facility used to operate Station 26 is not owned by the District, but is leased to the District by Frank R. Chivas.

Station 27 - 304 First Street, Indian Rocks Beach, FL 33785

Legal Description: Indian Rocks Beach Block 9, Lots 17, 18, and 19 (12/30/14/42858/009/0170).

Station 27 provides fire protection, fire prevention, and advanced life support emergency medical service to the District and all other areas in Pinellas County. Services are managed by administrative staff, support personnel, and response units to include a paid, full-time District Chief in an emergency response vehicle, and a fire apparatus staffed with a paid, full-time crew of one Lieutenant and two to three Firefighter/EMTs or Firefighter/Paramedics. All administrative staff for the District operate out of Station 27.

This station is well over 50 years old, is constructed of masonry and wood frame construction, and has several operational deficits, outlined below:

- The station is not rated for tropical storm weather and must be evacuated for a level 1 hurricane threat. The doors and window openings are not protected by impact rated doors or windows.
- The station's administrative offices are housed on the second floor, without an elevator, making public access more challenging.
- As the station has public access deficits and very limited public parking, the District is unable to hold public meetings at this location and must hold all public meetings off site utilizing neighboring facilities.
- The Optima Study verified that the current location of the station lends itself to response time issues in the northern end of the District as well as some portions of Indian Rocks Beach.
- The station endures any number of fire station design elements that do not support firefighter safety such as inadequate firefighting gear storage, the lack of exhaust removal devices, unprotected vertical openings, and the lack of a fire sprinkler system.
- Due to the limited amount of land available on the beaches, Fire Station 27 does not have drive-through capabilities and requires the backing of apparatus, including boats and trailers, into the station from the street.

The current facility is owned by the District.

Station 28 - 13501 94th Avenue North, Seminole, FL 33776

Legal Description: Country Gentlemen Acres S ½ of Lots 1 and 2.(20/30/15/18612/000/0011).

Station 28 provides fire protection, fire prevention, and advanced life support emergency medical services to the Fire District and all areas in Pinellas County, to include the unincorporated area of the county known as Oakhurst. Station 28 is housed with a pumper/aerial apparatus, a reserve engine, and a paid full-time crew of one Lieutenant and two to three Firefighter/EMTs or Firefighter/Paramedics. One of those staffed positions is always a Paramedic. This station also houses an apparatus maintenance facility with one full-time certified emergency vehicle technician, and one full time maintenance technician.

This station is 51 years old and is a steel-framed metal building with several operational deficiencies, as outlined below:

- The station is not tropical storm weather rated. The doors and window openings are not protected by impact rated doors or windows.
- The Optima Study verified that relocating the station to the north and west would be a more advantageous location not only for service delivery within the District but also within the region. This is a current problem, as there is no land available within the District coverage area to relocate to. The current property does offer advantages to the EMS and Fire delivery system as a whole and should be built upon as soon as possible.
- The station endures any number of fire station design elements that do not support firefighter safety, such as inadequate firefighting gear storage, the lack of exhaust removal devices, the lack of a fire sprinkler system, inadequate storage, and the lack of physical fitness space.

The current facility is owned by the District.

As required by Chapter 189.08 F.S., the *Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District* provides the following:

- (1) **Requirement: Identify each public facility the special district is building, improving, or expanding:**

Response: At the present time, no facilities are being built, improved upon, or expanded.

- (2) **Requirement: Identify each public facility the special district is proposing to build, improve, or expand within the next seven years.**

Response:

Station 26 – The District is actively pursuing the building of a permanent Fire/EMS station for Indian Shores through community partnerships. The optimal site for the station would be near the Indian Shores Municipal Complex, located at 19305 Gulf Blvd, Indian Shores, Florida. This relocation is consistent with the results of the Optima Study for coverage in PSFRD as well as the surrounding communities.

Station 27 – The District is actively pursuing the building of a new Fire/EMS station for Indian Rocks Beach, north of the current location, to optimize response times into Indian Rocks Beach, Belleair Shore, and Belleair Beach, as supported by the Optima Study. The proposed facility would be a hurricane rated conventional fire station that would include administrative offices.

Station 28 – Station 28 is our first project priority for the building of fire stations. There are plans to replace Fire Station 28 as soon as funding can be identified and committed to. The current property is owned by the District and is of ample size to build a fire station with an EOC, which can be multi-purposed to a training/community room for the area homeowners to utilize for meetings, and for the District to be able to hold public meetings. The fire department shop facility will also be incorporated into a separate building, and the shop bays can be utilized to store vehicles that must be relocated during a hurricane evacuation from the beach to the mainland. The EOC will be hurricane rated, and the District would collaborate with other area departments to work in the EOC when the need arises.

Requirement: Identify any public facilities the special district is helping another entity (except a county or municipality) build, improve, or expand through a lease agreement.

Response: This situation does not exist for the District.

- (3) **Requirement: Identify how the special district proposes to finance each public facility:**

Response:

Station 28: During the FY 22/23 CIP requests from Pinellas County, the District will be submitting a request for \$4.5M to help fund the project, to include design and construction. Grant funding will also be applied for to fund the project. Any additional costs will be paid for from District funds.

Station 27: Land acquisition will be required for this facility and the District will actively pursue grant funding from FEMA and the State of Florida to fund this project. In the absence of grant awards, the funding for this project will be from District funds.

Station 26: The District will actively pursue grant funding from FEMA and the State of Florida to fund this project. In the absence of grant awards, the funding for this project will be from District funds.

- (4) **Requirement: Identify the anticipated completion time of any projects above:**

Response: Station 28 would be the priority to be completed, providing the CIP funding requests are granted in a timely manner for FY 22/23. If funds are granted timely, the anticipated completion time for Station 28 would be October 2024. Given the age of the current building for Station 28, this project needs to move forward as quickly as possible. Station 27 will also be about 24 months to complete once land is identified and funding put into place. The anticipated time frame for Station 26 is uncertain, as we are actively seeking partnerships with other agencies to provide the most up-to-date facility, while exploring the options of cost sharing to minimize expenses.

- (5) **Requirement: Identify the anticipated capacity of and demands on each public facility when completed, if a public facility will be improved or expanded, include existing and anticipated capacity.**

Response:

Fire Station 28 will be the largest of the three Fire/EMS stations and will contain a minimum of 3 apparatus bays to be able to house the emergency response units that are evacuated from the beaches during a hurricane and be large enough to facilitate the emergency operations personnel coverage during extended periods and state of emergency. The EOC would be available to be utilized by all agencies working in cooperation with automatic aid and unified command operations. The EOC would also be multi-purposed as a training/community room. Ideally, the facility would be built to a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver standard or greater.

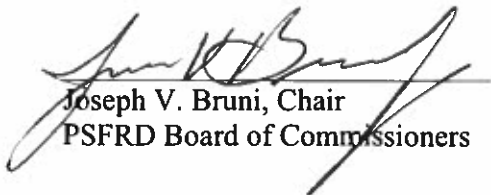
Fire Station 27's design must be a smaller fire station than Station 28 due to the limited land availability. The station would have two bays and would house a fire suppression unit with ALS capabilities and the District Chief emergency response vehicle, a beach-access rescue boat, and a special events vehicle designed for beach access/beach rescue. The Fire Administrative offices would also be built at this location, to include Fire Prevention and Public Education personnel. This location would allow for faster response times to Indian Rocks Beach, Belleair Shore, and Belleair Beach, as well as Automatic Aid areas we respond to, and will improve overall response times to emergencies.

Fire Station 26 will be the smallest of the three Fire/EMS stations but must be built to house a fire suppression unit with ALS capabilities and the high-water rescue vehicle. The proposed location also allows for the District's fire/water rescue boat (Marine 27) to continue to be housed on the intracoastal waterway and readily accessible for emergency response throughout the county. Marine 27 is also able to respond into the Gulf of Mexico and has firefighting capabilities in addition to water rescue, which is vital to the water rescue program in Pinellas County.

- (6) **Requirement: If applicable, within the next ten years, the date the special district currently proposes to replace any of the public facilities identified above or in the Initial Public Facilities Report.**

Response: Any anticipated time frames have been previously noted above.

Report complete.


Joseph V. Bruni, Chair
PSFRD Board of Commissioners


Date Approved

ATTEST:


Kimberly Fugate, District Administrator

cc: Clerk - City of Belleair Beach
Clerk - Town of Belleair Shore
Clerk - City of Indian Rocks Beach
Clerk - Town of Indian Shores
Clerk - Pinellas County Board of County Commission