



ESTES VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Serving the Residents and Visitors of the Estes Valley with Superior Fire and Safety Services

November 1, 2011

**Board of Directors and Citizens
Estes Valley Fire Protection District
Town of Estes Park and Larimer County**

Dear Board and Citizens:

2011 was a year of growth in our organization. Not only in personnel, as we hired the first Fire Marshal in our area for the District, but also in increasing our capital reserves and our vehicle replacement fund. With the help of Board Treasurer Bud Duryea, we have been able to invest some of our reserve funds to gain the best return possible in this unsettled market.

This was also the year we brought the 2009 International Fire Code to our community. Adoption of a fire code has been a personal goal of mine for ten years and I know it was also a goal of our previous fire chiefs. The Estes Valley Fire Protection District Board of Directors should be commended for their dedication, wisdom, and vision for improving fire safety in our community with such a bold step. The code adoption process also included ratification from the Larimer County Commissioners and Town Board for Estes Park, whose support was not only imperative but greatly appreciated.

The adoption of fire codes required hiring a full time Fire Marshal to interpret and administer the codes. After a long hiring process which included candidates from many other states, the hiring committee recommended Tim Spears for the position. After my interview with Tim it was obvious he was the right person for this position. Tim comes to us from Council Bluffs, Iowa where he was a Deputy State Fire Marshal. We welcomed Tim on his first day on August 31, 2011. Since then, Tim has been very busy with plan and development reviews, inspections, and fire prevention efforts.

This spring the Board realized the need for an additional vehicle that could be used to transport personnel to trainings, used for wildland fire response, and could also be used by the Fire Marshal in the course of his duties. We purchased a 2012 Ford F250 super-crew pickup truck with the assistance of the Town of Estes Park's fleet maintenance supervisor Dave Mahany. This vehicle was purchased with funds from the vehicle replacement fund.

The Board continues to work on the strategic plan to provide a roadmap for the District and the services in the future. There are no new apparatus or fire stations included in the 2012 budget. However, we continue to monitor the growth of the community and its needs and will make purchases as the Board deems appropriate to accomplish the District's mission.



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The projected revenues from property tax are estimated to decrease by 2% in 2012. This is a result of property valuations decreasing by 2% in our area. Compared to other communities, this was a very modest decrease. We conservatively held the sales tax revenues from the Town of Estes Park at the 2011 level due to the uncertainty of the tourist season.

The Board and staff continue to support the volunteer firefighters through the budget process with funding of the Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP), Firefighters Pension fund, call reimbursement program, shift incentive program, and a direct contribution to the Estes Park Volunteer Fire Department. We have also applied for a \$73,000.00 Assistance to Firefighters grant to improve our training facility with the addition of a propane prop and flammable liquids prop.

It is an honor to lead an organization made up of dedicated volunteers, staff, and a visionary Board. We continually strive to provide quality professional fire and rescue services that our community deserves and look for ways to improve and ensure the financial stability of the District.

Sincerely,

Scott Dorman, Fire Chief
Estes Valley Fire Protection District

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