Request: $9,600,000 to construct a City of Los Banos Fire Station/Regional Training Facility.

Description: Los Banos is located in western Merced County, is 10 square miles in size, and has a population of 40,000 residents.

The Los Banos Fire Department (LBFD) operates on a three (3)-shift platoon system from two fire stations located within the City limits. There are 16 paid personnel including 14 shift personnel, a Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief. Daily staffing levels is four to five personnel between the two stations. There are also 20-25 volunteer personnel who will respond to the station to staff additional apparatus when needed.

LBFD is seeking to build a third station which will allow for improved response times to the southern and eastern parts of the city. The facility will also serve as an Emergency Operations Center and regional training center. Training provided will equip local and regional emergency personnel with the knowledge and skills to better serve the City of Los Banos, Merced County and State. A new facility would require design and construction, access, utilities improvements, ADA compliance, landscaping, and additional parking. Total cost is estimated at $9,600,000.

Necessity: The addition of a third Fire Station was recommended as a result of a strategic plan done for the Fire Department in 2018 to reduce the travel response times identified in the southern and eastern sections of the City. Travel time is a measurable time segment that begins when the apparatus and personnel begin the response and ends once on location of the emergency and LBFD’s current travel times well exceed the industry standard of four minutes in these parts of Los Banos.

A third Fire Station will improve the travel times to south and east Los Banos that are currently beyond the 5.12-minute drive times. A new station will also improve the overall operations of the Los Banos Fire Department, adding more resources and personnel ready to respond to emergencies.

Beneficiaries:
- Residents and business of the City of Los Banos
- Merced County residents and businesses
- Regional Public Safety Agencies
- State of California

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