

12 November 2015

City Council File Number: 15-1252

Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council,
Public Safety Committee
c/o Office of the City Clerk
Room 395, City Hall
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Honorable Members:

The below signatories are Officers of the Legends at Cascades Community Association, which is the Master Association representing 176 (soon to be 190) homeowners of the Legends at Cascades townhome community. We reside in the northernmost area of Sylmar in the San Fernando Valley – a foothill area, threatened by high wind firestorm conditions and which in fact was devastated by the Sayre Fire of 2008. On behalf of our Community and surrounding neighborhood, we are writing to you to inform you of our support of Council File #15-1252.

We support the continued use of a Fast Response Vehicle [FRV] in Sylmar, and we support an analysis of how the FRV has and is impacting response times in our community. We have an interest in improving response times for all emergency calls, but especially because of our living in a proven high fire-risk area. We also support the identification of additional and effective LAFD resources (assets) in an effort to continue to improve response times in our community.

The Sylmar and North Valley area is located largely in the foothills, and is comprised of some natural/rural high-risk fire areas with difficult to reach homes in the mix. It is additionally plagued by high winds which contributed to the two fires that beset Sylmar in October and November of 2008. It is not unusual for some neighborhoods in Sylmar to see response times in excess of 10 minutes for medical and fire calls. For this reason, we ask that you take action on this Council File to help ensure that Sylmar retains the ability to keep the FRV as an interim measure to improve public safety in our community. We also respectfully ask that additional long-term and permanent solutions to LAFD resources be pursued for this Community, which need has been acknowledged for many years, yet research demonstrates is vastly underserved: a need that will never grow smaller, but rather, with every year, will only prove to grow more urgent and necessary. Representing The Legends at Cascades Community Association, we are

Sincerely,



Christine Whitaker, President, and
LAC Executive Committee,
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