Date: July 10, 2020

To: John Binaski, Chairman
    Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee
    c/o State Fire Training

From: Caryn Petty, Deputy State Fire Marshal
    State Fire Training

Subject/Agenda Action Item:
Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department Accredited Local Academy (ALA) Reaccreditation

Recommended Actions: Recommend Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department remain an Accredited Local Academy (ALA) in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for the Reaccreditation period of five (5) years.

Background Information:
A Reaccreditation Site Evaluation was conducted on May 11, 2020, at the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department Training Center located at 3301 Busch Road in Pleasanton, California. The Evaluation was conducted by Deputy State Fire Marshal Caryn Petty, State Fire Training, with LPFD Deputy Chief Joe Testa, Deputy Chief Aaron Lacey, and Captain Jared Jamison present throughout.

A review of the Department’s Self-Assessment Report (SAR) was discussed, with requirements for supplemental documentation noted. Said documentation has since been received and has met the requirements as set forth by State Fire Training policies and procedures. The review of the SAR was followed by an evaluation of all classrooms and training facilities with opportunity to review training course records and equipment compliment.
Analysis/Summary:
A tour of the training facilities indicated sufficient classroom space with a fully functioning training tower complete with all necessary props, tools, equipment, and vehicles to accommodate a fire academy training program as supplemented by satellite and partnered training sites and locations. Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department has successfully transitioned to the Fire Fighter 1 (2019) curriculum and possesses all necessary materials for continued certification testing.

The training facility presents appropriate academy classrooms equipped with enhanced audio/visual equipment and necessary learning aids. Academy recruits are provided sufficient study materials and equipment for applicable success within the Academy training. Several Registered Instructors participate in the Academy delivery and the Department will continue to expand its hosting of additional State Fire Training courses in conjunction with cooperating and neighboring agencies.

The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department training grounds generate extensive regional use, and improvement and renovation needs have been identified. The training tower will undergo ongoing routine maintenance and additional props for course enhancement are being constructed. A structural engineer evaluation was completed in 2019, with the tower being deemed compliant. The current staffing is at its capacity with workloads beyond the Academy delivery that would be offset with additional resources and personnel. Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department has identified a specific need for additional clerical personnel to lessen the workload of existing staff and ensure the thorough delivery of the Academy free of peripheral assignments, tasks, and duties.

Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department provides a robust, well-rounded training program, bolstered by active recruitment and outreach efforts. Well-rounded and experienced personnel provide for expansive response capabilities with a steadfast focus on serving the needs of the region. The Department provides comprehensive training evolutions focused on relevant and timely techniques. Routine professional development and in-service training specific to the jurisdiction are provided all members, including a growing list of State Fire Training courses. The Department provides an array of SFT courses specific to professional development, with various technical rescue and specialized courses being delivered. The staff are eager participants in the State Fire Training, maintaining excellent working relations with SFT on many levels including instructional delivery, advisory committee participation, academy enhancement, and instructor development.

Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department has demonstrated a steadfast devotion to training, safety, and standardization, efforts reliably demonstrative of this exceptional member of the California fire service. The unique training opportunities, student and instructor diversification, and program innovation makes it a standout leader in the California fire service training and education program and as an ALA. It is recommended that Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department continue to be designated as an Accredited Local Academy in the State Fire Training system for a reaccreditation period of five (5) years.