Date: July 14, 2017

To: Ronny J. Coleman, Chairman
Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee
c/o State Fire Training

From: Rodney Slaughter, Deputy State Fire Marshal III

Subject/Agenda Action Item: Accreditation of Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department

Recommended Actions: Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department as an Accredited Local Academy (ALA) in the State Fire Training (SFT) System

Background Information:

An accreditation site visit was conducted on May 19, 2017 at the Livermore-Pleasanton Training facility located at 3333 Busch Road Pleasanton, CA 94588. The site team consisted of Bob Buell, Chabot College (ARTP), Rick Corey, Fremont Fire Department (ALA), Sean Gascie, Merritt College (ARTP), and Rodney Slaughter SFT. Representatives from Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department included; Chief Joe Testa, Battalion Chief Aaron Lacey, along with instructional and support staff members.

Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department was established in December 1996 as a Joint Power Authority (JPA). Celebrating 20 years of success, the Livermore-Pleasanton JPA is one of the longest standing JPA in California. The Department is an all-risk all-hazards emergency response organization and has developed a training site that accommodates a wide range of training scenarios and is used by many fire departments regionally.

Analysis/Summary of Issue:

A tour of the training facilities reveals adequate classroom and training ground spaces. The Department has several classrooms, including a “dirty classroom,” along with ample tools, equipment, props, and apparatus that can easily accommodate a Firefighter I (2013) training program. The Training officers currently maintain course records in accordance to SFT procedures. The department did present a plan to add administrative support in the 2018-2020 budget year to accommodate the growth of the program. The training facility does not have a computer lab for written testing, but have the capacity to produce and secure lap-tops for testing purposes. Although the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department only runs about 6 new hires a year through their fire academy, the projected need to replace 47% of their members in the next ten years shows justification and the potential growth of this fire academy. In addition to the required props for the Firefighter I training program the department has also added; roll-up garage door prop, an aerial window rescue prop, the dirty classroom, and trench rescue props that are already being used. In addition, one roof vent prop is being configured to train on roofs with photovoltaics. The site team and State Fire Training staff support the accreditation of Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department as an Accredited Local Academy (ALA).

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