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VENTURA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

165 Durley Avenue, Camarillo, CA 93010-8586

Mark Lorenzen County Fire Chief

CONTACT: Capt. Mike Lindbery Public Information Officer PHONE: (805) 389-9736 EMAIL: PIOFire@ventura.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ventura County Fire breaks ground on new station in Fillmore

CAMARILLO, Calif. – The Ventura County Fire Department hosted a groundbreaking ceremony on Wednesday, October 19, for a new fire station coming to Fillmore in early 2018.

VCFD, along with County Supervisor Kathy Long, Fillmore Fire Chief Keith Gurrola and officials from

the City of Fillmore, celebrated the start of construction for the future 2.7-acre site of Fire Station 27, located off Highway 126 at 133 C Street in Fillmore.

"Today we honor over three decades of partnership between Ventura County Fire Protection District, the City of Fillmore and the community we serve by celebrating a new beginning for a County Fire Station," said Supervisor Kathy Long, "I am proud to be a part of this important opportunity to enhance public safety in the Santa Clara Valley."



(Pictured L to R: VCFD Division Chief Norm Plott, VCFD Fire Chief Mark Lorenzen, VC Supervisor Kathy Long, Fillmore Mayor Diane McCall, Fillmore City Manager David Rowlands, Fillmore Fire Chief Keith Gurrola)

"The new station is a direct result of our desire to provide the best possible service to the community," said VCFD Fire Chief Mark Lorenzen. "This project has been more than 10 years in the making. I'm excited to break ground on this new station, which will better accommodate our firefighters and rescue equipment."

The new \$8.3 million fire station will be built on a 2.7 acre site near the intersection of Highway 126 and C Street in Fillmore, providing improved access to major response routes. The one-story, 15,000 square-foot building will be equipped with ample room for fire engines, state-of-the-art equipment, and living quarters for four firefighters and two bulldozer crew members. In total, it will have three apparatus bays, nine dorms, an office, training area, and additional space for future expansion.

The original Fire Station 27 was built in 1952 and serves the unincorporated areas near Fillmore and the central Santa Clara Valley. Upon completion of the new fire station, the existing site will be leased to the U.S. Forest Service, which currently shares the station with VCFD at 613 Old Telegraph Road.

County Supervisors approved plans for Fire Station 27 in early August 2016, accepting the bid from Tobo Construction Inc.

For more information on Fire Station 27, visit <u>www.vcfd.org</u> or contact the Ventura County Fire Public Information Office at (805) 389-9769.