



# CAMANO ISLAND FIRE & RESCUE

*NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS*

Contact: Levon Yengoyan – Assistant Chief  
Office: 360-629-3008  
Cell: 425-508-0136  
Email: [lyengoyan@camanofire.com](mailto:lyengoyan@camanofire.com)

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## **CONSTRUCTION BEGINS AT COUNTRY CLUB STATION**

### **Engine And Medic Units Will Operate Out Of Temporary Quarters**

Residents in the Country Club area will notice that a new type of activity is occurring at the Country Club Fire Station. Hose evolutions, search and rescue, and vehicle extrication activities have now been replaced by demolition and construction. Camano Island Fire and Rescue is pleased to announce that construction has begun on the Station. Extensive work will be done to retrofit the station to meet current seismic standards as well as remodel the space to increase usability. This project, along with several other improvements to facilities and apparatus, are part of the Fire District's plan to increase the level of service and public safety for Island residents. The projects, funded by a voter approved bond in 2007, are the first step in decreasing response times to emergencies; a primary driver in the District's business plan.

"The contract for construction was awarded to a team led by General Contractor Biwell Construction" said project manager Vicki Cargile of Vic and Associates. "Also part of the team are R&H Heating performing the mechanical work and North Sound Electric performing the electrical work" added Cargile. Construction is expected to take approximately six months and the station is expected to be fully operational by the end of November. Once complete, the remodeled station will better support round the clock staffing and have a meeting/training room available to the public. Most importantly, the station will meet current seismic standards. "It is essential that, in case of a seismic event, our facilities and apparatus remain operational" said Fire Chief Mike Ganz. "This is the hub station for the Island and these upgrades will ensure it is ready to serve the public for many years to come" he added.

Full time crews will operate out of temporary quarters during the construction. Engine 1-2 will be stationed at a rental house at the entrance to the Lost Lake Community and Medic 102 will be stationed on West Camano Drive near Camano Hill Road. "We are aware of the impact our presence may have in these neighborhoods and are working with the community to ensure we keep disruptions to a minimum" said Assistant Chief Levon Yengoyan. Although volunteer firefighters will continue to operate out of the Country Club station and some apparatus will remain there, there will be no full-time staffing at that location. According to Yengoyan "people needing non-emergency assistance are asked to contact the Administration office during regular business hours. Of course, for emergency assistance please call 911."

An open house will be held on Tuesday July 28<sup>th</sup> at the Country Club clubhouse. Coffee and cookies will be served at 6:00 pm and Chief Ganz will discuss construction projects, operations during construction, and the upcoming levies at 6:30. All are welcome to attend.

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For more information about the fire district's levies, construction projects, operations or to schedule a meeting with Fire Chief Mike Ganz, please call the administration office at 360-629-3008.