



A RESOLUTION OF THE SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION SUPPORTING THE SRJC FIRE PROGRAM'S WHITE PAPER

Whereas, Santa Rosa Junior College has delivered a Fire Technology program since 1976, an accredited regional training program (ARTP) and State Fire Training approved Firefighter I Academy since 1982, and

Whereas, the program has evolved to meet the training needs of the fire service including assisting State Fire Training align their program with National Fire Protection Association standards and achieve accreditation with the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) and Professional Board for Firefighting Standards (Pro-Board), and

Whereas, the accreditation of State Fire Training by these entities and implementation of these standards has created a need for additional resources and staffing in the fire program, and

Whereas, as the only ARTP between San Francisco and the Oregon border, the Santa Rosa Junior College fire program has played a critical role in meeting the fire service training needs of northern California, and

Whereas, the demands on the fire program have increased significantly due to climate change, the "new abnormal" of longer fire seasons, a greater frequency of mass conflagrations as witnessed by the Tubbs, Nunns and Kincade fires, and

Whereas, this increase in fire frequency has created a demand for additional firefighting personnel as witnessed by the passage of half a dozen fire agencies tax measures over the last two years and the placement of a sales tax measure on the 2020 ballot to hire up to 177 firefighters, and

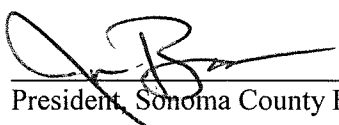
Whereas, the ability of the fire program to meet the existing and projected needs for fire personnel is constrained by the site limitations of the Public Safety Training Center (PSTC) and competition with other public safety programs for the use of these facilities, and

Whereas, the program has also been constrained by staffing shortages resulting in limitations on its ability to maintain necessary equipment as well as deliver required training and testing

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Sonoma County Fire Chief's Association fully endorses the findings and goals identified in the Fire Technology Program White Paper and encourages SRJC's Board of Trustees, President, Administrators, Faculty and Classified Staff to support those efforts required to make its goals a reality.

DATED: December 11th, 2019

SO ORDERED:



President, Sonoma County Fire Chiefs