THE FIRE MARK

BONITA SPRINGS FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT

AUG 2015



STATION SIX PREPARES US FOR EAST BONITA GROWTH





Bird's eye view of the Northeast corner of Village Walk and the adjacent property slated for Station Six At the July 2015 Commissioners Board meeting, Secretary-Treasurer Fred Forbes presented the other Board members, the administration and the public with personal research on the growth of Bonita Springs east of the Village Walk community. The City's Community Development department anticipates an additional 2,100 homes to be submitted for redevelopment in that area within the next three to four years. Commissioner Forbes says that by the fifth year, the projected revenue should allow for the District's costs of building a new station on the property it already owns.

At the <u>August 2015 Board meeting</u>, Commissioner Forbes made a motion to go ahead with the building of the new station, Station Six. After the motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawrence P. Kosilla, the commissioners of the Bonita Springs Fire District passed a vote 4-1. The station is to be open during the end of calendar year 2017. Station Six will provide emergency services to Village Walk as well as the new develop-

ments just east that are currently under construction. Station Six will also be the capable backup for Station Four when firefighters in that station have been dispatched to another emergency.

The Fire District has a performance objective of achieving a six-minute or less response 85% of the time. The current response to an emergency in the back of Village Walk, or theoretically to one of the communities being developed, is about eleven minutes.

VMR RESCUE TRAINING

During the month of August, firefighters trained extensively in Vehicle and Machinery Rescues. The course was conducted by the District's very own Assistant Chief DeWitt who is State-certified to teach the class and give State certification to those who complete it. This credentialing has a high impact on the District, as it allows for in-house training and savings of thousands of dollars. Extrication involves removing the pieces of a vehicle until rescue crews can safely remove a passenger trapped inside. Fire crews were given several vehicle accident scenarios and used tools like the Jaws of Life. The District recently acquired updated Jaws of Life tools that use eDRAULIC technology. The new tools are lighter, cordless and provide the power necessary to pull apart any vehicle. Fire Chief Joseph V. Daigle explains, "There are a lot of new style cars that we see here in Bonita Springs, and car manufacturers are now utilizing Boron steel and other high strength steels. These manufacturers that are making safer vehicles dictate what type of rescue tools we'll need in the field. Our equipment needs to be able to keep up with new technology."

After training was completed, firefighters were able to put their new credentials and tools to use in an August 14th vehicle rescue.





WHAT IS C.E.R.T.?

The Fire District recognizes the need to be able to incorporate and utilize volunteer help during certain emergency or disaster situations. The BSFD CERT, *Community Emergency Response Team*, has over 200 members. During the free two-day <u>CERT</u>



Basic Training, the Fire District provides education about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact Bonita Springs and trains citizens in basic disaster response skills. For more information, <u>click here</u>.

The next class is Sept. 3rd and 4th- To save your seat, register TODAY!

