



CITY OF GARDEN GROVE NEWS

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CITY APPROVES MOVE TO OCFA

At Tuesday night's regular Garden Grove City Council meeting, the City Council approved entering into an agreement with the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) to provide fire and emergency medical services to the City of Garden Grove. The agreement provides for the delivery of services to begin on August 16, 2019 with an option to withdraw every ten years.

"Public safety is a top priority for our City Council, especially when it comes to providing the highest level of services that meet the growing needs of our city. I'm confident that the OCFA will not only meet, but will surpass our expectations to protect Garden Grove from destructive fires, and render emergency aid when it's vitally needed," said Garden Grove Mayor Steve Jones.

The decision comes after several months of study and deliberation that began in March 2018 when the City received a proposal from the OCFA to provide the City with fire and emergency services.

"We welcome the Garden Grove firefighters to our department," said OCFA Board Chair Joseph Muller. "Working together, I know these professionals will provide exceptional emergency services to the entire region including the city of Garden Grove."

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Under the provisions of the contract, the OCFA will provide for all personnel and administration, emergency response units and equipment, including vehicle depreciation and replacement, routine station maintenance, fire prevention (plan check reviews, fire inspections, and permits), and community fire education.

“Transitioning a city fire department is complex and time consuming,” said OCFA Fire Chief Brian Fennessy. “We have a team in place to ensure a smooth transition, and that the citizens are well-served. I look forward to working with a new group of skilled firefighters.”

Currently, the Garden Grove Fire Department employs 77 uniformed personnel that will continue to serve under the OCFA. In addition, paramedics will now have the benefit of a medical director and on-staff nurses to help with education and oversight.

“My goal is to make our transition over to the OCFA as seamless as possible for everyone. It’s an exciting new chapter in our city, that in the end, will raise the level of safety and services we currently have, and that’s something positive to look forward to,” said Garden Grove City Manager Scott Stiles.

To view the agreement and all related documents, visit the City’s website at ggcity.org, access the Open Government portal, and click on OCFA Documents, or go directly to <https://ggcity.org/open-gov/ocfa-documents>

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