July 27, 2004

TO: Stockton City Council
FROM: Mark Lewis, City Manager
Subject: NEW FIRE STATION

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution directing the City Manager to take the necessary steps to open a new fire station on, or before, March 1, 2005.

DISCUSSION

Due to a dramatic increase of growth in the northeast area of Stockton, it has become necessary to increase the staffing and budget of the Fire Department by fifteen (15) positions to staff the new fire station. New personnel must be hired by the end of October 2004 to provide adequate staffing for the new fire station. The current Fire Recruit Academy is sixteen (16) weeks in duration. This time frame coincides with a March 1, 2005 opening date for the new fire station.

In addition, it will be necessary to find a temporary facility to accommodate members of the fire station during construction of a permanent station.

The Fire Department must also purchase an additional fire engine and necessary equipment to be in service for the new fire station. As well, it is necessary to expedite the CIP of building the new station in its permanent location off of Holman Road North of Morada Lane.

I am recommending that the City Manager is authorized to increase the staffing of the Fire Department by the necessary 15 positions, direct the hiring of the 15 positions by October 30, 2004, find a temporary facility to accommodate the members and apparatus of the new fire station, purchase a new fire engine with necessary equipment, and expedite the CIP of building the new fire station in its permanent location.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Funding for the construction and purchase of equipment for the new fire station is currently included in the 05-06 Year Capital Improvement Plan. This appropriation can be accelerated into the 04-05 year CIP. Construction for the facility is estimated to be $5,400,000 and the fire apparatus equipment is estimated to cost $1,700,000 plus $490,000 for safety and operating equipment.
Rental space until the new facility can be constructed is estimated to cost $560,000 plus $50,000 for furnishings and appropriation for the 15 additional staff plus Firefighter gear during the 04-05 year is estimated at $1,000,000. A financing plan will be brought before the Council in the future.

MARK LEWIS
CITY MANAGER