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OUR HOTTEST NEW ARRIVAL
FIRST OF ITS KIND: FIRST RESPONSE
CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAYS

DEC 2024// Issue 30

THE ZEST

CITY OF LEMON GROVE NEWS

OUR HOTTEST NEW ARRIVAL BLAZING INTO ACTION



At the City Council meeting of October 15, 2024, the City Council approved a partnership with Cal-Fire to add a Type I fire engine to Lemon Grove Fire's fleet. This addition to the City's fire force marks a significant step forward in enhancing our city's emergency response capability.

"THIS NEW FIRE ENGINE IS MORE THAN JUST A VEHICLE, IT'S A LIFELINE THAT HELPS US PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY FASTER, SAFER, AND MORE EFFICIENTLY".

— ANDREW PEREZ, FIREFIGHTER PARAMEDIC, HEARTLAND FIRE & RESCUE (STATION 10)

The State program lends vehicles to fire departments for 10 years. In exchange for a free engine, it is agreed that the fire engine, staffed with fire personnel will respond to statewide fire emergencies as part of the [California Fire Service and Rescue Mutual Aid Plan](#). When the fire engine is not needed for statewide emergencies, it can be used to respond to emergency incidents in the City of Lemon Grove.

The state will continue to fully maintain the vehicle, saving the city approximately \$30,000 annually for maintenance while creating a comprehensive opportunity for expedite mobilization and response of available fire and rescue resources on a local, regional, and statewide basis. Maintenance includes replacement of the hose, batteries, tires, appliances, and more. Per the approved agreement, expenditures of \$100 or more for vehicular equipment will be reimbursed by the state while the City's General Fund will cover expenditures of less than \$100.

Station 10 responds to about 4,000 calls each year. Its existing fleet is a 2014 engine with 97,400 miles, a 2023 truck with 9,700 miles and a 1997 truck with 167,000 miles. The latest addition of a new fire engine to the fleet at the Lemon Grove Fire Department marks a significant upgrade, replacing an aging vehicle that had begun to show signs of decreased reliability. This replacement reflects the departments commitment to public safety and maintaining its high operation standards.



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THE NURSE NAVIGATOR PROGRAM: THE FIRST OF ITS KIND



A first of its kind program in California, East County EMS Nurse Navigation has been activated in Lemon Grove.

The Nurse Navigation program is a service that connects 911 callers with non-life-threatening medical conditions with the right level of care. Callers will now have the option to be connected with an American Medical Response (AMR) Nurse Navigator, a California state-licensed nurse practitioner, who can assist them in determining the best course of action in their effort to access an appropriate treatment resource. Residents with serious medical conditions and/or emergencies will see virtually no change in the level of service that they currently receive when dialing 911 and can expect prompt ambulatory and fire response. In the first 12 months since launching in El Cajon, services were provided to over 580 callers. 96% of cases did not clinically require rapid response. This reduced overall response costs and maintained availability for more serious responses.

"Not only do callers receive the proper care, they can avoid unnecessary - and often costly - trips to the emergency room. And local fire agencies and emergency departments will be able to focus their resources on life-threatening emergencies," commented Bent Koch, Fire Chief, Heartland Fire & Rescue.



SCAN HERE FOR THE
LATEST SQUEEZE ON ALL
THINGS LEMON GROVE

LEMON GROVE CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Alysson Snow

Mayor Pro Tem Jennifer Mendoza

Councilmember Jessyka Heredia

Councilmember Sitivi "Steve" Faiai

Councilmember VACANT

Let us know what you think of *The Zest!*
Email us at cityoflemongrove@lemongrove.ca.gov



CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAY DEC. 24, 2024 - JAN. 1, 2025

IN THE EVENT THAT YOU REQUIRE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE DURING THE HOLIDAY BREAK, PLEASE DIAL 9-1-1 OR THE NON EMERGENCY NUMBER (858) 565- 5200.

WHAT TO DO WITH THOSE CHRISTMAS TREES AFTER THE HOLIDAY?

Real Christmas trees are 100% biodegradable, and recycling them reduces waste while benefiting local communities and ecosystems. Trees can be transformed into mulch, compost, erosion barriers, and even habitats for wildlife. By recycling, you help reduce the environmental impact of holiday waste.

How to Recycle Your Christmas Tree in Lemon Grove

Prepare Your Tree by removing all decorations, lights, tinsel, and stands.

Dec. 26, 2024 — Jan. 12, 2025

- Drop-off at the approved dropoff site
 - 3200 Main Street, Lemon Grove, CA
 - Place tree in the provided recycling container

or

Dec. 26, 2024 — Jan. 04, 2025

- Curbside Pick-up
 - Cut tree in 4ft lengths and trim the branches
 - Place into the green waste bin for collection
 - Flocked (faux snow) trees are trash



RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE