



# PRESSRELEASE

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## **For Immediate Release**

**Date:** February 28, 2018 - DRAFT  
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## **Fire District Ground Breaking Ceremony at its new Fire Station 4 on Friday, April 9, 2021**



**Pictured above – Demolition of Fire Station 4 that will be rebuilt by 2022 – Menlo Fire**

The Menlo Park Fire Protection District will be holding a ceremonial Ground Breaking on Friday, April 9, 2021 starting at 3 pm.

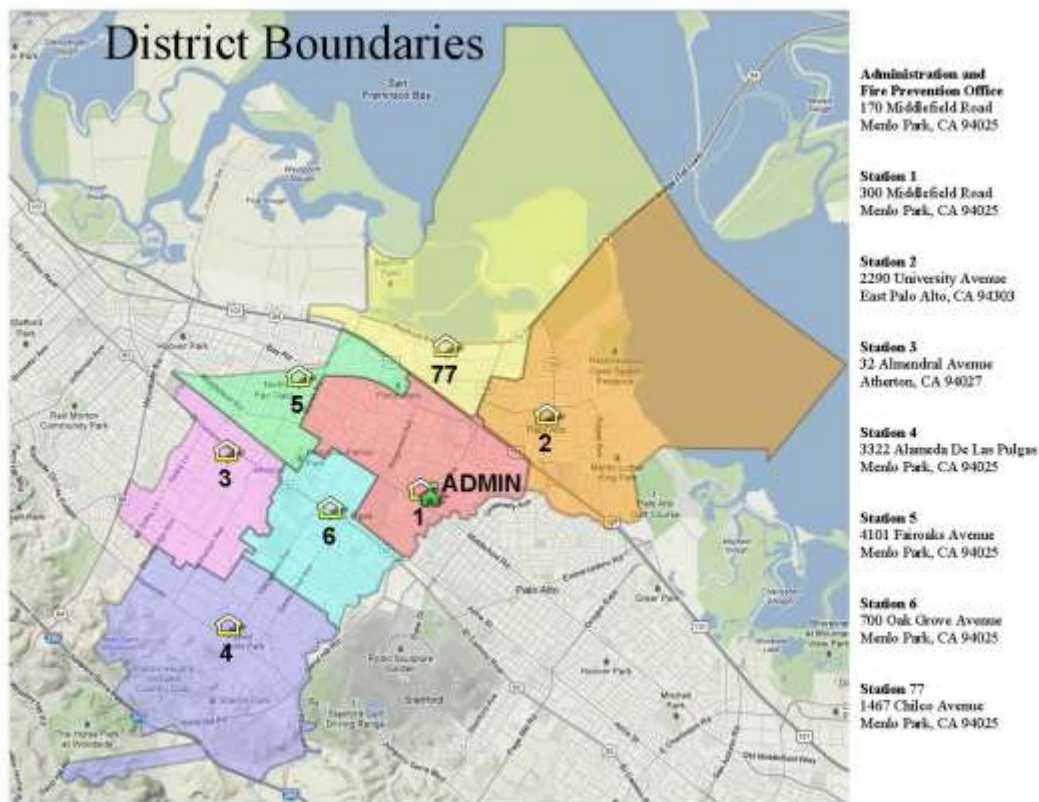
The former Fire Station No. 4 was built in 1949 and is located at 3322 Alameda De Las Pulgas, or at the corner of Valparaiso Avenue. The outdated, former single story, 3,800 square foot structure will be with an expanded and replaced with a modern, seismically resilient facility

consisting of a 13,200-square foot, two-story station that provides three 78' deep drive-through emergency apparatus bays. Each bay capable of accommodating the District's largest apparatus.

The new fire station will have 10 individual bedrooms, a large commercial kitchen and crew staging areas, offices, a separate and well vented room for firefighter bunker gear, which in recent years has become the focus cancer prevention strategies along with other separate areas needed to decontaminate equipment and firefighters themselves before they enter the Stations living spaces along with a Shake Alert earthquake early warning system and a Drone Aerial launching port for state of the art emergency situational awareness.

The new Fire Station is an essential emergency services facility that has been in the planning and preparation stages for years. A new aerial ladder truck was recently approved and its delivery will coincide with the opening of the new Fire Station in 2022, increasing the daily Station staffing from three to seven personnel.

Fire Station 4 has one of the largest and most unique areas in the Fire District. 37% of its response area is located in the Town of Atherton (upper Atherton), 44%, is in the City of Menlo Park (Sharon Heights), 18% is in the Unincorporated County Areas including West Menlo Park, the Sequoia Tract, Stanford Weekend Acres and 1 square mile of Stanford Lands that includes the SLAC National Accelerator and Laboratory, which is on contract for Fire and Emergency Services.



The lowest responsible bid for construction came in at \$11,046,275, and was provided by Sausal Corporation, located in Concord, California. Sausal has performed numerous public works projects that include schools, hospital projects, civic centers and specifically the Dublin Public Safety Complex, Moraga-Orinda Fire Station 43, San Jose Fire station 21 and currently, the San Mateo Consolidated Fire Station 25, which is 75% complete.

After conducting a study to confirm the Fire Station was still in an ideal location, all this would not have been possible if in March of 2018 the Fire Board had not authorized the Chief to purchase the adjacent property at 2110 Valparaiso Avenue. The 6000 square foot residential lot with a 1980's single family, 2,050 square foot single story residential structure was purchased for \$3.2 million dollars is currently being used to house and support Engine 4 and its crew of three personnel.

**Fire Chief Schapelhouman said** *“the property was strategically located behind the existing Fire Station and provided the added space necessary to properly re-build a modern drive thru Fire facility that will be large enough to adequately support emergency operations for years to come”*



**END**

