

Press Release

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For Immediate Release

Mountain View Fire Receives \$735,930 Grant to Build a New Dacono Fire Station

The Mountain View Fire Protection District is pleased to announce it has been awarded an Energy Impact Grant from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs to build a replacement fire station. That station will be built in Dacono.

The awarded amount of \$735,930 will replace what District officials describe as an outdated and nearly unusable fire station.

“The station we targeted for replacement is by far the most inferior in our system and is by any definition a sick building,” said Mountain View’s Fire Chief Randy Templeton.

District officials have had the current building tested for health and safety concerns including molds on several occasions. Although the tests have showed concern, but allowed habitability of the fire station, firefighters and District officials attribute some firefighter illnesses to the building’s condition. Those don’t include anything serious but it’s obvious they can’t continue to occupy that building as a working firehouse.

“I am thrilled to give them (firefighters) more space and clean air to breathe” said Templeton.

Noting the need for a new station, Mountain View started the grant application process in September, 2007. The Department of Local Affairs, which is responsible for distributing the grants, recognized Mountain View’s needs and awarded the grant at the end of April. When Mountain View applied for the grant, they budgeted for matching funds and asked for more than the recommended maximum of \$500,000. Mountain View justified the additional needed funds citing the impact the Wattenberg field has on District resources. The Wattenberg field has more than 3,000 gas and oil wells and is located in Mountain View’s District boundaries.

Two years ago Mountain View attempted to build a new station in Dacono but because of financial constraints, they were unable to complete the task and it was quickly cut from the budget before plans were set in place.

That is not the case this time and although a ground breaking or completion date has not been finalized, District officials hope to have the station open by next summer because construction costs are increasing by about 10% per year. For example, even though the District has worked with the architect to cut the size of the building in half, the cost savings over the 2006 bid is minimal (only \$200,000-\$300,000)..

“Our administration has been diligent in exploring multiple avenues of finding methods for stretching taxpayer monies. This grant will enable us to make our mill levy dollars go much further,” Templeton said.

The new station will be built on Weld County Road 12 just west of Weld County Road 13 in Dacono.

A conceptual drawing has been posted at the current Dacono station for residents and firefighters to review. It's in the design build stage and plans have been sent to the architect, Hans Kahn and Associates, where they will draft blue prints and District officials will break ground thereafter.

“A new station in the City of Dacono is important to support the current and upcoming infrastructure there,” said Jesse Hodgson, Spokesman for the Mountain View Fire District. “This grant will allow us to build a functional station in a strategic location that will allow us to give Dacono the level and quality of service it deserves,” concluded Hodgson.