

Introduction of LAFCo Report

Date: July 25th 2025

To: The community and residents of Felton.

I would like to take a minute to explain the events leading up to the release of the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) report.

Background:

The Felton Board of Directors along with other neighboring agencies have worked in support with Santa Cruz County LAFCo to prepare a report to highlight the options that are presently available to the community of Felton to ensure a continued, strong and resilient emergency response.

This report outlines the last four years of the district's operations and identifies what it considers are key contributing factors leading to the district's present situation. In the past the fire district has struggled with call volume, leadership, volunteer staffing, recruitment, budget, response and morale.

As the present Interim Fire Chief, I will concur with the findings the report outlines.

It should be noted that several recent changes have been made to increase the fire districts' response capabilities that have led to reduced response times and have allowed for greater public safety. This report does not take those recent changes into account or the actions presently being implemented.

Moving forward:

Summarizing the report, I will say that change is needed at Felton Fire and some form of change will be coming for the community of Felton by October 6^{th.}

This exact change is still to be determined, but I encourage the community to seek facts and to take an active part in this change.

In closing:

Again, the Felton Fire District is seeking community involvement, input and support to address the future of the fire district and the services we provide.

I encourage each of you to reach out to the Felton Fire District Board of Directors who are your elected officials and representatives or to me directly if you have any thoughts, concerns or questions.

The district will be posting meeting dates and agendas to its website as well as in other public places and we ask that you check back often for new information.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely, Isaac Blum Interim Chief, Felton Fire Protection District

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