



ROCHESTER FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

LOCAL 1071 IAFF, AFL-CIO, INC.

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Rochester firefighters need your help to protect the citizens of Charlotte and our firefighters from unnecessary cuts in your neighborhood:

- The Rochester Fire Fighters Association Local 1071 commissioned a study on the proposed cuts in Charlotte. It was the only formal study commissioned on the subject. The study unmistakably confirmed that the Charlotte community is currently at a deficit for fire protection according to nationally recognized standards. In other words, even with the current 6 firefighters on duty, Charlotte is at a deficit according to nationally recognized standards.
- The Charlotte community comprises a large and valuable tax base that easily pays for the fire protection that is warranted in that area. If the proposed cuts are carried out, the citizens of Charlotte will continue to pay the same taxes for a lesser degree of fire protection.
- If the proposed cuts are passed by City Council, there will be more frequent lapses in Fire Department coverage and increased response times city wide because there will be fewer fire trucks available to respond throughout the city at any given time.
- Over the last five years, Charlotte has averaged 1.42 structure fires a month.
- Over the last five years, the average number calls for emergency responses for the Charlotte station (Quint 1 and Midi 1) has been 64.35 per month.
- Two years ago, every Battalion Chief in the Rochester Fire Department signed a petition denouncing the downsizing of the Charlotte fire station. These Battalion Chiefs collectively represent more than 350 years of fire fighting experience in the City of Rochester.
- Charlotte is an area that has rightfully been targeted for further development by the city (i.e. the harbor), yet it is now being targeted for reductions in public safety.
- Because of its geographic location, Charlotte is isolated from the rest of the city. This means higher than normal response times to Charlotte from the rest of the city's fire stations, even during mild weather conditions. When dealing with emergency response, whether fire or medical related, seconds count.
- If Quint 1 is eliminated from the Charlotte station, the next nearest ladder truck will be Truck 2 from the Dewey and Ridgeway station. If Midi 1 is eliminated from the Charlotte fire station, the next nearest pumper truck will be Engine 10 from the Dewey and Ridgeway station. The Dewey and Ridgeway station is 4 miles/10 minutes from the Charlotte station.

Your firefighters have worked diligently to protect your neighborhood and our members by providing objective and accurate information about fire protection in Charlotte, but nobody at City Hall seems to be listening. The Fire Chief has stated publicly that the citizens of Charlotte will not see a negative impact on their fire protection if the proposed cuts are carried out. The Fire Chief has never gone on record and stated that our firefighters will be safer with only 1 truck on duty at the Charlotte fire station instead of the 2 currently there. We disagree with the Fire Chief's contention that the proposed cuts will not negatively impact fire protection in Charlotte. **Please call City Council at 428-7538 and the Mayor's Office at 428-7405 to voice your concerns and prevent the proposed cuts to fire protection in Charlotte.**