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## **Update on Evaluation of Wake County's Fire Station Locations**

**October 12, 2009 Board of Commissioner  
Work Session**

[www.wakegov.com](http://www.wakegov.com)

- ★ Brief history of fire station location studies
- ★ Update on fire station location evaluation
- ★ Questions



### ★ 1994 Comprehensive Review of Wake County Fire Protection

- Consultant study of fire protection in unincorporated areas
- Recommend changes in the fire protection delivery system to improve efficiency and effectiveness
- Consultants observed annexations impacting rural fire departments



## Brief history - fire station locations

- 1994 Comprehensive Review of Wake County Fire Protection
  - “The most efficient manner to serve those unincorporated areas will be to extend the coverage of the Raleigh and Cary fire departments to cover all of the unincorporated areas that fall within the reasonable geographic coverage areas of their fire stations.”



## Brief history - fire station locations

### ★ 2003 Fire/EMS Capital Facility and Equipment Study

- Recommended County evaluate fire station locations for service replacement
  - “The County should negotiate arrangements for municipalities to cover unincorporated areas near them when in the interests of the majority of citizens in the area.”
- Led to Fire Commission’s Long Range Business Plan

- ★ Fire Commission's original Long Range Plan recommended evaluating five stations
  - Bay Leaf Fire Station #3
  - Falls Fire Station
  - Wake-New Hope Fire Station #1
  - Western Wake Fire Station #1
  - Western Wake Fire Station #2
- ★ The plan included criteria to assess in the evaluation



# Evaluation of fire station locations

- ★ Western Wake Fire Station #2 evaluation completed in 2007.
  - Cary Fire Department began serving Cary Suburban Fire District July 1, 2008.
  - Reduced costs and improved response times.



# Evaluation of fire station locations

- ★ Fire Commission's current Long Range Plan recommends evaluating remaining four stations concurrently
  - Bay Leaf Fire Station #3
  - Falls Fire Station
  - Wake-New Hope Fire Station #1
  - Western Wake Fire Station #1



## ★ Fire station location evaluations

- Preliminary criteria analysis complete
  - Cost is last criteria to assess
- Fire Commission reviewing information
- Fire departments involved in process



# Evaluation of fire station locations

- ★ Some neighborhood associations aware of evaluations
  - Concerns in Northeast Raleigh/Falls area
  - Plan to hold public information meeting
    - Coordinating with Raleigh

## ★ Next Steps

- Complete assessment of cost criterion
- Fire Commission reviews staff analysis
- Fire Commission receives feedback from fire departments and others
- Fire Commission considers recommendation
- Informational sessions for citizens in areas served by fire stations
- Recommendation forwarded to Board of Commissioners

# Questions