



City of Dixon Fire Department

NEWS RELEASE For Immediate Release

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“DIXON FIRE DEPARTMENT ACHIEVES CLASS 3 RATING FROM INSURANCE SERVICES ORGANIZATION”

DIXON, CA – The City of Dixon is pleased to share that effective September 1st, 2016, the Insurance Services Office, Inc. Public Protection Classification (ISO-PPC) for the City of Dixon area protected by municipal fire hydrants will be changed from a 5 to a 3; an improvement of two rating classes. ISO is a private firm that provides information to insurance companies regarding property/casualty risk through a number of programs, one of them being the PPC Program. The PPC reviews the fire department, water department and dispatch/communication center capabilities.

Historically, communities across the country strive to achieve "best in class", which is generally considered a 1 rating. In 2014, only 60 fire departments across the country achieved a 1. Areas of the community that are protected by fire hydrants previously held a rating of 5 and effective September 1st, 2016 a rating of Class 3 will be in effect.

Areas of the community outside of the municipal water supply system will now be rated as a class 3Y, with the “Y” indicating the lack of a permanent water supply system. In order to operationally address this, the Dixon Fire Department operates two 2500 gallon water tenders used to deliver large amounts of water in the rural environment. This improved 3Y rating is also effective September 1st 2016.

The rating change from a 5 to a 3 primarily results from a change in the grading score system used by the ISO. Recently, ISO began crediting departments for their community risk reduction programs, which Dixon Fire Department is a strong proponent of. Community risk reduction involves fire prevention/education

programs, plan review, onsite inspection and fire cause and origin investigation programs. Previously, ISO did not recognize points for these programs.

The two water purveyors in Dixon are also equally important in this evaluation. Both the City of Dixon and the California Water Service Company have made improvements to infrastructure that makes it possible to sustain higher flows for increased amounts if time. This fire flow capability is a critical component in the fire departments ability to respond to and mitigate the threat of fire in both commercial and residential settings. The link between water purveyors and the fire department is a significant area of emphasis in our pre-fire planning efforts.

Lastly the 911 Emergency Communications Center is evaluated and scored as part of this evaluation. The Dixon Fire Department presently contracts with the Solano County Sheriff for fire dispatch services. We recognize the efforts of the Sheriff's office to constantly strive for excellence in the services we receive.

The Dixon Fire Department will continue to strive to be viewed as an innovative leader in the provision of fire and emergency services as well as community risk reduction while providing the best possible value to the communities served.

For more information regarding this release, please contact Fire Chief Aaron McAlister at 916-765-5802 or amcalister@ci.dixon.ca.us

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