



RENO FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

**INTEROFFICE
MEMORANDUM**

CITY OF RENO

Date: 11/15/17
From: Tray Palmer, Fire Marshal
To: Nathan Gilbert
Subject: Meridian South

Dear Nathan,

In regards to the proposed Meridian South development:

The closest fire station to this project would be Station 11 (single engine company) located at 7105 Mae Anne Ave. The current response time from Station 11 would be 8 minutes to the entrance of the development. The second closest fire station is Station 19 located at 2015 Hawk Meadow Trail. The response time would be 12 – 16 minutes depending on route. Currently Station 19 only houses one Medical Response Unit.

The Standards of Cover Study presented by Emergency Services Consulting International group in 2011 outlines the City of Reno “First Due Response Objective” as the following:

1. The first fire department response unit will arrive at a fire or medical emergency in an urban area within six (6) minutes from time of dispatch at least 85 percent of the time.
2. The first fire department response unit will arrive at a fire or medical emergency in a suburban area within eight (8) minutes from time of dispatch at least 85 percent of the time.

The Study also set a performance goal that would maintain travel time to emergencies so that the time from initiation of response to arrival at incident is within 4 minutes 30 seconds 85 percent of the time in the urban zone and within 6 minutes 30 seconds 85 percent of the time in the suburban zone.

As presented, all development in this area, including residential housing, would require the installation of fire sprinkler systems to mitigate the fire response time in excess of 8 minutes. However, it should be noted that fire sprinklers would not mitigate the response time for medical emergencies. Medical response to this area will have a higher response time as compared to the rest of the city. This delay in response will not align with the “First Due Response Objective” noted above for medical emergencies. As the density in future development increases, the need for a fire station in this area will also increase.

The proposed project is in a High (hazard) Fire Wildland-Urban Interface Area. The development would have to follow requirements set forth in the States adoption of the Wildland-Urban Interface Code under NRS 477 and NAC 477.281. A vegetation management plan must be submitted to the Reno Fire



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Department and the State Forester Firewarden for review and approval as part of the plans required for a permit.

All other requirements must follow the International Building Code and Fire Code as adopted at the time of building plan submittal. This includes water supply, hydrant locations and fire access.

Section D107 of the International Fire Code requires that developments of one- or two –family dwellings where the number of dwelling units exceed 30 shall be provided with two separate and approved fire access roads. There is an exception that allows more than 30 units on a single access road if the dwellings are equipped with fire sprinklers. As the 78 buildings will be equipped with fire sprinklers the initial development as proposed is not required to have a second access road. However, the Reno Fire Department recommends that if and when the development exceeds the 78 dwelling units that a separate secondary access road be required.

Please contact me if you have any further questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tray Palmer, Fire Marshal