

ISO Evaluation Update



Interdepartmental Memorandum

TO: Robert Garza, City Manager

FROM: Travis A. Brown, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: Insurance Services Office (ISO) Evaluation Update

DATE: May 25, 2012 **FILE #:**

We will provide a brief presentation to City Council at the June 11, 2012 work session regarding our recent Insurance Services Office (ISO) evaluation. We will share the preliminary feedback received from the ISO representative during his visit earlier this month, along with some recent changes related to community classifications and future evaluations.

Please contact me if you have questions or require additional information.

Insurance Services Office, Inc. (ISO) Evaluation

City Council Work Session

June 11, 2012

What is ISO

- Independent company that evaluates a community's fire protection services
- Most reliable and principal provider of information used by insurance companies to determine residential and commercial rates
- Public Protection Classification (PPC) is a nationwide standard established by ISO

Public Protection Classification (PPC)

- Rates ability to control and extinguish a structure fire on a scale of 1 to 10
- Class 1 is considered the best protection and Class 10 is less than minimum
- Provides incentives and rewards to communities that choose to improve their fire protection
- Lower ratings reduce insurance rates and have been shown to assist with economic development and bond rating

Fire Suppression Rating Schedule

- Criteria used to evaluate firefighting capabilities of individual communities
- Evaluates three main areas of fire suppression infrastructure using a weighted scale
 - Receiving and Handling of fire alarms (10%)
 - Fire Department (50%)
 - Water supply (40%)

Classification 4 – 68.61

I.	Receiving & Handling Fire Alarms:	<u>Total 5.94</u>	Maximum = 10
a.	Telephone Service	2.00	2
b.	Operators	2.19	3
c.	Dispatch Circuits	1.75	5
II.	Fire Department	<u>Total 30.71</u>	Maximum = 50
a.	Engine Companies	6.56	10
b.	Reserve Pumpers	0.66	1
c.	Pumper Capacity	5.00	5
d.	Ladder Service	3.25	5
e.	Reserve Ladder	0.64	1
f.	Distribution	2.23	4
g.	Company Personnel	7.78	15
h.	Training	4.59	9
III.	Water Supply	<u>Total 39.36</u>	Maximum = 40
a.	Supply System	35.00	35
b.	Hydrants	2.00	2
c.	Inspection and Condition	2.36	3
IV.	Divergence*	<u>-7.40</u>	
	<u>Las Cruces' Total:</u>	68.61	Maximum = 100.00

Recent Evaluation

- Conducted May 16-18, 2012
- Official results expected within 6 months
- Initial indications are positive for an improvement in our PPC Rating

Significant Improvements

- Training structure
- Fire Station 7
- Training documentation and tracking
- Pre-plan surveys of commercial properties
- Secondary dispatch method and monitoring of fire department circuit at MVRDA

Changes Within ISO

- Community evaluations will occur approximately every 5 years instead of every 10 or more years
- Structures more than 1000 feet from a hydrant will be considered a Class 9 regardless of the overall PPC Rating
- Possible consideration in future for fire prevention and code enforcement activities

Questions