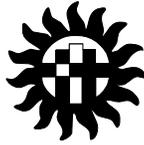


Insurance Services Organization (ISO) Update



City of Las Cruces

TO: Robert Garza, City Manager
FROM: Travis A. Brown, Fire Chief
SUBJECT: Insurance Services Office (ISO) Evaluation Results
DATE: December 3, 2012 **FILE #:**

At the December 10, 2012 City Council work session the Fire Department will present the findings of the Insurance Services Office (ISO) evaluation that occurred in May of this year. The presentation will include our updated Fire Protection Classification Rating along with identified areas for improvement.

The presentation is informative in nature and therefore we will not be seeking specific action or direction from City Council at this time. Please advise if you require additional information.

Insurance Services Office, Inc. (ISO) Evaluation

City Council Work Session

December 10, 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 may 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%)

Recent Evaluation

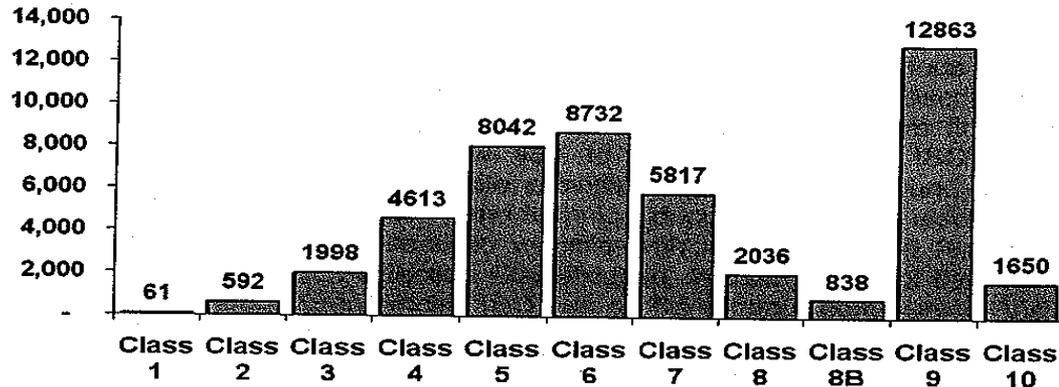
- Conducted May 16-18, 2012
- Resulted in a new PPC of Class 2/9
 - Entire community including West Mesa is a Class 2 with the exception of properties that are more than 1000 feet from a fire hydrant
- New rating becomes effective on March 1, 2013

	Current	New	Maximum
I. Receiving & Handling Fire Alarms:	<u>Total 5.94</u>	<u>Total 9.52</u>	<u>10</u>
a. Telephone Service	2.00	2.00	
b. Operators	2.19	2.67	
c. Dispatch Circuits	1.75	4.85	
II. Fire Department	<u>Total 30.71</u>	<u>Total 38.64</u>	<u>50</u>
a. Engine Companies	6.56	6.67	
b. Reserve Pumpers	0.66	0.67	
c. Pumper Capacity	5.00	5.00	
d. Ladder Service	3.25	3.93	
e. Reserve Ladder	0.64	0.79	
f. Distribution	2.23	2.08	
g. Company Personnel	7.78	11.56	
h. Training	4.59	7.94	
III. Water Supply	<u>Total 39.36</u>	<u>Total 39.22</u>	<u>40</u>
a. Supply System	35.00	34.92	
b. Hydrants	2.00	2.00	
c. Inspection and Condition	2.36	2.30	
IV. Divergence*	-7.40	-4.15	
<u>Las Cruces' Total:</u>	68.61 (Class 4)	83.23 (Class 2)	100

Distribution of Public Protection Classification Numbers

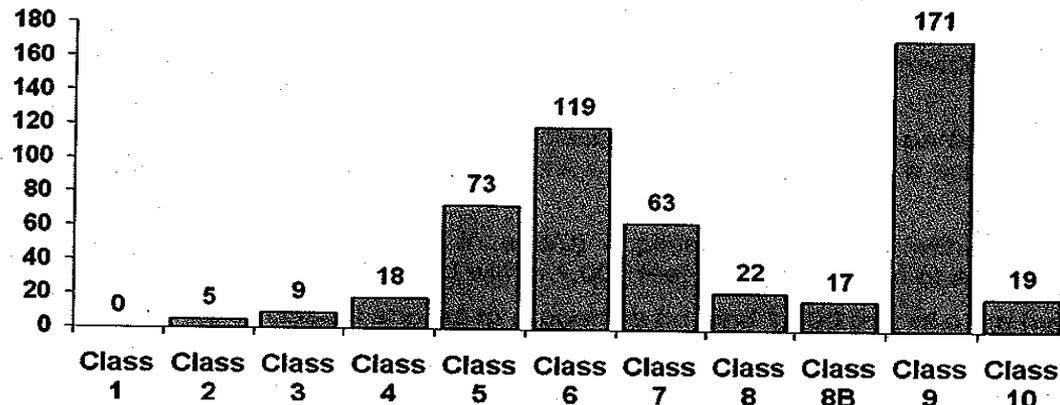
The 2011 published countrywide distribution of communities by the Public Protection Classification number is as follows:

Countrywide



The 2011 published statewide distribution of communities by the Public Protection Classification number is as follows:

New Mexico

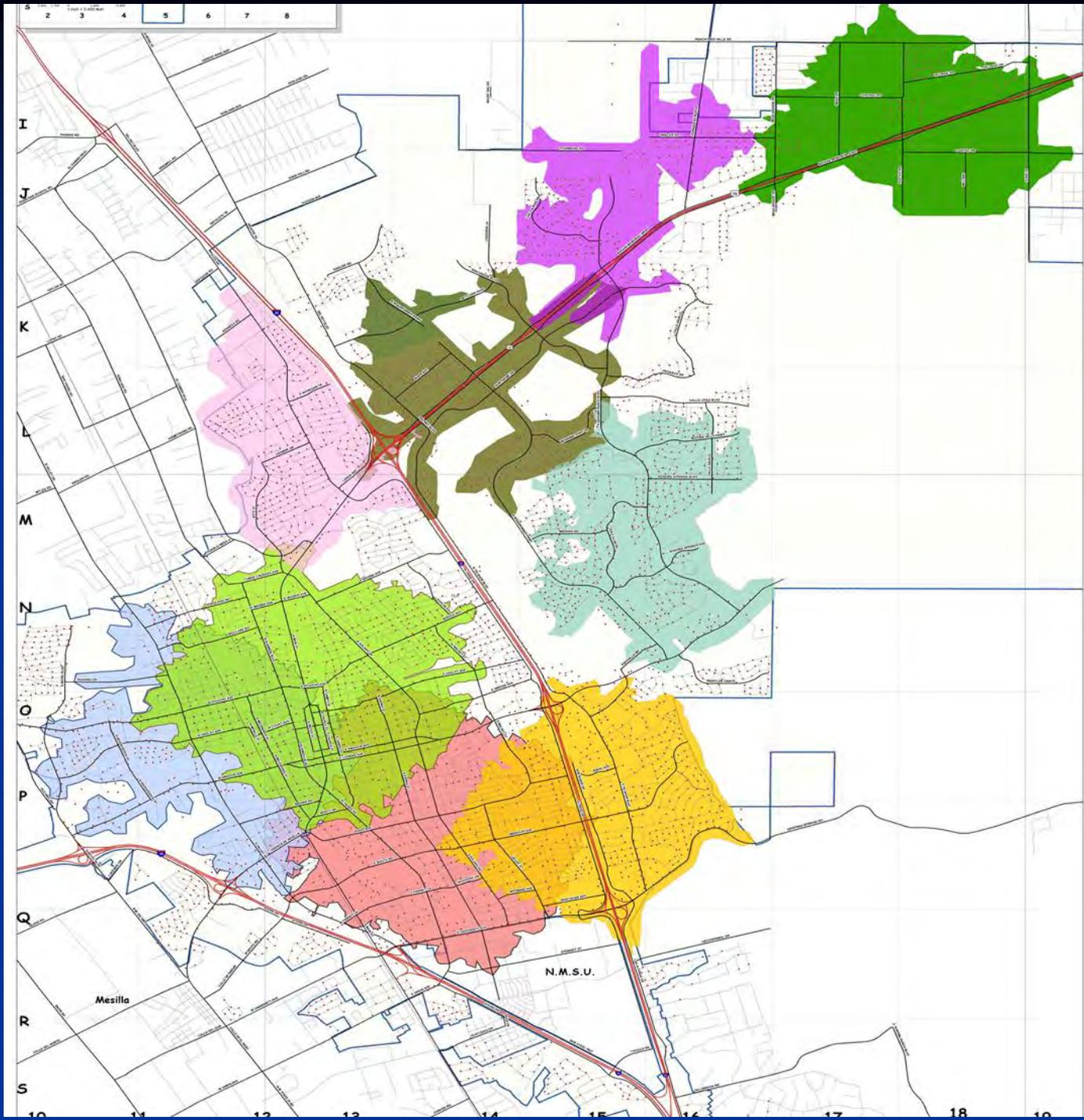


Significant Improvements

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

Future Considerations

- Additional stations to improve/maintain credit for engine companies and distribution
- Loose equipment for reserve pumpers
- Additional ladder or service company
- Number of personnel on duty



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

Community Notification

- Preparing a letter for distribution to West Mesa Industrial Park and Las Cruces International Airport tenants
- Publicize new PPC rating to community
- Mailing to local insurance companies to make them aware of the improved rating

Questions