

Planning a New SYCAMORE FIRE STATION 1



WHO

The Sycamore City Council has opted to pursue the construction of a new Fire Station 1 utilizing the architectural services of FGM Architects of Oak Brook, Illinois. City Manager Michael Hall, in tandem with Sycamore Fire Department administration and personnel, are evaluating how to optimize the Department's ability to serve our community.

WHAT

At its June 5, 2023 meeting, City Council was provided four options to address a Fire Station 1 Space Needs Study performed by Kluber Architects: 1) Do nothing; 2) Address deferred maintenance from 2017; 3) Rebuild Station 1 at its current site; or 4) Build a new station in a new location. Having considered results of the space needs study, photo documentation of disrepair, and personal experience touring Station 1, Council opted to pursue Option 4 and approve the execution of an architectural agreement with FGM Architects.

WHERE

Land for the new station has been generously donated by Sycamore's own Ideal Industries and is located at the southwest corner of Borden Avenue & South Prairie Drive. This location will more evenly distribute the call response area between Stations 1 and 2 and is nestled within residential, educational, and business areas of our community.

WHEN

The City hopes to break ground in Spring 2025. Project leaders are excited to share updates with the community as the project progresses through each phase from concept design to construction. Check in on the latest developments at cityofsycamore.com/newstation!

Now



The Sycamore Fire Department responds to approximately 3,000 calls for service per year. Fire Station 1 remains essentially the same as when it was originally constructed over six decades ago.

Then



Fire Station 1 was built in 1957 and originally served as a shared municipal building between the Sycamore Police and Fire Departments, as well as City Hall. Volunteer firefighters responded to about 89 calls per year.

WHY

Station 1 has largely retained its original structure and systems since its construction in 1957. It poses a multitude of health and safety risks to the first responders it houses and is grossly inefficient at meeting the needs of today's fire service operations. Space limitations and a growing list of critical issues can no longer be addressed with expensive band-aids. A new, safe, practical, and efficient Station 1 will equip the Sycamore Fire Department with the appropriate environment and resources it relies on to continue its strong service to our community.



ABOVE: Inside the Station 1 apparatus bay, circa 1958. **BELLOW:** Inside the Station 1 apparatus bay from the same position and perspective, present day.

HOW

City Manager Michael Hall collaborated with the City's Finance Department to create a strategic funding plan, which was presented to Council at its October 2nd, 2023 meeting. This plan uses the General Fund Balance to eliminate existing debt and borrows a new \$10M issuance to fund the construction of Fire Station 1. The money previously applied to past debt will be reapplied to the new debt in conjunction with ambulance fees to cover the resulting new debt service payments *without raising property taxes*.



Watch this video to learn more about the critical issues facing the SFD's current Station #1 and keep up with New Station #1 project developments at cityofsycamore.com/newstation.

QUESTIONS?

Stop by the Station for a tour, or reach out by phone or email:

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