

Shawnee County Fire District #1

P.O. Box 87 / 218 West Railroad
Silver Lake, Kansas 66539

Emergency 911
Administrative 785-582-4667

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

5:00 PM CDT, August 13th, 2008

SHAWNEE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #1 PROPOSED FIRE STATIONS

SILVER LAKE, KS: Officers of the Shawnee County Fire District #1 have completed an informational pamphlet for the public in regards to proposed fire stations. The information pamphlet will be mailed to every registered voter in Shawnee County Fire District #1.

A copy of the information pamphlet is attached to this press release.

For current news, visit the Shawnee County Fire District #1 website at: www.silverlakefire.com.

The Need

The proposed fire stations are ideal locations for these reasons:

- Faster apparatus and resource response times.
- Provides 5-mile coverage to more northern and eastern property owners.
- Lower Insurance Services Office (ISO) ratings translates to lower insurance rates for property owners.
- Are located within planned growth areas.
- Eventual capacity for manned stations planned in the future.
- We could find no documented instances in Kansas or Shawnee County where construction of a fire station resulted in reduced appraisal values to nearby residential properties.
- Along with the Rural Water District's and your help, more rural fire hydrants are needed to improve fire fighting resources and to further reduce insurance class ratings.
- To improve apparatus call response times throughout the District, the location of these stations are crucial. If you and your family value the essential services your Fire District provides, please contact your County Commissioners. View our website www.silverlakefire.com for more information and details we could not include within the limited space of this brochure.

Shawnee County Commissioners
200 SE 7th Street, Topeka, Kansas 66603
Phone: 785-233-8200 x4040
Email: commission@snco.us



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218 W. Railroad - P.O. Box 87
Silver Lake, KS 66539

About SCFD #1 and the Proposed Fire Stations



When you call 9-1-1, who responds to your home, business, or facility to help you? In addition to an ambulance, sheriff deputies, or police officers, Shawnee County Fire District #1 in Silver Lake, is routinely paged to respond to your emergency.



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218 W. Railroad - P.O. Box 87
Silver Lake, KS 66539
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Who We Are

Your Fire District incorporates Grove, Silver Lake and Menoken Townships and the City of Silver Lake. Altogether, this is an area of ninety six square miles, bordered by Davis Road (west), the Kansas River (south), within the 4700 NW block (east), and N.W. 94th St. (north). Shawnee County Fire District #1:

- Is staffed by two full-time and twenty-two volunteers.
- Has two stations with staged emergency response equipment and apparatus; in Silver Lake and at Kiro Corner. Only the Silver Lake station is manned Mon-Fri. 8 AM-5 PM, and Tues. and Thurs. from 5 PM to 10:00 PM.
- Funded through mill-levy taxes and is governed by a five-member board of representatives from the townships.
- Volunteers work full-time in agriculture, nursing, technical services, teachers, engineers, military, retired, business owners, management and career Fire Fighters with Topeka and Ft. Riley. Our volunteers are trained and certified at various levels as Fire Fighters and medical responders, undergoing 100's of hours of initial/continuing education to National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and State standards/guidelines. The average service time is +11 years; this is how our volunteers choose to serve their community.
- Responds to all kind of emergencies within the Fire District; grass, vehicle and structure fires, medical, vehicle, farm and industrial accidents, hazardous materials and conditions, land and ice/flood rescues and searches. We respond to an average of 300+ calls a year.
- Provides services/community education programs, such as inspections, fire prevention week

What We Do

October 5th-11th and CPR training.

Call Description	Percent of Total
Medical & Rescue Emergencies	50%
Fires	18%
Service/Good Intent Calls	19%
Hazardous Condition	4%
False Alarms	9%

- Has mutual aid agreements with Soldier, Rossville, Jackson County/Hoyt and Topeka Fire agencies. We reciprocate and respond to these Fire agencies when requested to do so.
- When a call is paged, our people respond directly to the stations or scene of the call from wherever they are and whatever they are doing.
- Our average call responder time is 7:57 and 11:30 min/sec. for apparatus. However, this is highly dependent on the time of day, the availability of volunteers to respond, traffic conditions and the location of the call.
- Unlike most urban fire agencies that seldom respond more than 2-4 miles from their stations, our volunteers must often travel a total of 5-15 road miles or more from where they are to the station and then on to the scene.
- We are constantly updating our long-range plans to better serve the Fire District with the resources made available to us, and to comply with NFPA and the Insurance Services Office (ISO) Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS) standards and guidelines. This rating directly impacts how much you pay for property fire-risk insurance.
- According to the American Heart Association early CPR and defibrillation are critical links in the "chain of survival" to treat sudden cardiac arrest. Time is critical. For every minute without CPR and defibrilla-

The Need

tion, the odds of survival drop 7-10 percent. A sudden cardiac arrest victim not defibrillated within 8-10 minutes has virtually no chance of survival.

- To improve apparatus call response times* and to protect life and property, two fire stations are planned. One station is to replace Kiro, which is not ideally located to serve the Menoken Township, and has served well past it's useful life.

2007 Incidents By District		*Medical/Rescue Response	*Fire Response
<u>Area/Region</u>	<u>% of Calls</u>	Avg. (minutes)	Avg. (minutes)
Menoken Township	47%	14:08	15:31
City of Silver Lake	24%	6:55	7:16
Grove Township	13%	14:06	14:19
Silver Lake Township	10%	11:19	9:22
Mutual aid	6%		

- Grove Township is in the planning stages for a new community building with a 2-bay satellite fire station. The Grove station may not have manned hours, but will help reduce response times for NW calls.
- At this time, no emergency apparatus are staged north of the Union Pacific tracks or Soldier Creek. We routinely must wait for trains or divert to respond. We do have volunteers residing north of the tracks who could arrive sooner if resources are staged there available for use.
- Our largest township, Menoken, (45 square miles) is the most heavily populated rural area (and growing), has the greatest call response rate, and is the area most needful for call response time improvement.