

RESOLUTION NO. 01-12

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS, OPPOSING NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION'S PROPOSED STANDARDS 1710 & 1720

WHEREAS, the National Protection Association (NFPA) is an international association of individuals and trade and professional organizations; and

WHEREAS, the mission of NFPA is to "reduce the worldwide burden of fire and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and advocating scientifically-based consensus codes and standards, research and education"; and

WHEREAS, NFPA has produced over 275 codes and standards that deal with every aspect of fire and life safety; and

WHEREAS, NFPA is an internationally recognized authority in producing codes and standards dealing with fire and life safety; and

WHEREAS, NFPA is currently proposing two new standards; NFPA 1710, *Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Departments*, and NFPA 1720, *Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Volunteer Fire Departments*; and

WHEREAS, proposed NFPA standards 1710 and 1720 define minimum response times, minimum fire company staffing levels, initial full alarm response levels, and extra alarm response levels; and

WHEREAS, levels of service delivery for fire and emergency medical services (EMS) have always been determined by local jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, proposed NFPA standards 1710 and 1720 would impose onerous, unfunded mandates upon local governments to meet established response times and staffing levels, if adopted by NFPA with subsequent consideration taken by Federal agencies, such as the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and insurance companies; and

WHEREAS, the NFPA has clearly gone outside its authority in proposing these national minimum manning, response, and staffing standards; and

WHEREAS, because NFPA codes and standards are voluntary and need to be adopted by local jurisdictions, these standards will be "the norm" because of the stature of NFPA in the development and promulgation of other codes and standards; and

WHEREAS, these two proposed standards will be considered and voted on at the NFPA Annual Conference on May 16, 2001 in Anaheim, California; and

WHEREAS, if adopted and issued, these proposed NFPA standards would force local governments to shift dollars from fire prevention programs to fire suppression activities, potentially increasing the risk of fire and the danger to local firefighters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Los Altos opposes any attempt by the National Fire Protection Association to adopt standards for staffing or minimum manning levels of fire, specialized or emergency medical services vehicles controlled by units of local government; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Los Altos opposes any attempt by the National Fire Protection Association to adopt a standard dictating or affecting the response time of any fire, specialized or emergency medical services vehicle; and

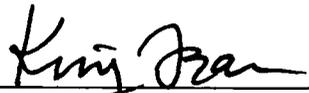
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Los Altos will sent this resolution to the National Fire Protection Association, registering the City's opposition to the proposed standards 1710 and 1720, which preempt local authority and place a one-size-fits-all mandate on our city and all cities and towns.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this resolution was duly passed at the regular City Council meeting of April 24, 2001, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Mayor Lear, Councilmembers Becker, Casto, La Poll, and Moss

NOES: None

ABSENT: None



KING LEAR, MAYOR

Attest:



CAROL SCHARZ, CITY CLERK