

January 12, 2021

Mayor Fligor and Members of the City of Los Altos City Council,

The Los Altos Hills County Fire District ("District) would like to thank the City of Los Altos for its continued commitment to emergency preparedness efforts at both the community and the individual level. As the Council is aware, we never know when disaster will strike, and it is essential that we all be prepared. Working together, the District and the City of Los Altos are strengthening community resiliency and ensuring that we will be able to recover more quickly after disaster.

2020 proved to be the year of the unexpected, but thanks to the collaborative relationship between the District, the City of Los Altos, and other agencies in the region, we have been able to create a new form of program and service delivery. COVID-19 and the CZU lighting complex wildfire have shown how important it is to have strong regional partners who are flexible and ready and willing to assist in times of need.

The District is grateful for the collaborative approach that the City takes to providing training and education opportunities to the public. The 2020 webinars, virtual classes and drills, and online meetings have been important aspects to keeping our CERTs and Hams engaged and their skills current. Knowledge sharing between staff has been invaluable to enhancing the District's programs and to providing resources and support to the community. Sharing social media posts and information about agency-specific events has helped to amplify our message, raise awareness about emergency preparedness, and reach a wider audience. Partnering to provide training and education to both communities expands our volunteer network and strengthens the area's ability to respond and recover after a disaster.

Again, the District thanks the City Council and City staff for its partnership and support and looks forward to continued collaboration in 2021 and beyond.

Sincerely,

Mark Warren

Mark Warren

President, Los Altos Hills County Fire District