

I strongly support manning our Umpqua fire station. Our rural area is right now a 15-20 minute wait for assistance, minutes that become vital during a stroke, heart attack, or major injury. This community has a fairly large amount of residents over 60, who attended a recent mtg held by our District 2 fire Dept. They were heartsick to learn because of our location we may wait longer if there is a high activity level in town.

Our area is known for great fishing and more than a few times water rescue has been needed. I would feel much more confident that lives could be saved if help was under 10 minutes away. The current fire station building holds a truck, but we do not have a volunteer fire department due to the age of our community. This space could be put to better use as a training station for our local community college fire science/ EMS students. There is truly no better teacher than hands on learning. Lastly I feel everyone would have a better sense of safety knowing the station was manned. The time spent waiting for help as your loved one is in danger, can seem like an eternity when it takes 20+ minutes for help to arrive.

Thank you so much for allowing us to give our input on the value of this decision. I trust you will all vote with our best intentions in mind.

Sincerely,
Angela Tustin