

# FIRE CHIEF'S MESSAGE

## JUNE 2019

Decisions we make today will help us shape our future tomorrow. Each step we take is propelling us forward, and every choice we make helps us determine our path. Right now, we are creating and shaping our succession plan.

This year, we are faced with two big endeavors that will dramatically affect our Department in the years ahead – and potentially even decades from now.

First, we are just days away from accepting applications for the position of Fire Fighter Trainee (FFT). For years, this exam has been highly anticipated by individuals interested in becoming a part of our Department.

We expect to receive thousands of applications from candidates who have patiently waited for this exam to open, signed up for recruitment information seminars, and attended many of our readiness and preparation programs.

*Join Our Team.  
Live the Dream.*



The upcoming opportunity to “Join Our Team and Live the Dream” will soon become a reality for some who are wholly committed and dedicated to a fulfilling career in public service. Our communication outreach and recruitment efforts included the launch and delivery of a multi-faceted campaign to actively recruit individuals from all walks of life who represent the communities we serve.

Our workforce goes through its usual ebbs and flows as people retire and employees fill those openings. After exhausting our most recent list of FFT candidates, it is time to finally generate a new one.

By filling our current vacancies through promotion and hire, we will be able to better improve our staffing shortages and decrease our need to recall team members.

This is an exciting time! I look forward to all the candidates that will be brought our way through this upcoming exam process. We may be looking at the next generation of firefighters who will become the future leaders of our Department.

I thank you for your loyalty and patience as we moved through this tedious process over the years. I commend you for your commitment in staying the course and faithfully serving the public despite vacancy challenges.

Thank you for putting others before yourself. It is what selfless heroes do – and I, along with the Executive Team, sincerely appreciate your hard work and effort.



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1320 N. Eastern Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90063 • (323) 881-2411 • [info@fire.lacounty.gov](mailto:info@fire.lacounty.gov)

The Fire Chief's Message is a monthly communication from the Fire Chief of the Los Angeles County Fire Department.

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## PLANNING OUR FUTURE

Additionally, this is a critical year as we look to our residents for their support.

Recently, the Department launched a series of ads on television, radio and the internet. The ads inform our residents about the work we do and the challenges we face with the growing demand for services. Some online ads have been customized to feature our Department's local assistant fire chiefs in their respective communities.

These ads have also been translated into Spanish, Chinese, Iranian, Vietnamese, Korean, Tagalog, and Khmer, and are running on various language-specific stations. Additionally, we are encouraging residents to provide us with feedback by inviting them to take an online survey and sharing their thoughts and questions, so we can better understand community priorities as we plan ahead.

So far, more than 1,000 online surveys have been filled out. Those results, along with other completed surveys, have shown that the public is highly supportive of the Department and its efforts.

To support the outreach, dozens of our Department members are also delivering informational presentations to local chambers of commerce and service clubs in the communities we serve. Dozens of presentations have taken place with additional events scheduled in the months to come.

We are at a pivotal moment in our Department's history and I encourage everyone to visit [www.WeAreLACounty-Fire.org](http://www.WeAreLACounty-Fire.org) to become familiar with our message of how we plan to meet today's challenges and plan for our future.



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