



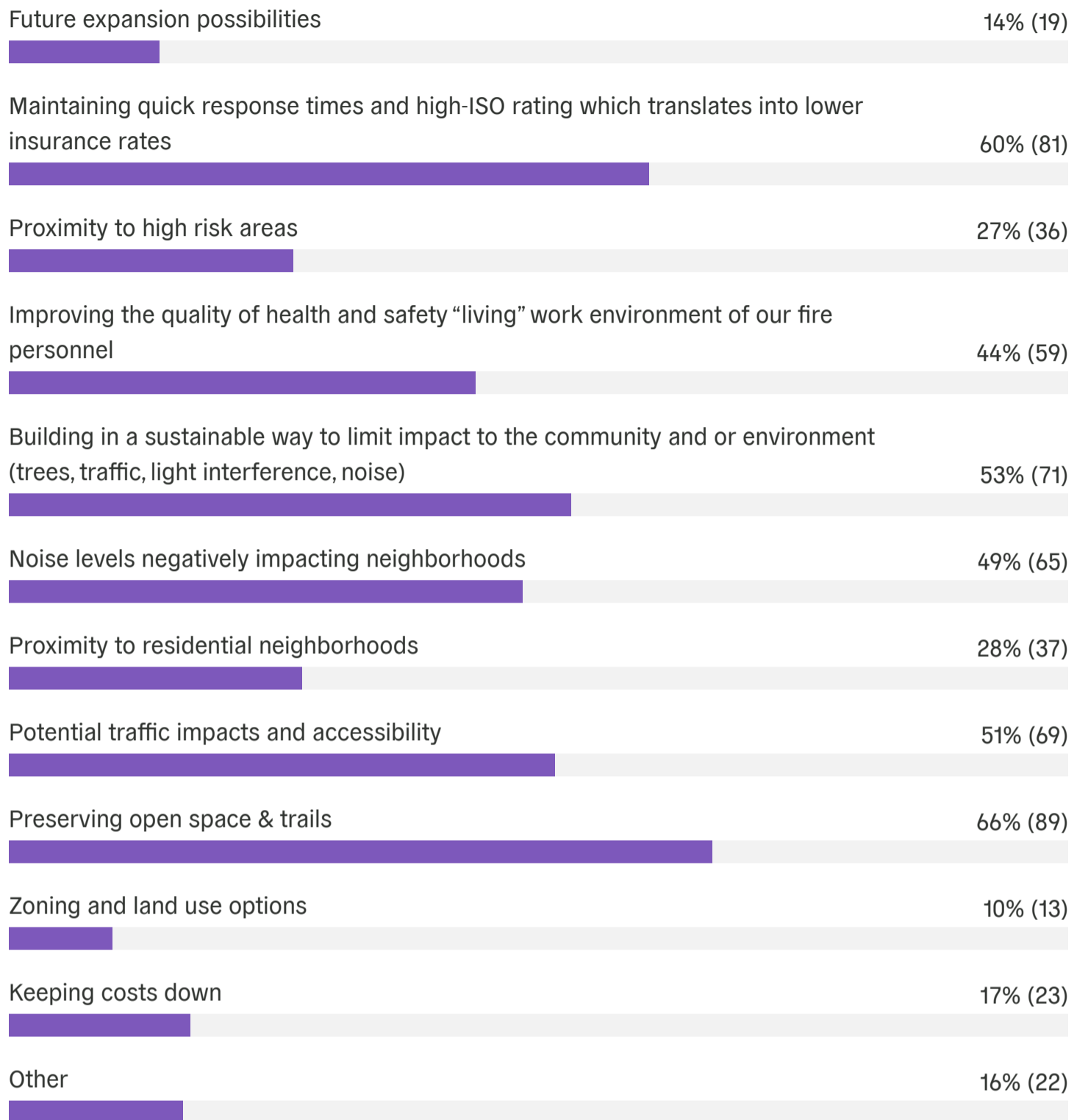
LOS ALAMOS
where discoveries are made

Fire Station 4 Site Selection

Survey Results
FINAL

10/08/2024

What are the top five factors most important to you as the County considers which of the three sites to build the new Fire Station 4?



If you answered OTHER, please share with us any other factors important to you.

N/A

na

Migratory patterns of deer, bear, coyotes, and the trail usage by bikers and hikers around the golf course in neighborhoods by Loma Linda must be taken under consideration. Only one site avoids this conflict. The existing site.

Replace in the current location!

Not abandoning largely developed sites to irreparably and needlessly develop current open space.

No other

Even thinking of putting a FIRE STATION at the top of the roundabout is NUTS... It's a tight, 2-lane road (IS THE PLAN TO REPLACE THE ROAD TOO???). Put the new one in the same location it's already occupied (for about 5 REASONS).

Modify the existing facility and leave the trees and open space alone! Besides, what will you do with the old station? Add to all of the other abandoned structures around town?!?

Did not answer other

The current location, by far the best choice, already is proximal to residential neighborhoods and allows for quick response times yet keeps fire equipment and noise out of them. It also is better choice from a traffic standpoint, right on a busy road that hasn't been on a diet, and precluding frequent use of the Diamond roundabout. Using the current location also should keep the cost down all of which are important but need to be answered in context.

I don't agree that we need as many fire stations. I would close and not rebuild.

NA

Stop trying to use current parks

Preservation of unique county open space.

not taking away the beauty of the areas

Dont move the darn station.

n/a

NA

Infrastructure - water, electric, are already in place at the current site. It makes so much more sense to keep the station where it is. There is no need to slow the process looking at other sites and having meetings, etc. They waste time and money. also- If we move it- what will be done at the old station? Finally - upgrade to include solar panels and build as "green" a station as you can. Thanks

Neighborhood concerns

Light Pollution negatively impacting neighborhoods and wildlife, Negative impacts to home values, Negative impacts to "Quality Rest" for residents, Negative Safety Risks for all stakeholders (neighborhood, school, vehicle traffic, cyclists, foot traffic)

Safety for the firefighters and vehicles traveling in the fire station area

I believe strongly that the new fire station needs to be built where the current fire station is located. This current location is the safest and is best regarding noise and will not negatively impact other wonderful community/ neighborhood open spaces.

The present location has proven to be an ideal location for a fire station. It is centrally located for the communities that it serves. It is a reasonable distance from the roundabout and has good viability for traffic in all directions. It is near potential fire sites while maintaining sufficient distance to minimize noise and dangerous traffic egress. The site is already disturbed and serves the purpose well. There is clearly sufficient space on the lot for necessary facility expansion. The present building will need to be demolished regardless of the future construction site.

The current location is accessible, proximal to neighborhoods, right on the major two-lane artery through town, and can be updated versus an entirely new location, which would be environmentally damaging and costly.

See comments below on question 3.

I would not want Loma Linda to become the new fire place location. It is a fun place for kids and for families to explore and hike. Loma Linda Road neighborhood would not appreciate the park to become the fire station.

One of the factors important to me is able to preserve places where families and children can come together and have fun together. Loma Linda Park should not be one of the options for the new fire station.

Travel on North Mesa Road will be icy and hazardous in winter. It's on the north side of the hill and from the top of the hill to the roundabout there are frequent accidents during snow events. the golf course site has similar problems.

None

Placing a fire station up against the Loma Linda homes would negatively impact neighborhood traffic, noise, and open space/views.

Safety of the Fire Crews leaving and returning to the station. Loma Linda is completely UNSATISFACTORY !!! The road is steep and icy in the winter and the quickest response times to medical emergencies on North Mesa will require cutting through the Middle School !!! The entrance for a station at the Golf Corse would be too close to the round about for safe exiting of Fire Trucks.

Maintain, renovate and expand existing facilities as needed, stop throwing away old facilities that LAC has failed to maintain. Focus on maintenance and upkeep, not new and shiny.

N/A

North Mesa Road is very steep from the traffic round-about to the proposed location for the Loma Linda Site. Further, the steep section is in the sun's shadow through much of each winter day. The ice and snow on this steep, shadowed section are very persistent and present a significant traffic safety problem each winter. It was stated at the first community input meeting that approximately half the calls to the current Station 4 go to the west and half to the east. Assuming Barranca Mesa and North Mesa have comparable populations, it means that if the Loma Linda Site were chosen, about 75% of the calls would require the fire equipment to descend the steep hill to the round-about. Maintaining this section of road so the large fire engines can safely descend will be a constant challenge each winter.

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Are there any other factors you believe should be considered when choosing a location for the new fire station?

No, I think quick response time and preserving open space are the most important factors.

Except for the inconvenience of building around the current fire station, Option A, building in the current location, is has the best access to Diamond Dr and is least impactful to open space and neighborhoods especially the issue of taking over the Loma Linda Play Lot which, next to the Middle School, not only impacts Loma Linda but could have serious issues when an emergency team was trying to exit during school hours, especially arrival and departure--not to mention the potentially dangerous curve. The only advantage of building in a "fresh" spot is to mitigate the temporary inconvenience to the current Fire Station 4. That advantage, of course, is only temporary. The disadvantages will be permanent.

If not re-built at current site, LAC will have another "brown" piece of land and building to do something with. If the building is decrepit then it would have to be torn down anyway and the site mitigated.

Site C has serious issues with location. Slope of road is too steep and will cause issues in winter. If trucks go east, then go right into a school zone.

Yes, use the existing perfectly nice lot where the fire stations is located. It has all the utilities run to the area. You do not have to disrupt neighbors with noise because the people 60 years ago selected one for you. The golf course is terrible for access for crews and Loma Linda is a disaster coming down & going up the hill. The firefighters I spoke with do not want these locations because there are too many potential accident issues associated with these locations. Access to Diamond Drive is perfect for their safety and remember we did install flashing traffic lights to enhance public awareness of firetrucks rolling into action.

Stay out of undeveloped areas!

Road sizes and ratings. Neither North Mesa Road or San Ildefonso can be significantly widened, and likely are not designed to sustain the regularly occurring traffic from extremely heavy vehicles that having a fire station located on them would require. Traffic congestion and relative poor sightline visibility on these roads also largely eliminate either Site B or C from serious consideration. In addition, the Loma Linda location would impact equestrian activity which frequently uses North Mesa road to access trails and transport livestock in emergent and non-emergent situations.

environmental impacts, not just the tails. The wildlife and ecology

I would prefer that the location if changed not encroach upon passive use open space.

The existing location is ideal with a 4-lane road and easy access for fastest response time, as well minimal impact on traffic during construction phase

Best response time to the greatest number of places that might need FD help

North Mesa Road is a narrow 2 lane, curvy road not appropriate for regular traffic by large emergency vehicles. It's also a heavily trafficked school route. The inevitable noise from sirens, etc. would be extremely disruptive to the Loma Linda neighborhood which is literally in the backyard.

Zero trees removed. Minimal or none nature destruction.

STOP TRYING TO TAKE AWAY LOMA LINDA PARK!

STOP TRYING TO TAKE AWAY LOMA LINDA PARK!

Traffic safety

Minimal damage/change to existing open space and recreational areas.

No.

Proximity to middle school and associated hazards to students, buses, drivers.

Areas served

Ensuring current fire station #4 lot is not left fallow. Needs to be restored to open space or used for productive activity. such as new housing or similar community benefit. Also I prefer not to use the loma linda site to preserve this open space.

See above...

Don't ruin anymore open area/parks with your pet projects.

Why are we even spending time and money on considering a new location when the current location is good and the other choices are detrimental to our community?

The on-line questionnaire lists the Loma Linda site as "vacant land north of the play lot." This is incorrect; the land is listed as park land on the county zoning map, and a more correct description would have been "northern portion of Loma Linda Park."

I believe that the biggest impact to the Loma Linda Community is the increase in noise level. Currently, the Loma Linda is a very quiet community with only the middle school producing the most noise which is not a big deal.

All of the above are somewhat important.

To get to Diamond Drive, there is a downhill road with a sharp bend and a 25 mph speed limit, slowing response to an emergency. Cars coming up the hill from the roundabout may not see a fire truck coming around the bend. At the bottom of the hill there is a roundabout that will also slow response to an emergency. The current location of the Fire Station 4 seems best for quick access onto Diamond Drive.

It makes the most sense to add onto the existing site, rather than developing a brand new and separate site

Please consider utilizing the EXISTING footprint and make modifications in the existing footprint. I feel strongly building a new Fire Station next to Loma Linda is not a good idea. I don't live on North Mesa, but commute twice daily to care for my horses at the North Mesa Stables. The traffic and congestion on North Mesa Road and San Ildefonso during peak times is TERRIBLE. Adding a fire station would only make this worse and I question the actual accessibility on North Mesa Rd for fire equipment, ESPECIALLY in the winter, without significant investment into road infrastructure. USE the already developed land and update the current fire station. PLEASE.

I vote against the Loma Linda park play lot. The residents benefit from this playground. If the fire station was moved there, they could have difficulty/delays coming and going for emergencies with the Middle School traffic. Too noisy for that residential area. Current location could contain a 2-story building. Access to a paved highway is already there.

Design

It seems wasteful of community resources to not try to construct an improved facility on already owned land.

Relocating the well-placed fire station to a different area would pose significant risks to the community, particularly in terms of safety and emergency response. The current location allows for quick access to densely populated neighborhoods, businesses, and high-traffic areas. Moving the station could increase response times, especially at the roundabout where traffic flow is already challenging due to large trucks navigating the area. Drivers may feel compelled to yield inside the roundabout to give the right of way to these trucks, further complicating traffic and potentially delaying emergency vehicles during critical moments. This increased risk to public safety, combined with the added noise and traffic disruptions, could lower property values and diminish the overall quality of life for nearby residents. For these reasons, keeping the fire station in its current location is vital to maintaining safety and protecting the community.

no

NA

Disturbing new land when the original station site is viable for expansion

Building, upgrading and expanding on the present site is the best option for fire station #4. This site is presently in use, and allows for quick response times into the more populated areas of town west of the roundabout. Having the fire personnel navigate the roundabout for many calls from the Loma Linda area would slow response times and create a lot of noise for that neighborhood. Having the station set far in off the road at the golf maintenance yard also would slow response as they would have to get to the road as well as navigate the roundabout for the vast majority of the calls. One thing that would be helpful across Diamond at the station (and at the other stations too) is a blinking red to solid red light that will alert and stop traffic when a team is leaving for an emergency. Many communities have these, I'm surprised our stations in the county do not. Thanks

How it could affect losing existing things such as the Loma Linda park, as this is a utilized and appreciated resource to the community.

The current location has power, and access from two roads (Diamond and Range). This seems the best location, lowest cost and lowest impact. The other two sites require substantial investment in utilities, land preparation, etc., while also negatively impacting trails and open space.

Keep our areas free from additional development. The current location already has all the services there and from what I can tell additional space, if needed. Should consider building down or up to minimize any increase in facilities size.

Light Pollution negatively impacting neighborhoods and wildlife, noise pollution from both emergency and standard operations (24/7), Negative impacts to home values, Negative impacts to "Quality Rest" for residents, Negative Safety Risks for all stakeholders (neighborhood residents, Middle School, vehicle traffic, cyclists, foot traffic, park visitors, and other stakeholders). Please do not refer to Site C as a "Vacant area". This is a neighborhood park and open space area and critically important to neighborhood quality of life and home values. Message to PM and Chief: next community meeting - please make sure to present and discuss the results of this survey, your analysis approach including ranking, prioritization and weighting methods, and make the raw data available.

Exit in emergencies must be in an area where fire personnel drivers can see traffic

The current location offers the best safety in that its location provides more lanes, open road space, and visibility for fire truck activity. It also offers the reliability of what has already proven to work well, and the consistency of knowing where potential emergency responses are initiated.

The present site has proven near ideal. Don't fix what isn't broken and don't break anything else.

No

Easy Accessibility to plowed roads in winter

-Moving the fire station to either the Loma Linda or Golf Course sites requires a zoning change. Zoning changes impact property values! Utilization of the Loma Linda site would require a zoning change from one of the most restrictive zoning uses of OS-PPO to a zoning use involving B, R and S occupancy classifications. You are proposing that zoning change directly adjacent to an established SFR-3 zone. -Utilizing the Loma Linda site removes a community park. -Reuse or demolition of the existing site if abandoned. The highest and best use of the existing fire station site, for the Community, is a fire station. We will have the cost of demolishing or reconfiguring the existing facility whether we reuse the building or abandon it. The Chief has stated that the Annex can be used as an interim facility, which makes it possible to continue operation during renovation. -The current traffic back up going up the hill past the Loma Linda Park to the middle school, during school drop off and pick up, needs to be understood and experienced by the Council members and design team before making any decisions. Everyone voting on this issue should go and see firsthand what the actual traffic condition is on North Mesa Road at peak times. Maintaining fire department response times was listed as a priority. If there is a call during school drop off or pick up, the response time will be impacted. -Access for the emergency vehicles from the Loma Linda site and the Golf Course maintenance site is onto and off of a two-lane road as opposed to a four-lane road at the existing site. -Loma Linda Park has an abundance of wildlife. The deer travel from the Golf Course, across our property at 2197 Loma Linda, to the park daily. The deer continue across the road and drop into the opposite canyon. The wildlife corridors will be impacted. Coyotes and bears are also frequent visitors. -Our property at 2197 Loma Linda Drive will be negatively impacted by the selection of either the Loma Linda or the Golf Course site. While we support improving the facilities of our fire fighters and understand we need to take advantage of the funding received, it should not be at the cost of losing a park or the detriment of homeowners when there is a viable option of renovating the existing facility. -Have you considered utilizing the current County owned and operated RV parking lot on North Mesa across from the Sheriff's Posse building? The RV parking lot is not the highest and best use of this land. It is flat, not directly adjacent to existing residential lots and would benefit proposed future housing developments on the Mesa.

A factor that I believe should be considered is not a place where kids and families can play and chat together. Loma Linda Park should definitely not be considered as one of the options to build the new fire station.

I believe one of the factors that should be considered when choosing a location for the new fire station is definitely not a place where a lot of memories are made by residents in their neighborhood. Loma Linda Park is a place where my children and I get together and have fun. Plus, my children and I love hiking down the canyon there. If the new fire station is built there, residents in Loma Linda will be upset and infuriated. Preserving the park is one of the biggest factors I think

should be considered. Loma Linda Park should not be one of the considered options. The current site would be more reasonable than destroying Loma Linda Park.

For the golf course location we already have power issues and construction will interrupt electric power to North Mesa. Noise and construction traffic will negatively impact neighborhoods.

Maintaining trail access, traffic safety by having longer field of view (keep current location), not using golf course or Loma Linda park locations.

There are many elderly Loma Linda residents that use the open space park to walk their dogs. I also see many young families and playgroups drive into the park to use the small-shaded park. I have seen neighborhood children (or maybe grandchildren) bike to the park. Homes are going up for sale bringing new young families and they deserve a neighborhood park. There are no safe crosswalks to utilize for younger children to get to the bigger and busier park. This is a busy road during school drop off and pick up times. The steep road can get very slippery during winter. For me, the noise level of the sirens and limited access of the open space is the most disturbing. I did not buy my home with the expectation of a fire station in my backyard. I love having a park in my backyard for the kids to play, I love seeing the wildlife that use the area. I see bears on occasion and deer daily. I utilize the open space park for my elderly dog,

No.

The Loma Linda park is not a vacant site! It is a neighborhood park that is and has been part of the neighborhood.

The two proposed "new" locations both would require an emergency vehicle enter onto a two lane road with little ability for traffic on the road to pull out of the way for emergency vehicles to enter the road--not much of a shoulder available. Both of those locations would also remove currently open land from the public. Unused land in the county is quickly disappearing.

The option at Loma Linda would be destructive and dumb. I am unhappy that elected officials are considering it.

Please do not put it at the Loma Linda park place. That will ruin our neighborhood and destroy nature.

Losing the North Mesa park & open space would be a loss to the community. It would also be trouble with all the middle school traffic every morning and afternoon.

Site C will face my bedroom window, this will definitely affect my sleep. Site B and C are terrible ideas, way too close to the neighborhood

Plenty of visibility for Fire vehicles to safely exit and return to the station. Any homes near the current station the home owners knew before they bought that their might be noise from the station. The other 2 locations are close to homes whose owners would be impacted by noise they could not foresee when they bought.

Clear field of view for traffic and safest location for response, which current location provides.

Location that offers maximum flexibility when developing design options and alternatives (e.g., advantages offered by a sloping site with a long roadway frontage).

open space

Please include a kitchen/cooking area so the firemen don't have to drive their equipment to Smith's for every meal The Loma Linda and Golf Course Maintenance Sites are dangerous in having fire trucks racing DOWN heavily trafficked hills for response

Do not use current open space for an already existing structure

From the Loma Linda Site, access to more than half of the North Mesa housing would likely be by proceeding east on North Mesa Road through the School Zone of the Middle School and then past the Horse Stables to accessing San-Ildefonso Road by the soccer fields. There is a lot of traffic going to and from the Middle School at the beginning and ending of the school day. This will impede the rapid response of the fire equipment during these two time periods.

The present sight is centrally located to the north community, north and barranca mesas! I believe it should remain at the current sight

From the Loma Linda Site, access to more than half of the North Mesa housing would likely be by proceeding east on North Mesa Road through the School Zone of the Middle School and then past the Horse Stables, accessing San-Ildefonso Road by the soccer fields. There is a lot of traffic going to and from the Middle School at the beginning and ending of the school day, and speeds are limited

to 15 MPH. This will impede the rapid response of the fire equipment to the eastern part of North Mesa during these two time periods.

Which of the three proposed County-owned sites do you prefer for the new fire station?

