

April 17, 2025

City of Hollister
Attn: City Manager David Mirrione
375 Fifth Street
Hollister, CA 95023

SUBJECT: Joint Counteroffer Regarding Fire Protection Services – Reaffirmation of Amendment No. 1

Dear City Manager Mirrione,

We write on behalf of the City of San Juan Bautista and the County of San Benito to submit our formal joint counteroffer in response to the fire protection services proposal presented by the City of Hollister on March 21, 2025 (commonly referred to as “Option E”). Following deliberations on April 15, 2025, both our governing bodies formally rejected Option E, instead choosing to reaffirm the previously negotiated and adopted terms in Amendment No. 1 to our respective Fire Services Agreements.

San Juan Bautista’s Counteroffer – Adopted April 15, 2025:

The San Juan Bautista City Council reviewed Amendment No. 1 on March 18, 2025, which established the following terms:

- FY 2024–25 Cost: \$418,279
- One-Time Upfront Payment: \$150,000
- Annual Increases: 11% annually through FY 2027–28
- Billing Structure: Transition from calendar year to fiscal year (July 1 – June 30)
- Staffing: Minimum 2-person response at Station 4
- Termination Clause: Agreement terminable by Hollister only for non-payment, with a 60-day cure and a 90-day notice
- Term Extension: Through June 30, 2028
- Removed Clauses: Lease and utility responsibilities removed

San Benito County’s Counteroffer – Adopted March 20, 2025:

The San Benito County Board of Supervisors reviewed and approved Amendment No. 1 to the Fire Protection Services Agreement with the City of Hollister on March 20, 2025, which established the following terms:

- FY 2024–25 rate: \$3,376,329
- one-time payment of \$1,100,000
- 3% annual escalation beginning FY 2025–26
- Reimbursement for \$400,000 in eligible fire-related expenses and SCR911 dispatch costs
- Staffing: Minimum 2-person response at Station 3

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- Brown Out clause removed at Station 3
- Contract Term: Through June 30, 2028

Context and Rejection of Option E:

Option E proposed a higher-cost, unified model with a \$1.25M one-time payment due by May 9, 2025, and additional structural changes incompatible with each jurisdiction's fiscal and governance frameworks.

Request for Acceptance:

We respectfully urge the City of Hollister to accept this joint counteroffer, which reflects the shared commitment of our agencies to public safety, operational clarity, and fiscal responsibility.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A Collick

Ashley Collick
Interim City Manager
City of San Juan Bautista

Henie Ring

Henie Ring
Interim County Administrative Officer
County of San Benito



cc:
Hollister Fire Chief
San Juan Bautista City Council
San Benito County Board of Supervisors