

PRESS RELEASE

JOINT NOTICE

CANYON LAKE
PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CITY OF CANYON LAKE

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CITY AND CANYON LAKE POA FINALIZE THE PURCHASE OF THE CITY'S FIRST FIRE STATION

Last week, officials completed the remaining steps to close escrow on Canyon Lake Fire Station 1.

(Canyon Lake, CA) – After nearly one year of negotiations with the [Canyon Lake Property Owners Association](#) (Canyon Lake POA), the [City of Canyon Lake](#) (City) is now the official owner of the City's one-and-only fire station, Station 1.

On Thursday, December 7, 2023, both parties finalized and completed all related escrow documents for closure, with the sale officially recorded on Friday, December 8. The City purchased the property, along with a Shared Use Maintenance Agreement (SUMA), for a total of \$1.39 million from the Canyon Lake POA. This purchase included the 2,760 square-foot fire station on a 39,540 square-foot subdivided parcel (APN 353-101-002) located at 28730 Vacation Drive. As part of the sale, 'parcel 12' was split so that the Canyon Lake POA will retain the North Ski Area parking lot and launch ramp for continued use by residents.

"This is a historic event for our City as we now own our first fire station," said Mayor Jeremy Smith. "By working together, the City and Canyon Lake POA were able to close this deal ahead of schedule and now we can turn our attention toward making improvements to the station and actively seeking grants to ensure this station best serves our Canyon Lake Fire Department and citizens for years to come."

The parcel has been owned by the Canyon Lake POA since 1970 and debuted its first station operations with a volunteer fire department in 1980. It has since been used by various local agencies through the years to provide Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to the citizens of Canyon Lake.

Canyon Lake POA Board President Bill Van Vleet stated, "We are pleased to have worked closely with the City to find a solution that best serves the Canyon Lake community. Throughout this process, it became clear that having the Fire Station under the ownership of the City was the most productive course in providing essential lifesaving services to Canyon Lake residents; all of whom are members of the Canyon Lake POA, with the added bonus of an opportunity for money-saved through grants that

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may be made available to the City but were barred to us while under Canyon Lake POA ownership. I am confident we have all come together to make the best decision possible for our thriving community. By finalizing the sale, we are supporting the City's ability to continue providing crucial EMS and fire services, both now and into the future."

Following several years of lease agreements and discussions on long-term solutions for EMS and fire services for the Canyon Lake community, the City's Offer to Purchase was accepted by the Canyon Lake POA, who proclaimed the sale of the property to the City was "in the best interests of the Association;" and that the severed-parcel's use as a fire station was "a necessary public use that greatly benefits the members." On July 31, the City, and the Canyon Lake POA reached an agreement on the final terms of the Purchase and Sale Agreement and commemorated the achievement at a signing ceremony at the Fire Station.

The purchase was initiated in January 2023 after the City started its own fire department one year prior, in January 2022. The department is led by Fire Chief Jeff LaTendresse, who played an integral role in building the new department.

"This is a proud moment for our City," said Chief LaTendresse. "By making this important investment and securing this vital resource for our community and a home for our team, the City Council and the community have demonstrated their steadfast commitment to public safety."

The City sought to purchase the station after establishing its own department to meet the long-term public safety needs of the community, including seeking outside funding opportunities to improve the station. This purchase gives the City greater control over the station in terms of making improvements needed by the Department while also being able to closely monitor and address costs and quality. The two entities express their support for continued collaboration on efforts and initiatives that will best serve the residents of Canyon Lake.

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ABOUT CANYON LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION:

The Canyon Lake Property Owners Association ("Canyon Lake POA"), incorporated in 1968, as a California not for profit corporation, is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the common areas within Canyon Lake. The purpose of the Canyon Lake POA is to promote the recreation, benefit, and enjoyment of the homeowners within the community. The Canyon Lake POA's mission is to support the Canyon Lake community with exceptional services and solutions, which make this a premier place in which to live and work.

ABOUT CITY OF CANYON LAKE:

Incorporated on December 1, 1990, Canyon Lake is a unique private, gated community located halfway between the cities of Lake Elsinore and Menifee. With a current population of nearly 12,000 residents, this recreation-oriented community boasts a 400-acre lake, an 18-hole golf course, an equestrian center, multiple parks and beaches, tennis courts, pickleball courts, basketball courts, and a campground. Canyon Lake is known as the City that offers "a Little Bit of Paradise" for residents and visitors of all ages.