## **THE OPPORTUNITY**

The Five Cities Fire Authority offers a unique fire leadership opportunity to an operationally minded fire service leader looking to move this regional fire organization forward along its evolutionary path as a highly efficient, service-oriented organization.

## **ABOUT THE FIRE AUTHORITY AND THE CITIES IT SERVES**

In 2004, the cities of Arroyo Grande and Grover Beach collaboratively entered into an agreement to share one Fire Chief and Training Officer. The agreement was expanded over the next several years to include equipment sharing, a consolidation of the reserve firefighter program and the introduction of “boundary drops,” meaning that the closest fire resource would be dispatched to a 9-1-1 call without consideration of community boundary. In 2009, the Oceano Community Services District joined the other communities and on July 9, 2010, a complete fire department consolidation took place, resulting in the creation of the Five Cities Fire Authority (FCFA). The FCFA was created to increase service levels to citizens and visitors, to ensure consistent and professional training standards, and to increase operational efficiencies. In June of 2023, a successor agreement between the cities of Arroyo Grande and Grover Beach was approved that extended the initial agreement to continue the FCFA. The FCFA has a service area of approximately 8.25 square miles that encompasses the communities of Arroyo Grande and Grover Beach. For FY 2023-24, FCFA is providing contract fire services to the Oceano Community Services District (OCSD), increasing the service area to approximately 10 square miles.

Ideally situated along the beautiful central coast of California in San Luis Obispo County, the communities served by the Five Cities Fire Authority have a combined population of approximately 38,000. The area enjoys a mild, Mediterranean climate with cool summers and gorgeous scenery. Breathtaking sunsets over the Pacific Ocean, nearby wineries, dynamic local businesses, and endless opportunities for outdoor activities provide great joy to the residents and visitors to Grover Beach, Arroyo Grande, and Oceano.

## **THE DEPARTMENT**

The FCFA has an approved FY 23-24 budget of $8.7 million and a staff of 30. The Fire Chief leads the Five Cities Fire Authority with the assistance of three Battalion Chiefs who each oversee a shift, along with other operational and administrative responsibilities. Each shift has a staff made up of three captains, three engineers, and two firefighters. The Administrative Operations Manager reports directly to the Fire Chief as well. The FCFA provides service through two fire stations and responded to approximately 4,500 calls in 2022, which represented an increase of 8.2% over the prior year.

## **THE POSITION**

The Fire Chief receives administrative direction from the Management Committee which is made up of the City Managers for both Arroyo Grande and Grover Beach who appoint and oversee the performance of the Fire Chief on behalf of the Authority Board of Directors. The Fire Chief is responsible for providing strategic and visionary leadership to the organization. Some of the essential job functions include assuming full management responsibility for all functions including fire prevention and inspection, fire suppression, emergency medical services, fire and life safety, and administrative services; developing and administering related policies, procedures and programs for the community; establishing appropriate service and staffing levels; monitoring and evaluating the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery methods and procedures; responding to emergencies and establishing command and control of emergency situations; and overseeing and participating in the development and administration of the Authority’s budget.

The ideal Fire Chief candidate will have deep operational and managerial fire service experience in municipal or county fire organizations; experience serving multiple communities or working in a JPA setting; a progressive mindset and an ability to harness the unique contributions of staff from different generations and backgrounds; and an appreciation for the tradition of the fire service complimented by a strong vision toward progress and evolution.

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

Any combination of experience and education that would likely provide the required knowledge and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the knowledge and abilities would be:

* **Education**: Equivalent to a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in fire science/administration, business or public administration or a closely related field of study.
* **Experience**: Six years of increasingly responsible fire prevention and emergency operation experience, including three years of management and administrative responsibility.
* **License or Certificates:** Possession of California State Chief Officer Certification and/or graduation from the National Fire Academy Executive Officer program preferred.

## **SALARY AND BENEFITS**

The salary range for the Fire Chief is **up to $198,317**, with placement salary dependent on qualifications. Salary increases of 3% per year for FY 24-25 through FY 26-27 are scheduled. In addition, an excellent executive benefit package is provided including CalPERS retirement with Classic members enrolled at the 3% at 55 benefit formula and new (PEPRA) members enrolled at the 2.7% at 57 formula.The Authority will also contribute $1,200 per year to a defined contribution supplemental retirement plan.

Additional benefit information can be found in the detailed recruitment brochure at [www.mosaicpublic.com/careers](http://www.mosaicpublic.com/careers).

## **APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS**

To be considered for this position, interested candidates must submit a cover letter and résumé no later than **Monday, February 5, 2024,** at: <https://www.mosaicpublic.com/careers>.

**Confidential inquiries are welcomed to:**

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*The Five Cities Fire Authority is an equal opportunity employer***.**