



EAST JEFFERSON FIRE RESCUE

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EJFR Breaks Ground on Fire Station 1-2 Marrowstone Island

Nordland, WA – East Jefferson Fire Rescue (EJFR) and the Marrowstone Island Foundation (MIF) have broken ground in a ceremony at the Fire Station 1-2 Construction Site.

On November 4th, members from EJFR and MIF gathered at the construction site on Flagler Rd to formally begin the improvement project. In addition to the current apparatus bays on-site there will soon be quarters to house volunteer first responders.

EJFR covers 68 square miles and responds to approximately 4,500 calls for emergency service annually. Three strategically placed fire stations are staffed with Firefighters, EMT's and Paramedics 24/7, while three supplementary fire stations serve as additional coverage via volunteer service. The new volunteer crew quarters will allow EJFR to staff Marrowstone Island's area during peak hours/days improving first response times to Island emergencies.

In his speech, Chief Black stated, "Volunteers have always had a significant role in our community and the fire service. I see that role expanding throughout our District. Specifically, in underserved communities this model will enhance 911 services. EJFR has approximately 50 volunteers that support firefighting operations, public safety training, and various 911 EMS missions. Volunteers are the lifeblood of the fire service and EJFR. I estimate that approximately 95% of our career staff began their careers as volunteer firefighters, myself included."

The Marrowstone Island Foundation has rolled up their sleeves physically as well as metaphorically, donating time and money towards the project. Island residents have raised over \$128,000 to purchase the building which will ultimately improve their emergency service.

"We are thrilled to see this project progress with the recent installation of the septic system. This hurdle brings us one step closer to having fire and EMS crew quarters available on the Island, with the end goal of improved emergency services for our community." Said Assistant Fire Chief, Brian Tracer.

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