

May 2011

BACK TO BASICS



THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO MUST PRIORITIZE SERVICES

The “Great Recession” continues in Sacramento. It is imperative the City leaders realize their role in providing a well funded Fire Department for their residents. There is no doubt that difficult choices will have to be made but the City Council must make fire department funding a top priority.

From 1977 to 2007, the population that the Sacramento Fire Department serves has increased from 268,000 to over 516,000. This is an increase of almost 100 percent. Fire Department calls for service increased from 15,000 to over 68,000 per year, an increase of almost 400%.

Even with those dramatic increases, there has not been any net increase in fire companies since 1977. Sacramento firefighters, on average, run more calls than their counterparts in New York City, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Seattle. There were over 68,000 calls for service in 2009, an average of 175 incidents a day

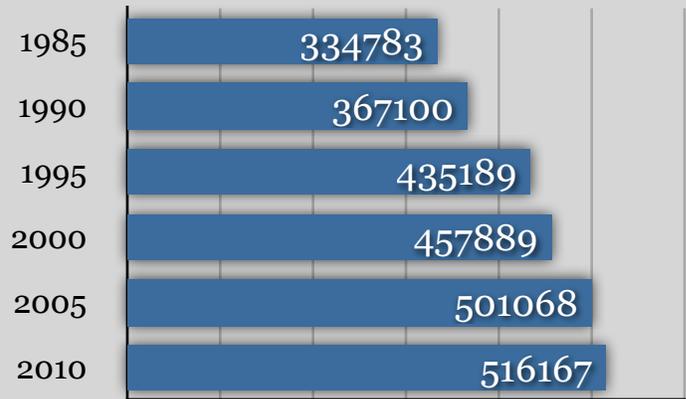
"RIGHT SIZING" ALL CITY DEPARTMENTS

FIRE DEPARTMENT "UNDERSIZED" FOR YEARS

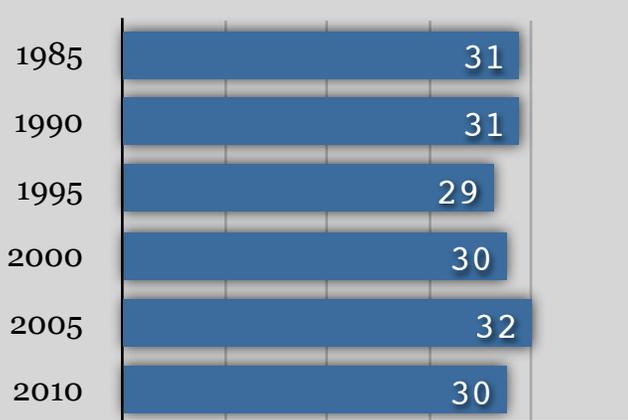
The Sacramento Fire Department has seen a dramatic increase in call volume and the population it serves since 1985. With the two current rotating brownouts, the Fire Department is operating with less companies than it did in 1985.

With almost 200,000 more people to protect and an almost 100% increase in call volume, how can the City possibly remove another four fire companies from its residents?

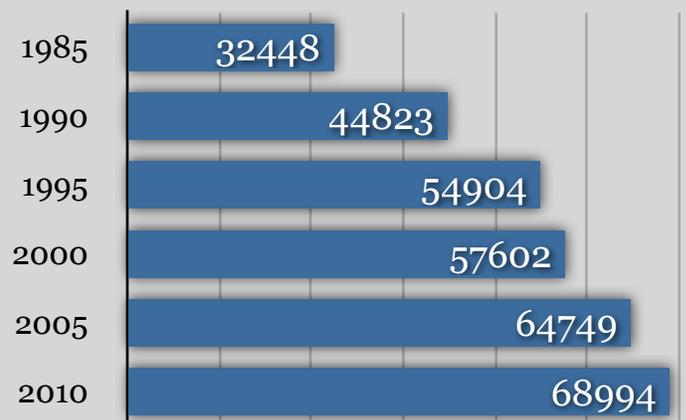
Population Served



Total Fire Companies



Total Call Volume



POPULATION UP. CALL VOLUME UP. FIRE COMPANIES DOWN FOR YEARS

YEAR	POPULATION*	ANNUAL CALL VOLUME	TOTAL ENGINE COMPANIES	TOTAL TRUCK COMPANIES
1985	334,783	32,448	21	10
1990	367,100	44,823	21	10
1995	435,189	54,904	22	7
2000	457,889	57,602	22	8
2005	501,068	64,749	23	9
2010	516,167	68,994	22	8

* Estimated Population Served in City and Contract Areas

PER CAPITA FIRE DEPARTMENT COSTS OF COMPARABLE CITIES

CITY	POPULATION*	TOTAL STAFFING	FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND	COST PER CAPITA
SAN FRANCISCO	805,235	1468	248,629	\$309
OAKLAND	390,724	500	106,469	\$272
SAC METRO	640,121	621	148,269	\$231
ROSEVILLE	120,593	110	23,333	\$193
ANAHEIM	335,625	289	54,525	\$162
LONG BEACH	462,257	580	71,354	\$154
SACRAMENTO	516,167	591	78,370**	\$151

* Estimated Population Served ** Operating Expenses only. FD generates \$22 million in Revenue

The City of Sacramento is already paying a very low price for the type of Fire Department service it receives. For years, the City has been underfunding the Fire Department and increasing budgets in other areas of the City.

The proposed 9 million dollar budget cut is unrealistic and dangerous to City residents, City businesses and City Firefighters.

The Fire Department generated almost \$22 million dollars in revenue for the General Fund in 2010.

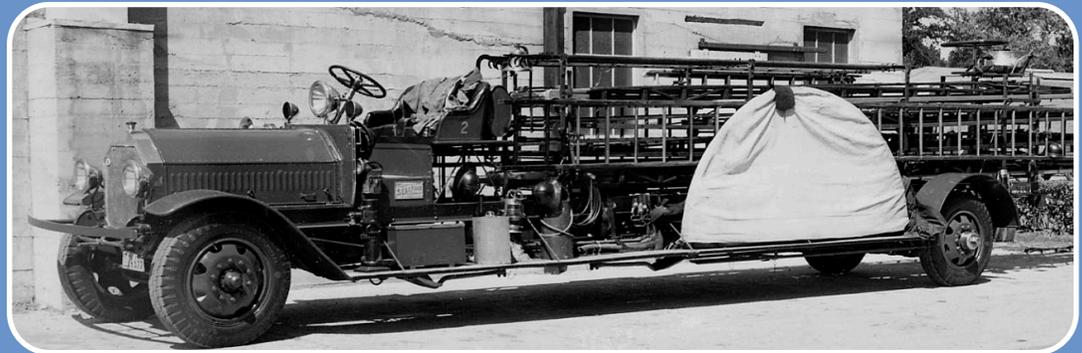
The Fire Department's net expense to the City to operate is only 23% of the total General Fund Budget



RATIO OF FIREFIGHTERS TO RESIDENTS IN SACRAMENTO

The proposed closing of six fire companies and the elimination of 50 firefighter positions will make Sacramento one of the worst protected city's in California.

There will be one firefighter for every 4963 residents that the fire department serves. This number does not include the thousands of people who work and visit Sacramento daily.



CITY	POPULATION*	ANNUAL CALL VOLUME	DAILY FF'S ON DUTY**	RATIO FF TO POP***
SAN FRANCISCO	805,235	221439	275	2928
LONG BEACH	462,257	61926	133	3475
ROSEVILLE	120,593	10,500	30	3654
SAC METRO	640,121	70,000	152	4211
OAKLAND	390,724	62253	150	4604
ANAHEIM	335,625	30,000	70	4794
SACRAMENTO	516,167	68,994	104	4963

* Estimated Population Served

** Suppression Firefighters Only. Includes six proposed closed companies daily for SFD

*** Represents the # of residents protected by each firefighter daily

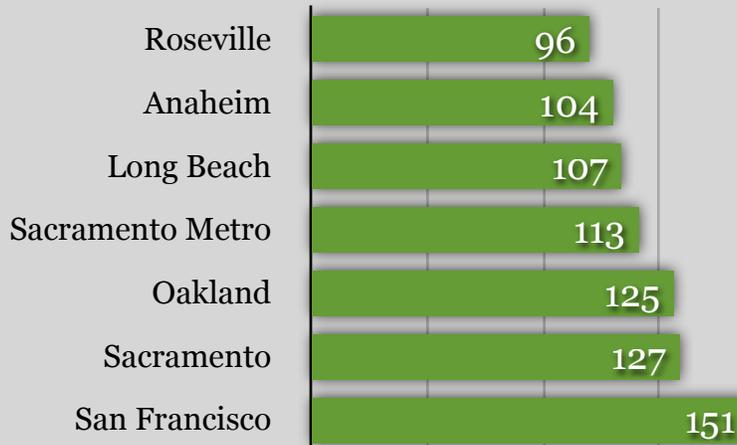
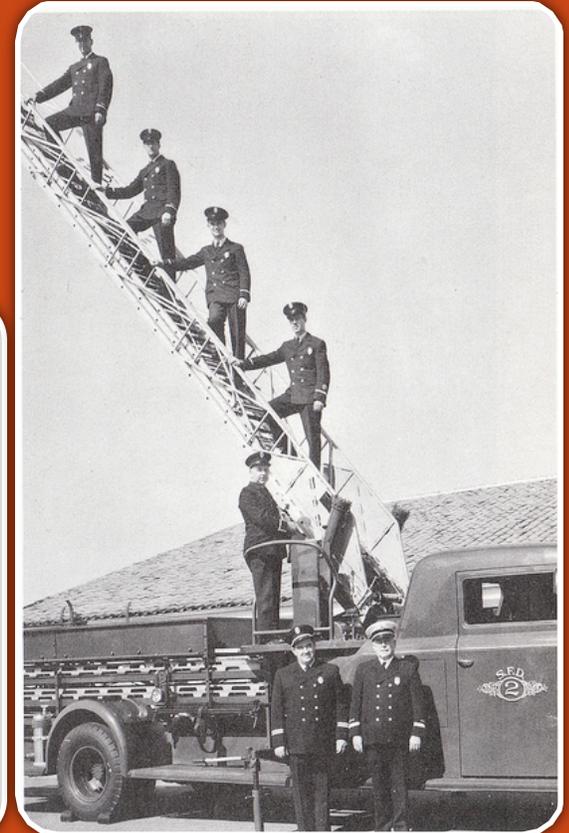
RATIO OF CALLS TO FIREFIGHTER IN SACRAMENTO

The Sacramento Fire Department is one of the busiest fire departments in California. It ranks one of the highest for fire calls and emergency medical response in the nation.

NFPA 1710, the national standard, says that the first apparatus with appropriate staffing needs to arrive within a travel time of four minutes at least 90% of the time.

Currently SFD meets that standard only 69% of the time.

Additional company closures will increase response times and move us farther away from that standard.



CITY	POPULATION*	ANNUAL CALL VOLUME	TOTAL STAFFING**	CALLS PER FF***
ROSEVILLE	120,593	10,500	110	96
ANAHEIM	335,625	30,000	289	104
LONG BEACH	462,257	61926	580	107
SAC METRO	640,121	70,000	621	113
OAKLAND	390,724	62253	500	125
SACRAMENTO	516,167	68,994	541	127
SAN FRANCISCO	805,235	221439	1468	151

* Estimated Population Served

** Includes six proposed closed companies daily for SFD

*** Represents the annual call volume divided by total fire department staffing.

CITY OF SACRAMENTO PROGRAM ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT REVIEW

BREAKDOWN OF MANDATORY AND LEVEL 1 ESSENTIAL SERVICE CATEGORIES

Department programs and services were prioritized in 2010:

Mandated Services

- Required by law
- Required by City Charter?
- Irrevocable agreement?

Essential Services

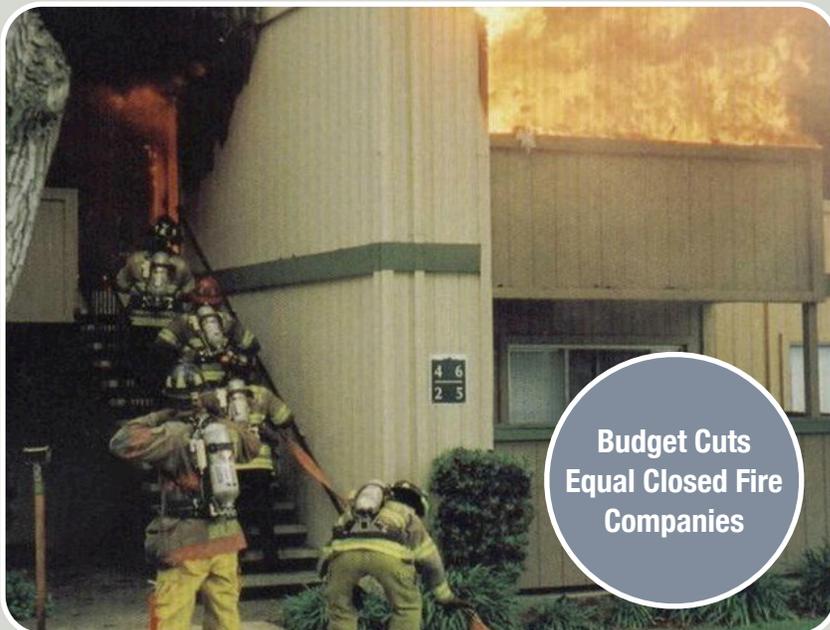
Level 1 – Life/Safety

- Is it critical that we provide the service to prevent death or injury?
- Is there an urgency factor to providing the service to prevent death or injury?

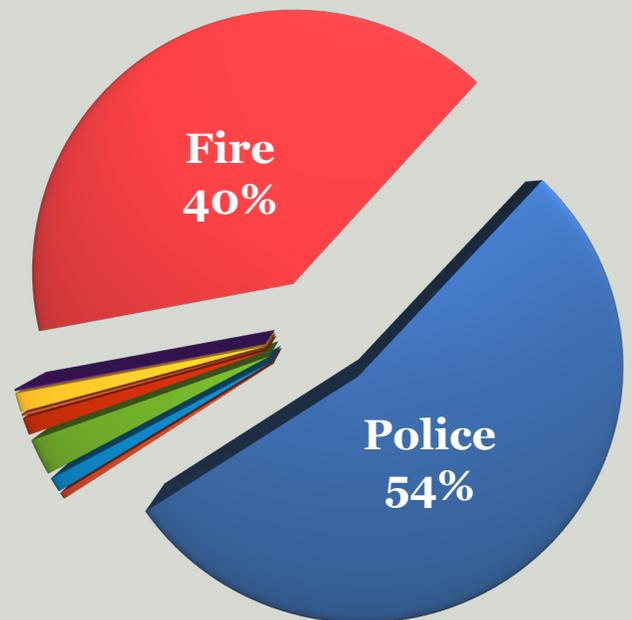
The services provided by the Fire Department make up 40% of all of the highest priority services delivered by the City to its residents.

DEPARTMENT	MANDATED	LEVEL 1: LIFE / SAFETY	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE	0	0	0	0
CODE ENFORCEMENT	1,544,459	0	1,544,459	1%
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	3,762,936	64,130	3,827,066	2%
CCL	1,790,803	0	1,790,803	1%
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	236,063	0	236,063	<1%
FIRE	63,669,097	1,003,936	64,673,033	40%
GENERAL SERVICES	1,959,616	0	1,959,616	<1%
PARKS & RECREATION	182,655	0	182,655	<1%
POLICE	22,079,464	65,647,491	87,726,955	54%
TRANSPORT	157,082	518,759	675,841	<1%
TOTAL	95,382,175	67,234,316	162,616,491	100%

Almost 98% of the Fire Department Budget is designated by the City as either a Mandatory or Level 1 Essential Service.

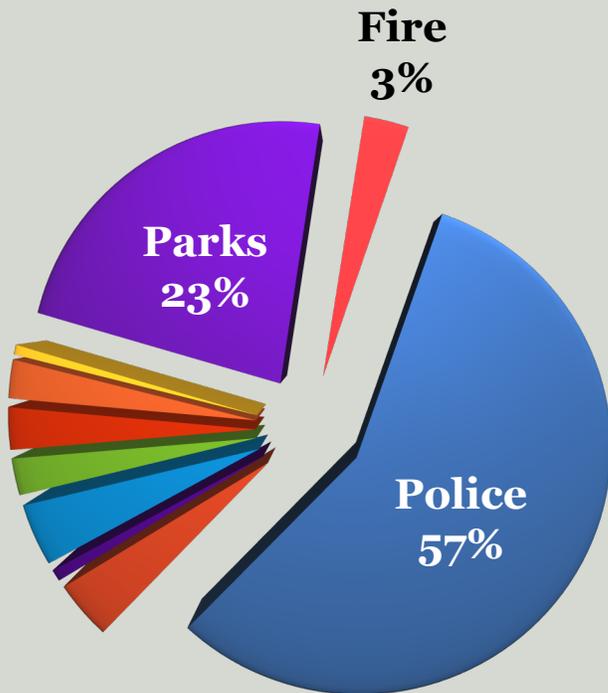


Budget Cuts
Equal Closed Fire
Companies



CITY OF SACRAMENTO PROGRAM ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT REVIEW

BREAKDOWN OF LEVEL 3 ESSENTIAL AND EXISTING SERVICE CATEGORIES



Of the 50 million dollars in the lowest priority City services designated as Level 3 Essential or Existing, Fire's portion is less than 3 percent.

DEPARTMENT	LEVEL 3: ESSENTIAL	EXISTING	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
CITY MANAGER	0	396,474	396,474	< 1%
CODE ENFORCEMENT	1,078,508	1,035,494	2,114,002	4%
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	32,065	1,208,061	1,240,126	2.5%
CCL	828,451	586,904	1,415,335	2.5%
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	0	1,272,708	1,272,708	2.5%
FIRE	1,177,886	208,914	1,386,800	2.5%
GENERAL SERVICES	0	314,328	314,328	< 1%
PARKS & REC	6,483,027	5,177,105	11,660,132	23%
POLICE	15,310,148	13,545,186	28,855,334	57%
TRANSPORT	1,117,600	897,530	2,015,130	4%
TOTAL	26,027,685	24,642,704	50,670,389	100%

Department programs and services were prioritized in 2010:

Essential Services Level 3 – Risk/Liability

- Is it critical to avoid significant liability exposure to the City?
- Would the likely level of exposure exceed the cost of providing the service?

Existing Services

All other programs and services

The POD Review revealed 50 million dollars in Essential Level 3 and Existing Services

FOUR PERSON STAFFING IS THE NATIONAL STANDARD

FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONSE OPERATIONS

Only those structure fires located within an area where a sufficient number of personnel arriving with appropriate apparatus at a common destination within 4 minutes will receive the equipment and personnel required to initiate safe and effective fire suppression and rescue operations in accordance with OSHA and NFPA.

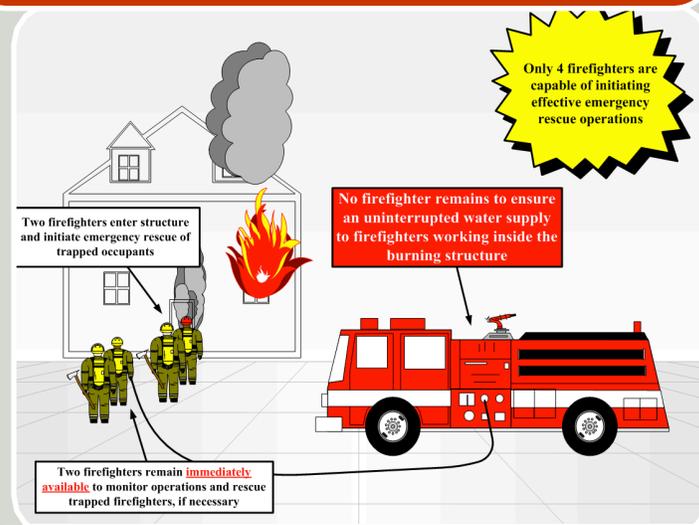
The goal is to extinguish the fire before it can flashover. Flashover is a critical stage of fire growth for two reasons.

- First, no unprotected living thing in a room where flashover occurs will survive and the chance of saving lives drops dramatically.
- Second, flashover creates a huge jump in the rate of combustion, and a significantly greater amount of water is needed to reduce the burning material below its ignition temperature.
- A post-flashover fire burns hotter and moves faster, requires more resources for fire attack, and compounds the problems of search and rescue, exposure protection, and containment.

It warrants emphasizing that the ability of the Fire Department to assemble a sufficient number of firefighters to initiate “2 In/2 Out” fire suppression and rescue activities occurs within 4 minutes. It is very likely that the first-in company may arrive in significantly less time than the second-in company. This lag time between the arrival of units is significant in that if staffed with less than four fire fighters, the initial arriving company is unable to perform fire and rescue operations in accordance with the “2 In/2 Out” regulation.



Over 90% of the sixty largest cities in the United States staff their Engine and Truck companies with 4 people or more.



Emergency Medical Response

Most experts agree that four responders are the minimum required to provide ACLS to cardiac arrest victims. Recognizing this, the NFPA states that advanced life support (ALS) emergency response deployments “shall include a minimum of two members trained at the emergency medical technician- paramedic (EMT-P) level and two members trained at the emergency medical technician- basic (EMT-B) level arriving on scene within the established response time.”

- If fire fighters responding within 4 minutes of receiving an alarm initiate CPR, the probability of patient survival quadruples, from 4.6% to 18.2%.
- If those same fire fighters are equipped and trained to provide defibrillation, the expected survival rate is five times greater at 25.8%
- Finally, if those fire fighters are trained and equipped as paramedics, the survival rate is increased to 34.3% - nearly a sevenfold increase.

The American Heart Association calls for a minimum of four responders to administer proper Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS).

SACRAMENTO FIRE DEPARTMENT ENGINE COMPANY RESPONSE COVERAGE

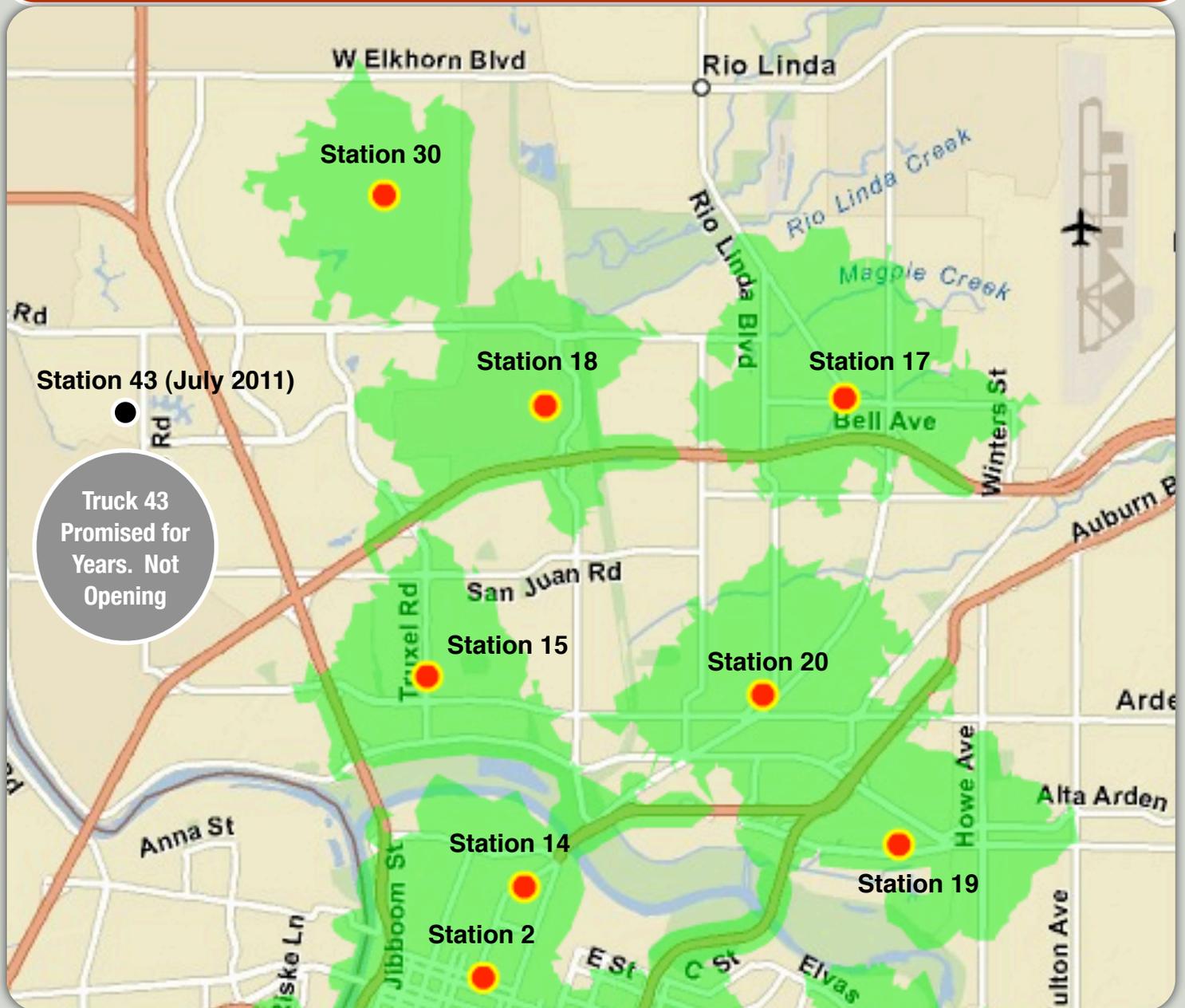
NORTH SACRAMENTO



Areas north of the downtown core are already poorly covered by existing stations. Sacramento should have already begun adding additional resources to this area with the build out of Natomas.

In addition to Station 43, at least one, if not two, more Fire Stations should have already been built to service the North Area. Engine 15, Engine 17 and Engine 20 are some of the busiest Stations in Sacramento.

This map does not include the two current rotating brownouts.



Coverage area in green is based on a five (5) minute drive time from the fire station. It does not include the one (1) minute call processing time and the one (1) minute turnout time for every call.

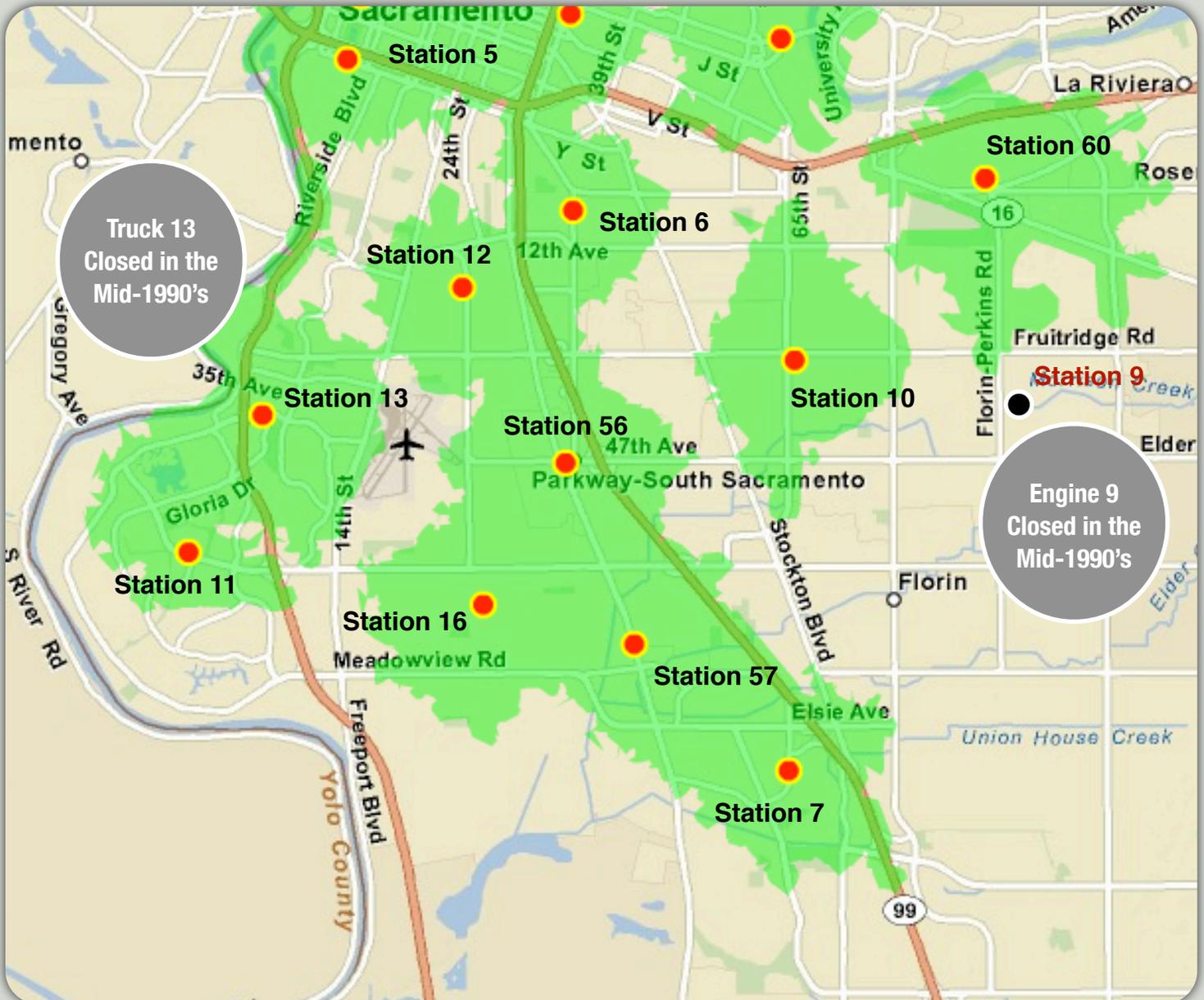
SACRAMENTO FIRE DEPARTMENT ENGINE COMPANY RESPONSE COVERAGE

SOUTH SACRAMENTO

Areas south of the downtown are already poorly covered by existing stations. Sacramento should have already begin adding additional resources to this area. Truck 13 and Engine 9 should have been re-opened when the economy turned around in the early 2000's.

Another Fire Station should have already been built between Station 6, Station 56 and Station 10.

This map does not include the two current rotating brownouts.



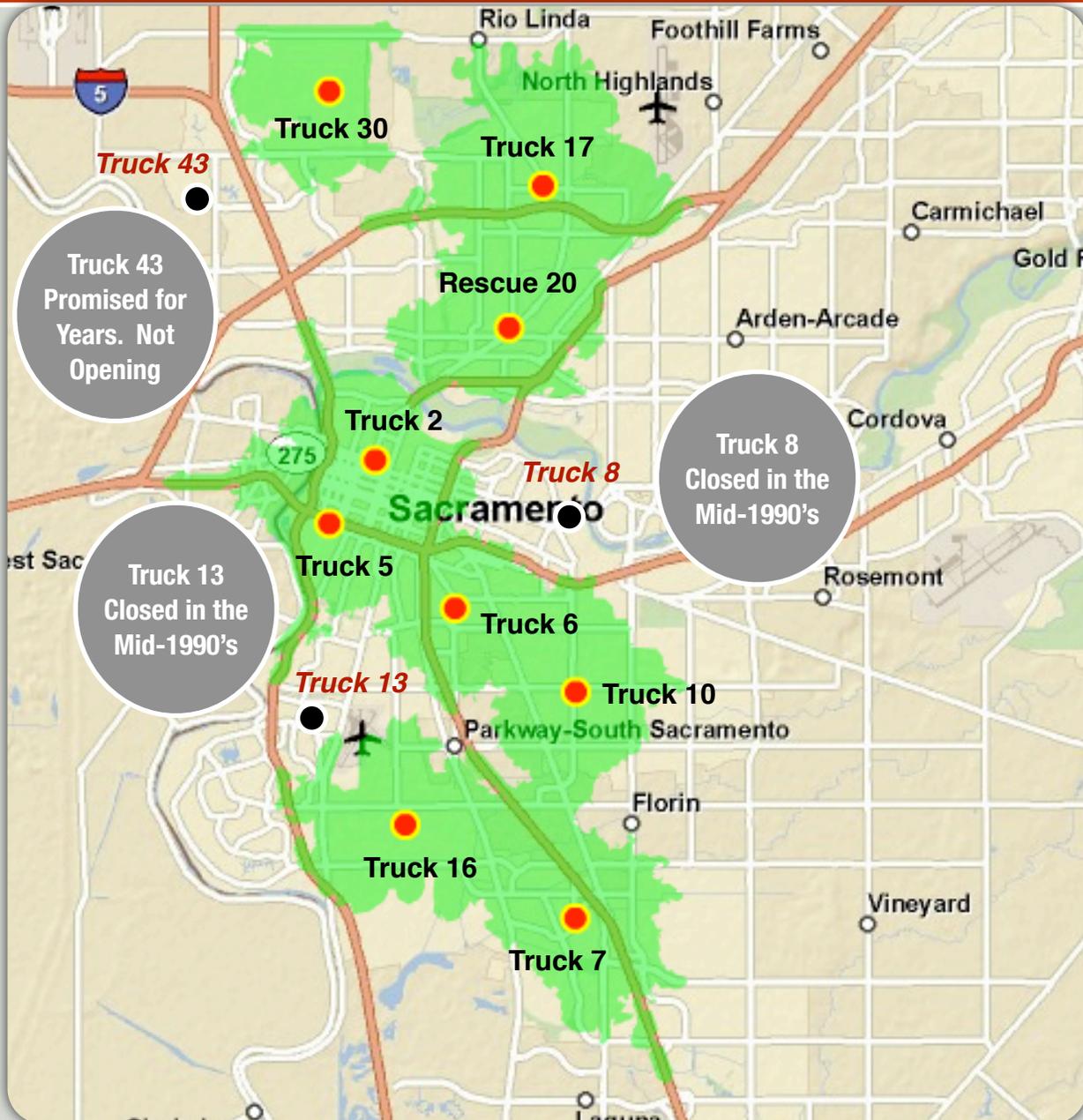
Coverage area in green is based on a five (5) minute drive time from the fire station. It does not include the one (1) minute call processing time and the one (1) minute turnout time for every call.

SACRAMENTO FIRE DEPARTMENT TRUCK COMPANY RESPONSE COVERAGE

CITY WIDE INADEQUATE COVERAGE

The number of Truck Companies in the City of Sacramento is inadequate. Truck Companies provide vital functions and it is critical that they arrive within the first 8 minutes of a fire. There are currently large gaps in coverage already.

The mid-1990's saw a closure of two truck companies in the City. Once the economy improved, the truck companies were never reopened. A truck was promised to the residents of West Natomas. It will not be opening.



Coverage area in green is based on a eight (8) minute drive time from the fire station. It does not include the one (1) minute call processing time and the one (1) minute turnout time for every call.

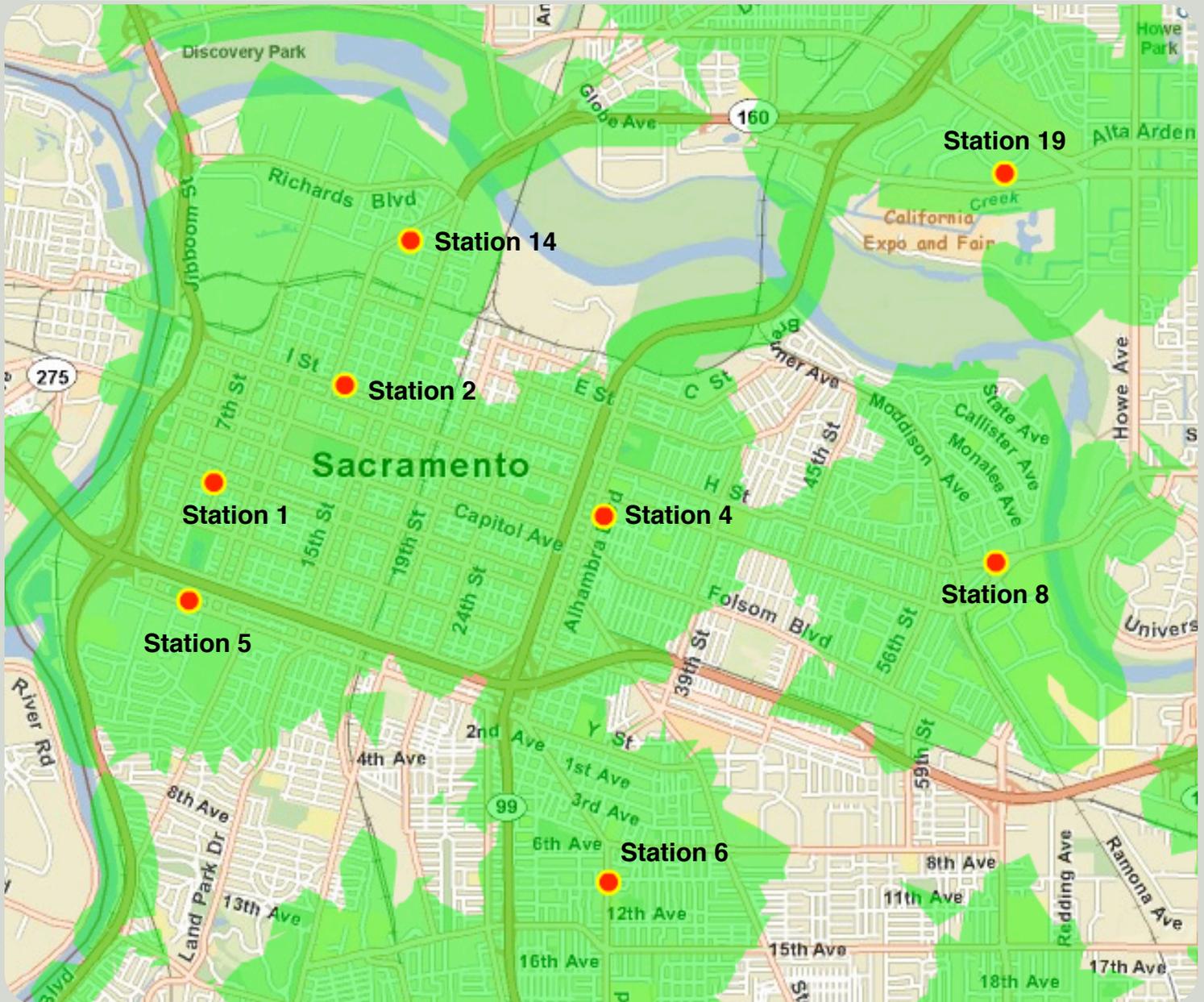
SACRAMENTO FIRE DEPARTMENT ENGINE COMPANY RESPONSE COVERAGE

DOWNTOWN NEIGHBORHOODS

Downtown Fire Companies protect almost 50 High Rise Buildings, high-density Mid Rise and residential buildings. One major hospitals, two large rivers, three major interstates, the State Capital and a large urban population are all downtown.

Truck 8 was closed in mid-1990's recession and never re-opened when the economy improved.

Additional company closures would be dangerous and will raise the insurance rates of businesses in this community.



Coverage area in green is based on a five (5) minute drive time from the fire station. It does not include the one (1) minute call processing time and the one (1) minute turnout time for every call.

SACRAMENTO FIRE DEPARTMENT ENGINE COMPANY RESPONSE COVERAGE

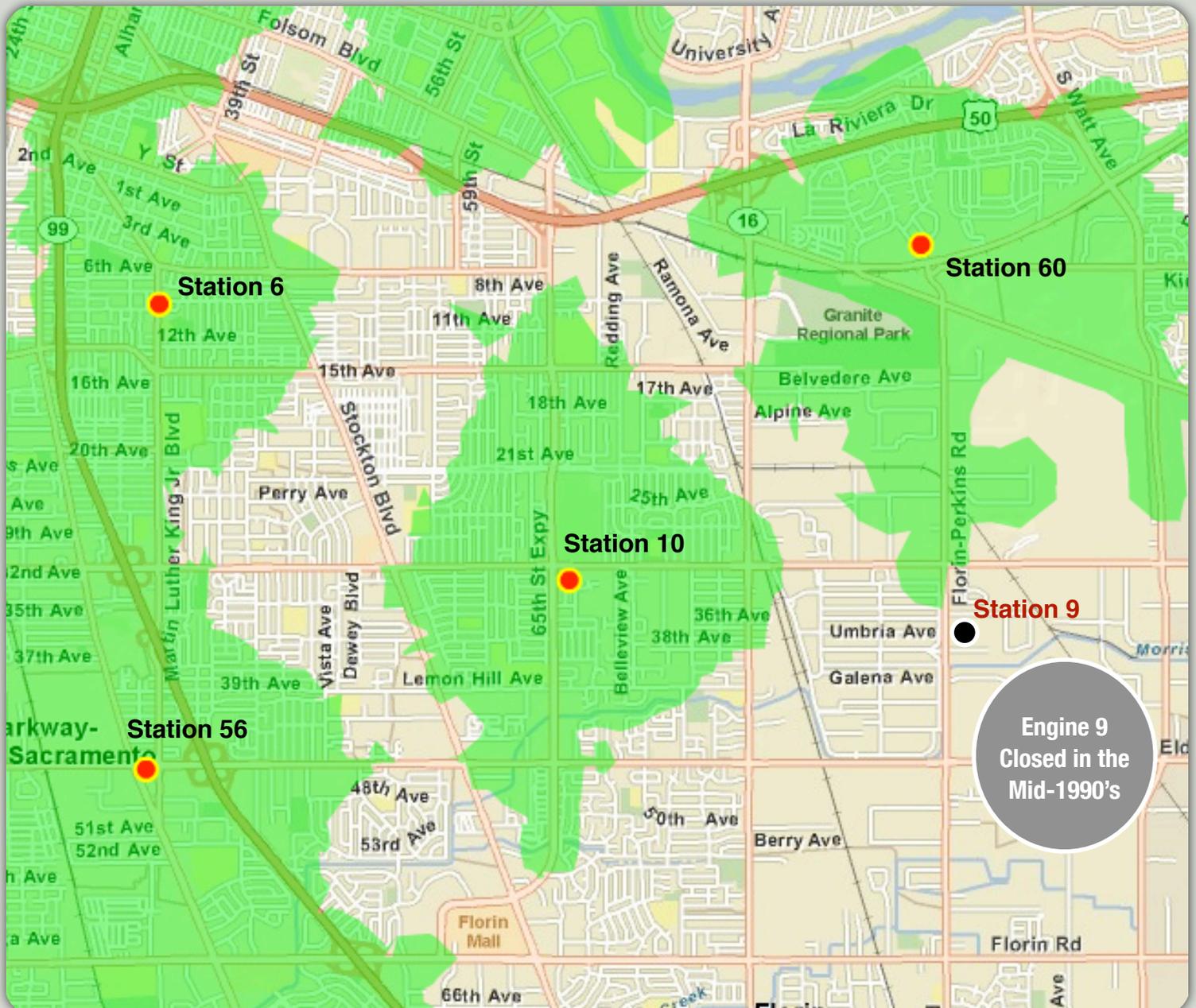


OAKPARK AND TAHOE PARK NEIGHBORHOODS

Station 6, Station 10 and Station 56 are the busiest companies in the Sacramento Fire Department. The response times and massive response districts are irresponsible and dangerous.

Fire Station #9 was closed in the recession of the mid 1990's. When the economy recovered, the station was not re-opened.

City leaders should be looking to add fire department coverage in this area, not take any more away.



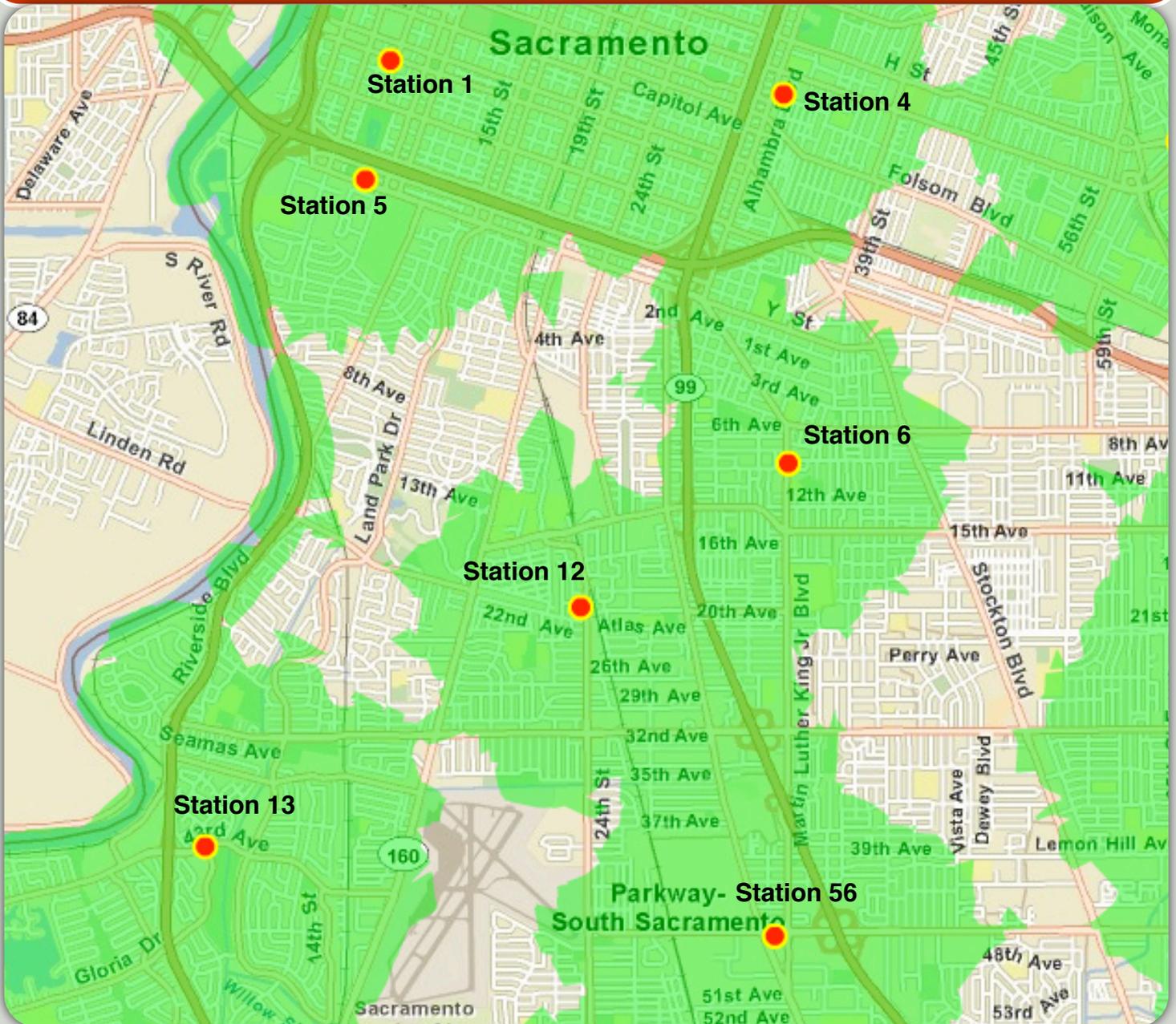
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SACRAMENTO FIRE DEPARTMENT ENGINE COMPANY RESPONSE COVERAGE

LAND PARK AND CURTIS PARK NEIGHBORHOODS

Although this area of the City is one of the wealthiest, it's current coverage is marginal at best. Some residents already have longer wait times to receive emergency assistance already. Some of the City's main attractions like Land Park, the Zoo, Fairytale Town and City College are poorly protected.

Any additional company closures would only increase response times to an area marginally served.



Coverage area in green is based on a five (5) minute drive time from the fire station. It does not include the one (1) minute call processing time and the one (1) minute turnout time for every call.

SACRAMENTO FIRE DEPARTMENT ENGINE COMPANY RESPONSE COVERAGE

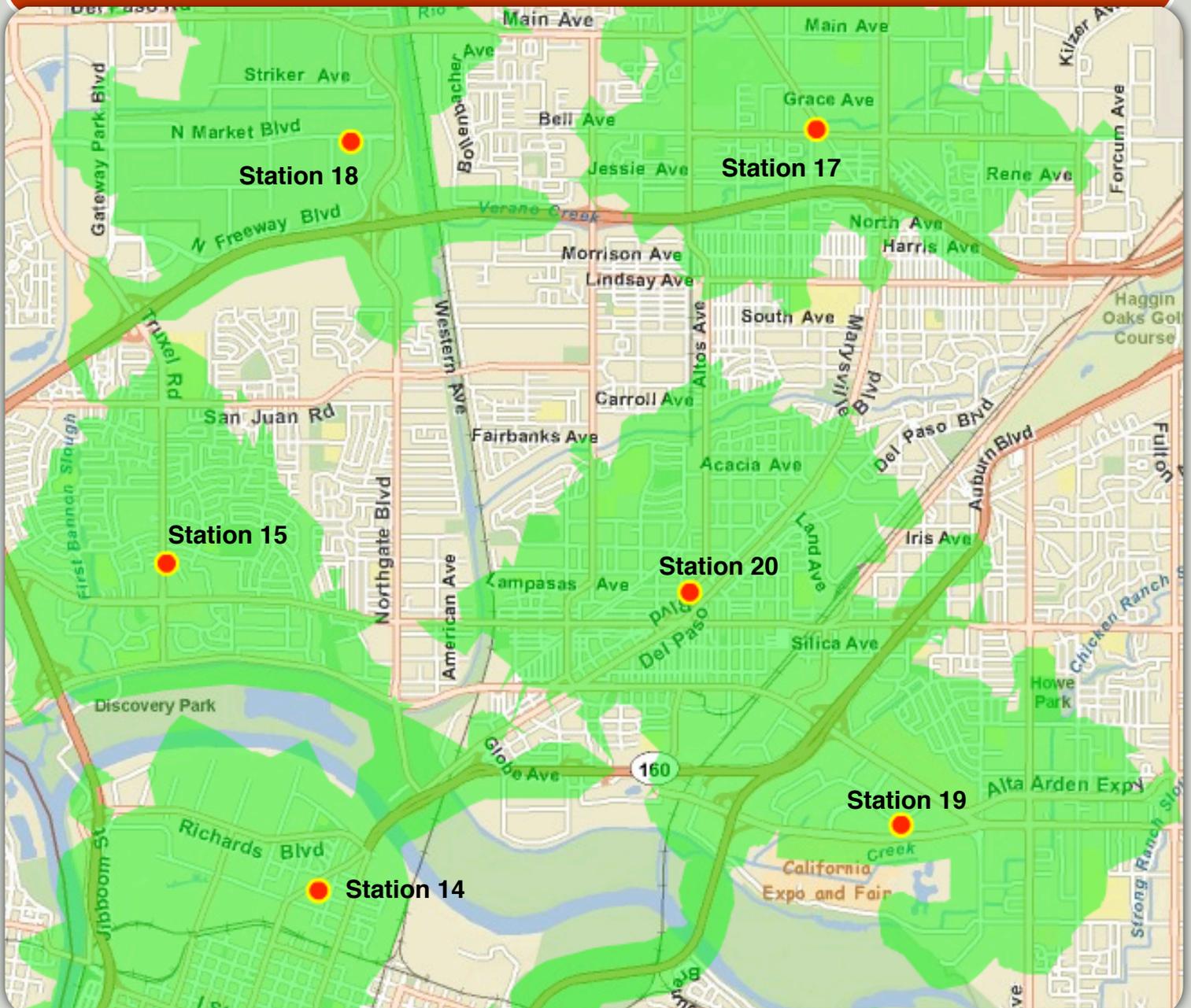


DEL PASO HEIGHTS AND HAGGINWOOD NEIGHBORHOODS

The Del Paso Heights area of Sacramento still sees some of the City's most frequent occurrences of fire and medical emergencies. The coverage for this area is critically insufficient already.

Currently Station 15 and Station 20 are two of the busiest Engines in the City of Sacramento.

Any Additional company closures would be devastating to this community.



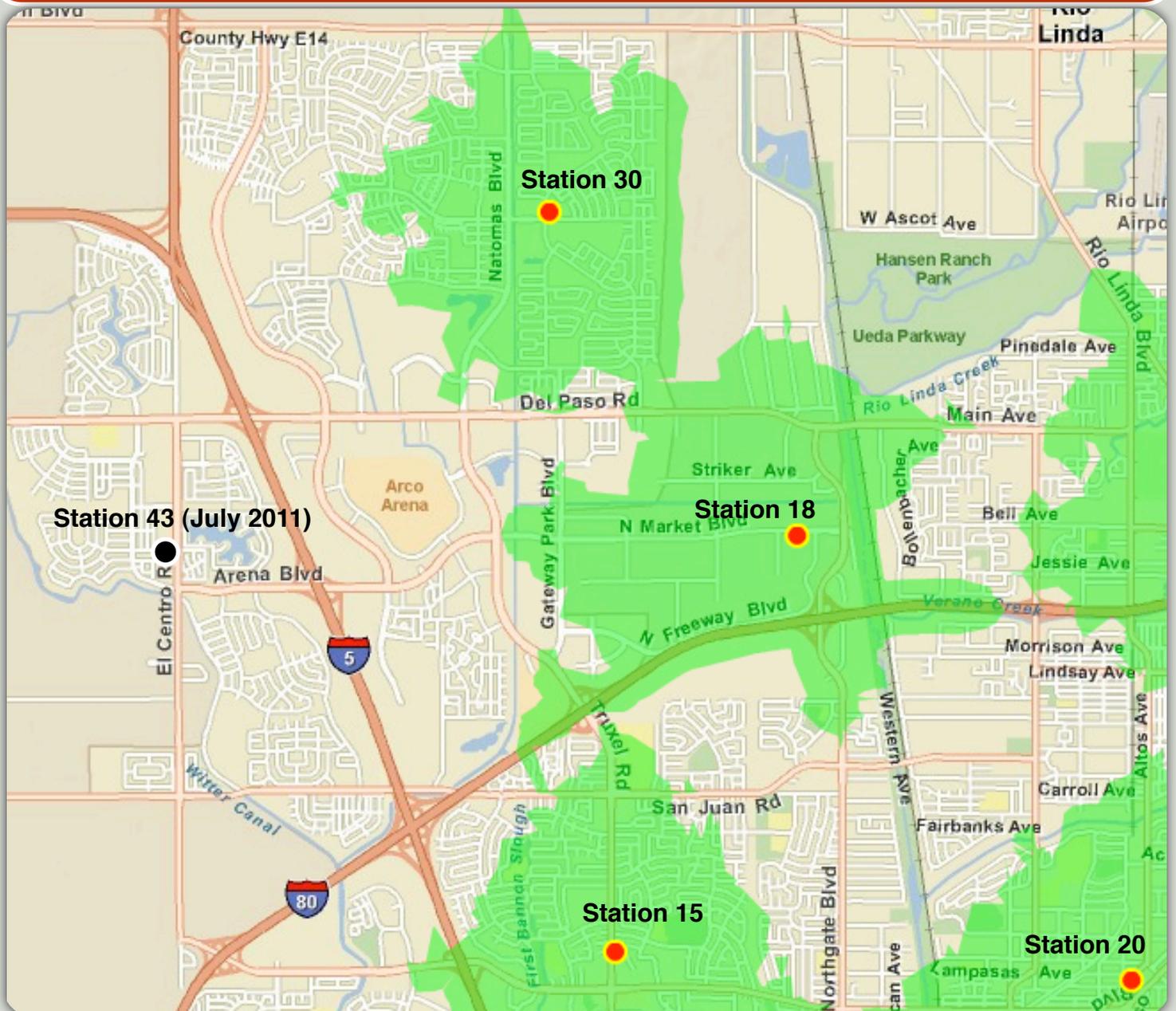
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SACRAMENTO FIRE DEPARTMENT ENGINE COMPANY RESPONSE COVERAGE

NORTH AND WEST NATOMAS NEIGHBORHOODS

Despite being one of the largest tax bases in the City, North and West Natomas has the worst Fire Department coverage in the City. Even with the addition of Engine 43 in July 2011, the area will still have enormous gaps in coverage. Truck 43 was also promised to the residents but it will not be opened this year.

Any Additional company closures would be devastating to this community.



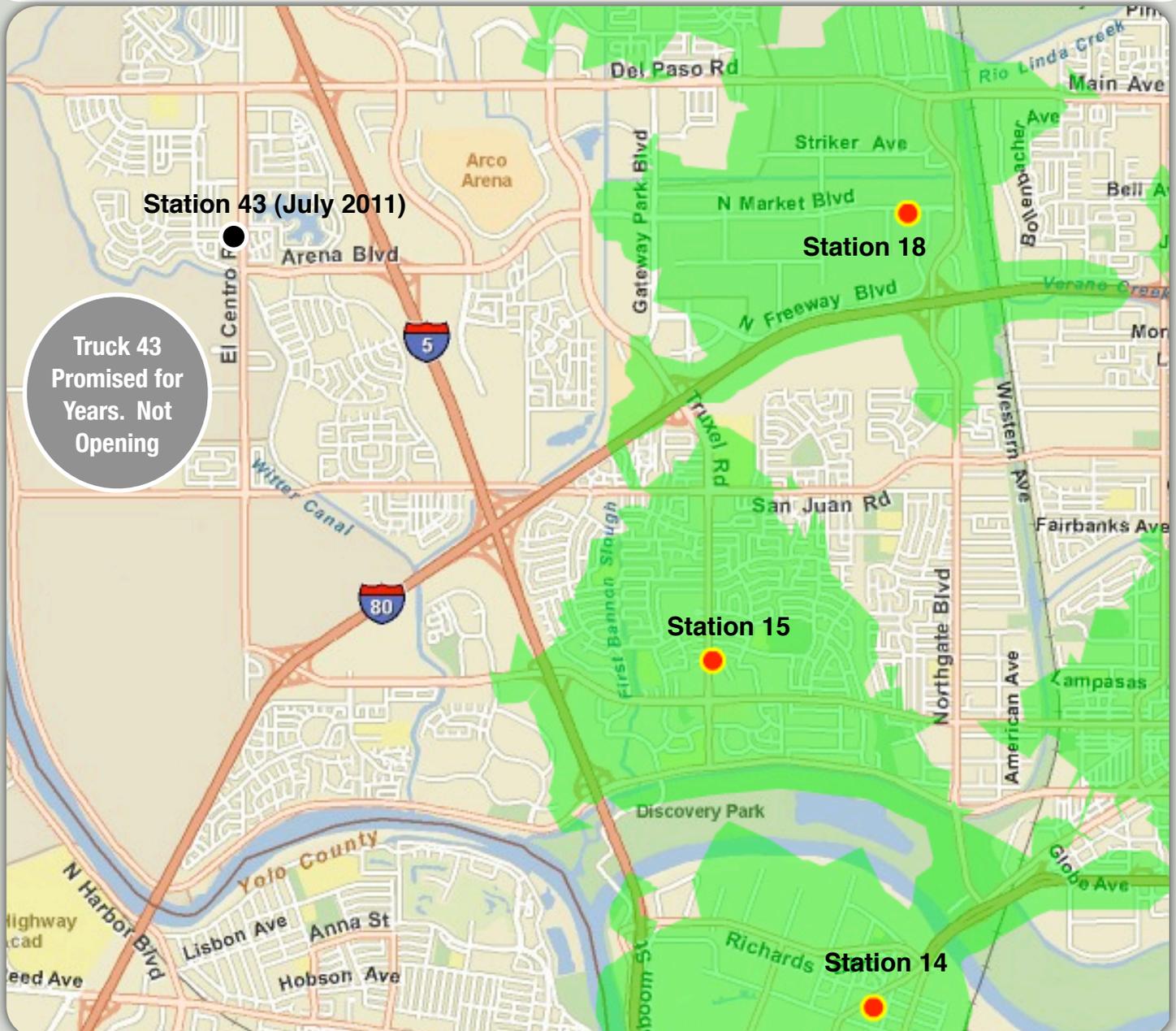
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SACRAMENTO FIRE DEPARTMENT ENGINE COMPANY RESPONSE COVERAGE

SOUTH NATOMAS NEIGHBORHOODS

Just like North Natomas, South Natomas was built out by City leaders with little or no investment in fire department companies or infrastructure. Engine 15 is one the busiest and has some of the worst response times in the City of Sacramento. The crews still work out of a 30 year old “temporary” building.

The addition of Engine 43 will not add significant coverage to South Natomas. Additional company closures would greatly reduce the safety of resident in this community.



Coverage area in green is based on a five (5) minute drive time from the fire station. It does not include the one (1) minute call processing time and the one (1) minute turnout time for every call.

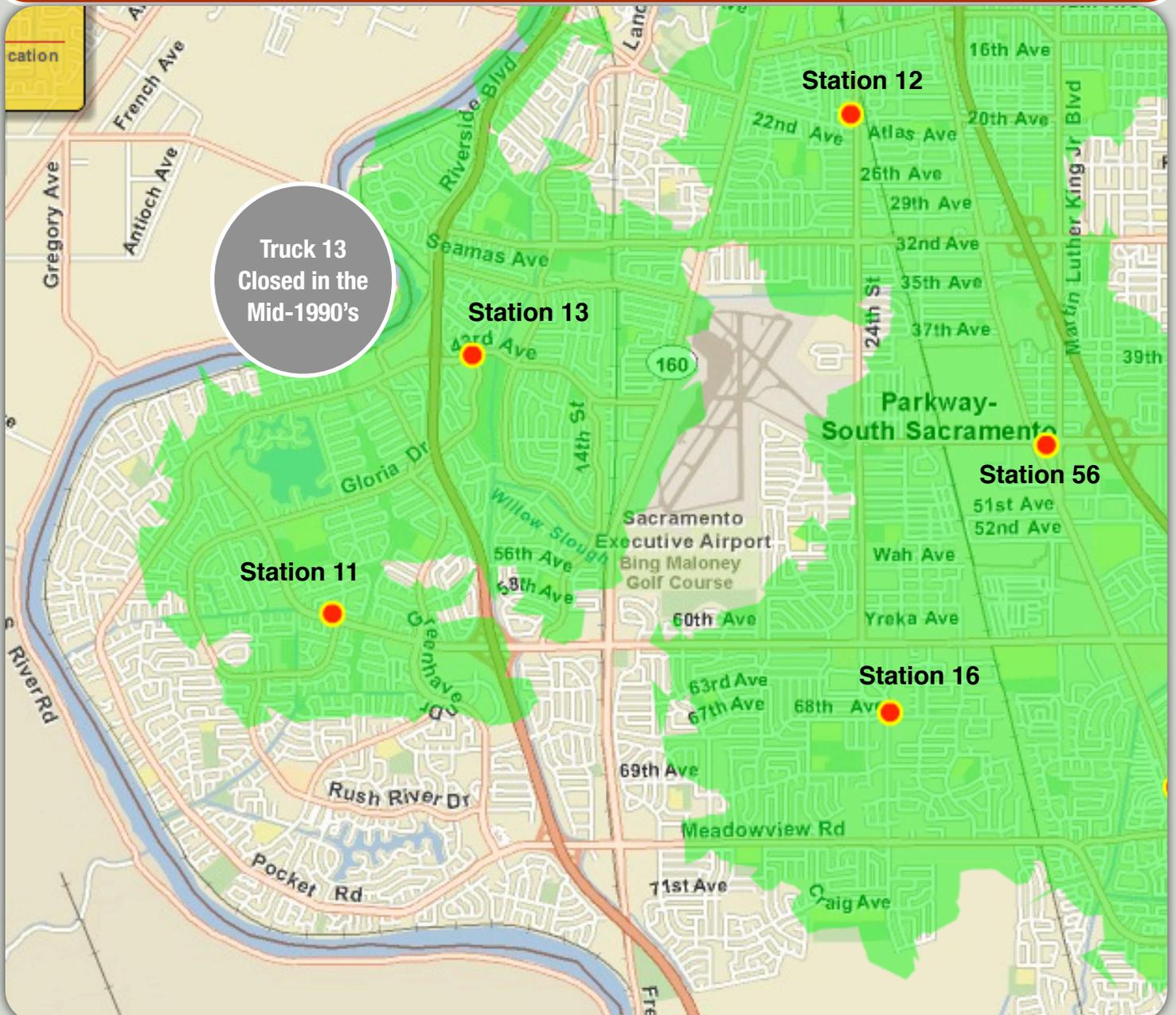
SACRAMENTO FIRE DEPARTMENT ENGINE COMPANY RESPONSE COVERAGE



POCKET AND GREENHAVEN NEIGHBORHOODS

The closure of Truck 13 in the mid-1990's has left these neighborhoods without a Truck company. The closest truck is at Station 16. Although Station 11 is centered in the Pocket, it has a huge response area that cannot be covered adequately. Additional help must come all the way from Station 13 or Station 16 with long delays.

There is no way any other closures can be safely implemented in this community.



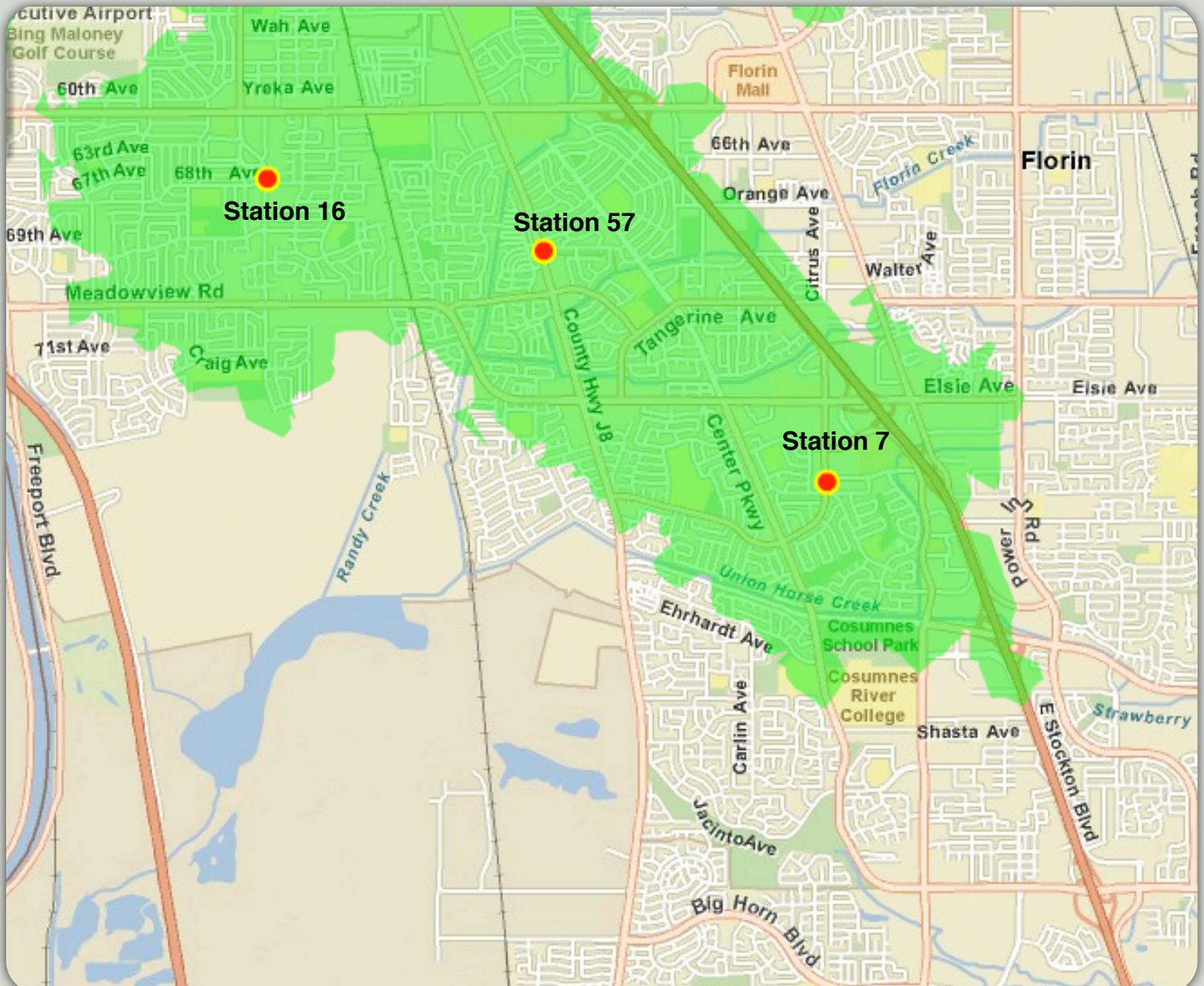
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SACRAMENTO FIRE DEPARTMENT ENGINE COMPANY RESPONSE COVERAGE

MEADOWVIEW AND VALLEY HIGH NEIGHBORHOODS

The southern boundary of the City has become increasingly busier over the last ten years due to lack of coverage for those residents. Large growth in the 2000's without funding any additional fire companies have increased the risks to all of these residents.

Any additional company closures would leave even larger areas with poor coverage in this community.



Coverage area in green is based on a five (5) minute drive time from the fire station. It does not include the one (1) minute call processing time and the one (1) minute turnout time for every call.