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CALDWELL FIRE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

DATE: August 14, 2023

Caldwell City Council will be presented with the results of a community-wide survey regarding fire services during its August 15 work session at 5:30 p.m. (110 S. 5th Ave., Caldwell). Survey results are expected to guide the Councilors in their consideration of a potential bond ordinance. A bond would fund a rebuild at Station 1 and a proposed new Station 4. This station would support the rapidly growing area surrounding Karcher Road and Lake Avenue. This facility and its costs are to be shared with the Nampa Fire Protection District.

More than 460 residents have responded to the survey released on June 2. The goal of the survey is to educate the community about the status of facilities and fire services and gather input regarding the prioritization of fire services as well as resident feelings regarding a potential bond to fund the construction of the two proposed stations. Initial results indicate respondents would support a bond to fund the two stations. If the Council chooses to move forward with a bond, they would need to take action at the September 5 meeting, and a bond measure would appear on the November 7, 2023, ballot for residents' approval. A two-thirds majority is required for approval.

Other engagement efforts to educate the community and gather feedback included a Citizens Committee representing the community and business and civic organizations. The 10-member committee recently toured Station 1, learned about current fire services, offered additional suggestions to reach all Caldwell residents, and shared feedback regarding a potential bond.

The survey, which has been promoted at local events, on the City website, and through City and Fire Department social media pages, will remain open through the end of August. Residents are encouraged to take the survey and provide their feedback. Additional information regarding the fire improvement projects, including a Facility Report, initial survey results, and a survey link can be found on the City's website: <https://www.cityofcaldwell.org/departments/fire/fire-improvement-project>.