

*Shaping
our community
together*

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January 23, 2009

CITY COUNCIL

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CITY MANAGER

GREG J. CUOIO

Board of Fire Commissioners
Thurston County Fire District 3
1231 Franz St. SE
Lacey, WA 98503

Re: Default of Service Agreement

Dear Commissioners:

The City is in receipt of Chairman Kirkbride's letter of January 22, 2009 written in response to my letter of January 14, 2009. The correspondence on behalf of the District suggests that the parties should engage the services of a mediator in an attempt to resolve their differences regarding the staffing of Station 35.

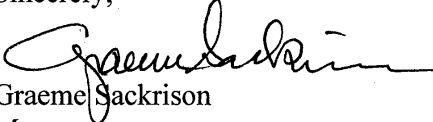
The City's concern is that Fire Station 35 be re-opened and appropriately staffed. In the absence of such re-opening, we feel that the health and safety of our residents is at risk.

Therefore, we are willing to engage the services of a professional mediator, very likely a retired Superior Court judge. However, our agreement to this process will need to be on the following conditions:

1. That the District take immediate steps to re-open Station 35 and staff that station in accordance with the staffing schedule attached. The open status of the station and its staffing would remain during the duration of mediation process. Although it is beyond the City's contracted financial obligation, the City repeats its offer to pay up to \$135,000.00 annually in overtime costs necessary to maintain this staffing.
2. The mediation would be limited to the issue of the open status of Station 35 and its staffing.

Please notify us no later than Tuesday, January 27, 2009 of your willingness or unwillingness to engage in the mediation process under the conditions set forth above. If you are unwilling to agree to these conditions, the City will need to take action to seek judicial assistance in causing the re-opening and staffing of Station 35.

Sincerely,


Graeme Sackrison
Mayor

cc: Lacey City Council, Lacey City Manager, Lacey City Attorney