

**NAPA COUNTY
RESPONSE TO THE NAPA COUNTY GRAND JURY
FINAL REPORT ON NAPA COUNTY
MUNICIPAL FIRE DEPARTMENTS**

FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008

CONSOLIDATION OF DISTRICTS

Finding No. 1: That a response time of eight to ten minutes to an incident in the Browns Valley area is unsatisfactory.

Response, Napa County Fire Chief: The response time of eight to ten minutes to an incident in the Browns Valley area is beyond Napa City Fire Department Standards. Napa County Fire Department does not currently have a response standard for the Browns Valley area, nor for the rest of the county.

Recommendation No. 1: That the Napa City Council vote to approve the construction of a fifth fire station to be located in Browns Valley; and with the Board of Supervisors, establish a plan to relocate the Edgerly Island Station to Browns Valley. The establishment of this fire station is considered by the Grand Jury to be a priority issue.

Response, Napa County Fire Chief: The Napa County Fire Chief, together with staff from Napa City Fire Department, is reviewing the viability of relocating either an engine or a water tender for response out of the new Browns Valley Fire Station. At this time, co-locating the two agencies in a new station in Browns Valley is desirable. It is anticipated that a formal proposal and recommendation will be before the Board of Supervisors some time in late 2008. However, there is no intent or desire to reduce the current level of fire protection to the Edgerly Island area.

Napa County Fire Department records indicate that the majority of volunteers for both the Carneros Volunteer Fire Company and the Dry Creek – Lokoya Volunteer Fire Company either live and/or work in the city of Napa and the Browns Valley area. Locating equipment in a joint City and County fire station would actually reduce response times to incidents in the unincorporated areas on both the west and north sides of Napa City. This would be due to the fact that emergency equipment would be located closer to homes and work places of volunteers, therefore decreasing the time needed to get emergency equipment on the road.