



**CITY OF SAN MATEO AND CITY OF FOSTER CITY
JOINT PRESS RELEASE**



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**City Councils in San Mateo and Foster City
Approve Agreement to Share Fire Chief**

At their respective City Council meetings on Monday, June 21, the City Councils in San Mateo and Foster City both approved an agreement to share one Fire Chief.

The agreement sets forth the provisions for sharing the position of Fire Chief between the two cities. The Agreement will take effect on July 1, 2010 and continue for one year. It will be automatically extended for four additional one-year terms unless terminated sooner. Foster City will pay San Mateo \$180,000 for the first year, which is approximately 50% of the costs of the Fire Chief compensation and associated operating costs. By sharing the Fire Chief position with San Mateo, Foster City will save approximately \$109,000 per year.

The Fire Chief will remain an employee of San Mateo and Foster City will reimburse San Mateo for its share of the cost of the position. City Manager Susan Loftus will continue to provide overall supervision of the Fire Chief, who will also report to City Manager Jim Hardy for Foster City matters, projects and services.

San Mateo Fire Chief Dan Belville is highly qualified to assume the leadership of both departments and to assess the potential for additional opportunities for shared fire services. Fire Chief Belville has the full confidence and support of both Susan Loftus, City Manager of San Mateo and Jim Hardy, City Manager of Foster City and their respective City Councils.

Both San Mateo and Foster City are open to consider other shared fire service opportunities as they are identified, but they have made no decisions or predeterminations about the outcome of

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such an exploration. Decisions will ultimately be made based on what is in the best interest of both cities.

San Mateo and Foster City are natural partners for shared fire services given their geographic proximity and a long history of working together under the current County model of delivering fire services which includes the centralized dispatching of the closest fire resources to a particular call to minimize response times.

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