

**Cyndie Martel**

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**From:** Friends of Ross Firehouse <friendsofrossfire@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 8, 2025 12:38 PM  
**To:** CouncilAll  
**Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] 🚒 Ross Response Times Worsen to 11 Minutes

Please add the emails below to the public comments for Agenda Item #10. Thank you.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Bruce Selfridge** <67bigblock@comcast.net>  
**Date:** Sun, Dec 7, 2025 at 8:48 PM  
**Subject:** Re: 🚒 Ross Response Times Worsen to 11 Minutes  
**To:** <friendsofrossfire@gmail.com>

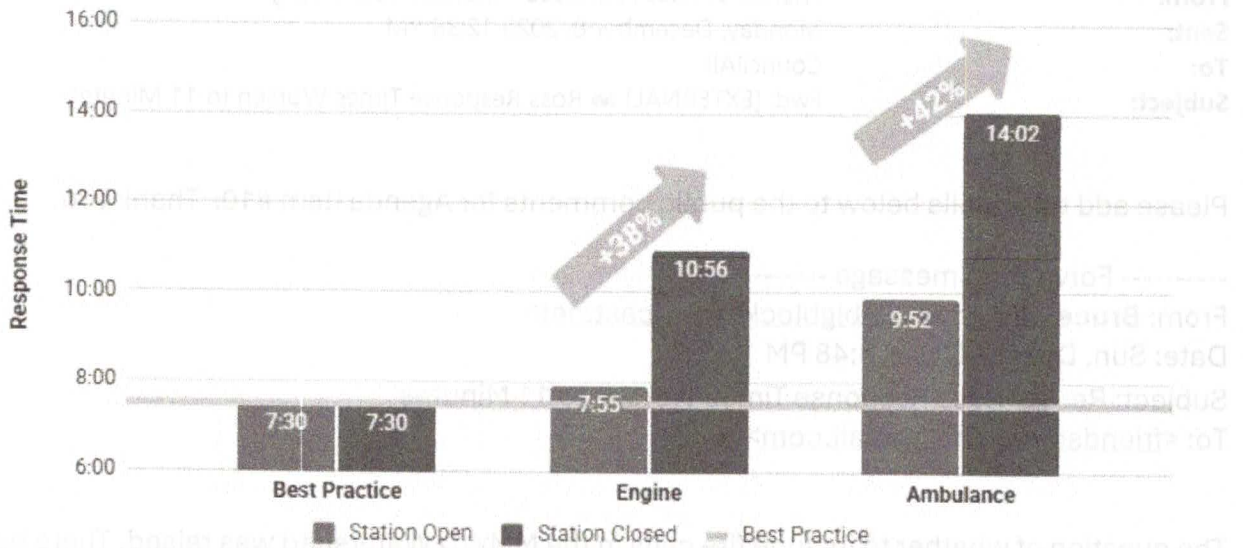
The question of whether to include fire calls in the MMWD Watershed was raised. There has been computer models done of various fire scenarios, one of the largest threats to the Town of Ross is a wild land fire coming out of the watershed. A quick response to the Phoenix Lake/Bald Hill areas for a fire is imperative.

Thank you very much, Bruce Selfridge, retired Ross Fire Department.  
Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 7, 2025, at 3:15 PM, Friends of Ross Firehouse  
<friendsofrossfire@236688138.mailchimpapp.com> wrote:



## Ross Data Confirms Emergency Response is Worsening



### Ross is Safer with a Firehouse

Dear Neighbor,

When Friends of Ross Firehouse formed, we shared two guiding principles: 1) Ross is safer with a firehouse, and 2) Ross can afford to rebuild its station.

The Ross fire station has been closed since July 1st. The Town just released its findings for emergency response times since the station's closure. Citygate, the Town's safety consultant, recommends a **best practice response time of 7:30 minutes to limit fires from getting out of control and minimize permanent medical trauma**. Before its closure, the Ross fire engine had a 7:55 minute response time.

**Post closure, emergency response times have increased significantly. This is exactly what we were concerned would happen if the Ross closed its fire station, and this new data confirms it:**

- Fire Engine response time is up 38% to 10:56 minutes, 3.5 minutes longer than best practice

- **Ambulance response time is up 42% to 14:02 minutes, 6.5 minutes longer than best practice**
- This data is an apples-to-apples comparison to the two Citygate studies conducted in 2019 and 2024. We acknowledge the sample size is small, but the trends are clear.

One of Ross's greatest risks is a fire outbreak or a critical medical emergency at Phoenix Lake. Both Citygate studies from 2019 and 2024 include incident data from this area since Ross Station 18 was the primary engine serving it.

Without giving any reason why, the Town now wants to exclude data from Phoenix Lake and non-emergency incidents. We believe that all response data should be included in the analysis, just as the Citygate reports did. The Town should not be "cherry picking" data in its reports. It should not matter where in Ross an emergency occurs or why; we need fast response times everywhere to keep us safe.

Fire Chief Mahoney will be presenting these findings at the Town Council meeting this Thursday, 12/11, at 6:00pm. We hope you can attend the meeting to get your questions answered.

We remain committed as ever to restoring critical fire and medical emergency services to Ross. We are excited to share our plans with you and the Council **at the Town Council meeting on January 8th**—please mark your calendar to attend. At the meeting, we will show there is a cost-effective way to rehabilitate the existing public safety structure, restore public safety, and preserve the site's century-old historic character.

The future of our Ross firehouse—and the historic civic character of our town—deserves expert analysis, community input, and a democratic vote. We invite all Ross residents to get informed and join the conversation at [www.friendsofross.com](http://www.friendsofross.com).

**Donate to Restore our Firehouse**





**Paid for by Friends of Ross Firehouse**

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