

Cyndie Martel

From: Dan Kalafatas <dkalafatas@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 7, 2026 9:07 AM
To: CouncilAll
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] 📲 Invite | Friends of Ross Firehouse Presentation 1/8 at 6:00pm

Town Councilors,

As a 18 year Ross resident, I am quite upset with the current state of affairs regarding the Ross Firehouse. The Friends alternative approach needs to be seriously and fully vetted. Failure to do so is an abrogation of the privilege the public granted you as elected citizen representatives of the people of this Town -- an abrogation I intend to remember and act upon in future elections.

Please find an email I sent to 82 townspeople below.

Dan

Dan Kalafatas
20 Glenwood Avenue
415-683-8042
dkalafatas@yahoo.com

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Dan Kalafatas <dkalafatas@yahoo.com>
To: Daniel Kalafatas <dkalafatas@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 4, 2026 at 10:53:31 PM PST
Subject: 📲 Invite | Friends of Ross Firehouse Presentation 1/8 at 6:00pm

Friends,

I want to call to your attention a town issue. In a very short period of time, Ross has gone from having a fully staffed firehouse to having none while paying \$2.7M in a grossly unfair contract to Ross Valley Fire District for materially worse emergency response times. Few in town understand this, nor the tens of millions of dollars of CAPEX forthcoming for town consideration.

While I explain more below, a key community meeting is happening this Thursday (1/8) at 6:00pm in at the Marin Art & Garden Center Livermore Room. I encourage you to get educated and join in person or [by Zoom](#). ([Add to Google Calendar here](#).)

Key facts:

- Despite overwhelming public attendance and outcry at a March 2025 Council meeting, a 3-2 split Town Council refused to explore alternatives to closing the fire station:
 - Salter & Robbins supported exploring alternatives
 - McMillan, Dowling, & Kircher voted against
- Ross firefighters were reassigned to the other three RVFD stations in San Anselmo, Sleepy Hollow, and Fairfax. The Ross fire engine was sold. Station #19 (San Anselmo) became Ross' primary fire engine.
- This contract is unfair. Ross represents 9% of the population and 7% of incidents RVFD serves, but our \$2.7M pays 23% of costs.
- The Town Council decision was informed by:
 - (1) A 2021 survey only ~300 of us responded to in the heart of COVID,

(2) A proposed \$14.6M renovation of Town Facilities which has morphed into what may cost the town \$30M when finally completed, which will not include a firehouse, and

(3) A stipulation emergency response times would not increase for 85% of calls. However, at the December 8th Town council meeting, fire department officials reported response time for fire engines increased from 7:55 minutes to 10:56 minutes. Citygate's best practices goal is 7:30 minutes. The response time for the ambulance for this period is 14 minutes 2 seconds.

In October, Friends of Ross Firehouse submitted 329 petition signatures in support of a ballot initiative to restore local fire engine service in Ross. On Thursday, Friends will present a plan to renovate town facilities for \$12M and return fire staffing to Ross for less than current annual budget levels. The plan is designed by experts in EMS & firehouse architecture, structural engineering, fire safety consulting and supported by a bona fide bid from a construction firm which has built 24 fire and emergency buildings in the region including San Rafael and Corte Madera.

If a fire station isn't renovated now, then Ross will NEVER have space for a fire engine and will always be dependent on other towns for emergency services, with very little input into how those services are delivered.

The future of our Ross firehouse—and the historic civic character of our town—deserves expert analysis, community input, and a democratic vote.

Towards getting educated,
Dan

Dan Kalafatas
415-683-8042
dkalafatas@yahoo.com

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Friends of Ross Firehouse <friendsofrossfire@236688138.mailchimpapp.com>

To: "dkalafatas@yahoo.com" <dkalafatas@yahoo.com>

Sent: Saturday, January 3, 2026 at 09:29:39 AM PST

Subject: 🚒 Invite | Friends of Ross Firehouse Presentation 1/8 at 6:00pm



Ross is Safer with a Firehouse

Dear Neighbor,

Happy new year! We hope you had a wonderful holiday season and are starting the year off with a sense of renewal and purpose. We look forward to

presenting our comprehensive plan at the Town Council meeting next week to restore emergency fire and medical services to Ross:

When: Thursday, January 8th

Where: Marin Art & Garden Center, Livermore Room

Time: 6:00pm

Calendar: [Add to Google Calendar](#)

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. We will share our presentation via email with the community early next week.

We encourage you to share your stories about what the fire station means to you and why you want life-saving care to return to our town. Ahead of the meeting, you can email your public comment to the [Town Council](#).

We look forward to spending the evening in constructive dialogue with you and the Council. If you cannot attend the meeting in person, [Zoom](#) will be available. But we prefer you join in person—we hope you can make it!

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.

[Donate to Restore our Firehouse](#)



Paid for by Friends of Ross Firehouse

Copyright (C) 2026 Friends of Ross Firehouse. All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website.

Our mailing address is:

Friends of Ross Firehouse 2350 Kerner Blvd Ste 250 San Rafael, CA 94901-5596 USA

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)

[Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#)

[Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#)

[Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#)

[Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#)

Friends of Ross Firehouse | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#)
Friends of Ross Firehouse | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#)
Friends of Ross Firehouse | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#)

Friends of Ross Firehouse | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#)
Friends of Ross Firehouse | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#)
Friends of Ross Firehouse | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#)

Friends of Ross Firehouse | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#)
Friends of Ross Firehouse | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#)
Friends of Ross Firehouse | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#)

Friends of Ross Firehouse | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#)
Friends of Ross Firehouse | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#)
Friends of Ross Firehouse | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#)

[Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#)



Friends of Ross Firehouse | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#)
Friends of Ross Firehouse | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#)
Friends of Ross Firehouse | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#) | [Friends of Ross Firehouse](#)