



February 26, 2008

Contact: Sophia Scherman
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As a councilmember and concerned citizen of Elk Grove, Sophia Scherman officially spoke out against the Elk Grove Community Services District (CSD) Board's attempt to eliminate firefighters positions in the Elk Grove Community.

Sophia served as a CSD Board Member from 1997-2000.

Below are Sophia's comments as requested by many of the community members attending tonight's CSD board meeting.

"Good evening Mr. President and Board Members.

I am Sophia Scherman and I live behind Station #71.

With all due respect I need to disagree with you and yes down sizing does create a safety issue. Demoting staff is demoralizing to the whole department and in fact the whole agency is affected.

To eliminate positions at a time when the population in Elk Grove is at approximately 140,000 is not a very comforting way of making the citizens of Elk Grove and Galt feel safe in their communities.

Yes you do have the right by law to take this action, but my question to you, is this the right thing to do to your employees, your constituents?

I make these comments first as a citizen, and second as a past president and board member of this body.

Thank you very much and I hope that you take all of tonight's concerns to heart and reevaluate your decision to eliminate three Battalion Chief positions that will create a domino effect down to the last firefighter hired."

--Councilmember Sophia Scherman

For more information, please contact Councilmember Scherman at scherman@sophia-elkgrove.com or (916) 685-3860 or view the website at www.sophia-elkgrove.com.