



# BEAVERCREEK TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

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## **THE NEW FIRE STATION ONE BEGINS OPERATIONS**

On Wednesday, July 13 2005, the new Fire Station One will begin operations. This station, at 2195 Dayton Xenia Road, will replace its predecessor at the intersection of Factory and Dayton-Xenia. Initially, the station will be home to Engine 1 and Medic 1 and Shift Commander, as well as many of the Department's specialized apparatus. It will be staffed 24-hours per day, with a combination of full time and part time firefighter/paramedics.

In August 1946 the Beavercreek Alpha Volunteer Fire Department, with William Calvert as District Chief, held its first meeting. At the time, Fire Station One was two bays rented from the Marshall Brothers garage, located where Elano Corporation now sits. In 1957 land was purchased, and Fire Station One was built at 2498 Dayton-Xenia, where it has been in-service since. In 1973 the station was remodeled with the addition of a third bay and offices on the west side of the building, the configuration it still holds. Since its purchase and construction, that site served the community well. However, with the introduction of 24-hour crews, larger apparatus, and more traffic and development in the Township, the Station was no longer meeting the department's needs. In 1999, the Fire Department began the acquisition and development of a complex at the corner of Orchard Lane and Dayton-Xenia. This complex was designed to include new fire administration offices, a fire station, and a training facility.

In 2002, the Fire Department put a 2.0 mil renewal levy on the November ballot. The community overwhelmingly supported the initiative, with one of its key, stated purposes being the construction of a new fire station. Upon passing the levy, the fire department hired an architect to begin the design of the complex and associated fire station. During this time, the Township received a large estate tax settlement and decided that the best use of those funds would be investing them back into the community through the fire station. The design was completed and the project was publicly advertised put out for bid in 2003. After the contract was awarded, a ground-breaking ceremony was held and construction began in late 2003.

Fire Station One was designed programmatically. Every function required of a modern fire station was designed, with regard to space, electrical, HVAC, and technology requirements being specifically addressed. Each program and space was then designed into a single, cohesive plan. As a result, every interior space has a specific purpose and relationship to the whole. Additionally, the exterior appearance was designed to match the spirit and character of the community. This building was designed to serve the Beavercreek community for 50 years, like its predecessor, and it should be a source of pride and value to the community as well.

Fire Station One's most distinctive feature is its apparatus bay. The station has five bays. The bays can be arranged with apparatus in front and back, giving the department flexibility for locating equipment. In addition to a fire engine, ambulance and command vehicle, the station will house the department's tanker, rescue, communications unit as well as the County's hazardous materials unit. These apparatus will be moved from overcrowded bays at Stations Two and Four; there is no additional apparatus being purchased for the station. Firefighters spend one out of three days living in the station, and this is designed to provide for their needs. Crews have individual bunkrooms, accommodating both men and women on the crews; similarly, shower and bathrooms are private. All crew quarters are ventilated separately to protect them from the diesel exhaust in the apparatus bays. The facility has a "dirty room" for cleaning and sanitizing contaminated materials, and for cleaning fire gear. The basement includes a community emergency operations center, a sheriff's substation, and a large training room that is accessible to the community.

When planning and designing new Fire Station One, we looked at the community and our history to determine the most appropriate location and design. This new building is a continuation the tradition begun in 1946, and looks to provide the resources necessary to protect the community for another 50 years. By moving it east, we have provided better protection to the growing Township community, and many residents have already seen improvements in their insurance ratings as a result. This building is yours, the community's, and we encourage you to visit-the crews are always happy to give a tour.