



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** February 26, 2016

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**STEPS TO IMPROVE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES**

**Klein, Texas:** Klein Volunteer Fire Department (Klein VFD) and Harris County Emergency Services District No. 16 are working together to improve fire and rescue services provided within the area covered on the attached map. For example, the capital forecast calls for:

- upgrading accommodations at the fire stations to allow 24-hour / 7-day staffing (accomplished at Station #1 with others to follow);
- increasing the number of apparatus at our central fire station to provide an additional 24-hour dedicated fire truck (accomplished);
- building a new fire station in the Gleannloch area, which should be completed during the first quarter of 2017;
- rebuilding Station #3 in Memorial Chase;
- constructing a fleet maintenance facility;
- replacing aerial apparatus as existing equipment reaches the end of their life cycle;
- building an in-district fire fighter training facility; and
- undertaking measures which improve the area's Insurance Service Office (ISO) certification rating resulting in the reduction of the residences' and business' fire insurance costs.

The best way to reduce fire loss is through an aggressive public fire education program that starts at the pre-school level and continues through high school into later life. Klein VFD provides the only full time public fire educator in the area. Some of the free training Klein VFD offers includes:

- children's school programs; preschool – grade 12;
- Cub Scout and Girl Scout station tours;
- fire extinguisher classes;
- businesses; fire safety programs;

## STEPS TO IMPROVE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES (Cont'd)

- retirement community programs;
- business grand opening events;
- house visits for birthday parties; and
- others available upon request.

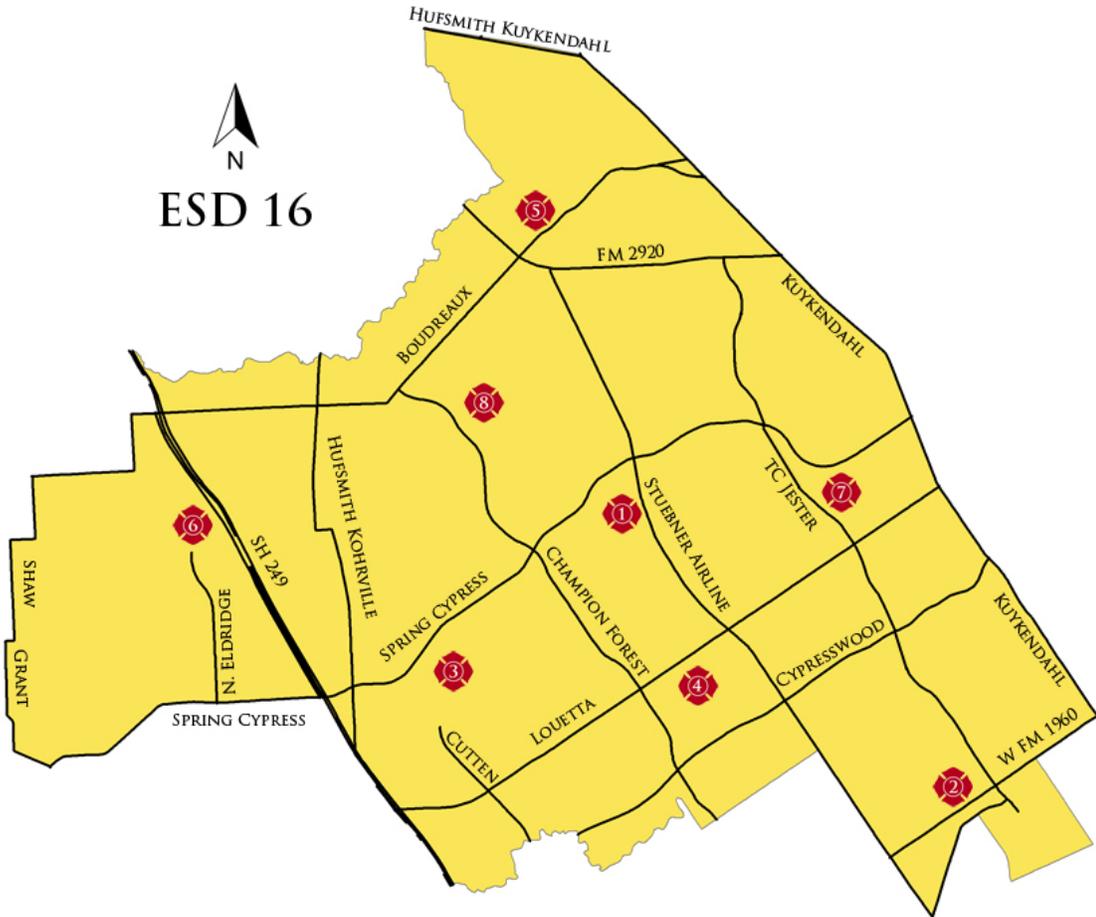
### **Who we are:**

An Emergency Services District (ESD) is a local government agency created by a vote of the public to provide emergency services in specific areas within unincorporated Harris County. There are more than 310 ESDs in Texas, 32 of which are in Harris County. The governing statute for an ESD is Texas Health and Safety Code § 775.

An ESD collects taxes based on appraisals of real and personal property plus sales tax, and usually contracts with a service provider. Harris County ESD No. 16 contracted with Klein Volunteer Fire Department to provide fire and rescue services in the area shown on the attached map.

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**AREA SERVED BY HARRIS COUNTY ESD No. 16 AND KLEIN VFD**



Note: The red symbols show the locations of fire stations. Construction of Station #8 will begin during the second quarter of 2016 and will be completed during the first quarter of 2017.