

NEWS RELEASE

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CONTACT: Sara Farris
303-252-3017
303-601-7577 (cell)
sfarris@northmetrofire.org



North Metro Fire and Adams County Fire End Evaluation Process of Potential Merger

Northglenn/Broomfield, CO – After months of discussion and analysis, the boards of directors for North Metro Fire Rescue District and Adams County Fire Protection District have decided to end the evaluation process and forego a merger of the two fire districts. Together, Board Presidents Richard Miller (North Metro Fire) and Ken Lombardi (Adams County Fire Rescue) released the following statement on behalf of both districts:

“Members of Adams County Fire Rescue and North Metro Fire have engaged in fruitful discussions and extensive analysis looking into the feasibility of a merger. Our boards and district personnel still believe in the potential of a merger that could benefit both fire districts. However, recent legislation and impending ballot measures that reduce property tax revenue, along with other economic uncertainties, have caused some concern in how these changes have and will affect our organizations. In addition to legislative impacts on our funding, if our fire districts proceeded with a merger, we would sustain a significant loss in tax revenue resulting from one fire district lowering its mill levy to match the other fire district’s mill levy. Furthermore, the merger comes as our fire districts are going through a transition of several senior leadership positions. Due to these key factors, we feel this is not the best time to move forward in this process.

It’s important to note that Adams County Fire Rescue and North Metro Fire have a strong history of working together, and this evaluation process further strengthened our relationship and mutual respect for one another. Looking ahead, we will continue to operate and train together with a shared mission to deliver the best in emergency care to the community. We are excited to continue our work as partners in the North Area, seeking further opportunities to foster synergies between the two organizations, while improving emergency service and special team response across our region, sharing resources and servicing both fire districts through a combined Fleet Division.

Once our economic future becomes clearer and new leaders for each organization have an opportunity to shape our paths forward, we may find it advantageous to readdress a merger and realize the benefits that come with operating as a larger fire department. For now, we will conclude the merger evaluation as valued and respected partners and are grateful for the community’s support as we went through this exploratory process.”