



FACT SHEET: Fire Station Number 3

July, 2011

Project Overview

Opened in July 2011, **Fire Station No. 3** is a vital component of the Arlington County Fire Department system. The new fire station is a **state-of-the-art facility** that meets the needs of our growing community and supports our firefighters. With greater capacity for emergency response equipment and a green, sustainable design, the station is a real-life example of Arlington's commitment to community service and to the environment. The station is located at **4100 Old Dominion Drive** in Arlington, Virginia.

Supporting and responding to a growing community

Fire Station No. 3's response district includes: Cherrydale, Military Road corridor, McLean/Chain Bridge Road, Clarendon. It is also part of Arlington's – and the region's – response system.

The station includes an array of features and technology that will not only benefit Arlington's first responders, but also the community we serve. The project includes:

- **New curb, gutters and sidewalks** on 21st Road N. from Lee Highway to N. Stafford Street, as well as rerouting and repaving 21st Road N.
- Architectural features to match the feel of the community, including a **specially-commissioned brick sculpture**, representing the Cherrydale neighborhood.
- Worked with the community to finalize the **landscape plan**, which includes a mix of Ginkgo, Elm and London Plane trees.
- **Undergrounded overhead utilities** in the area.
- In cases of physical danger, people can enter the **24/7 "Safe Haven" lobby** and press a panic button, which locks exterior door and automatically calls Arlington's emergency communications center. Other stations with "Safe-Havens": Fire Stations No. 2 (Ballston); No. 5 (Pentagon City); No. 6 (Falls Church); and No. 9 (Walter Reed).
- **Off-street parking** for fire station staff, to reduce burden on surrounding streets.



State-of-the-art fire house

The new Fire Station No. 3 is a state-of-the-art facility designed to address the evolving nature of the emergency environment and the modern demands on our professional firefighters.

- **Personnel:** Fully staffed with 15 firefighters/EMTs over three shifts. A Battalion Chief is also housed here. The station is under the command of **Captain II Joe Lightfoot**.
 - Capt. Lightfoot represents his family's third generation of fire service. Joe's father, Capt. John Lightfoot, retired from former Station 3 after 32 years of service with Arlington County.
 - Another firefighter assigned to Station 3, Doug Barb, is also the son of a retired Arlington firefighter.
- **Apparatus and equipment:** The station has four equipment bays and is home to Engine 103 and Battalion 112. This is the first Arlington station to have bi-fold doors, which are easy to maintain, faster to open and can easily be manually operated.

- **LED alerting system:** This state-of-the-art system alerts firefighters with both sound and light displays. By starting softer and increasing in intensity, the system lessens the stress in waking up firefighters in the middle of the night.
- **Residential level:** 10 separate gender-neutral dormitory quarters (private bedroom and bathroom, and storage for three shifts) for firefighters, providing improved conditions for our ever-growing number of female firefighters. The residential level includes a commercial-grade kitchen, with storage for all three shifts.
 - Two fire poles whisk firefighters quickly from the residential level down to the equipment bay. At 21' high, the poles are the tallest in Arlington County/Falls Church.
- **Continuous education:** Includes a state-of-the-art training room and Fire Dept. library.

Environmentally-friendly LEED building

The station is a sustainable, environment-friendly design that meets Green Building Council **LEED Silver** award criteria. Features include:

- **Insulated glass** to reduce energy usage; all finishes are low- to no-odor.
- **Storm water retention** area to reduce runoff. Off-street parking area includes a large portion of permeable surface to help reduce runoff.
- A new **public green space** on the south side of the relocated 21st Road N. Part of the project included relocating and rebuilding a portion of 21st Rd. N.



Project Funding

The complex project included land purchases; land swaps; the acquisition and demolition of two residences; rerouting and improving 21st N (constructing curbs, gutters, sidewalks and resurfacing); tree planting; building construction costs. Total cost of the entire project is approximately **\$18 million**. This includes cost of the 14,100 sq.ft. station, which is approximately \$7.3 million.

Funding was provided through bonds authorized by Arlington County voters in 1990, 1994, and 2004.