

## Agenda Item 8282

January 22, 2007

**SUBJECT:** Discussion of Proposed Move of ACC Fire Academy

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board of Trustees discuss the proposed move of ACC's Fire Academy from its current location in Taylor to AFD Training Facility effective Fall 2007.

**RELATED BOARD POLICY OR PLANNING PRIORITY:**

This item is consistent with Policy E-1, Master Planning, E-2, Provision of College Facilities, and G-2, Purchasing.

**RATIONALE:**

The proposed move to AFD Training Facility would:

1. Locate the academy within ACC's service area;
2. Allow an expansion of the program, and address high-demand/turn-aways;
3. Consolidate our activities at one location. (we currently lease the AFD Fire Burn Training facility for all live fire burns.)
4. Eliminate the need for dormitories.
5. Provide space to add related Continuing Education and credit classes.
6. Not prevent ACC from collaborating with other regional Fire Departments, but would be complementary to those activities.

**BUDGETARY CONSIDERATION:**

The cost of relocating three portable units from Cypress Creek Campus to AFD Training Facility is estimated to be \$508,553. This includes construction of a parking lot for ACC cadets. Additionally, a detailed proposed annual operating budget is included in Attachment C.

**RESOURCE PERSONNEL:**

Mike Midgley, Vice President, Workforce Education & Business Development  
Gary Hampton, Dean, Applied Technologies, Multimedia, and Public Service  
Ben Ferrell, Vice President, Business Services

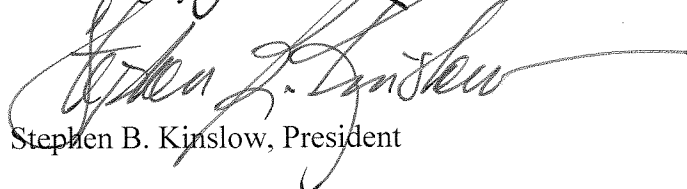
**ATTACHMENTS:**

- A: Goals of Relocating the ACC Fire Academy to AFD Training Facility
- B: ACC Fire Academy Background
- C: Cost Overview

Respectfully Submitted By:



Mike Midgley, Vice President, Workforce Education & Business Development



Stephen B. Kinslow, President

## **GOALS OF RELOCATING THE FIRE ACADEMY FROM TAYLOR TO AFD TRAINING FACILITY**

- 1. To move the ACC Fire Academy within ACC's Service Area.** The majority of the student population served by the Academy is from the ACC service area and this move will enhance our student recruitment. The ACC Fire Protection Technology Advisory Committee has recommended that ACC move closer to the areas that produce the majority of our cadets and the departments that will be hiring them. They have endorsed the proposed move of the academy to AFD Training Facility.
- 2. To consolidate activities at one location.** We currently lease the AFD Fire Burn Training facility for all live fire burns. It is a state of the art structure that meets all of the safety guidelines of the Texas Fire Commission. By moving to AFD Training Facility, we can avoid transporting our cadets and equipment from Taylor for live fire burns. We would also be housed in a modern space that better meets instructional needs.
- 3. To expand instructional space and allow us to offer a night program.** We are turning students away due to current facilities limitations.
- 4. To expand instructional space in order to offer related Continuing Education and Credit courses,** including Emergency Medical Technician.
- 5. To allow students the opportunity to participate in the Academy without living in a dormitory environment** that is necessary at the Taylor site. The college will save money by staying out of the dormitory business.
- 6. To enhance our ability to recruit qualified faculty members.** The majority of our faculty who teach at the Academy live in the Austin area. Moving closer to the I-35 corridor will make travel easier for the instructors and will allow us to recruit more qualified instructors to the Academy.
- 7. To allow us to integrate the Academy more fully into normal College operations.** The current distance of the facility in Taylor from all the ACC campuses and Highland Business Center makes daily operations, internet connections to the mainframe, communications to counselors, admissions and records, and other primary services difficult.

## **ACC FIRE ACADEMY – BACKGROUND**

The ACC Fire Academy was created in Fall, 1990 as the ACC/Taylor Fire Academy. This site is outside ACC's service area; however, the college received permission from Temple CC to develop the program in Taylor in response to local requests. The college created an MOU with the City of Taylor to jointly run a fire academy through the City of Taylor. In the early stages all funds for running the academy were handled by the City of Taylor except the payroll for instructors. The majority of the instructors were City of Taylor Firefighters who worked for ACC on their off time. We used Taylor Fire Department equipment and the TFD Fire Burn Facility in Taylor. The classes were taught in one of the TFD facilities.

Over time, with changes in the management of the City of Taylor and with program changes, the partnership evolved and ACC assumed a larger role in operating all aspects of the program. In 1995, we moved to our own leased space to teach lecture classes, store equipment, and maintain office space for faculty and staff, and we also developed a dorm to house cadets in the academy. As we purchased equipment and vehicles we added a large space for maintenance and storage. By 2000, the TFD burn facility no longer met our instructional needs, so the program began leasing time at the Pflugerville FD to perform the live fire burn labs. In 2006, the program began leasing time at Austin Fire Department's Training Facility for all live fire burns.

In 1998 ACC severed all ties with the City of Taylor and created the ACC Fire Academy. Since that time we have maintained our own leases, operating budgets, collection of revenues, etc. for the academy.

We currently have the following instructional spaces and leases:

- Lecture room, dormitory, fitness center, reference room, and faculty-staff offices. (8639 sq. ft.)
- Large equipment storage facility.
- Austin FD lease of Fire Burn facility.

A school bus is used to transport all cadets from Taylor to AFD Fire Burn facility for all fire burn laboratories. We also transport all of our equipment and vehicles for each laboratory class each semester. At present we have two pumper trucks, one school bus, two trucks, one van, and one large trailer used to haul all air packs and hoses.

## ACC Fire Academy Cost Overview - Ongoing Operations

### Projected Revenues:

#### Tuition:

	Credit Hours	Tuition per Credit Hour	Projected Number of Students	Sub-totals	Totals
In-district	26	54	30	42120	
Out-dist.	26	125	60	195000	

#### Lab Fee:

Number of Courses	Fee per course	Projected Number of Students	
7	90	90	56700

#### Fitness Fees:

Fee	Students	
125	90	11250

#### Contact Hour Reimbursement:

Hours	Reimburse- ment Rate per hour	Projected Number of Students	
608	3	90	<u>165802</u>

### **Total Projected Revenues**

470872

### Projected Costs:

Current Operating (1)		268000
Add'l Variable (2)	192120 x .5	96060
Current non-budget costs (3)		
Utilities	15000	15000
Lease (4)		<u>45000</u>

### **Total Projected Costs**

424060

Net Annual Revenue from Operations

46812 \*

(1) Current operating costs per FY04 budget.

(2) Additional estimated direct costs to add an additional night class

(3) Costs not currently included in operating budget.

(4) Lease cost includes space for buildings, use of firefield, and storage.

\* Revenue Positive Continuing Education and credit classes will also be offered in the expanded facilities. This amount is the estimated maximum operating cost of the Academy itself, without these additional revenues.