

Cyndie Martel

From: Paul Roesler <paul@kiplingcapital.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 6, 2025 5:20 PM
To: Mathew Salter; CouncilAll
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] [BULK] Keep Ross Safe: Save our Fire Station 🚒
Attachments: Paul J Roesler Letter in Opposition to Closure of Ross Fire Department.pdf

Dear Members of the Ross Town Council,

I am writing as a 26 year resident of Ross who is deeply concerned about the proposed closure of the Ross Fire Department. This decision jeopardizes the safety of our residents (importantly including our children at Ross School), the character of our town, homeowners' ability to get fire insurance in an already stressed insurance market, and the ability to respond quickly and effectively in times of crisis. I urge you to reconsider any actions that would dismantle this critical institution which has faithfully served our community for over a century.

The Town of Ross is unique, not only in its size and history but in the level of commitment its residents have to preserving the qualities that make it special. One of those qualities is the security and rapid emergency response provided by our local fire department. Transitioning fire services to an external provider will undoubtedly lead to longer response times, reduced emergency coverage, and a loss of direct oversight over an essential public safety function. In a town where every second counts in medical emergencies and fire suppression, we cannot afford this additional risk.

Furthermore, our fire department is more than an emergency response unit, it is an integral part of our community. Its firefighters are not just first responders; they are neighbors, educators, and public servants who understand the unique challenges and terrain of our town. Losing them would not only diminish emergency services but erode the trust and familiarity that has been built over generations.

While I understand that financial considerations may be driving this proposal, I strongly believe that alternative solutions must be explored before taking an irreversible step that compromises public safety. The long-term consequences of this decision far outweigh any short-term cost savings. If budget concerns are at the heart of this issue, I urge the Council to engage the community in seeking funding solutions, grants, donations or restructuring options that allow us to preserve our fire department without sacrificing our safety.

I ask that you, as our elected representatives, stand with the residents of Ross and reject this closure. The Ross Fire Department is not expendable; it is literally a lifeline for our town.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to your response and to participating in discussions that ensure the continued protection of our community.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Roesler

Ross Resident, 26 Years

Paul J. Roesler

Principal

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