

Memorandum of Understanding  
Between  
The City of Corvallis  
&  
The Corvallis Rural Fire Protection District  
January 1, 2026 – June 30, 2028

The purpose of this memorandum of understanding (MOU) is to establish a new stipend rate for Rural Resident Volunteers (RRVs) and how that stipend will be funded. As of January 1, 2026, the monthly stipend for RRVs will be as follows:

- RRV Firefighter\*                      \$300
- RRV Apparatus Operator            \$350
- RRV Crew Leader                      \$400

\*RRVs housed at either the Locke Station or Station 5 (no difference in stipend)

These dollar amounts remain under the “nominal” threshold as clarified by the U.S. Department of Labor, as it is less than 20% of what a career firefighter earns.

The total cost for the increased RRV stipend is fluid in nature due to the fact that there will be a variable number of Firefighters, Apparatus Operators, and Crew Leaders at any given time. The City is budgeting for four Crew Leaders, eight Apparatus Operators, and four Firefighters at a total cost of \$72,000 annually. Currently, the City budgets \$11,000 for all volunteer stipends. The District currently pays nothing specifically toward stipends.

Beginning January 1, 2026, the District would start paying additional monies towards the new RRV Stipend as outlined below:

- January 1, 2026                      \$25,000
- January 1, 2027                      \$50,000
- January 1, 2028                      \$50,000

The City will cover the remaining costs up to \$22,000 annually. The District will pay this additional RRV stipend contribution in addition to the current contract amount when the first contract installment is due in January of each contract year. Due to the variability of the volunteer program, there will be no reconciliation of stipends paid. The City is not requesting the CRFPD cover the full \$72,000, and is willing to cover the difference between the total actual and anticipated cost. If the City loses the ability to house 16 RRVs, or the City and the district choose to return to the 12 RRV model, we shall revise this agreement in a mutually acceptable direction. The City will maintain the current practice of paying stipends to qualifying volunteers in good standing and will be responsible for the payment process.

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Ben Janes  
City of Corvallis Fire Chief

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Heidi Hagler  
CRFPD Board President