

## **News Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Date: Jan. 31, 2011 Contact: Mattie Culver Phone: (281) 652-1625

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## KIRBY FIRE/EMS #5 NOW OPEN FOR PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES

Could Result in Lower Insurance Premiums for Nearby Property Homeowners.

The City of Pearland Fire Department recently initiated operation of Fire & EMS Station 5, located at 3100 Kirby Dr. This is the City's second shared Fire/EMS facility housing fire apparatus and EMS Mobile Intensive Care units. It is one of three fire stations with 24-hour combination paid and volunteer firefighter staffing.

While Station 5's primary impact is faster public safety response, another anticipated benefit will be a possible reduction in homeowner's insurance premiums for those living within the station's proximity. The Pearland Fire Department has an Insurance Service Office (ISO) Split Public Protection Classification (PPC) of 3/10.

The ISO PPC for a residential structure within the City of Pearland fire service area is figured by a simple test. If the structure is:

- Within the Pearland Fire Department service area, and
- Less than 5 miles from a City of Pearland Fire Station (as driven), and
- Less than 1000 feet from a fire hydrant (as driven)

then the ISO PPC is a 3. If any one of the three criteria is not met, the ISO PPC rating is most likely a 10. A classification of 3 versus 10 on a homeowner policy usually relates to a reduced premium.

All are invited to a public Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening event (currently in the planning stages) for Station 5. Please watch for event details, and plan to attend and take the facility tour.

For more information about the City of Pearland Fire or EMS departments, please visit the City website at cityofpearland.com, and follow the Department/Public Safety links. \*\*\* END \*\*\* (Please

see attached photo).

