

# Station 67 FAQs



**Q: Why is there a need for new fire stations within Orange County?**

**A:** A comprehensive study was completed in February 2015 by TriData, a nationally-recognized firm specializing in public safety research and consulting, to:

- Review current allocation of fire station locations;
- Assess current response capabilities;
- Forecast future demand for services; and
- Recommend changes to the current system.

The study found 15 new fire stations are needed to account for expected growth over the next 20 years, and travel times in the densely-populated area of northeast Orange County are the most problematic.

**Q: Which areas of Orange County were viewed as the most critical?**

**A:** The stations that need to be built are located in the following areas:

- East Orange County/UCF
- Avalon Park South Boulevard
- South Goldenrod Road and Lake Underhill Road

**Q: Why are these areas so critical?**

**A:** Key drivers demonstrating the critical need for increased public safety services in Orange County include:

- Emergency calls have increased by 23% over the last decade; emergency medical transports have increased by 183%.
- The population is expected to increase by 47% by 2040.
- Because of the materials used in modern home construction, fires burn hotter, spread more rapidly and cause more destruction without a timely Fire Rescue response.

**Q: Where will the first station be built?**

**A:** There are two County-owned sites being evaluated for the first planned fire station, Station 67. One is located at Dean Road and Winder Trail and the other at University Boulevard and Lake Twylo Road.

**Q: Is there a preferred site, and if so, why?**

**A:** Yes. The preferred site is the University Boulevard and Lake Twylo Road site. Due to environmental, drainage and other site preparation considerations, the site at Dean Road and Winder Trail is not currently suitable for construction.

**Q: If the station is built at University Boulevard and Lake Twylo Road, will I have fire trucks and traffic in my neighborhood accessing the station by way of Cherry Oak Circle?**

**A:** No. The access road on Cherry Oak Circle would not be used for access to Station 67. The only access would be from University Boulevard.

**Q: Will there be any noise added to the neighborhood and, if so, how would it be mitigated?**

**A:** With the exception of emergency response, fire stations are low-intensity and low-noise facilities. However, there are several strategies planned by Orange County Fire Rescue to mitigate noise concerns during emergency responses.

- Traffic signalization will be included so units would not need to activate their sirens to stop traffic when responding.
- A surrounding barrier wall and landscaping will be designed to buffer noise.
- Fire Rescue units will have sirens built into the bumpers in order to contain noise at the road level.
- Outside station speakers will be inward-facing and covered to direct communication within the station grounds.

**Q: What are the anticipated emergency response needs of the area that will be serviced by Station 67?**

**A:** The area to be serviced by Station 67 is anticipated to produce approximately 10 calls for service per day, with approximately eight of those calls requiring an emergency response to a businesses or residence.

**Q: How will the light created by the Station 67 be mitigated?**

**A:** We will employ the following mitigation strategies:

- Lighting will be designed so exterior light fixtures are hooded, with lights directed downward within the station grounds.
- Light sources will be shielded to prevent light intrusion outside the station boundary.
- All lighting will be of minimum necessary brightness consistent with safety standards.
- High-illumination areas not occupied on a continuous basis will have switches or motion detectors to light the area only when occupied.

**Q: If the station is not built at University Boulevard and Lake Twylo Road, what will happen to the parcel?**

**A:** The parcel has been deemed as surplus property by Orange County Utilities and may be sold to the highest bidder for an undetermined use that fits the buyer's interests.