

# News Release

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**Premier Mike Rann**  
&  
**Hon Michael Wright**  
Minister for Police  
Minister for Emergency Services

Saturday, 4 July 2009

## **\$3.9 MILLION FIRE STATION IN PARADISE OFFICIALLY OPENED**

A brand new state of the art Metropolitan Fire Service station will be officially opened at Paradise today.

Premier Mike Rann and Minister for Emergency Services, Michael Wright, will take an official tour of the complex at 57 Darley Road which is staffed by 22 full-time officers, 24 hours a day, 7-days a week to assist the community through prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.

“This is an impressive complex which will help instil a greater sense of safety and confidence for residents in the North Eastern suburbs, an area which continues to grow in popularity as an ideal location to live, work and raise families,” Premier Rann said.

“I have profound respect for the work of our professional and volunteer firefighters.”

Local members, who’ve been championing for the new station include Ms Lindsay Simmons MP, the member for Hartley, Ms Grace Portolesi MP, and the member for Newland, Mr Tom Kenyon MP, will also attend the opening ceremony this afternoon.

Emergency Services Minister, Michael Wright, said, “This impressive facility has been specifically designed to cater for future growth in the way of appliance numbers and size and can adequately accommodate all of the operational and training needs of MFS officers.”

Chief Officer of the MFS, Grant Lupton, said, “The new fire station is an additional fire station for South Australia, designed to enhance service delivery in the east and north eastern suburbs. It’s also staffed by a crew that is an addition to MFS resources.”

The expected life of the Paradise Fire Station building will be a minimum of fifty years.

The new building also incorporates the joint ambition of the Metropolitan Fire Service and the State Government in reducing its energy footprint via a number of initiatives;

- Photovoltaic solar panels providing 12 kilowatts of power installed and grid-connected, enabling any surplus power generated to be returned to the electricity network;
- Solar powered hot water system
- Water recycling initiatives including the use of rainwater for both garden irrigation and in toilets are incorporated into the building.

In 2002-03, payments to the Metropolitan Fire Service from the Community Emergency Services Fund totalled \$68.5 million. In 2009-10 the operating budget allocated is \$111.8 million.

“Since 2002, the Government has delivered three new replacement fire stations at Elizabeth, Golden Grove and Beulah Park while construction of other fire facilities is ongoing and pending right around South Australia.

“More state of the art facilities are currently being built at Seaford and Port Lincoln,” Minister Wright said.

The new Port Lincoln Fire Station will replace a facility, which opened in 1959. The \$5 million station is under construction and should be complete by early 2010.

Funding was also allocated in the 2007-08 State budget to construct, staff and equip a new fire station for the Southern Suburbs. It is expected that this \$4.5 million station will also be complete in early 2010.

The next station to receive a revamp will be at Glen Osmond. Design work to replace this station on its existing site has begun, but the timing of these works is subject to funding. It is expected that this project will cost \$5.3 million.

This Government is committed to investing continually in this vital infrastructure to provide our fire-fighters with the best possible resources and facilities they need, but also to ensure that South Australians feel they are safe and protected in the unfortunate event of a house, building or factory fire,” Minister Wright said.