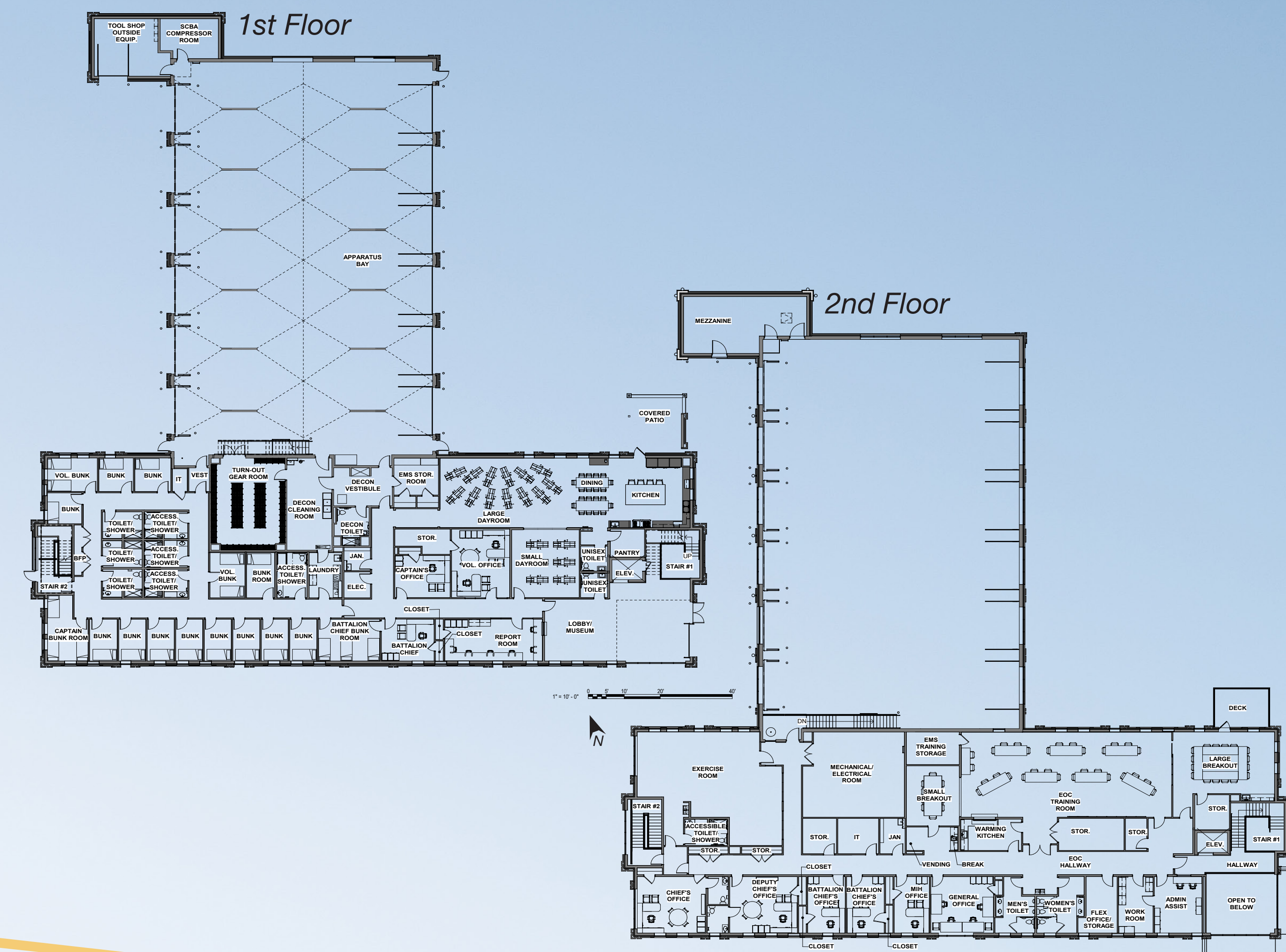


# WILLIAMSBURG FIRE STATION



CONSULTANTS & COLLABORATORS:  
Fire Agency:  
Williamsburg Fire Department  
Architect of Record:  
GuernseyTingle  
Public Safety Design Consultant:  
Stewart-Cooper-Newell Architects  
Design-Build Contractor:  
David Nice Builders  
Photographer:  
Yuzhu Zheng

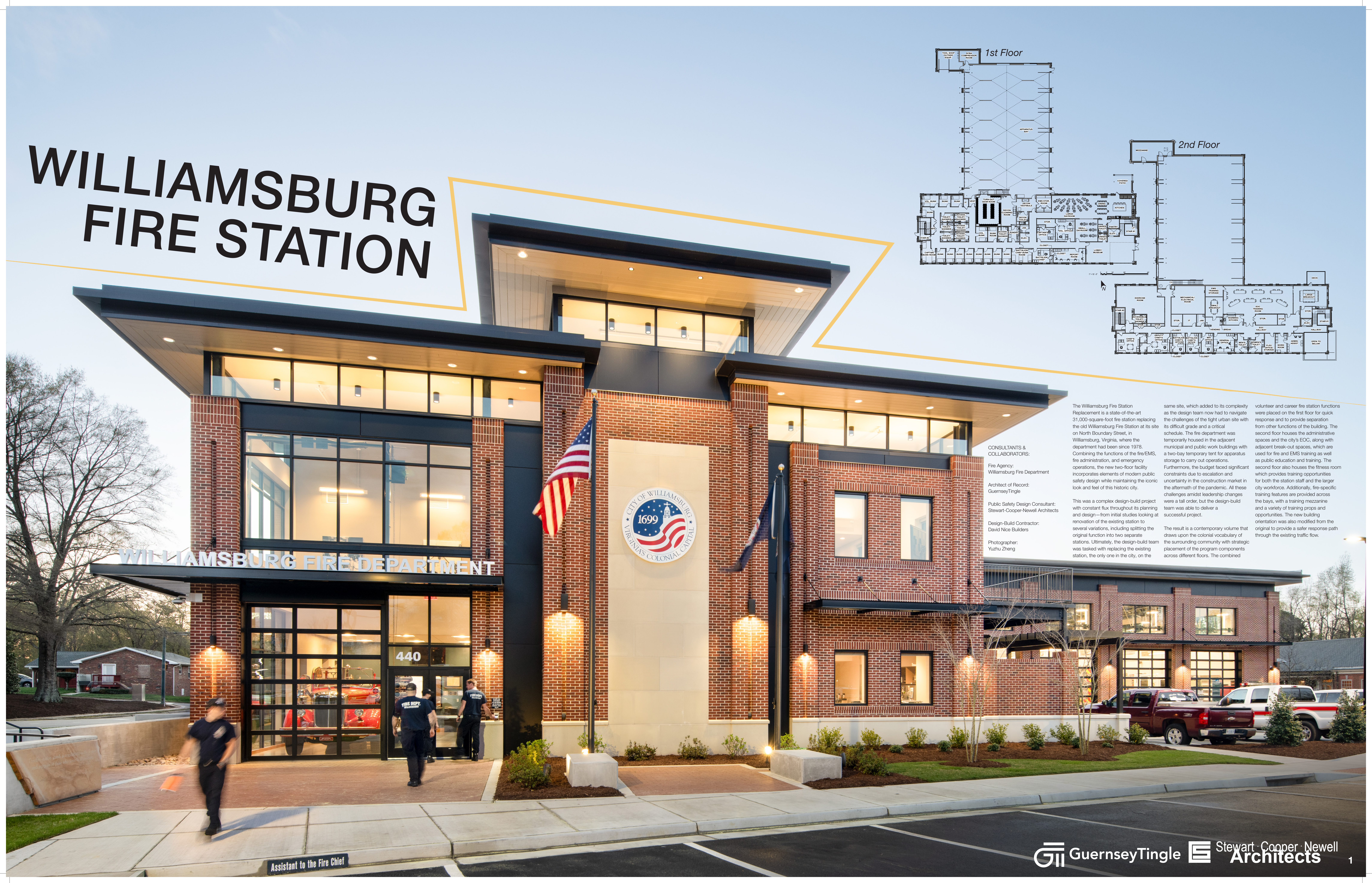
The Williamsburg Fire Station Replacement is a state-of-the-art 31,000-square-foot fire station replacing the old Williamsburg Fire Station at its site on North Boundary Street, in Williamsburg, Virginia, where the department had been since 1978. Combining the functions of the fire/EMS, fire administration, and emergency operations, the new two-floor facility incorporates elements of modern public safety design while maintaining the iconic look and feel of this historic city.

This was a complex design-build project with constant flux throughout its planning and design—from initial studies looking at renovation of the existing station to several variations, including splitting the original function into two separate stations. Ultimately, the design-build team was tasked with replacing the existing station, the only one in the city, on the

same site, which added to its complexity as the design team now had to navigate the challenges of the tight urban site with its difficult grade and a critical schedule. The fire department was temporarily housed in the adjacent municipal and public work buildings with a two-bay temporary tent for apparatus storage to carry out operations. Furthermore, the budget faced significant constraints due to escalation and uncertainty in the construction market in the aftermath of the pandemic. All these challenges amidst leadership changes were a tall order, but the design-build team was able to deliver a successful project.

The result is a contemporary volume that draws upon the colonial vocabulary of the surrounding community with strategic placement of the program components across different floors. The combined

volunteer and career fire station functions were placed on the first floor for quick response and to provide separation from other functions of the building. The second floor houses the administrative spaces and the city's EOC, along with adjacent break-out spaces, which are used for fire and EMS training as well as public education and training. The second floor also houses the fitness room which provides training opportunities for both the station staff and the larger city workforce. Additionally, fire-specific training features are provided across the bays, with a training mezzanine and a variety of training props and opportunities. The new building orientation was also modified from the original to provide a safer response path through the existing traffic flow.



Assistant to the Fire Chief



