



# River Delta Fire District

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## **News Release – River Delta Fire Protection District**

**For Immediate Release      Date: October 1, 2020**

**Contacts: Fire Chief, Paul J. Cutino**

**Subject: New Rescue Equipment will Save Lives on Rural Highways**

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The River Delta Fire District has received a grant from the State of California Office of Traffic Safety for emergency medical service vehicle extrication equipment. The grant valued at \$37,000 will help reduce vehicle crash extrication times and improve patient survivability.

The resulting reduction in vehicle crash extrication times and improvements to patient survivability rates will be achieved by having more modern and effective equipment immediately at hand for vehicle crashes and difficult rescues.

“Our aging extrication equipment made purchasing new equipment critical. With this grant, we are replacing a 25-year-old set of extrication tools with new, state-of-the-art equipment that will allow us to work faster, safer and more efficiently when extricating victims from vehicle accidents,” said Paul Cutino, Fire Chief of the River Delta Fire District and author of the grant request. “This is a fantastic opportunity provided by the State of California Office of Traffic Safety and we thank them for this grant.”

“The new extrication equipment that we plan to put into service early next year will be a dramatic improvement over our existing equipment. It will be easier to deploy and be more effective at accident scenes.”

The grant will fund the purchase of one complete set of state-of-the-art Hurst eDraulic® auto extrication tools, including cutter, spreader, rams and battery powered accessories that will be placed on Engine 94. This lighter and more effective equipment is expected to be placed in service in early 2021.

Chief Cutino added, “These kinds of partnerships between California’s agencies help maintain the levels of responses so needed in our state’s rural areas.”

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