



## **River Delta Fire District**

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

**For Immediate Release      Date: November 27, 2023**

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

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

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The California Office of Traffic Safety awarded River Delta Fire District with a grant for auto extrication equipment, which includes state-of-the-art equipment such as a cutter and spreader, totaling \$29,850. This new equipment will enable us to replace an obsolete 30-year-old set of auto extrication tools with new modern tools. Firefighters will operate lighter and more efficient equipment safely. River Delta Firefighters and our Board of Directors are incredibly grateful to have been a recipient in the highly competitive grant process.

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 an older 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 collisions,” 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 grant will fund the purchase of one complete set of state-of-the-art Hurst eDraulic® auto extrication tools, including cutter and spreader with 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 2024.

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.”

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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