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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JANUARY 30th DELIVERY FOR FINAL FOUR FIRST RESPONDER HOUSES FOR THE NORTH BLAINE COUNTY GREENHORN FIRE STATION

North Blaine County Fire District Chair Jed Gray is pleased to announce that the last four of the Greenhorn first responder housing units were delivered on January 30th, 2024, to the Fire Station located at Highway 75 at East Fork Road.

"There are a lot of final four play-offs this month, but for the North Blaine County Fire District, the final four means that we finally have all eight of our new 870 sf single family first responder homes at the Greenhorn Station. Our construction site will now be open for residents, and first responders will start moving-in starting in February 2024," Gray said. "We couldn't have accomplished this without the support of our partner, the City of Sun Valley, and contributions from so many, including Blaine County, private foundations, and numerous individuals."

The North Blaine County Fire District broke ground at the Greenhorn site in June 2023 for the housing units on 2.4 acres of land leased from the Idaho Transportation Department, and the eight new units are forecast to meet the Fire District's housing needs for at least the next 10 years.

The housing project was the District's highest priority. The Wood River Valley's housing crisis has put quick response times at risk by forcing firefighters and paramedics to seek affordable housing further and further to the south. The ability to hire and retain the number of professionals needed as retirements occur and the community's population grows has also been severely compromised by the lack of viable options for stable and affordable housing. "It is critical that our first responders live close by in order to be there quickly when we need them," said Gray.

The estimated total cost of the project is \$3.2 million. The Fire District is currently seeking donations to reduce the total debt needed to finance the purchase and install the homes and landscape the site. The more funds that are raised, the lower the rents will be for the first responders who will live there.

Donations may be sent to Spur Community Foundation, Attn: Greenhorn Fire Station Housing Fund, PO Box 6184, Ketchum, ID 83340, or made by credit card or ACH wire on Spur's website www.spurfoundation.org and clicking "donate to a fund," or by public securities by calling Spur at 208-750-2600.

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