



EL PASO COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES AGENCY

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El Paso County Emergency Services Agency Recognizes Councilwoman Margaret Radford for Board Service

Colorado Springs, April 6, 2009 – At its April 1 meeting, the El Paso County Emergency Services Agency (ESA) adopted a resolution expressing appreciation for City Councilwoman Margaret Radford’s years of distinguished service on the ESA Board—representing the City of Colorado Springs from July 2006 through April 21, 2009, when her City Council term ends. Radford served as the ESA’s Vice Chair and as Chair of ESA’s first Grant Committee following the Board’s restructuring in 2006.

During her tenure, Radford played a key role in the restructuring of the ESA Board to better represent the citizens of the City of Colorado Springs and El Paso County. She contributed many hours of service in the development of a ground-breaking new contract with American Medical Response (AMR), which provides citizens with top-quality emergency medical transport, improved response times and additional community benefits. The new ESA contract with AMR took effect January 1, and was the result of an extensive Request for Proposals (RFP) process and subsequent negotiations over an extended period of time.

At the April 1 meeting, El Paso County Fire Marshal and ESA Board Chair Jim Reid said, “Councilwoman Radford has brought great passion to her work on the Board, and her departure is a loss for us.” ESA Board Member and El Paso County Commissioner Sallie Clark expressed her appreciation for Radford’s many contributions, “When we restructured the Board it was a tumultuous time, and some were critical about how we were moving forward. Councilwoman Radford made sure that the changes we made resulted in a first-rate emergency response system for our citizens. While she will no longer be an elected official, she remains a community leader in my eyes.”

Councilwoman Radford, in turn, thanked her fellow Board members for the opportunity to serve with them. “I’m proud of how this Board has grown, with a committee structure that facilitates the work of the Board and provides an outlet for agreement and disagreement,” Radford stated. “We now have a better contract than any community in the country. I have high hopes for ESA, AMR and their continued partnership, and I am proud to have been part of this important collaboration.” Radford was elected to the Colorado Springs City Council in 2001 and re-elected in 2005.

The ESA is an 11-member volunteer board made up of elected officials from El Paso County and the City of Colorado Springs, EMS and emergency management professionals, and citizens. Its mission is to ensure coordinated, effective and efficient emergency management systems, including the provision of ground emergency ambulance services under contract with a private ambulance provider in El Paso County.

Media Note: See attached photo for ESA representatives present at the April 1 meeting. (Pictured from L to R) Dan Molner, LCSW; Commissioner Sallie Clark; Kandi Buckland; Jane Fredman; T. Wayne Florek; Dr. Marilyn Gifford; Councilwoman Margaret Radford; Dr. Jack Sharon; Commander Jim Reid; Brandon Payne, EMT-P; Ted Sayer.