

Insurance Services Office:

The Insurance Services Office (ISO) is a member of the Verisk Insurance Solutions group at Verisk Analytics and, since 1971, ISO has been a leading source of information about property/casualty insurance risk; specifically the collection and evaluation of information from communities in the United States on their structure fire suppression capabilities. This data is evaluated using a proprietary Fire Suppression Rating Schedule and then a Public Protection Classification is assigned to the community.

Our Public Protection Classification was determined after evaluation of the abilities of the SLPD Communications Center to quickly and efficiently answer, evaluate, process and dispatch Fire Department apparatus, the Public Works Department to provide adequate, sustainable water flows for use by the Fire Department and finally, the ability of the Fire Department to quickly extinguish structure fires. This evaluation and Public Protection Classification "grade" is used by the insurance industry to correlate our community's abilities to quickly identify, dispatch, respond and extinguish structure fires.

The ISO grading system ranges from 1 to 10, 1 being the best possible combination of communications, water infrastructure and a well-equipped, located and trained Fire Department to a 10 which does not meet the ISO's minimum criteria for a Fire Department.

The previous ISO Classification for the city of San Luis was 4/9. The reason for the "split rating" is because there are areas of the City of San Luis, with structures built upon them and therefore at risk to fire damages, that outside of the ISO desired proximate location (1.5 miles) to our fire stations.

The new Public Protection Classification for the City of San Luis is 3/3X. Their classification format has changed but both numbers in this Classification indicate that our community faces a reduced risk to devastating life and property losses and the combined elements evaluated which provide timely and efficient fire suppression services is something that the community, and this and previous Councils, can point to with pride; investments in the infrastructure are improving the quality of life, safety and security in the City of San Luis.

To close, the City of San Luis Fire Department has contacted and is working with ISO to improve this rating. SLFD is less than 2.5 points (a scale of 100) away from a Classification of a 2/2X, essentially we have a C+++, almost a B. Most of the deficiencies are related to documentation of activities (inspections, training, public education presentations) and our ability to retrieve and present it in a timely manner.