

CITY OF VENTURA

FIRE DEPARTMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

Incident Number: 17-0059752

Information Contact: Tony Hill, Battalion Chief, 805-339-4300

Incident Type: Natural Gas Pipeline Break

Date/Time of Incident: July 20, 2017 / 10:03 AM

Incident Location: 2600 Block of N. Ventura Avenue

Cause: Heavy Equipment

Injuries: None

Fire Equipment: 2 Engine Companies, 1 Support, 1 Command

Total Fire Personnel: 10

Agencies Involved: Ventura City Fire Department, Ventura County Fire Department, Ventura Police

Narrative: On the above date and time Ventura City Fire was dispatched to a report of a large natural gas leak in the area of Ventura Ave. and Seneca St. The first arriving engine company discovered a large leak in an underground natural gas distribution line caused when a backhoe digging in the area hit the pipeline. The 50 psi distribution pipeline was discharging natural gas into the surrounding area which triggered an evacuation of 4 staff members from Head Start school. Additional building occupants outside of 100' radius were sheltered in place.

Fire Crews worked with Gas company employees providing firefighting foam that suppressed ignition sources while they worked to repair the damage pipe. The leak was controlled after 3 hours. No injuries were reported as a result of this incident.

(Photos next page)



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