

FAIRFIELD FIRE

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



**JESSICA
FLESHMAN**
FIRST FEMALE
BATTALION CHIEF
AND GUNNER



EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Fire Officer of the Year

- Fire Marshal Steven Conti

Firefighter of the Year

- Engineer Bryan Mihelich

General Employee of the Year

- Inspector Tyler Hays

First Alarm Award

- Dispatcher Maegan Quatman

Reserve Firefighter of the Year

- Reserve Firefighter Steven Page

Explorer of the Year

- Explorer George Bostock

Volunteer Recognition

- Bill Smith

Community Partner Recognition

- Jody & Jeff Anselmo

Retirements

- Fire Chief Tony Velasquez
- Fire Captain Warren Ducioame
- Firefighter/Paramedic Bobby Weist

Promotions

- Fire Chief Matt Luckenbach
- Deputy Fire Chief Robb Herrick
- Battalion Chief Jessica Fleshman
- Fire Captain Donny Biro
- Fire Captain Lorin Adams
- Fire Engineer Rex Dorrrough
- Fire Engineer Cory Stinnett
- Administration Division Manager Taylor Armour
- Administrative Technician II Anjurle Duchaussee



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

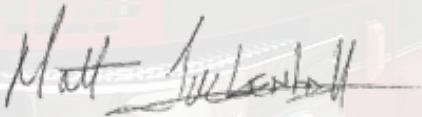
It is my honor to present to you, the Fairfield Fire Department's 2021 Annual Report. 2021 proved to be a continuation of 2020, with COVID-19 dominating our time and creating new operational challenges.

The Fairfield Fire Department provided untold hours of emergency management support to the City by serving as the liaison to Solano's Public Health Officer, providing COVID-19 testing and vaccinations, and assisting with the development and enforcement of the COVID-19 guidelines. All the while, we responded to multiple statewide wildfires in what was yet another record-breaking year and shattered our own record for 9-1-1 calls with over 15,000 responses. The Fire Prevention Bureau continued its mission of preventing fires and emergencies through thousands of business inspections, plan reviews, public education, and code enforcement, while our fire administration team kept the department together with their thankless work behind the scenes.

Our department witnessed a change in command when longtime Fire Chief Tony Velasquez announced his retirement after more than 30 years in the fire service, resulting in several internal members moving into new and challenging roles.

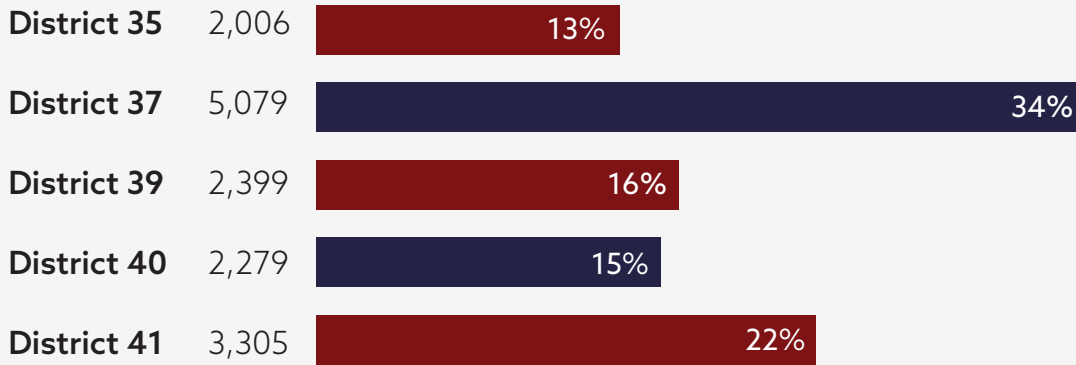
As we look ahead to 2022, we are excited to complete our department master plan, which will serve as a road map to support our vision for increased staffing, capital improvements, and advancements in fire prevention as we address the challenges of increased exposure to the rigors of this profession.

Respectfully,



AT A GLANCE

9-1-1 CALLS BY DISTRICT



CALLS BY INCIDENT TYPE



10,596

Medical emergencies, vehicle crashes, and rescues



607

Structure fires, vehicle fires, and vegetation fires



824

Malicious and unintentional transmission of alarm as well as malfunctions



106

Combustible/flammable spills and leaks, power line down, electrical hazard, and natural gas leak



2,935

Public service, good intent, calls cancelled enroute, etc

15,068

2021 CALL VOLUME

41.3

AVERAGE RESPONSES PER DAY

POPULATION

Fairfield - 118,498

Solano County - 453,397

LAND AREA

Fairfield - 40 sq mi

Solano County - 909 sq mi

JURISDICTION

Agriculture - 4%

Commercial - 30%

Residential - 66%

ISO RATING

Class 2

ASSESSED PROPERTY VALUE

City of Fairfield - \$16.45 Billion

IN SERVICE

5 Stations

5 Engine Companies

1 Truck Company

1 Battalion Chief

STAFFING

3 Shifts

18/Day/Shift

STAFFING RATIO

Averaged (1) company for every 19,750 residents

BUSIEST MONTH

August - 1,364 Calls for Service



DEPARTMENT FRAMEWORK

VISION

With a commitment to exceptional customer service, our vision is to be a progressive fire department in pursuit of a safer community. We aspire to have a highly trained, well-equipped workforce that is prepared to respond to all current and future needs of those we serve.

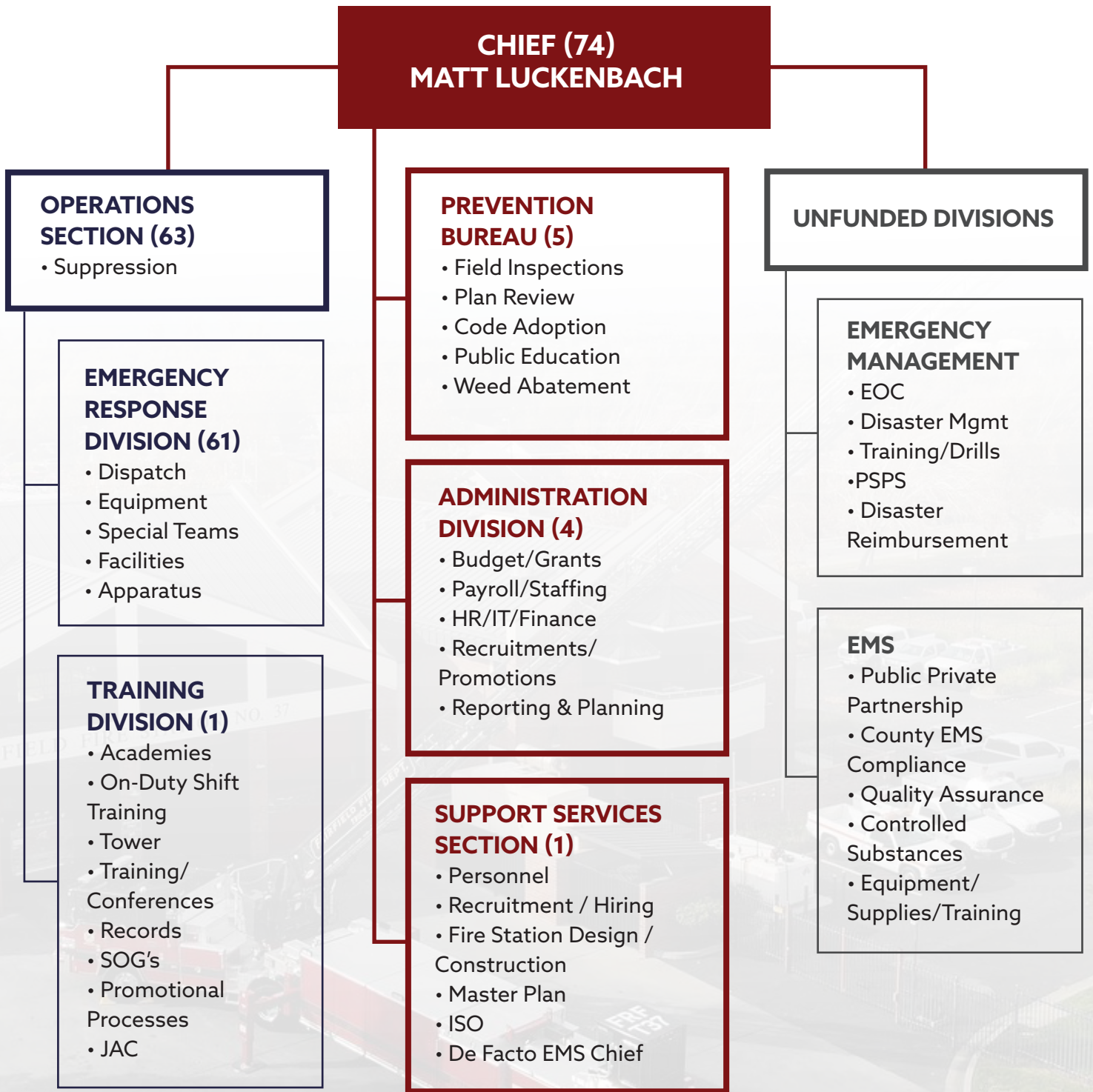
MISSION

To provide quality emergency services by highly trained and motivated professionals.



STATION 37 RESPONSE

On average, Station 37 units ran 14 calls per day in 2021 and has a reputation as the busiest station in Solano County



EMS RESPONSE

On average, we ran 29 medical calls per day in 2021- a 16% increase over 2020

FIREFIGHTER WELLNESS

LIFE SCAN MEDICALS

- Completed 2nd year with robust annual wellness program
- NFPA 1582 compliant and tailored to occupational health in fire service
- Emphasis on early detection and prevention – cardiopulmonary & cancer

PEER SUPPORT / CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS MANAGEMENT (CISM)

- Comprehensive options to support variety of issues that our personnel face
- Started canine program – Happy 1st Birthday “Gunner”!
- Gunner is currently a student at the California Service Dog Academy
- Welcomed new Fire Chaplain Louis Ruffin



CANCER PREVENTION

- Increased awareness of job-related cancers and ways to mitigate exposure
- Complementary to existing wellness/fitness programs
- On scene decontamination procedures became integrated into operations
- Identified need for clean air filtration systems on all 1st out unit cabs

Injuries on Duty (IOD)	2021	2020	2019	2020 (+/-)	2019 (+/-)
Total Hours	10,466	3,517	458	198%	2185%
Injury Count	18	27	18	-33%	0.00%
Average Hours per Injury	581	130	25	346%	2185%

In 2021 we averaged 41 calls per day across six companies. FFD has experienced a dramatic increase in hours recorded for IOD, but not in the number of instances/employees. Likely a function of compounding fatigue, IODs over the last three years have been more significant and required longer recovery. Fire response in the same period, arguably the most taxing and dangerous response type, increased by **26%**.



ON THE FRONTLINES

In 2021 the number of incidents increased by **9%** while anticipated reimbursements exceed **29%** over prior year.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC - YEAR 2

- Broke **10,000** medical calls for service in 2021
- Personnel deployed for 'medical surge assistance' at hospitals across CA

2021 Out-of-County Assignments	# of Incidents	Hours Committed	Reimbursement
COVID-19 Surge Assistance	5	2,131	\$210,988
Out-of-County Mutual Aid - Fire	7	3,228	\$988,970
GRAND TOTAL	12	5,359	\$1,199,958

WILDLAND SEASON

- Extended fire season amidst continued CA drought is new normal
- CA experienced another record-breaking wildfire season in 2021



TRENDING



9.3%

**INCREASE IN CALL
VOLUME OVER PRIOR
YEAR**



70%

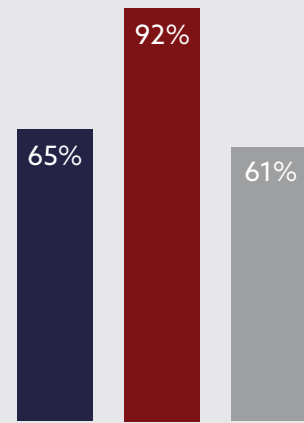
**OF ALL INCIDENTS WERE
MEDICAL-RELATED**



100%

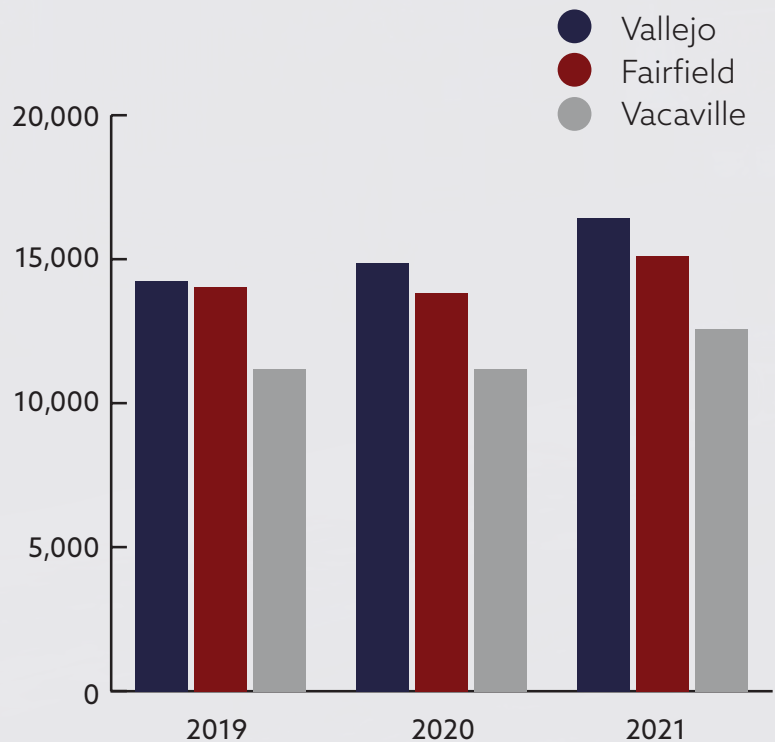
**OF FAIRFIELD
FIREFIGHTERS ARE
LICENSED PARAMEDICS**

LAST DECADE % INCREASE



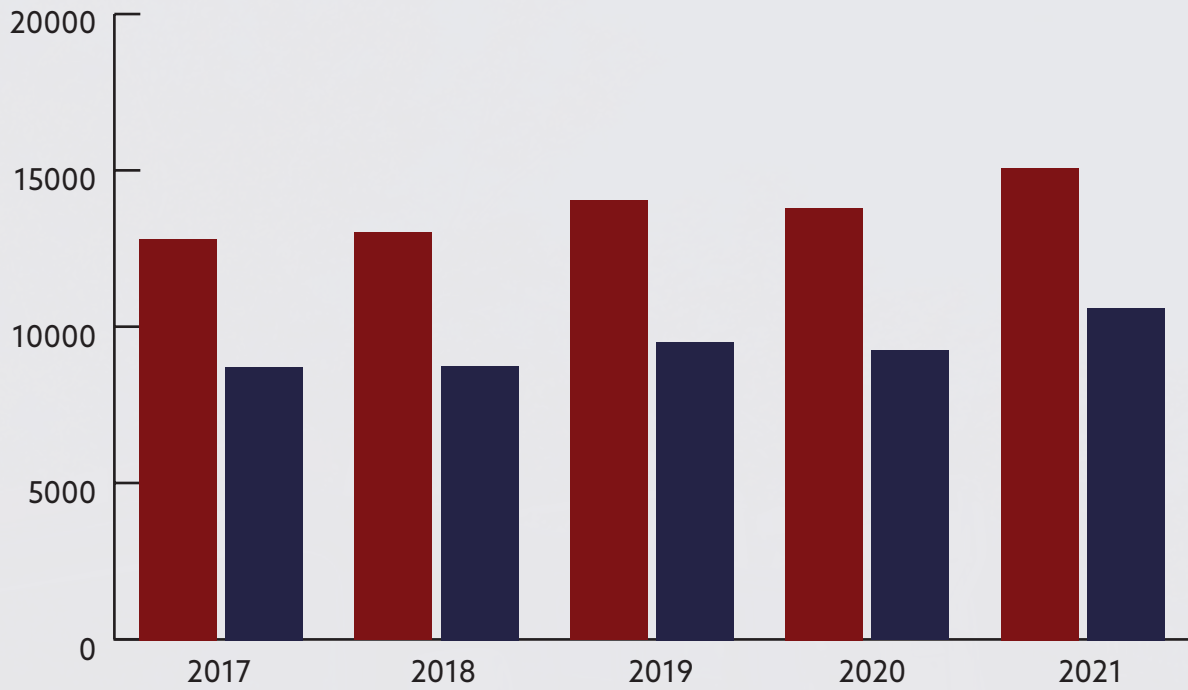
- Calls for Service
- Fire
- EMS

COMPARABLE CITIES



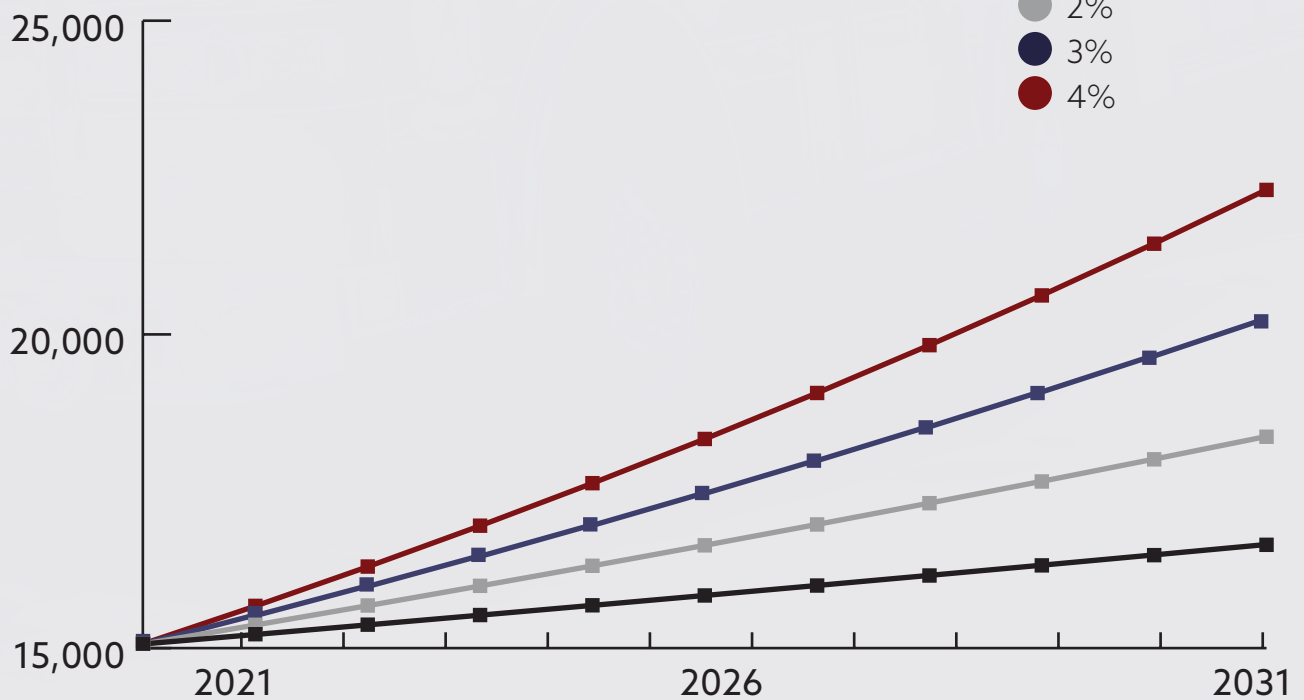
TREND LINES

- Total Response
- EMS



10 YEAR CALL VOLUME PROJECTIONS BY ANNUAL % INCREASE

- 1%
- 2%
- 3%
- 4%





MINIMUM DAILY STAFFING

Year	Calls for Service	Min Daily Staffing
2001	7,483	15
2009	9,137	15
2017	12,794	18
2021	15,068	18

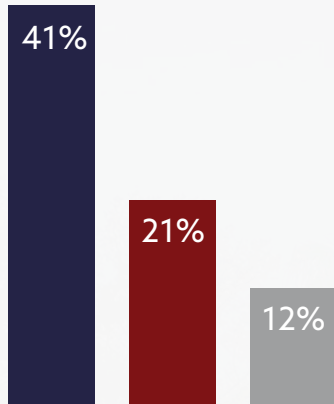
EMS CALLS



OVER A 20 YEAR PERIOD, CALL VOLUME MORE THAN DOUBLED, WHILE STAFFING INCREASED BY ONLY 20%.

FISCAL COMPARISON

GENERAL FUND EXPENSES BY DEPARTMENT

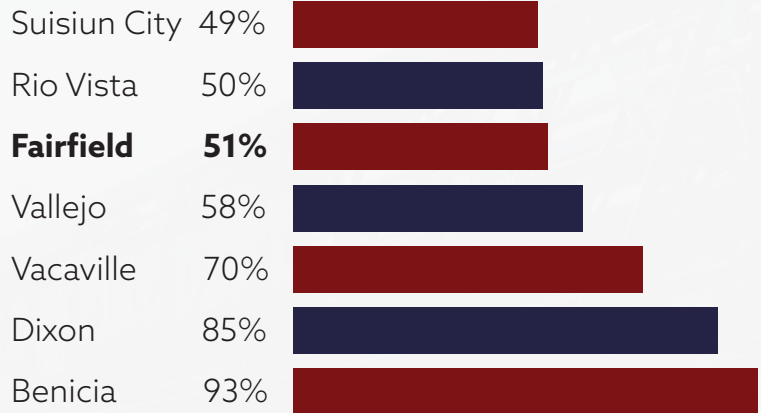


Departments

- Police
- Fire
- Public Works

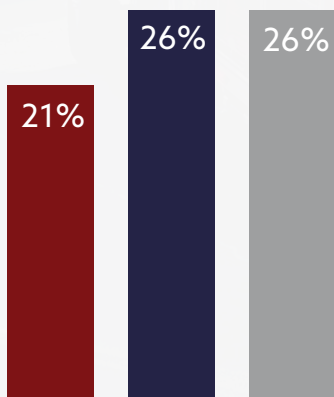
SOLANO COUNTY CITY FIRE DEPARTMENTS

FIRE AS % OF POLICE BUDGET



**Fairfield Fire's budget is slightly more than 1/2 of the Police Department's budget*

FIRE BUDGET AS % OF GENERAL FUND



Fire Department

- Fairfield
- Vacaville
- Vallejo

FY 21/22 BUDGET VS CALL VOLUME (IN MILLIONS)

DEPT	BUDGET	CALL VOLUME
Fairfield	\$25.5M	■
Vallejo	\$31.2M	■
Vacaville	\$31.6M	■

9-1-1 Responses in 2021

- 15,068
- 16,397
- 12,552

TOP 5 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Fairfield Fire continues to be among the busiest departments in the region. Despite the challenge of keeping pace with our rapidly growing City, we continue to make strides toward enhancing service levels in our community.



1. STAFFING ADDITIONS

- (4) Firefighter/Paramedics
- Fire Inspector I/II
- Administrative Technician II



2. SAFER GRANT

- \$3.3M to hire (5) additional full-time Firefighter/Paramedics
- Three-year commitment with no matching requirement
- Supports increased minimum staffing and deployment of 7th company
- 2nd time in five years to receive an award that augments response



3. FLEET ENHANCEMENTS

- Ordered (3) Type I Fire Engines - (2) Replacements/(1) New – Station 36
- Ordered (1) New Type V wildland unit – Station 36
- Ordered (3) Multipurpose Vehicles (Training / Incident Mobility / Hauling)



4. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- Leadership role coordinating COVID-19 efforts Citywide
- Developed Emergency Plan (adopted March 2022)
- Executed Tabletop Exercise



5. INSURANCE SERVICES OFFICE (ISO) EVALUATION

- Completed 'out of cycle' ISO evaluation in 2020
- Improved ISO rating – upgraded from 3 to 2 (spring 2021)

PREVENTION CORNER

1,431

Total Annual Fire & Life Safety Inspections for 2021

251%

Annual Fire & Life Safety Inspection Increase Over 2020

> 3,000

Violations Noted for 2021

25%

Construction Inspection & Project Review Increase Over 2020

1,674

Total Inspections for 2021

CONSTRUCTION INSPECTIONS

Underground Fire Service Mains	48
Fire Sprinkler Systems	100
Hood/Duct Systems & Spray Booths	10
Fire Alarm Systems	85
TOTAL	243

PROJECT REVIEW

Building Plans Reviewed	242
Fire Sprinkler Systems	50
Hood/Duct Systems & Spray Booths	5
Fire Alarm Systems	46
Planning & Public Works Reviews	100
TOTAL	443

WEED ABATEMENT

Properties Inspected	300
Notices to Abate	405
2nd Notices to Abate	15
Properties Abated by City	216



WELCOME FIRE INSPECTOR I, VICTOR DANIEL

Victor joined us most recently from the City of Stockton Fire Department where he was a fire inspector for two years. Before that, Victor served 10 years with the Nevada Department of Corrections as a correctional officer, sergeant, and criminal investigator.



“
When it comes to life saving awards, firefighters typically shy away from them. This is our job, it's what we do, it's what we get paid to do. But it is important to acknowledge that heroic actions were taken by many of our department members that night.

- John Sturdee
Deputy Fire Chief

LNU Lightning Complex Fire

Deputy Chief John Sturdee
Captain Doyle Peebles
Engineer Casey Morse
Firefighter/Paramedic Luke Cox

On Thursday, June 17th, 2021, Firefighter / Paramedic Ryan Hughes suffered a cardiac arrest event while working on a structure fire on the 500 block of Arkansas Street. Due to quick actions on scene by Ryan's fellow Fairfield firefighters and Medic Ambulance Personnel, he was given the best possible chance of survival.

After being transported to North Bay Hospital, emergency room doctors and staff were successfully able to resuscitate him. Thanks to the quick actions of Ryan's friends and medical staff, he regained consciousness a few days later.

Hughes Emergency

Deputy Chief John Sturdee
Battalion Chief Andy Cranston
Battalion Chief Nick Eisan
Captain Jerry Pagala
Captain Doyle Peebles
Engineer Bryan Mihelich
Engineer Casey Morse
Firefighter/Paramedic Daniel Pilcher

GOALS

MAJOR INITIATIVES



Strategy

- Complete master plan study
 - Develop road map for the future of the organization
 - Address staffing and operational deficiencies across all divisions
- Begin EMS optimization study
 - Prepare for 2025 RFP tied to the Public Private Partnership (PPP)



Staffing

- Deploy 7th Company – Engine 36 (June 2022)
- Additional administrative support
- Dedicated Emergency Manager



Facilities

- Station 35 – Renovation (by Q3 2022)
- Station 36 – Addition (ground break Q2 2023)
- Station 39 – Replacement (temporary by Q3 2022)
- Station 40 – Rehabilitation (by Q3 2022)
- Station Alerting – begin implementation project



Fleet

- Receive new apparatus to accommodate 7th Company
- Receive (2) replacement Type I Fire Engines
- Order (2) replacement Type V units– ideal for wildland assignments



Fairfield Fire Department

1200 Kentucky Street

Fairfield CA 94534

www.fairfield.ca.gov/fire



FOLLOW US:

