

CITY OF ANN ARBOR FIRE DEPARTMENT



ANNUAL REPORT



[A2GOV.ORG/FIRE](https://a2gov.org/fire)

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

MESSAGE FROM FIRE CHIEF MIKE KENNEDY



It is my pleasure to present our 2022 Annual Report. Calendar year 2022 was an exciting year of several firsts. The celebration of several new initiatives is remarkable for an organization that was established in 1889. We are grateful for the support from Mayor Taylor, City Council, City Administrator Milton Dohoney, Jr., Deputy City Administrator John Fournier, City Service Area Administrators, and various other City personnel. The Ann Arbor Fire Department is comprised of outstanding fire officers, firefighters, and personnel who work continuously to deliver outstanding service to the residents and visitors of the City of Ann Arbor.

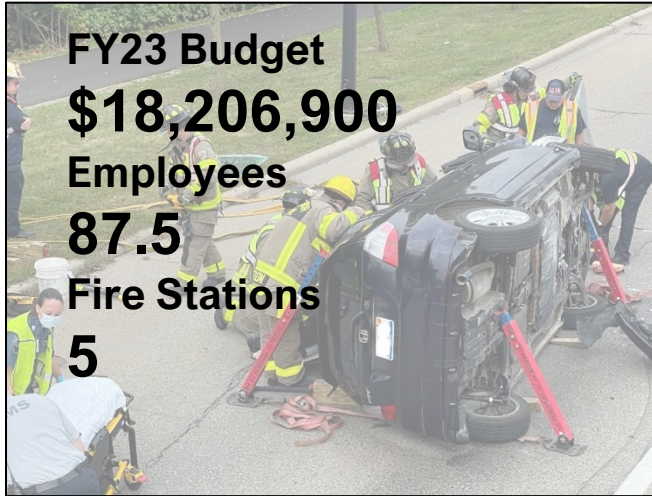
I am honored to serve as your fire chief and look forward to continued progress in 2023.

2022 HIGHLIGHTS

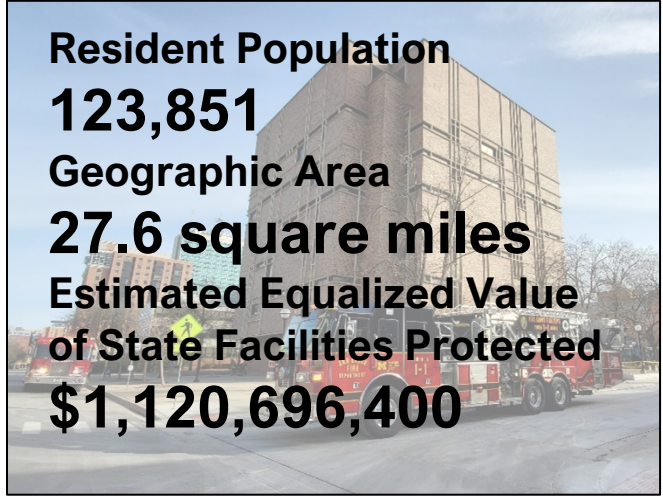
- Initiated trial basic-life support transport program with Huron Valley Ambulance (HVA). Firefighters staffed an HVA ambulance to ensure transport capability when HVA has no units available. The first ever ambulance in the history of AAFD was purchased with expected in-service date of first quarter 2023.
- Fire recruit program started with the hiring of two fire recruits. One recruit successfully completed the program and transitioned to a firefighter position. Two additional recruits started in January 2023.
- Major construction completed on a significant renovation of Fire Station 1, which includes: new administrative and prevention offices, training room, dormitory, fire alarm and suppression system, and city clerk space.
- Held inaugural Blaze and Blue Camp with the Ann Arbor Police Department to foster interest among young women in a public safety career. Thirteen participants attended a four-day camp.
- Design and engineering progressing for new Fire Station 4. Public engagement component completed for partial use of Scheffler Park. The site plan was approved by the Planning Commission in January 2023.
- Completion of 2022 Hazard Mitigation Plan by Stantec, which was adopted by City Council and approved by both the State of Michigan and FEMA.
- Partnered with Ann Arbor Public Schools (AAPS) to complete active assailant tabletop exercise with City and AAPS leadership.
- Completed 5-year functional exercise for Barton Dam preparedness.

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BY THE NUMBERS

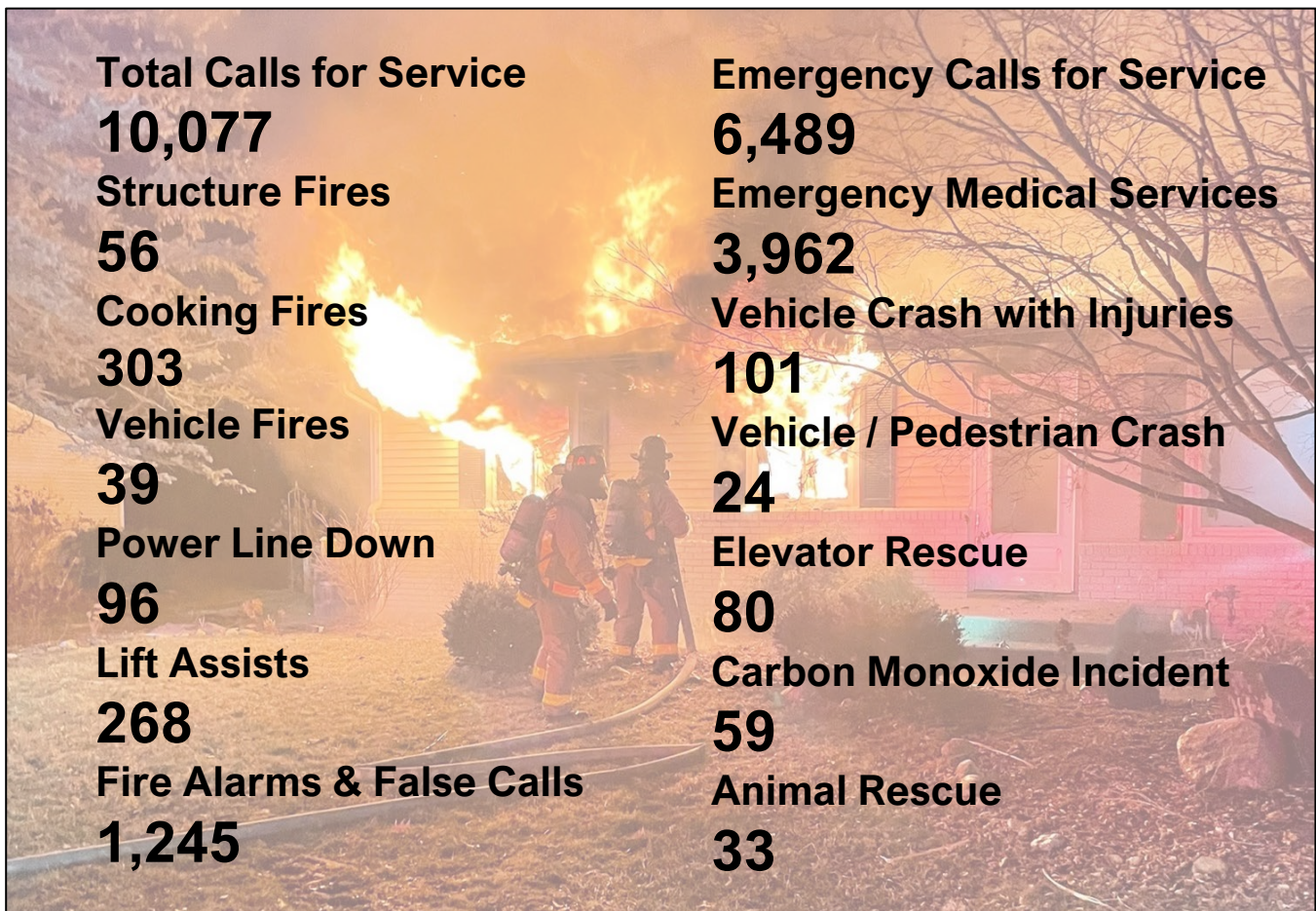


FY23 Budget
\$18,206,900
Employees
87.5
Fire Stations
5



Resident Population
123,851
Geographic Area
27.6 square miles
Estimated Equalized Value
of State Facilities Protected
\$1,120,696,400

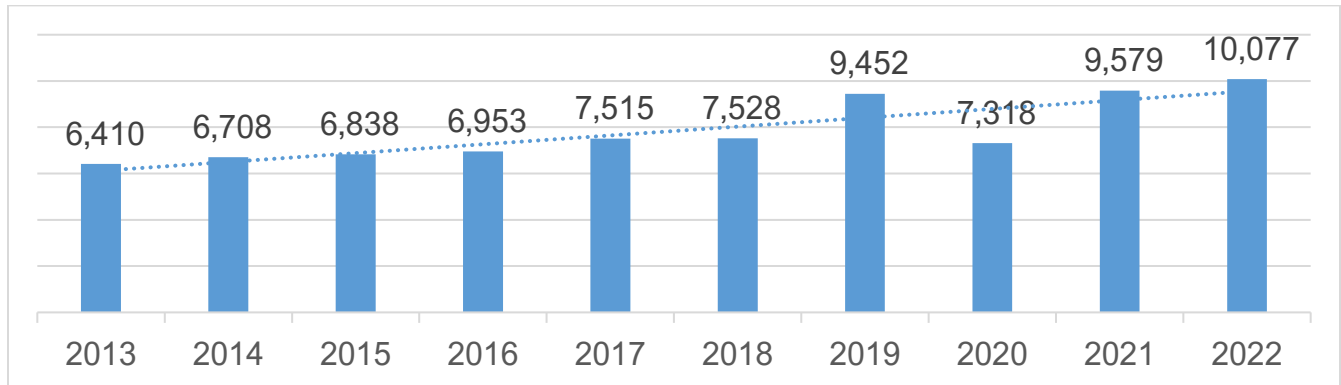
CALLS FOR SERVICE



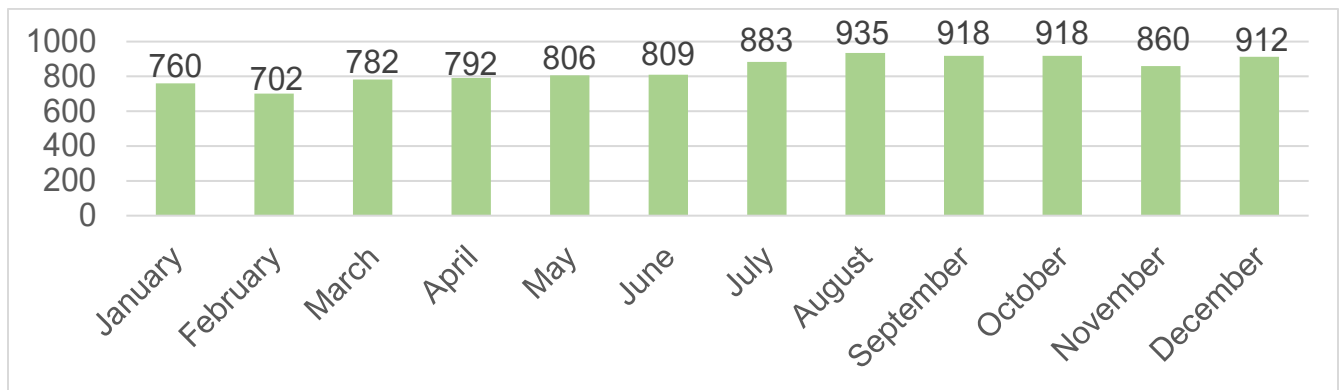
Total Calls for Service	Emergency Calls for Service
10,077	6,489
Structure Fires	Emergency Medical Services
56	3,962
Cooking Fires	Vehicle Crash with Injuries
303	101
Vehicle Fires	Vehicle / Pedestrian Crash
39	24
Power Line Down	Elevator Rescue
96	80
Lift Assists	Carbon Monoxide Incident
268	59
Fire Alarms & False Calls	Animal Rescue
1,245	33

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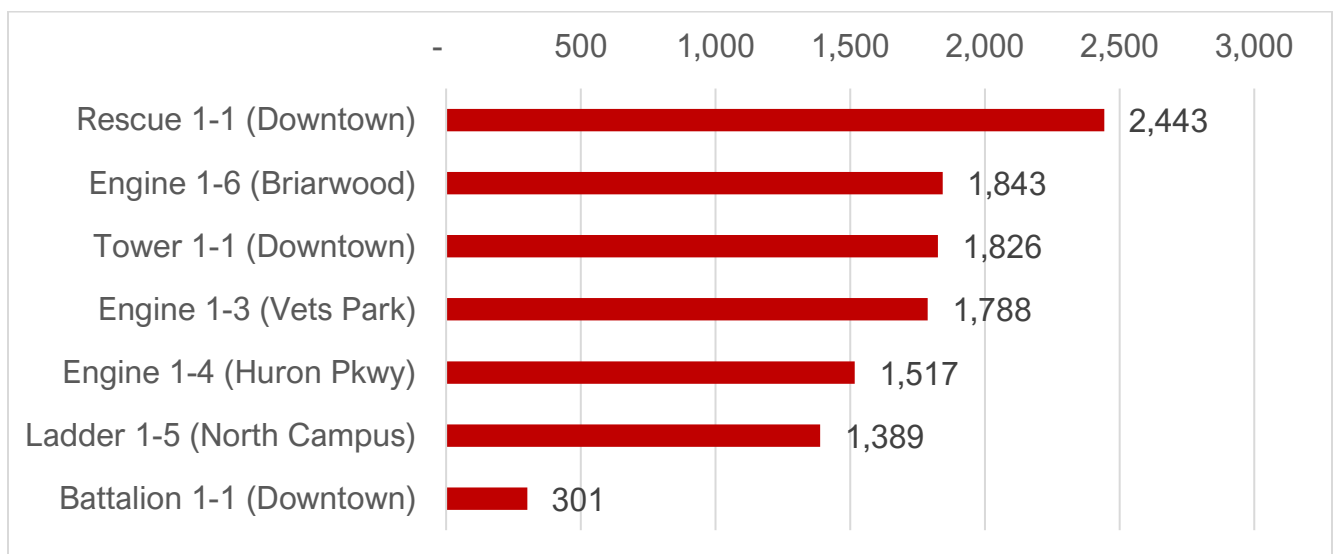
ANNUAL INCIDENTS



INCIDENTS BY MONTH

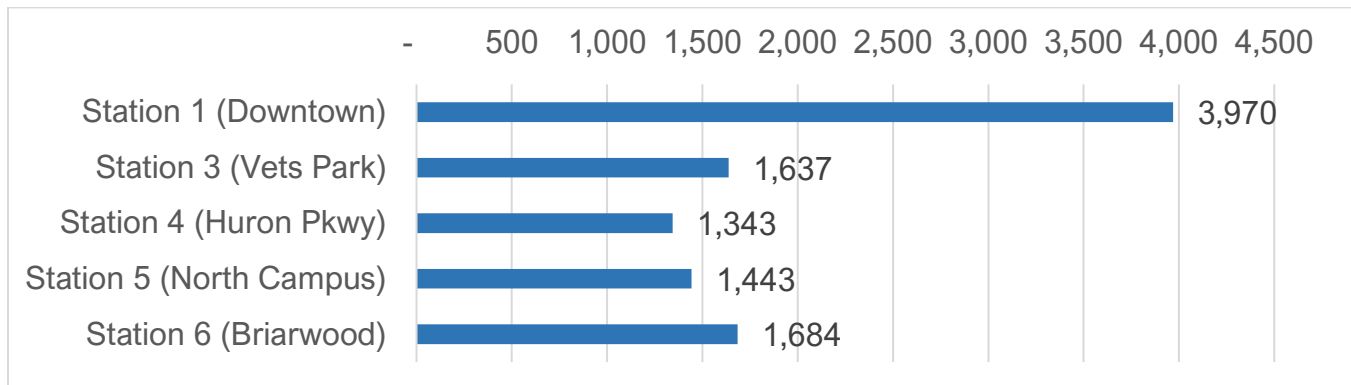


INCIDENTS BY UNIT

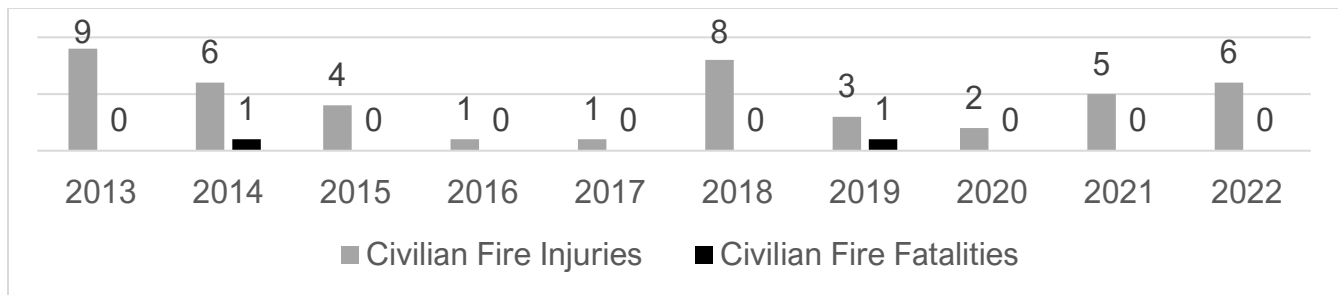


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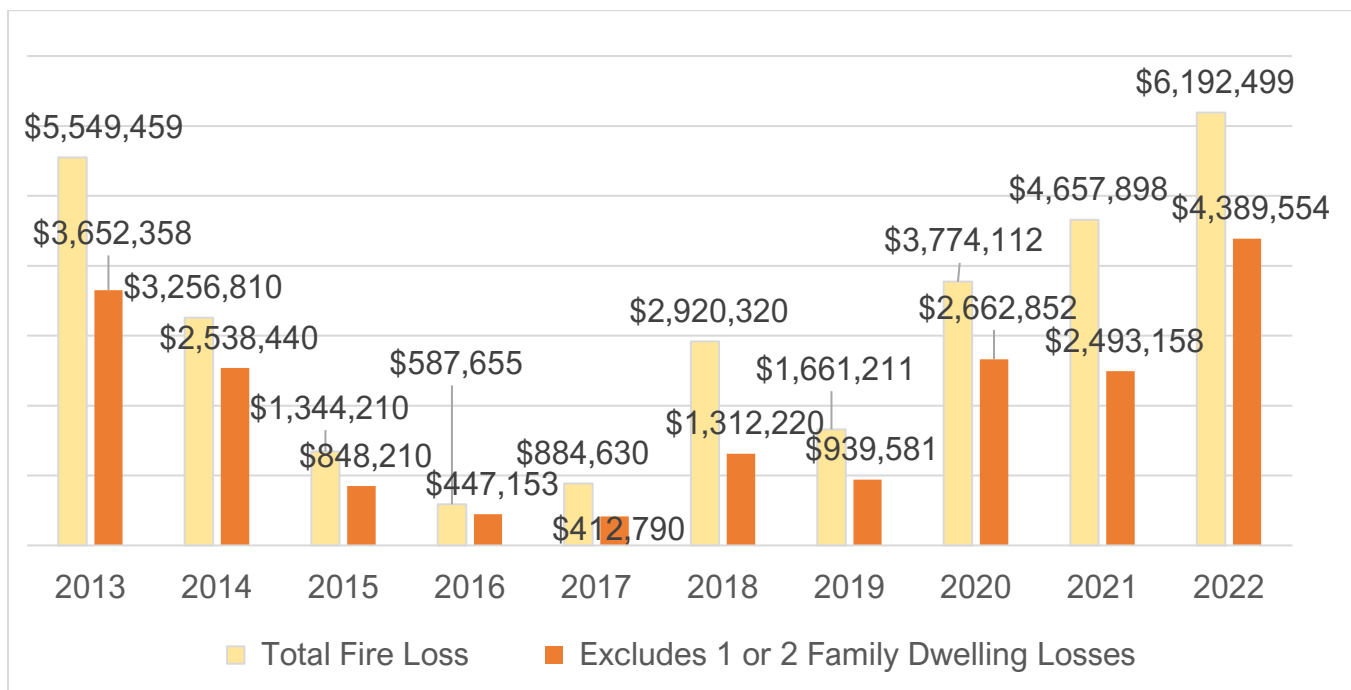
INCIDENTS BY DISTRICT



CIVILIAN FIRE INJURIES AND FATALITIES



FIRE LOSS (PROPERTY AND CONTENTS)



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CITYWIDE INCIDENT RESPONSE: TURN OUT TIME¹

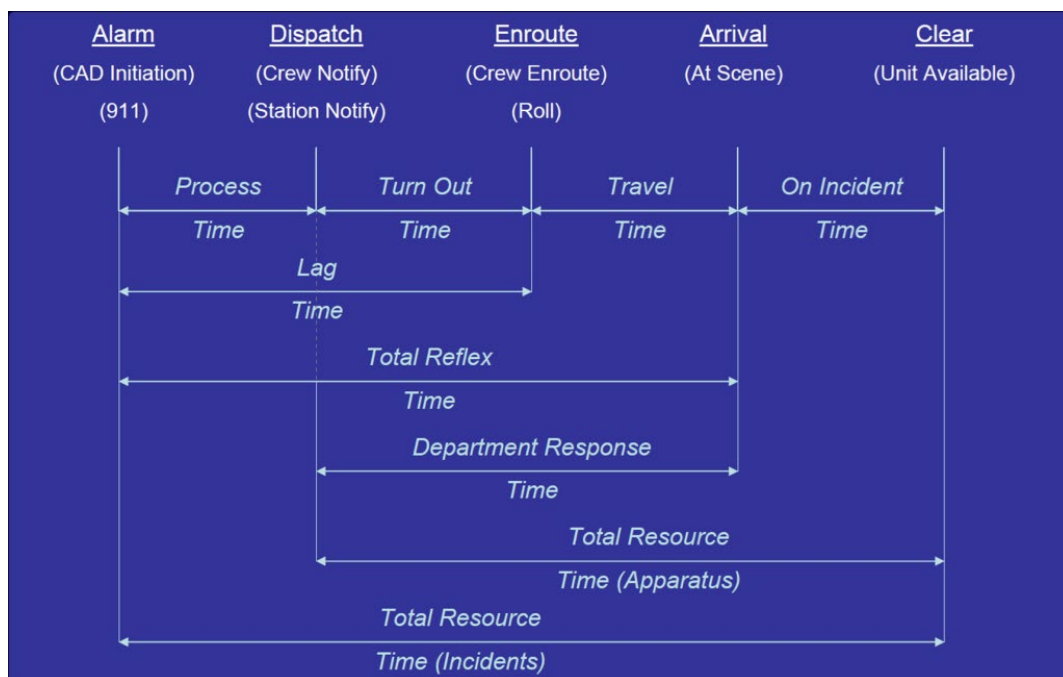
Number of Incidents	Average Time (MM:SS)	Median Time (MM:SS)	90th Percentile (MM:SS)
4,913	1:54	1:54	3:03

CITYWIDE INCIDENT RESPONSE: TRAVEL TIME²

Number of Incidents	Average Time (MM:SS)	Median Time (MM:SS)	90th Percentile (MM:SS)
4,865	3:54	3:24	6:34

CITYWIDE INCIDENT RESPONSE: DEPARTMENT RESPONSE³

Number of Incidents	Average Time (MM:SS)	Median Time (MM:SS)	90th Percentile (MM:SS)
4,911	5:48	5:22	8:37



¹ Filtered for emergency incidents, non-mutual aid, first apparatus arrival.

² Filtered for emergency incidents, non-mutual aid, first apparatus arrival.

³ Filtered for emergency incidents, non-mutual aid, first apparatus arrival.

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MAJOR INCIDENTS

THIRD ALARM – February 8, 2022, at 7:00 PM, shift 2, a still alarm was transmitted for a reported fire at 914 West Eisenhower in the Cranbrook Shopping Plaza. Due to multiple callers reporting a fire, the incident was quickly upgraded to a first alarm – citywide, then a second alarm due to significant fire showing from a commercial building. Firefighters found heavy fire in the parapet (overhang) of the Big Blue Swim School, which was under construction. The parapet had multiple void spaces and numerous layers from multiple renovations over the years. At the height of the incident, five ladder trucks were working at the same time. There was significant fire load from wood paneling and Styrofoam insulation.



LITHIUM-ION BATTERY FIRE with RESCUE - November 22, 2022 at 12:18 AM, shift 3, citywide, responded on a structure fire at University Living at Ann Arbor - 2865 South Main Street. Engine 1-6 rescued two elderly, mobility impaired residents from the unit on fire, which had smoke banked down to the floor. Both residents were transported by HVA to University of Michigan Hospital for smoke inhalation and extremely elevated carbon monoxide levels.

Two fire sprinklers activated in the fire apartment, limiting fire spread. Smoke and water affected numerous units, which lead to initial planning for a partial evacuation of the facility. As the incident was contained, patients from affected rooms were able to be moved to other parts of the facility.

The fire was caused by a thermal-runaway reaction of a lithium-ion battery from an electric wheelchair. AAFD has prepared for such an incident involving a lithium-ion battery. The exploded and remaining cells of the battery were packaged in a material called CellBlock in case of further reaction.

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PERSONNEL

Fire Chief

Mike Kennedy

Assistant Chief

Marc Tyler

Andrew Box

Emergency Mgmt. Coord.

Sydney Parmenter

Office Manager

Chantel Jackson

Fire Marshal

Michael Reddmann

Training Officer

Brian Schotthoefer

Logistics Officer

Jeremy Torres

EMS Coordinator

Martin Anderson

Fire Inspector

Ryan Newkirk

Jake Corrado (temp)

Chris Brown (temp)

Community Resilience

Bryce Frohlich

Management Assistant

Leslie Herter

Budget & Finance Spr.

Kim Buselmeier

HR Service Partner

Heather Koch

Senior IT Specialist

Jason McKinley

Battalion Chief

Chris Buscemi – Shift 1

Mark Luick – Shift 2

Matthew Hughes – Shift 3

Captain

Jim Tiernan – Shift 1

Scott Peterson – Shift 2

Kirk Hedding – Shift 3

Lieutenant

Danielle Lalonde

Timothy Karolak

Kristopher Lussenden

Benjamin Zahn

David Cue

Stephen Potbury

Jeremy Flack

Mark Hanselman

Robert Porter

Ernie Close

Christopher Nielsen

Christopher Taylor

John Maguire

Jason Gravelle

Shane Doyon

Jonathan Lukosavich

George Allard

Nicholas Kaczor

Driver / Operator

Andrew Boonstra

Matt Francis

Bryce McAllister

Ronald Robbins

Matthew Gaken

Clifford Blackford

Christopher McGlothin

Neil Boes

Robert Vanderkarr

Matthew Barbarich

Driver / Operator

Leo Susick

Julian Gross

Kenway Hensley

Nicholas Foren

Johnathan Fotopoulos

Kenny Richmond

Chris Roy

Visar Gjetaj

Andrew Gignac

Tracy Youell

Jared Zygmontowicz

Firefighter

John Crowell

Zane Kingsbury

Christopher Warden

Cody Eddington

Jacob Wing

Michael Rudolph

Brittany Hoak

Taylor Buchanan

Marc Bandy

Jason Miller

Christian Cousar

Blake Vershum

Michael Updyke

Taylor Hansen

Tyler Wagner

Matthew Brown

Blake Wingler

Eric Harms

Probationary

Firefighter

William Pritula

Patrick Deneau

Adam Creech

David Box

Erin Atkins

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PERSONNEL ADVANCEMENT

New Hires

EMS Coordinator

Martin Anderson

Community Resilience Specialist

Bryce Frohlich

Probationary Firefighter

Sean Duffy

William Pritula

Patrick Deneau

Adam Creech

David Box

Fire Recruit

Erin Atkins

Promotions

Battalion Chief

Matthew Hughes

Logistics Officer

Jeremy Torres

Captain

Jim Tiernan

Lieutenant

Christopher Nielsen

Christopher Taylor

Jason Gravelle

Shane Doyon

Jonathan Lukosavich

George Allard

Nicholas Kaczor

Driver / Operator

Neil Boes

Kenny Richmond

Chris Roy

Tracy Youell

Jared Zygmuntowicz

Firefighter

Christian Cousar

Blake Vershum

Michael Updyke

Taylor Hansen

Tyler Wagner

Matthew Brown

Blake Wingler

Eric Harms

Retirements

Battalion Chief

Derek Wiseley

Logistics Officer

Allen Bruck

Captain

Brent Kostanko

Lieutenant

Rob Tudor

Fire Inspector

Gianna Bommarito

Driver / Operator

Dan Campbell

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COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION



Assistant Chief Marc Tyler supervises fire prevention, logistics, and the fire recruit program. Additionally, he coordinates the department's Community Risk Reduction (CRR) efforts. CRR is a doorway to the renovation of the fire service culture, utilizing a data-driven process to transform the delivery of services. CRR utilizes non-traditional fire service partnerships to address community needs. This community-based approach utilizes partnerships to understand, assess, and provide inclusive solutions to community safety issues. One such partnership includes referrals to and membership on Washtenaw County Hoarding Task Force. Residents who excessively call 911 for non-life-threatening issues are referred to the Washtenaw County Mental Health CARES Team.

Community Events

We were able to continue our community events program after continued COVID restrictions in 2021. Personnel participated in sixty (60) community events, reaching an estimated 6,000 residents.

- 16 fire station tours
- 8 block parties
- 18 fire truck visits
- 6 safety presentations
- 4 parades
- 8 other events

Recruitment

Recruiting efforts were considerably enhanced and increased with the recruitment team participating in eleven (11) events, some of which are outlined below. Three portable banners were purchased to serve as backdrops for recruiting events (pictured right). A significant accomplishment was partnering with the Ann Arbor Public Schools and being able to present on several occasions.

- Jackson Area Career Center
- Skyline High School
- Oakland Community College
- Schoolcraft Community College
- Lansing Community College
- Fire and Police Open house
- Neutral Zone: Future Corp
- Howell High School



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- Art Fair

OPERATIONS DIVISION



Assistant Chief Andrew Box oversees operations, training, and information technology and is the liaison to EHP Fire Dispatch. Operations is organized into three shifts comprised of twenty-four firefighters, who work a 54-hour work week. Firefighters work a one day on and two days off (24/48) schedule. The department deploys three engine companies, two ladder companies, one light-rescue company, and one battalion chief operating out of five fire stations. AAFD also provides fire service protection to the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor campus. There are 72 budgeted suppression positions, with 24 on each shift. Minimum daily staffing is 18 personnel.

Professional Development Program

In 2022, Assistant Chief Box oversaw the implementation of a new professional development program for lieutenant, captain, and battalion chief. This program requires significant time and investment by the candidate and shift command staff. A unique aspect of this new program is an immersion phase where the candidate manages all daily administrative and operational aspects fulfilled by the position they are training for while receiving coaching by a permanently promoted officer. The final phase is the shadowing phase where the candidate manages all daily administrative and operational aspects fulfilled with no direction being provided by the supervising officer unless there are exigent circumstances involving safety or the collective bargaining agreement.

Basic Life Support Transport

Starting June 6, 2022, AAFD staffed a Huron Valley Ambulance (HVA) basic life support ambulance as part of a trial program. This has allowed AAFD to transport patients when HVA has no ambulances available. In 2022, this unit transported thirty (30) patients. This transport capability was not overly burdensome and did not detract from response to fire incidents. In fact, the ability to transport patients has allowed fire apparatus to clear incidents sooner and become available for additional calls for service. However, numerous factors during this trial demonstrated that this HVA program is not sustainable indefinitely.

Based on this trial, it was recommended that the City of Ann Arbor become independently licensed as a basic life support transport agency and purchase its own fire department ambulance. In December 2022, City Council approved the \$300,000 purchase of an ambulance. Due to the low anticipated volume of transports, low payer rate, and third-party vendor expenses, efforts to pursue patient billing would exceed revenue. If transports increased to closer to one hundred (100) annually, a threshold would be reached where cost recovery is advisable. Initially, the decision to pursue basic life support transport is being done to provide an additional level of service to the community and not a revenue source. This service would also free fire department resources to provide the expected level of service to the residents and visitors to the City of Ann Arbor.

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TRAINING & EMS DIVISION



The training and EMS division is led by Training Officer Brian Schotthoefer. This division facilitates ongoing training, drills, and exercises that reflect the real-life experiences encountered in the field by firefighting crews. The overall mission is to prepare employees to be successful in their careers by providing the tools and blueprint to succeed through the administration of training exercises incorporating current practices of existing policies and industry standards. Compliance is also ensured via federal, state, and city training mandates; new hire orientation; fire officer training; and driver / operator certification program. This division also maintains the department's basic life support, non-transport emergency medical services licensure through the State of Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. As part of this medical licensure, this division maintains compliance with education and quality improvement requirements set forth by Washtenaw / Livingston Medical Control Authority. This group is also responsible for ordering and inventory of all medical equipment and personnel protective equipment.

In September 2022, Martin Anderson was hired as the EMS Coordinator (EMSC). EMSC Anderson brought stability to this position that had been temporarily filled for three years.

A background image showing several firefighters in full gear, including helmets and air tanks, standing in a line outdoors. They are wearing dark uniforms with reflective yellow stripes. The scene is slightly hazy, suggesting a training exercise or a real-life incident.

Total Training Hours
9,286 (61% over target)

Emergency Medical Services Training Hours
1,207 (26% over target)

Fire, HazMat, Tech Rescue, HR, & City Safety Hours
8,079 (68% over target)

Top Training Hours – Craig Sidelinger Award
Lieutenant Kris Lussenden: 391.8 hours
Lieutenant David Cue: 313.1 hours
Captain Jim Tiernan: 234.1 hours

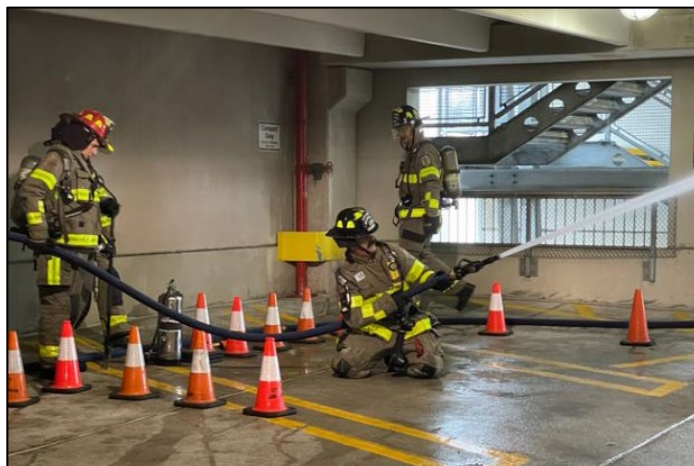
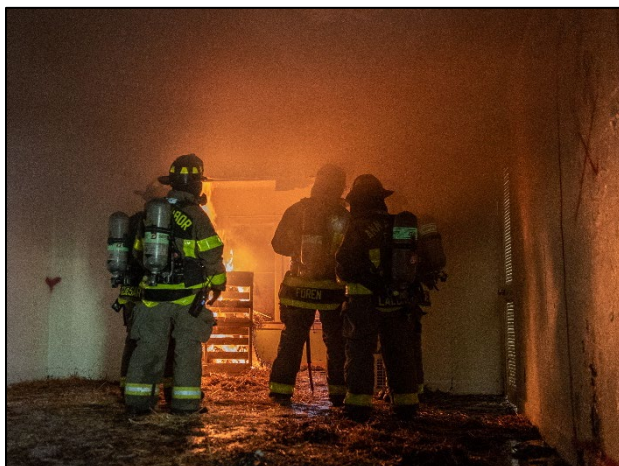
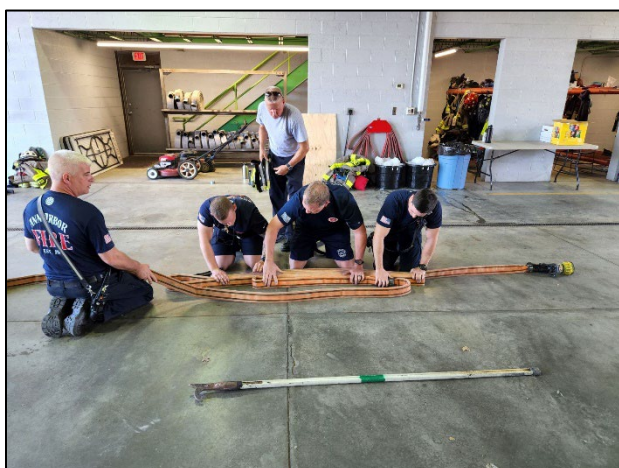
Apparatus Certifications
Engine: 5 Ladder: 4 Tower: 3

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TRAINING & EMS DIVISION

Highlights

- Training on ambulance transport operations including radio communications, report writing, and emergency room tours / orientation at Michigan Medicine, Trinity Health Ann Arbor Hospital, and Veteran's Affairs.
- Live burn training at acquired structure on South Main Street.
 - 758 training hours over four separate training days.
- EMS practical continuing education credits on trauma assessment and treatment.
- Annual Refresher: Ice Rescue, Water Rescue, and Automotive Extrication.
- Blue Card incident command training: three new certification and ten recertifications.
- Professional Development Program: two lieutenant candidates and five battalion chief candidates.



Starting at the top left and going clockwise on the page: Modified minuteman hoseload training presented by Lieutenant Steve Robertson – City of Columbus, Ohio Fire Dept. and Assistant Chief Todd Edwards (ret.) - City of Atlanta, Georgia Fire Dept. High-rise training evolutions in the soon to be demolished U-M Fleming building. High-rise training in the Forest Street parking deck. Live fire training on South Main Street.

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FIRE PREVENTION



The Fire Prevention Bureau is led by Fire Marshal Michael Reddmann. This bureau maintains a robust fire prevention program that includes the elements of fire code enforcement, fire plan review, fire cause and origin investigation, and community risk reduction. Fire inspectors are responsible for conducting fire safety inspections of new and existing buildings, reviewing plans for fire code compliance, conducting fire and arson investigations, and coordinating a variety of community risk reduction education programs. The bureau also manages Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) fire-related requests.

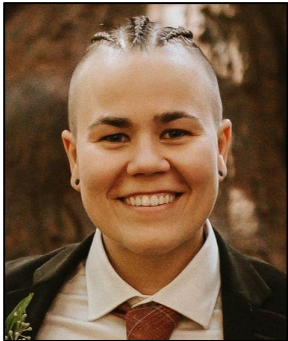
Staffing challenges continued to hamper productivity throughout 2022. Despite being fully staffed in July, a significant amount of staff time was spent with new inspector training.

In September, three Chevy Bolts were placed in-service for fire inspections. This is part of the City of Ann Arbor’s green fleet initiative.

Fire Safety Inspection	1,021	Fire Inspection Cost Recovery	\$253,674
Fire Watch Order	61	False Alarms Fee	\$152,000
Fire Investigation	17	Hydrant Flow Test	43
Site Plan Review	35 (16 revisions)	Zoning Review	3
Sidewalk Occupancy	150	Knox Box Installation	39
Prescription Burn Permits	28	Special Events Review	101
Site Compliance Permits	101	Land Division Review	7
Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests	229		

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EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Sydney Parmenter serves as the Emergency Management Coordinator. Emergency management coordinates emergency planning for weather-related and other disasters, maintains an emergency operations center, conducts emergency preparedness training, and operates a citywide outdoor warning siren system. In 2022, there were eight outdoor warning siren tests, one per month, from March through October. All parts of the system, including the redundant systems, were used to activate the monthly tests.

Highlights

- Sydney Parmenter was named the Michigan Emergency Management Association's Emergency Management Professional of the Year 2022.
- Named City of Ann Arbor Difference Maker for the hexavalent chromium release.
- In partnership with OSI, created a Community Resilience Specialist position and hired Bryce Frohlich
- Participated as a panelist during a FEMA Region 9 resilience event.

Incidents

February 2 - Winter Storm

- Activated the City's EOC virtually
- Activated the Washtenaw County Joint Information Center (JIC) virtually
- Coordinated with Washtenaw County Emergency Management, U-M Division of Public Safety & Security, and Ann Arbor Public Schools

August 1 - Hexavalent Chromium Release

- Coordinated with State of Michigan: Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy; Michigan Department of Health and Human Services; and Michigan State Police Emergency Management and Homeland Security
- Activated the City's EOC virtually
- Maintained an ICS-201 Incident Briefing form
- Developed daily briefings for the EOC team

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EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Exercises / Drills

Annual Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Drill – March 28

- Activated the virtual EOC via Everbridge text, email, phone call, and Zoom.

City of Ann Arbor / Ann Arbor Public Schools (AAPS) Tabletop Exercise – March 18

- Attended by City and AAPS leadership.
- Developed the after-action review / improvement plan.
- AAPD and AAFD were assigned building access cards.

City-Wide Emergency Alert Test – June 3

- This was the first time Everbridge was tested city-wide. 32,626 total messages were sent with all messages received within one (1) minute.

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Dam Functional Exercise – November 2

- Conducted outreach with Midland County, Newaygo County, and the State of Michigan Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy Dam Safety Program.
- Made significant updates to the dam Emergency Action Plans.
- Activated University of Michigan EOC and an incident command post at the water treatment plant (WTP). Attended by City EOC team and WTP staff, Washtenaw County, U-M DPSS, Michigan Medicine, Trinity Health, and AAPS.

Projects

2022 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

- This project began in January 2021 with submission of a FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities grant to fund the hiring of a contractor.
- Developed an RFP in conjunction with Office of Sustainability and Innovation along with Systems Planning. Stantec was selected based on this RFP
- Coordinated and participated in public engagement piece.
- Plan has thirty-four (34) hazard mitigation projects identified for the next five (5) years.
- Plan was approved by State of Michigan and FEMA, along with receiving City Council approval.

Ann Arbor School Safety Network

- Created a contact list and hosted an A2 Safety Network Meeting to build partnerships between the City and all 22 school systems within the City.
- Added private/charter schools to the County's school drill reporting procedure

Art Fair

- Hosted a pre-event safety planning meeting with AAPD, AAFD, and Art Fair Directors.
- Updated and distributed the Art Fair Emergency Operations Plan.
- Created the A2 Art Fair Notification Opt-In Process - 861 opt-ins (~500 more than 2021)
- Conducted daily safety briefings.

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PROMOTIONS



(Above) January 2022 - Firefighters Blake Vershum, Michael Updyke, and Christian Cousar were officially sworn in.



(Above) July 2022 - Firefighters Blake Wingler, Taylor Hansen, and Tyler Wagner were officially sworn in.

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PROMOTIONS



(Above) January 2023 – Firefighter Matt Brown was officially sworn in.



(Above) January 2023 – Firefighter Eric Harms was officially sworn in.

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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



(above) July 2022 – The spray park returned after a multiple year hiatus due to COVID. This occurs in conjunction with the State Street District on Maynard St following the July 4th Parade.



(above) May 2022 – The public safety open house also returned after a multiple year hiatus due to COVID. This is a joint event with the Ann Arbor Police Department.

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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



(left) September 2022 – AAFD partnered with the University of Michigan Fire Marshal to present a live fire sprinkler demonstration on East Washington by Ingalls Mall.

(below) October 2022 – Firefighters participated in neighborhood Halloween activities.



(below) June 2022 – Firefighters participate in the Glacier Hills Memorial Day parade and ceremony.

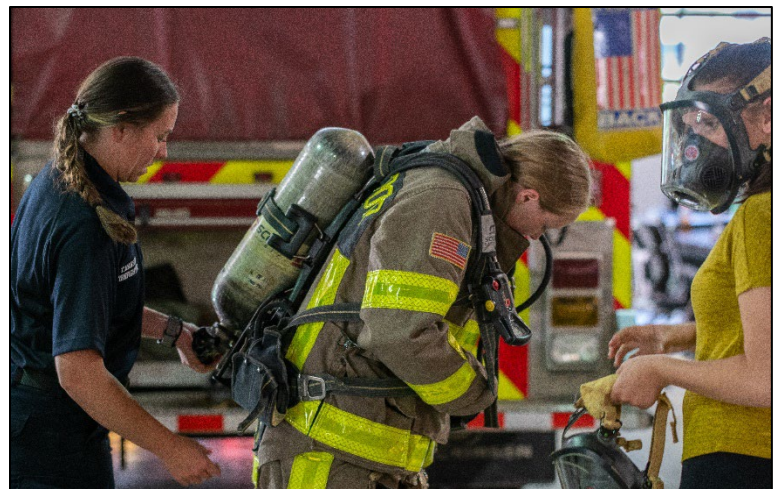


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BLAZE AND BLUE CAMP



(Entire page) June 2022 – Ann Arbor FD held an inaugural Blaze and Blue Camp with the Ann Arbor Police Department to interest young women in a public safety career. Thirteen participants attended a four-day camp. Two days focused on fire service activities and two on law enforcement.





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