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# 2023 GRFD Annual Report

## 2023 BREAK-EVEN DATE

May 17th

When the total value of property and contents saved by the GRFD surpassed the department's annual budget.

Total Alarms .....	25,034
Alarms in Grand Rapids .....	24,909
Alarms Outside of Grand Rapids.....	125
Apparatus Responses .....	34,162
Responder Hours .....	29,623

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### **DATA TYPE DEFINITIONS**

**Fire** (NFIRS Incident Type 100s) - All Fires including Building Fires, Car Fires and Trash Fires

**False Alarms** (NFIRS Incident Type 700s) - All False Alarms/Calls including Fire or CO Alarm System malfunction

**EMS/Rescue** (NFIRS Incident Type 300s) - Includes Cardiac Arrests, Overdoses, Traumatic Injuries and Rescues

**Other** (All Remaining NFIRS Incident Types) - Includes HazMat Responses, Wire Downs, and Service Calls

**Alarm Type** - What we are dispatched to

**NFIRS Incident Type** - What situation is actually found

# 2023 AT A GLANCE

Total Incidents  
**25,034**

Incidents....  
Within Grand Rapids: **24,909**  
Outside Grand Rapids: **125**

Property Saved Rate ..... 92.59%  
Property Saved Value ..... \$105,681,396  
Property Loss Rate..... 7.41%  
Property Loss Value ..... \$8,462,501

**Property Saved Rate** is calculated by comparing fire property losses with the pre-incident value of the property at risk.

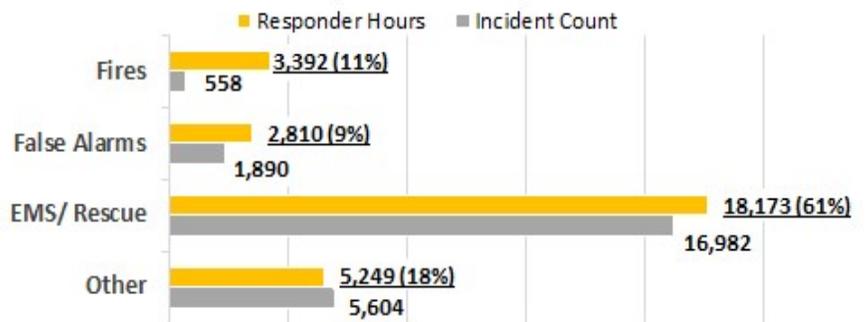
<u>Local Agency Cooperation</u>	Received Aid From	Gave Aid To
Algoma Twp	0	1
Alpine Twp FD	0	1
Grand Rapids Twp	2	7
Grandville	1	0
Kentwood	7	18
Plainfield	6	14
Walker	10	24
Wayland	0	1
Wyoming	3	26
<b>2023 Total</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>92</b>

## 2014-2023 Property Saved Rate

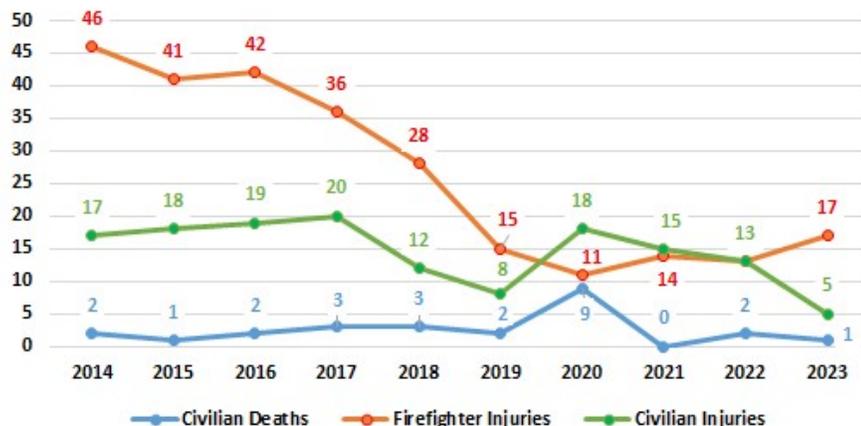


Apparatus Responses  
**34,162**

Responder Hours  
**29,623**



## 2014-2023 Fire Incident Casualties



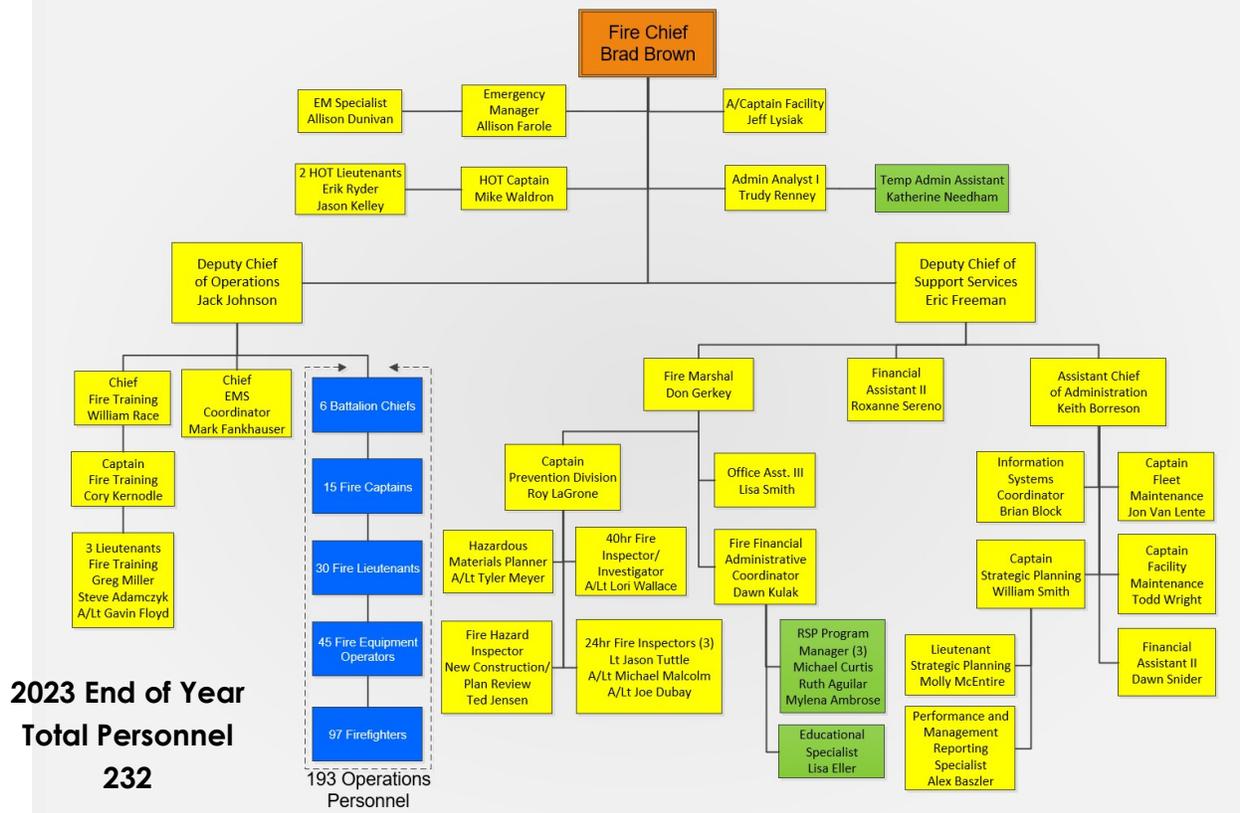
Civilian Injuries.....5  
Civilian Deaths.....1  
Firefighter Injuries\*.....17  
Firefighter Deaths.....0

\*During an active incident.

Civilian casualties are during fire incidents within Grand Rapids. Firefighter Injuries are during any active incident, including those outside of Grand Rapids. There were 23 non-incident related, on-duty firefighter injuries in 2023.

# GRFD ORGANIZATION & FISCAL

GRFD 2023 Organizational Chart



**2023 End of Year  
Total Personnel  
232**

193 Operations Personnel

ADMINISTRATION: **20** ..... OPERATIONS: **193** ..... PREVENTION: **14** ..... TRAINING: **5**

FY 2023 CITY BUDGET ..... \$597,859,508

CITY GENERAL OPERATING FUND ..... \$164,273,324

GRFD ADOPTED BUDGET ..... \$40,288,938

## GRANTS (Awarded, Open, or Closed in 2023)

**SAFER:** Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response Grant    **AFG:** Assistance to Firefighters Grant    **FP&S:** Fire Prevention & Safety Grant  
**RCP:** Regional Catastrophic Preparedness

2022 AFG ..... \$77,000 (2023 award) ..... Fitness equipment & health screenings (pg. 11)

2021 AFG ..... \$118,894 (2022 award) ..... New CO2 monitors; Gas/batt. powered saws

2021 SAFER ..... \$2,862,128 (2022 award) ..... Funds 8 firefighter positions for 3 years

FEMA RCP ..... \$603,004 (2022 award) ..... Emergency Management hiring & reports (pg. 32)

2020 AFG\* ..... \$9,991 (2021 award) ..... Reimbursement for PPE expenses

2020 AFG ..... \$366,211 (2021 award) ..... Vehicle Extrication training & equipment

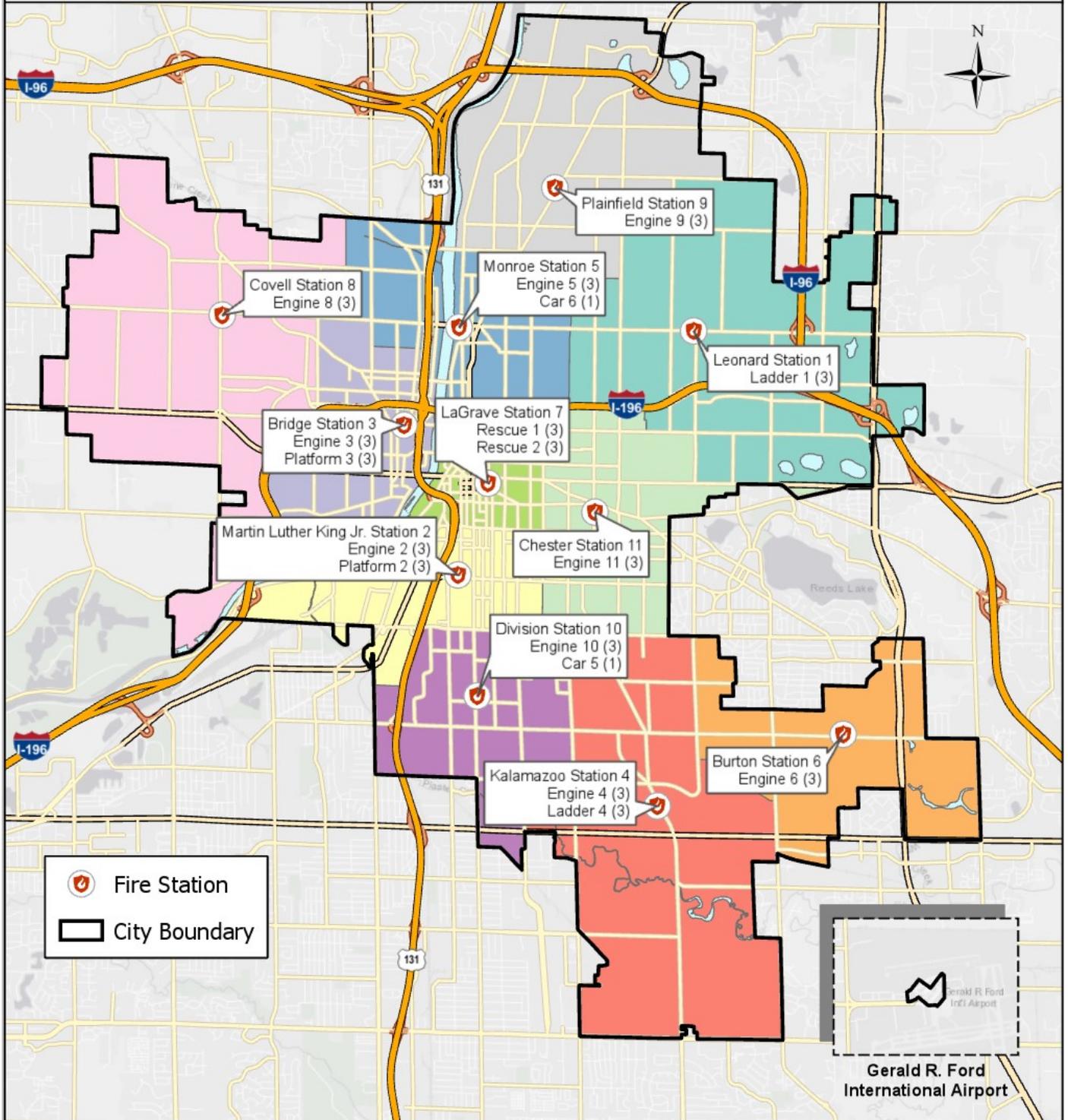
2020 FP&S ..... \$324,939 (2021 award) ..... Installation of residential smoke/CO alarms (pg. 31)

2018 AFG\*\* ..... \$500,000 (2019 award) ..... Installation of station backup generators

\*COVID specific grant    \*\*At Bridge, Kalamazoo, Monroe, and Burton

# GRFD DEPLOYMENT MAP

## Grand Rapids Fire Stations with Frontline Apparatus (and Personnel Counts)



# 2023 SPECIAL MENTIONS



## LETTER FROM THE CHIEF

This is my first annual report letter as your fire chief. Once again, 2023 saw a large amount of change throughout all ranks of the GRFD, but most notable was the turnover of three executive chief positions. I was honored to take the helm of this great organization as the 25<sup>th</sup> fire chief, succeeding the much lauded tenure of Fire Chief John Lehman. My appointment resulted in the promotion of Deputy Chief Eric Freeman and Assistant Chief Keith Borreson; all of us relied heavily on senior Deputy Chief Jack Johnson's institutional knowledge to assist us through the transition. Chief Lehman leaves behind a



*City Manager, Mark Washington and City Mayor, Rosalynn Bliss congratulate Brad Brown on accepting the role as Fire Chief*



*Chief Johnson, Chief Brown, Detroit Fire Chief Percy Allen, and Chief Freeman at Detroit Fire Department Headquarters*

legacy of turning our culture around and inspiring pride in our membership. My early focus has been on being more visible in the community and across our state. I met with numerous businesses, associations, elected officials at all levels of government, and fire departments big and small to share best practices and build meaningful relationships.

The largest win in 2023 for the fire department was receiving notification that we were awarded a \$35 million dollar state grant. Working closely with city hall and local 366, we were able to successfully articulate our need to update critical infrastructure including two fire stations and our training center. I am excited for the projects to

begin and am thankful for our elected officials and their generous appropriation.

In addition to infrastructure, we have been struggling for years with staffing and ever-increasing overtime levels. Working closely with our planning division, we were able to secure 13 additional firefighters in our latest recruit class to moderate our overtime. We are planning on another large class in January of 2025 to staff up for the opening of our 12<sup>th</sup> fire station that summer. It's an exciting time for the GRFD and I am honored and blessed to lead the way for our wonderful men and women.

**Brad Brown**



*State Representative 82nd District, Kristian Grant and Chief Brown at the State Capitol*

## 2023 SPECIAL MENTIONS



### PROPERTY ACQUIRED: NEW KENDALL ST. STATION #12

The Kalamazoo district went from two stations down to one in the late 1980's. Our population in that part of the city has grown tremendously, resulting in Engine 4 being the most deployed unit in the department. That increase in call volume combined with extended response times and demands south of 28<sup>th</sup> St. resulted in only meeting our distribution benchmark just over half the time.

Starting in 2015 with our accreditation process, the department has consistently recommended taking action to bolster staffing and equipment in the third ward. In 2023, the fire department moved forward to purchase 4040 and 4044 Kalamazoo for \$500,000 and 4024 Kalamazoo for \$125,000. The GRFD is actively engaged with the architect to design a 2 bay neighborhood station in this newly acquired 1.5 acre lot. Demolition of the house and site prep will begin in early 2024.

### PROPERTY ACQUIRED: NEW TRAINING COMPLEX

The fire department has been attempting to relocate for over a decade from their current training site on Coldbrook Avenue due to plans for redevelopment. Searching the entire city for many years has resulted in several false starts on properties. In a built-out city like ours, it is difficult to locate a large training operation in an area that would not be invasive to residential areas, but also accessible for our crews on duty.



In 2023, the fire department once again examined the site at 850 Pannell St. NW, a former scrap operation that had experienced a fire. Located at the very edge of town, this 9.5 acre industrial site is in close proximity to I-96 and the busy Alpine corridor. Even though it was not currently on the market, GRFD was able to track down the owner and approach them about selling the property. After several months of negotiations, and approval from city management and commission, the parcel was purchased for \$1,925,000. An architect and construction manager have been hired, schematic design is underway and plans are in place to break ground in 2024. We anticipate a move to the training section of the building by summer of 2026.

# 2023 SPECIAL MENTIONS

## JOSHUA PUTNAM, THE NEW CHAPLAIN FOR GRFD



I met Chief Brown at a Fire Instructor class in early 2023. During a conversation, he conveyed that GRFD did not have a Chaplain, as the community lost Father Den Morrow in May of 2020. He expressed a need to provide pastoral care for the department.

Since 2015, I've had the honor of serving as the lead pastor at First Baptist Church in Howard City. My family brings me immense joy, with three children – Alyvia (10), Bennson (8), and Amyah (6) – and my wife, Amy. I joined the fire service over 15 years ago as a chaplain, but quickly pursued further training, attending an MFR class followed by the fire academy.

Presently, I'm an active member of the Howard City Fire Department. The pursuit of serving our community in the fire service and leading our church congregation put me on the path of becoming the GRFD Chaplain.

## LISA ELLER, NEW PUBLIC SAFETY EDUCATOR

The GRFD Fire Prevention Division onboarded a newly created Public Education Specialist position to assist the division in fielding education requests, assessing educational needs, and to serve as a liaison with local Grand Rapids Public Schools.

I am Lisa Eller, and I am proud to be serving with the Grand Rapids Fire Department. My family is acquainted with a Grand Rapids firefighter and when the Public Educator position became available, I was eager to apply. I spent over 15 years in a public school where I held a myriad of positions from paraprofessional to classroom teacher to middle school dean. I am a State of Michigan certified educator, and last year, I completed my master's degree in educational leadership. I look forward to advancing our mission to prevent fire emergencies through education.



## CAR 97



A need was recognized by the Fire Prevention Division to provide suppression crews access to fire inspection and investigation services 24/7. Executive Chiefs and Local 366 agreed to work collaboratively to answer this concern. Car 97, pictured left, is staffed with a 24 hour Fire Inspector/Investigator.

Three long term acting officers are assigned to Car 97 to cover each shift. They are dispatched to every structure fire response, and provide Incident Safety Officer responsibilities to enhance fire ground safety.

# 2023 SPECIAL MENTIONS

## RECRUIT CLASS 2023-01



Every year, tenured personnel retire from GRFD. The process of hiring new personnel includes many decisions that are made with the assistance of internal partners including, Fiscal Services, Human Resources, Labor Relations, and City Attorney's Office.

## RECRUIT CLASS 2023-02

Recruit Class 2023-01, reflected above with 18 recruits and their mascot. The group is affectionately known as the "Whistle Punks". Recruit Class 2023-02, shown to the right with 22 personnel. Widely known as the "Plug Uglies". A tip of the hat to the competitive nature of the fire service. Additional information is found on page 33.



## HOMELESS OUTREACH TEAM



In April of 2020, the City of Grand Rapids developed the Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) to respond to emergency needs including isolation, health and safety issues, and COVID mitigation within the homeless community. This program's mission is "to preserve health and safety and improve outcomes for homeless persons and our community." GRFD promoted three personnel to HOT in 2023.

More information regarding HOT can be found by visiting the city's webpage. Pictured left is HOTA Captain, Mike Waldron, taking a moment with Sparky the fire dog during an event downtown.

*HOT contact information: 616-456-4240 or email at [grhot@grcity.us](mailto:grhot@grcity.us)*

# FY23 - FY25 STRATEGIC PLAN

## 2023-25 STRATEGIC PLAN

### MISSION

The Grand Rapids Fire Department values all people by saving lives, protecting property, and responding to the needs of our entire community.

### VISION

Providing world class fire services for our community by employing a diverse workforce which respects, values, and develops our members.

### VALUES

- Honesty
- Integrity
- Loyalty
- Teamwork
- Excellence



	<b>RESPONSE</b> Owner: Chief Johnson Support: Chief Lehman	<b>TRAINING</b> Owner: Chief Race Support: Captain Kernodle	<b>PREVENTION</b> Owner: Fire Marshal Dokter Support: Captain Gerkey	<b>WELLNESS</b> Owner: Chief Freeman Support: Chief Thompson	<b>SUPPORT SERVICES</b> Owner: Chief Brown Support: Captain Marchinda
<b>DESIRED OUTCOMES</b>	Increase and then maintain response capabilities to meet the growing and evolving needs of our community by meeting the 90% critical performance metric compliance.	Provide the appropriate skills and education to ensure all ranks can address existing and emerging threats.	Continue to foster a safe community by improving the Community Risk Reduction program through measurable outcomes.	Provide progressive wellness programming that improves the well-being of our members, families, and communities.	Ensure systems and processes meet the needs of the organization.
<b>FISCAL 2023 STRATEGIES</b>	Forecast and analyze our response model	Ensure training curriculum meets existing and emerging threats	Provide sustainable Residential Safety Program services	Align resources to desired outcomes	Analyze and improve maintenance programs, hiring process and information systems
<b>FISCAL 2024 STRATEGIES</b>	Modify our response model to maximize critical performance metrics	Elevate department-wide training experience	Develop a Public Education Program for the whole community	Deliver progressive wellness programming	Ensure policies and guidelines align with ISO qualifications and accreditation needs
<b>FISCAL 2025 STRATEGIES</b>	Analyze effects of response model modification and make adjustments accordingly	Ensure training resources meet our training needs	Partner with Emergency management to build a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and Community Outreach	Evaluate Effectiveness of Wellness Programming	Analyze and improve facilities, supplies and internal/external communications

## WORKING THE PLAN

Strategic Planning Team members meet to discuss their pillars to ensure that goals and objectives are being met. As the five pillars are updated, a team spokesperson will report out their findings. Hurdles are identified as a point of focus, to discuss potential solutions. Updates to pillars are noted below.



### RESPONSE

GRFD Operations Division has had a remarkable year filled with numerous achievements and activities that have significantly contributed to its reputation as a competent and responsive unit. Among the standout accomplishments is their response to nearly 100 elevator rescues, showcasing their readiness and expertise in dealing with such emergency situations. Moreover, members of the division achieved Michigan Fire Officer 1 & 2 certifications, a testament to their leadership and management skills in firefighting operations. Additionally, they participated in the Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC), with four members attending the Women in Fire Conference, emphasizing their commitment to diversity and inclusion within the firefighting community.



## TRAINING

The Training Division was especially busy last year. They successfully conducted two 16 week academy training sessions. The 2023-1 Academy had 18 recruits and the 2023-2 Academy had 22 recruits, bolstering suppression needs and capabilities. In addition to these, they held two classes for Incident Safety Officer, providing crucial training for maintaining safety at incident sites. The division completed the Instructor 1 program and the Live Fire Instructor Credentials Certification, ensuring that their instructors are equipped with the latest methodologies and certifications. The Training Lieutenant and two other department members completed the EMS Incident Commander course, adding to their preparedness for medical emergencies.



## PREVENTION

Last year the Fire Prevention Division celebrated the 10<sup>th</sup> complete year of our Residential Safety Program which has, since its inception, visited 13,000 of our city's homes and installed 73,429 smoke and 13,132 carbon monoxide alarms. Also in 2023, a Public Education Specialist was added to provide continuity for the department's public safety outreach with a primary focus involving our city's school age children. This position, along with two additional positions added to the Residential Safety Program, greatly improved the Fire Prevention Division's ability to provide world-class, risk-based service to the community. Fire Inspection activity continues with inspectors, full and part-time, completing inspections of all identified high-hazard operational addresses and 20 high-rise properties.



## WELLNESS

Both the department and City Wellness continue to offer our personnel in-person and virtual workshops that focus on mental, physical, and financial wellness, along with a variety of interest focused topics and challenges. In 2023, the GRFD assisted City Wellness in their deployment and testing of the new Active Fit+ app, which helps inform users of upcoming events and track individual participation and progress. Fitness Equipment Managers Captain Kara Johnson and Firefighter Kristy Shepard continued to assess fitness equipment needs and research specific equipment for purchase under the 2022 AFG grand award package for all 11 stations and the training center. Additionally, research began regarding the potential of having an on-staff athletic trainer available to assist with injury prevention and recovery in our unique environment. Assistant Chief Borreson took over as the head of the GRFD Wellness Pillar and Wellness support staff continue to explore new ways to inform and engage staff in their wellness journeys.

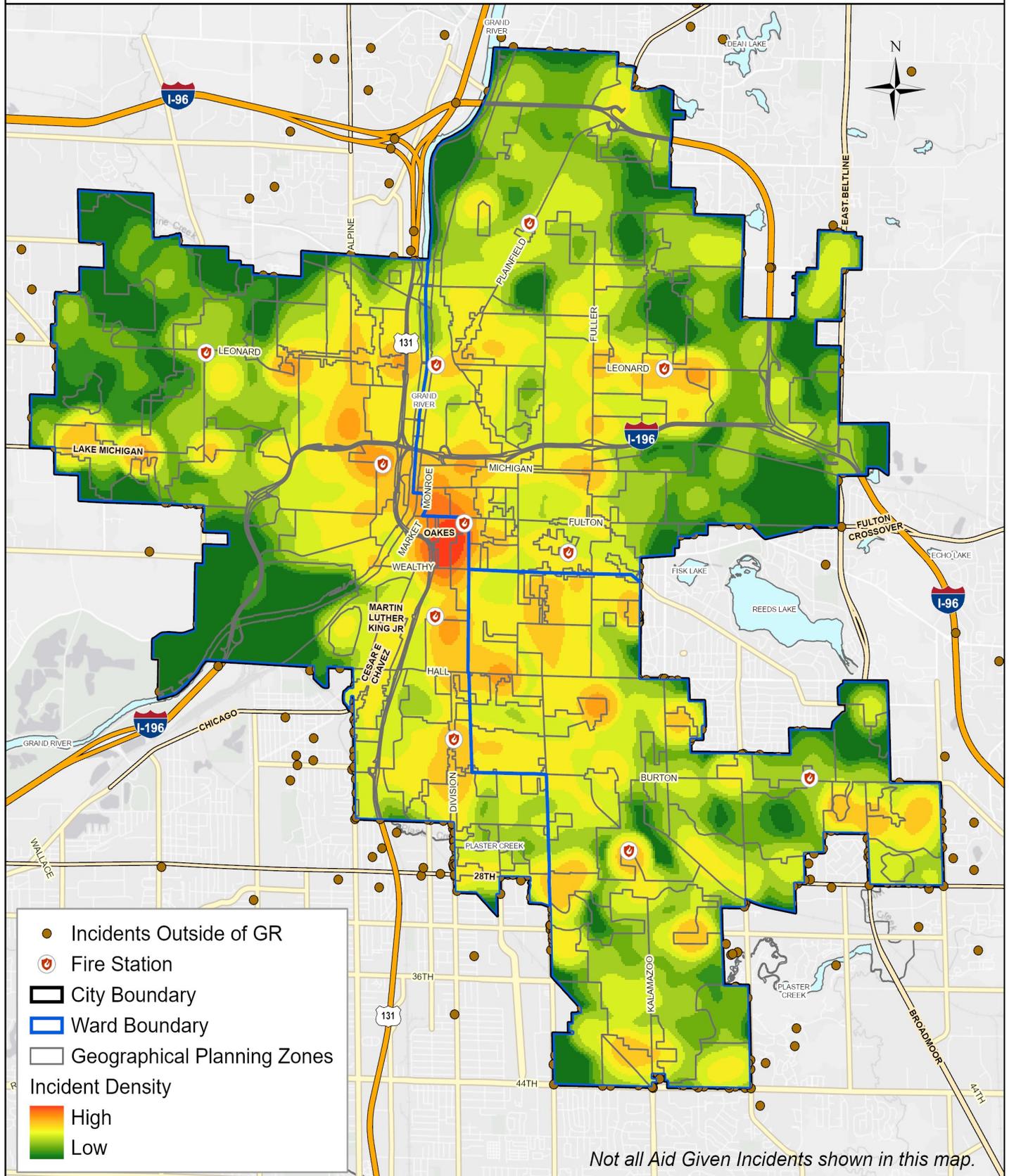


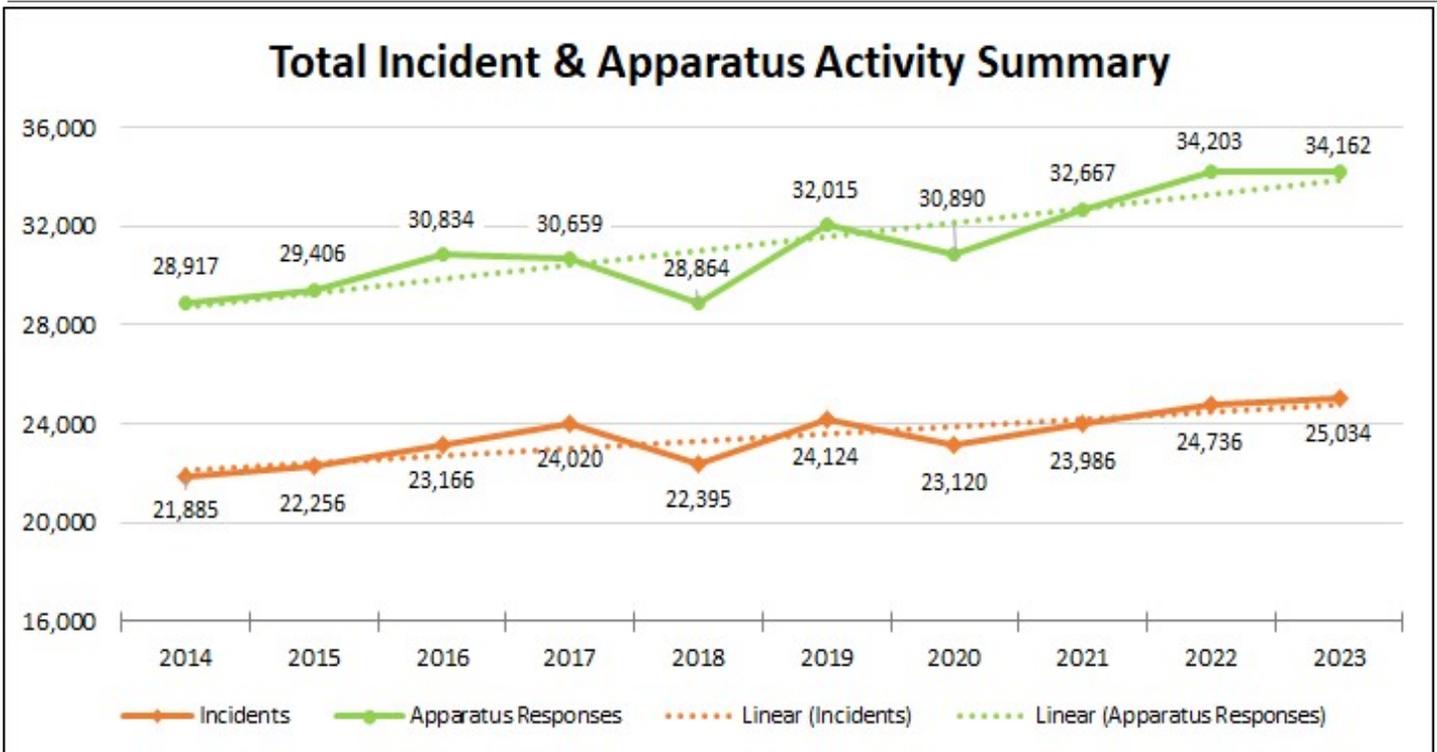
## SUPPORT SERVICES

As Fire Chief John Lehman retired in May of 2023, GRFD experienced a chain of promotions that have kept the department in good running order. The upward movement of chief executive officers and numerous retirements last year resulted in many promotions commensurate with the vacancies experienced. We celebrate retired, newly hired, and promoted personnel on page 33. We have also continued to streamline the hiring and promotional processes to continue to provide a less cumbersome pathway for both current personnel and potential new hires. Due to some monumental support provided by the City of Grand Rapids, the State of Michigan, and Local 366, Support Services will see a very busy 2024! The asset management plan has paved the way for building a new Training/Wellness/Apparatus facility, a new Division Avenue Station, and several major capital projects throughout the department's 18 facilities. We will continue to push forward with supporting the needs of the people in Grand Rapids, and the GRFD Family.

# TOTAL INCIDENTS REVIEW

## 2023 Grand Rapids Incident Hotspots

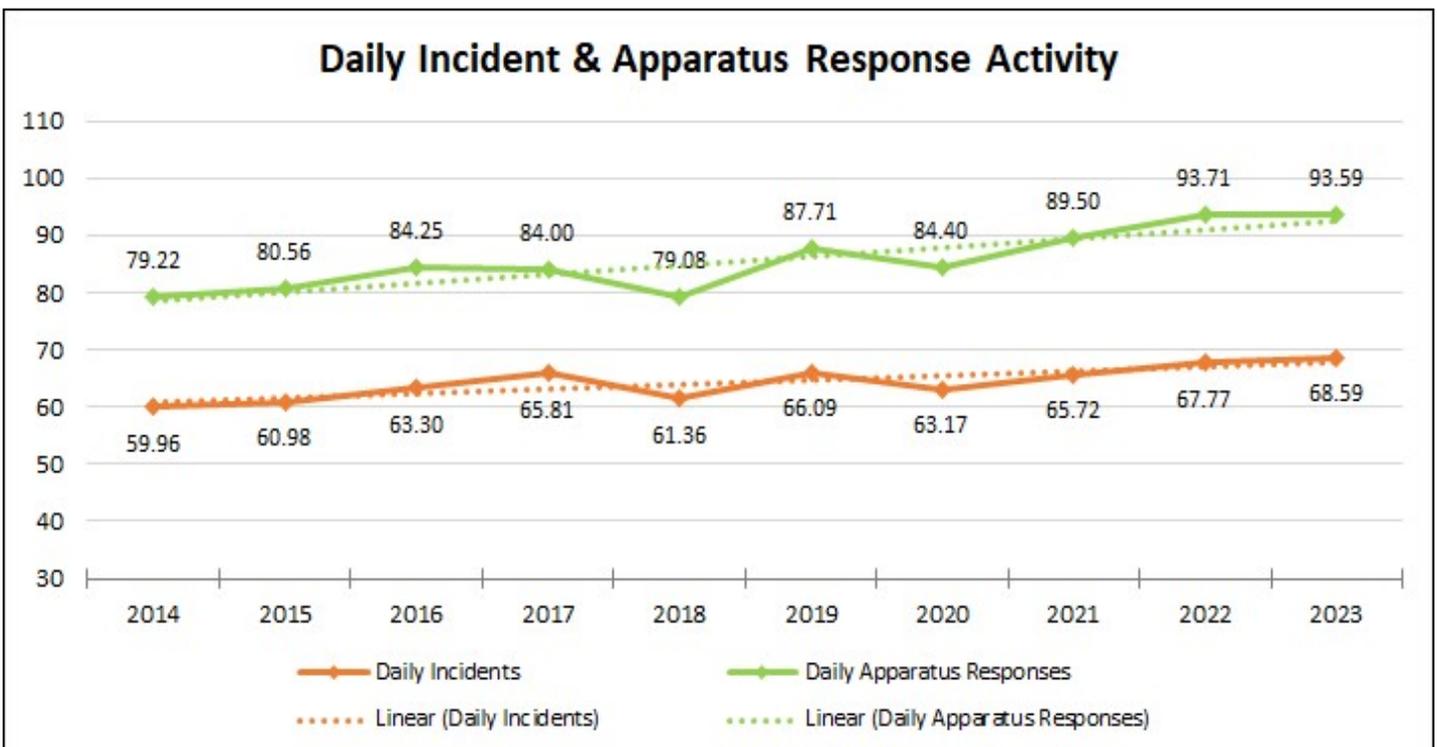


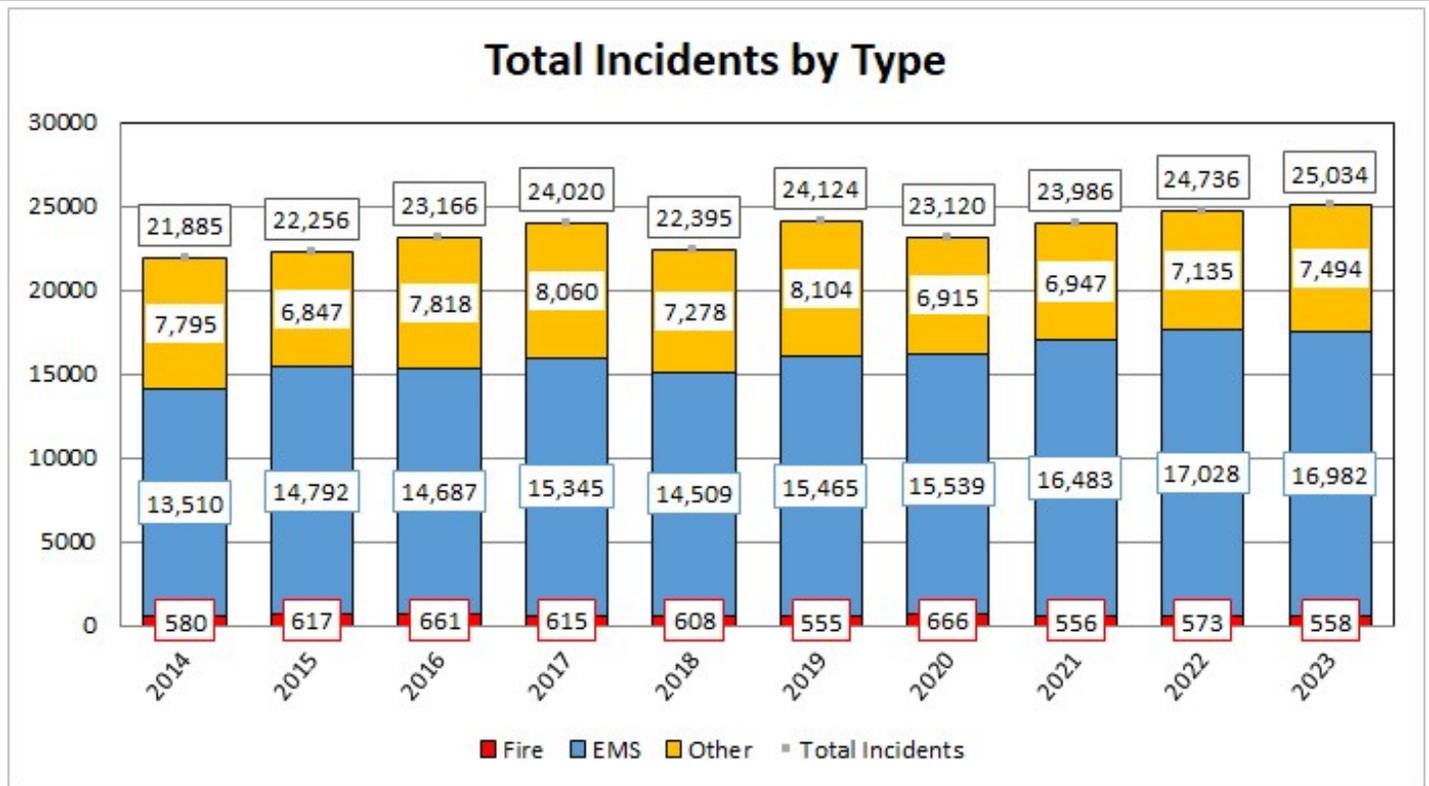


Since 2014, overall trend lines for incidents and apparatus activity continue to rise annually.

Apparatus responses since 2014 have risen 18.13%, with a 0.12% decrease from 2022 to 2023.

Incident counts since 2014 have risen 14.39%, with a 1.20% rise from 2022 to 2023.





**EMS incidents since 2014 rose 25.70%**, with a **0.27% decrease** from 2022 to 2023. **Fire incidents since 2014 have declined 3.79%**, with a **2.61% decrease** when comparing 2022 to 2023.

Total Incidents by Type	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Fires	580	617	661	615	608	555	666	556	573	558
Overpressure/Rupture	45	43	51	191	202	158	113	138	115	127
EMS/ Rescue	13,510	14,792	14,687	15,345	14,509	15,465	15,539	16,483	17,028	16,982
Hazardous Conditions	990	898	1,166	1,155	1,006	1,574	1,006	1,064	1,147	981
Service Call	2,003	1,368	1,492	1,704	1,542	1,252	1,053	876	953	925
Good Intent	3,143	2,976	3,315	3,462	3,033	3,258	3,252	3,070	2,995	3,559
False Alarm/Calls	1,600	1,555	1,774	1,537	1,487	1,849	1,488	1,783	1,909	1,890
Severe Weather	9	4	14	10	6	11	2	5	8	8
Special Incident	5	3	6	1	2	2	1	11	8	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,885</b>	<b>22,256</b>	<b>23,166</b>	<b>24,020</b>	<b>22,395</b>	<b>24,124</b>	<b>23,120</b>	<b>23,986</b>	<b>24,736</b>	<b>25,034</b>

The biggest increase in incident type grouping from 2022 to 2023 is **Good Intent**, with a **15.85%** increase. EMS calls waved off after hitting "On Scene" increased as ALS transport agencies improved their response times to incidents within Grand Rapids.

Total Incidents by Type	Numerical Change from 2022 to 2023	Percent Change from 2022 to 2023	Percentage of 2023 Incidents
Fires	-15	-2.69%	2.23%
Overpressure/Rupture	12	9.45%	0.51%
EMS/Rescue	-46	-0.27%	67.84%
Hazardous Conditions	-166	-16.92%	3.92%
Service Call	-28	-3.03%	3.69%
Good Intent	564	15.85%	14.22%
False Alarm/Calls	-19	-1.01%	7.55%
Severe Weather	0	0.00%	0.03%
Special Incident	-4	-100.00%	0.02%
<b>Total</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>1.19%</b>	

## 2023 INCIDENT SPOTLIGHTS

### October 1st, 2023 - Accidental Fire on Ionia

**(Front page)** Crews responded to a fire involving six Tractor Trailers at a local distribution center. A fire attack was quickly initiated, as other firefighters moved uninvolved trucks away from the fire thereby saving the remaining fleet.



### August 24, 2023 - Lightning Strike on Spencer

Multiple fires occurred during this weather incident along with numerous downed power lines. Off duty GRFD personnel responded to an emergency call back to assist response during the storm.



**April 9th, 2023 - Extrication assignment on Jefferson at Griggs.** Multiple GR Fire units responded to this crash between two vehicles in the intersection.

### May 1st, 2023 - Arson Fire on Brenner **(Front page)**

GRFD Firefighters arrived to discover a fire in the basement. The fire was determined to be incendiary.



### January 12, 2023 - Structure fire on Cherry

Firefighters located a cat that had been overcome by smoke. Oxygen was delivered and the cat survived.



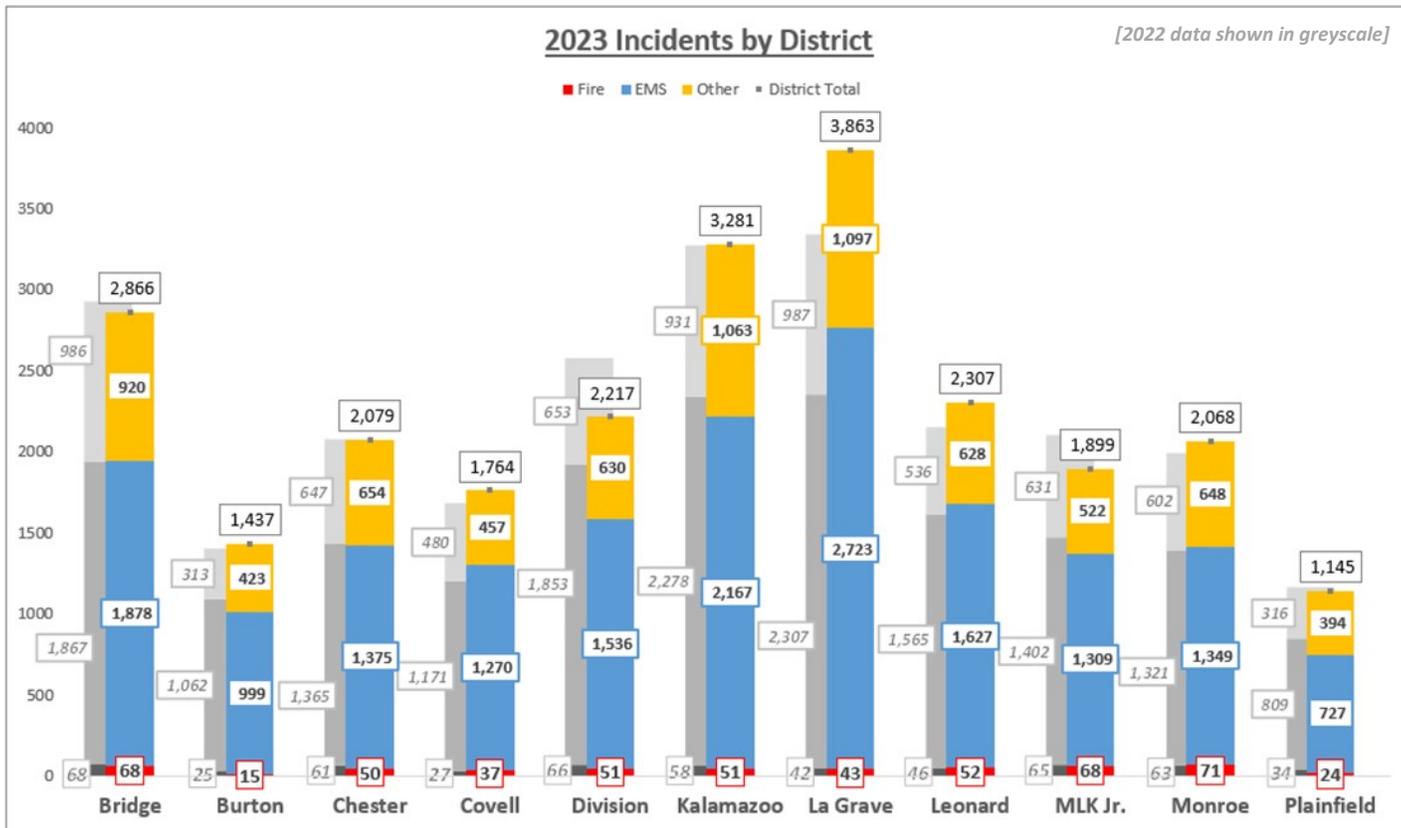
### June 7th, 2023 - Accidental Fire on Dickinson

Grand Rapids firefighters battled this fully involved garage fire that threatened adjacent properties. It was determined that improper discarding of BBQ charcoal was the cause of this fire.

### December 14th, 2023 - Accidental fire on Howard

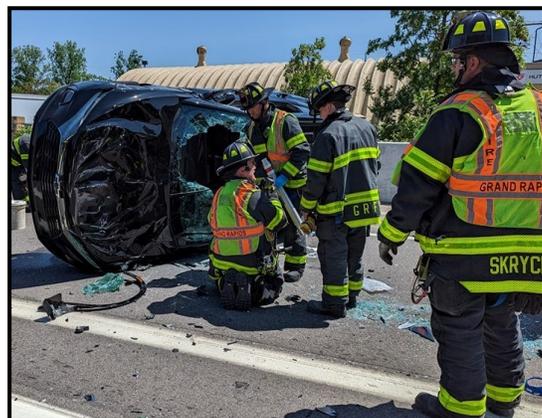
**(Front page)** A GR firefighter sustained significant burns after encountering a flash over while searching for possible trapped occupants. It was later discovered that bystanders had removed a wheelchair bound resident prior to the FD arrival.

# DISTRICT INCIDENT ACTIVITY



## NOTABLE INCIDENT ACTIVITY MOVEMENT

- **La Grave** leads the districts with a **15.8% increase in total incident activity** and a **18% increase in EMS calls** from 2022. A point of interest for EMS calls is the recognition that there were 950 EMS calls that were waved off after reporting on scene. This is due to ALS transport agencies arriving before the fire department and handling the call without fire department assistance. La Grave had 175 of these types of calls.
- **Leonard** saw fire incidents rise 13% and **Covell** had the second highest EMS call increase 8.45%,
- **Division Avenue Station** saw less fire incidents compared to 2022, with a decrease of 22.7%



## SIMULTANEOUS CALLS

The occurrence of multiple calls at the same time serve as a decision point for both the distribution and concentration of resources. When multiple alarms occur in a single district, either a second unit in that district or resources from adjoining districts (or outside agencies) must be utilized for an effective response.

Citywide simultaneous call rate rose 0.24%; but since 2014, it has risen 6.54%.

Bridge St. district leads the city in simultaneous call volume at 11.93%.

Continued evaluation of this metric will aid in future planning and resource deployment. For additional analysis, see page 27.

Bridge, Covell, Leonard, Monroe, Plainfield, and Martin Luther King Station districts experienced an increase in their simultaneous call volume in 2023 as shown below.

City Wide Simultaneous	
2014	56.18%
2015	55.29%
2016	60.04%
2017	59.60%
2018	63.15%
2019	61.05%
2020	57.88%
2021	61.98%
2022	62.48%
2023	62.72%

Simultaneous Call Percentage by Station District										
Station	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Bridge	9.54%	10.19%	10.01%	11.49%	9.62%	10.62%	10.18%	10.96%	10.48%	11.93%
Burton	4.43%	6.07%	4.80%	5.50%	6.07%	6.90%	5.97%	7.33%	7.43%	6.54%
Chester	8.57%	7.05%	9.00%	11.59%	8.61%	11.80%	8.10%	8.59%	8.63%	7.17%
Covell	7.22%	7.28%	7.31%	9.39%	7.84%	13.15%	7.45%	8.07%	8.10%	8.16%
Division	6.71%	7.18%	9.53%	9.31%	8.00%	9.38%	9.91%	9.07%	10.58%	9.43%
Kalamazoo	10.79%	11.56%	12.73%	13.70%	22.65%	13.07%	10.26%	13.54%	14.05%	10.91%
La Grave	10.32%	7.45%	9.81%	10.49%	11.71%	11.22%	7.88%	9.09%	11.03%	10.61%
Leonard	8.70%	6.97%	9.23%	7.70%	7.57%	12.89%	8.79%	9.28%	10.76%	11.31%
MLK Jr.	5.60%	7.30%	6.61%	7.05%	7.35%	7.85%	7.10%	10.16%	8.06%	9.06%
Monroe	5.37%	8.59%	8.25%	6.75%	7.45%	11.69%	8.41%	9.15%	8.46%	9.00%
Plainfield	4.14%	6.68%	3.96%	5.27%	4.59%	10.40%	5.51%	6.33%	6.56%	9.69%

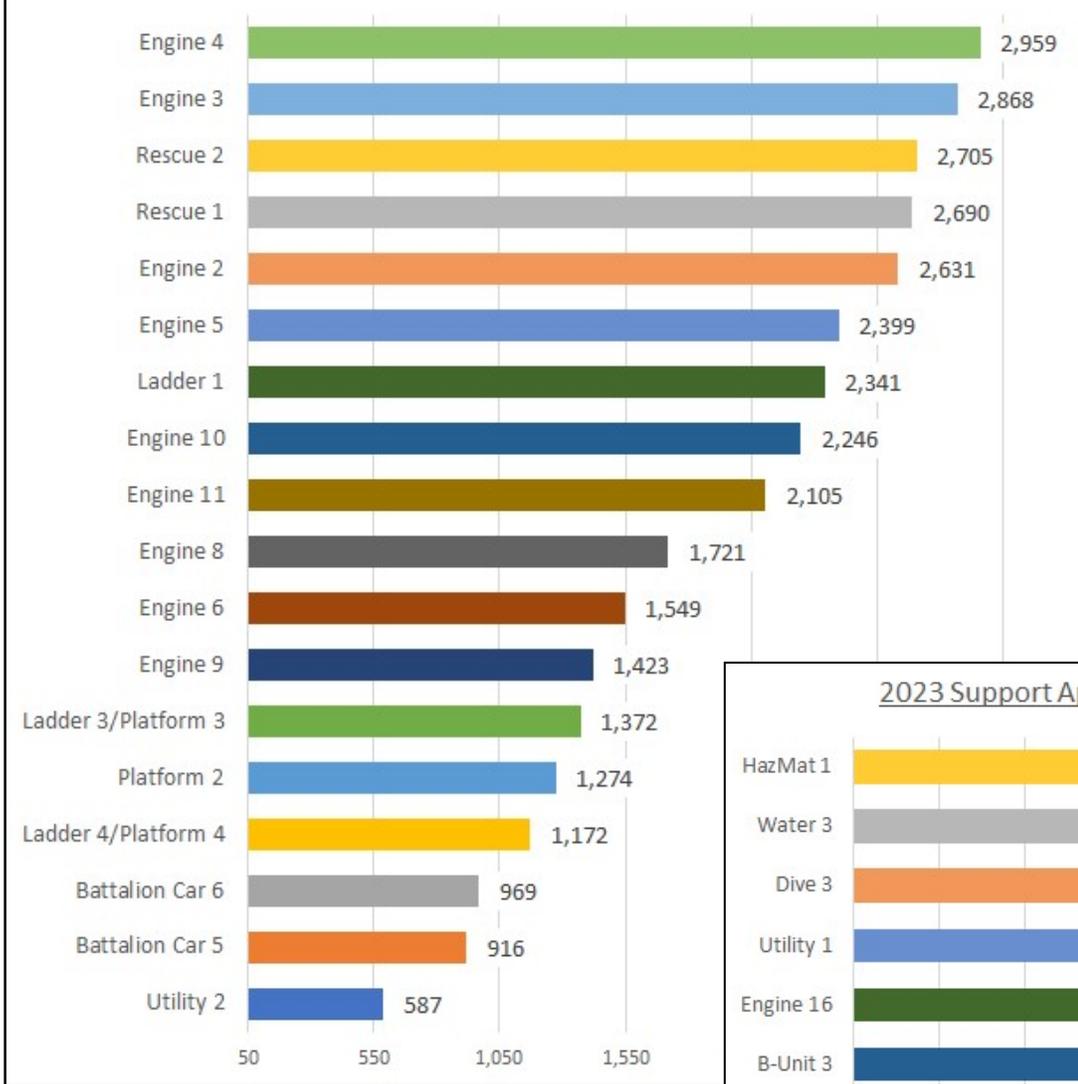
## AID GIVEN OR RECEIVED

Our current auto aid agreements with Plainfield, Kentwood, and Walker requires us to respond automatically to structure fire alarm types in each other’s identified municipal areas. All other responses within or outside GR city boundaries are upon request. This table shows the number of times we responded to, or received aid from, the indicated agencies (Auto/ Mutual) and any instance where only the GRFD responded (Other). The counts reflect any alarm type, not just structure fires.

	AID RECEIVED			AID GIVEN			
	Auto	Mutual	Total	Auto	Mutual	Other	Total
Algoma Twp		0	0		1	0	1
Alpine Twp FD		0	0		1	0	1
Grand Rapids Twp		2	2		3	4	7
Grandville		1	1		0	0	0
Kentwood	4	3	7	13	4	1	18
Plainfield	5	1	6	8	3	3	14
Walker	9	1	10	7	11	6	24
Wayland		0	0		1	0	1
Wyoming		3	3		6	20	26
<b>2023 Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>92</b>

# APPARATUS RESPONSES

2023 Frontline Apparatus Responses



**Engine 4** out of Kalamazoo Station was GRFD’s busiest unit in 2023 with 2,959 responses, followed by **Engine 3** out of Bridge Street Station with 2,868 calls. Then **Rescue 2** out of La Grave Station 2,705 calls.

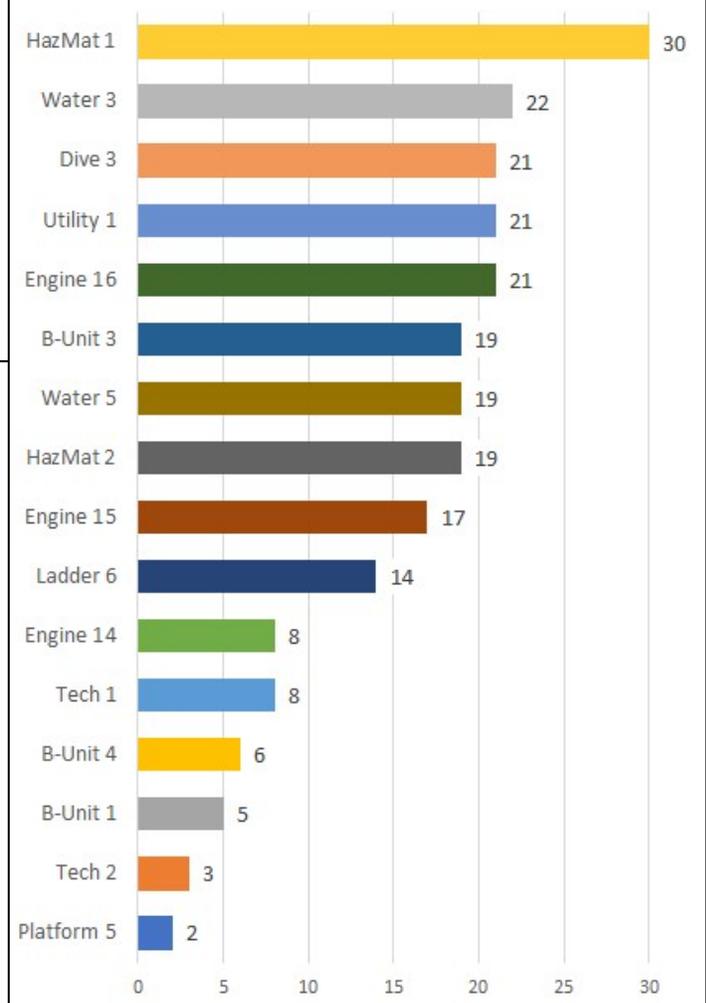
**Engine 4’s** increase of incidents from last year demonstrates the need for additional resources in the city’s south-east corridor. **Rescue 1** out of La Grave saw an increase in call volume from the previous year by 4.04%. **Rescue 2** realized a reduced amount of calls by 15.28%.

**Ladder 1** at Leonard Station leads in aerial responses and has surpassed five engine companies in their incident volume.

**HazMat 1** responses rose by 275% last year.

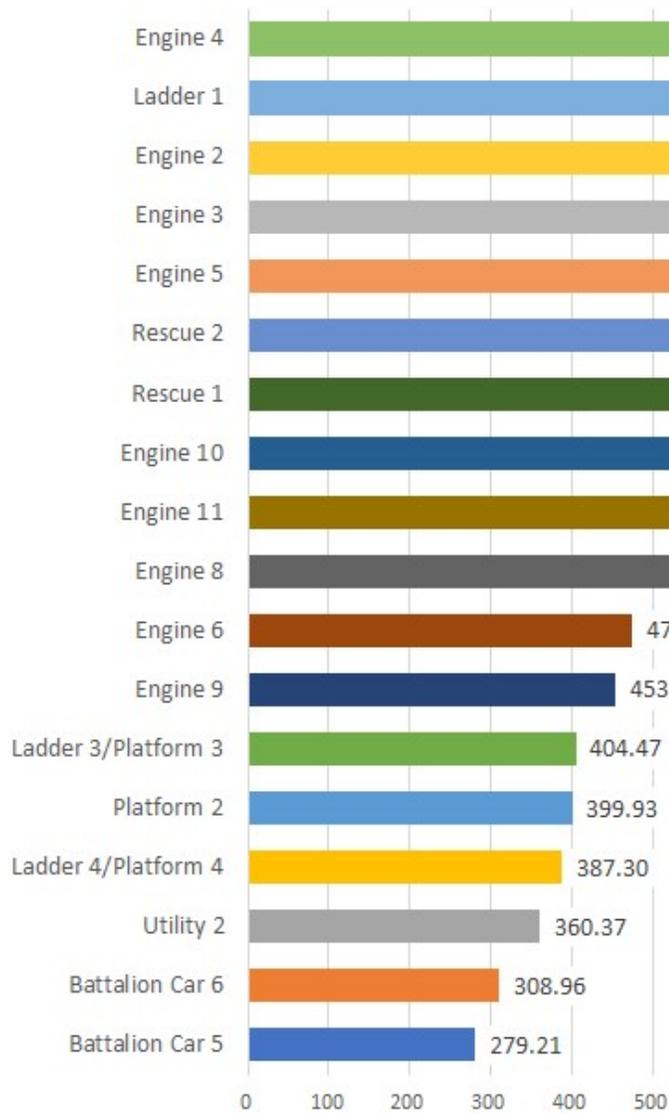
**Utility 2**, our highway blocker, increased by 10.55%

2023 Support Apparatus Responses



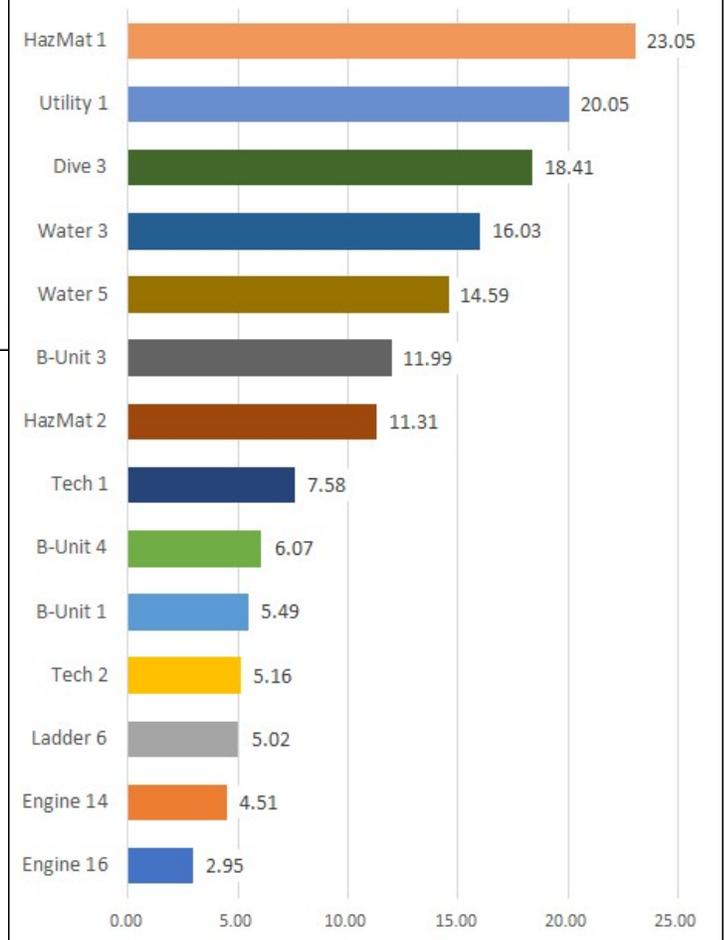
# APPARATUS DEPLOYED HOURS

2023 Frontline Apparatus Deployment Hours



**Engine 4**, out of Kalamazoo Station, had the most responses and deployed time, but still a 9.7% decrease from the previous year. Most apparatus experienced a decrease in deployed hours which could be explained by the increased “wave-off” calls in 2023. **Ladder 1**, showed a decrease from 2022, but increased their deployed hours by 17.92% compared to 2021.

2023 Support Apparatus Deployment Hours

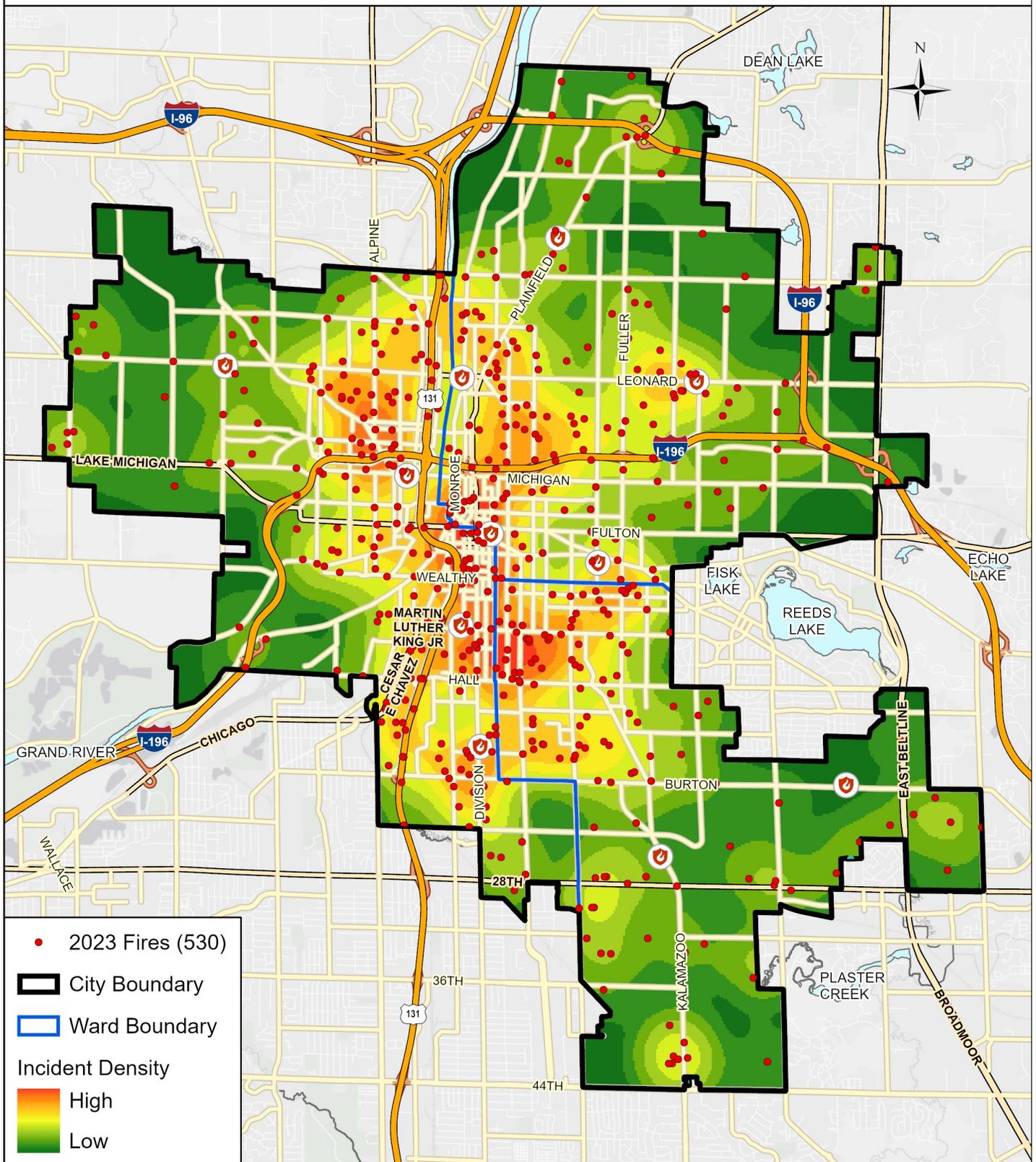


Clearly **Engine 4** is leading GRFD with both responses and deployment hours.

**Ladder 1** 's district is a cause for interest by way of their increased call volume. The north-east corridor, with Interstate 96 and the East Beltline roadways, compounds the issue of increased responses due to motor vehicle crash events.

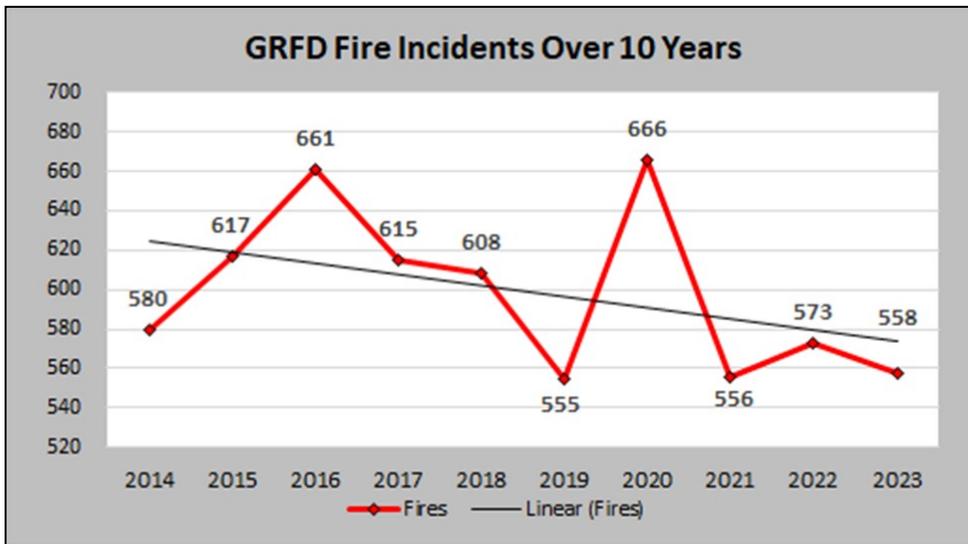
# FIRE INCIDENTS

## 2023 Fire Incidents in Grand Rapids



GRFD responded to 28 fire incidents outside of Grand Rapids, for a total of 558 fire incidents in 2023.

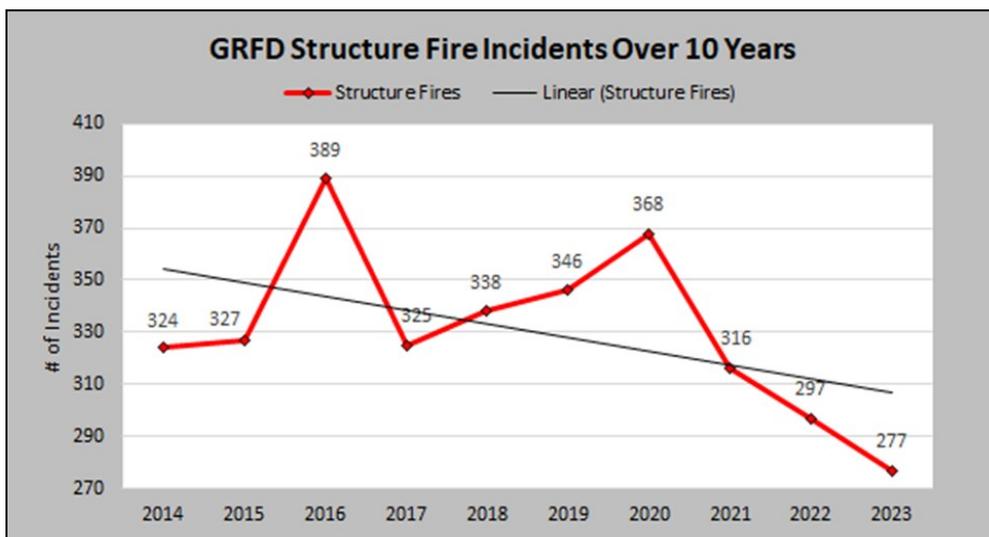
## ALL FIRES



- TYPES OF FIRES**
- Structure Fires
  - Vehicle Fires
  - Natural Vegetation Fires
  - Outside Rubbish Fires
  - Special Outside Fires

In 2023, there were 558 total fire incidents, a 2.62% decrease from the previous year. The ten-year overview for fire incidents is on a slight downward trend. As you will see in the next section, structure fires made up 49.64% of all fire incidents.

## STRUCTURE FIRES



2022 Simultaneous Structure Fires		
Description	Count	%
2 Structure Fires at the Same Time	10	2.96%

2023 Simultaneous Structure Fires		
Description	Count	%
2 Structure Fires at the Same Time	13	3.85%
3 Structure Fires at the Same Time	1	0.30%
4 Structure Fires at the Same Time	1	0.26%

2023 Structure Fires		
# Per Day	Frequency	Total
1	121	121
2	44	88
3	16	48
4	1	4
5	2	10
6	1	6

As in 2022, 2023 presented another reduction in structure fire incident volume, falling by 6.73%. Though the number of structure fires over a 10 year span has varied up and down, the recent trend is visibly decreasing.

In 2023, there were 13 instances where two structure fires took place at the same time; this is a 30% increase from the previous year, when there were 10 instances of two structure fires at the same time. Last year, there were structure fires on 185 days, representing a 50.68% chance of a structure fire occurring on any given day.

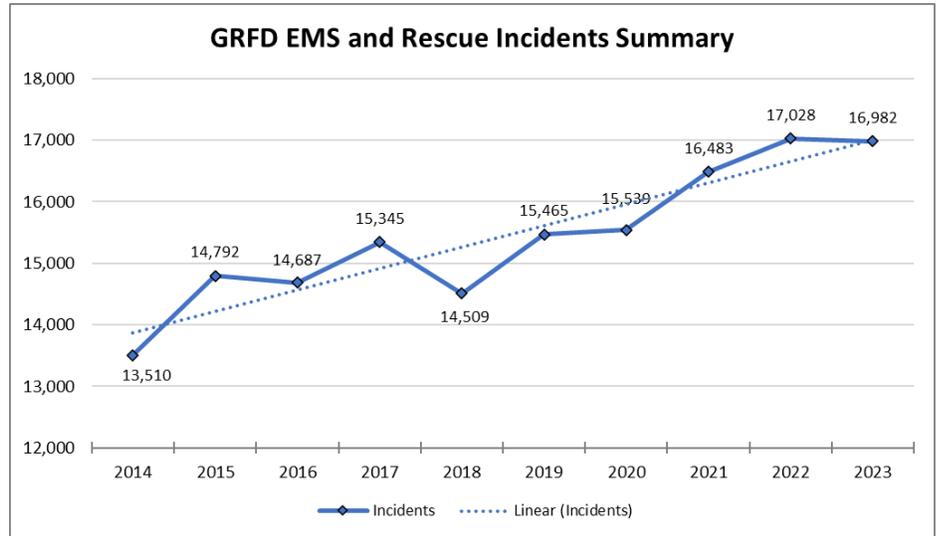
# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS)

## STATISTICS & HIGHLIGHTS



**“Making a positive impact for our citizens by improving our EMS care model.”**

Throughout the year, the GRFD prepared for upgrading its agency licensure from Medical First Responder (MFR) to Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). We provided three EMT matriculation courses to our members that have increased our EMT and higher licensure to 175. Once licensed as an EMT agency, the GRFD will be able to provide additional potentially lifesaving medical care to those in need.



### 2023 Firefighter of the Year, Lieutenant Matt Hutter

Lt. Hutter’s passion for the work that he does can be seen in the EMS division, training division, as well as the pipes and drums corps. As an Instructor Coordinator, Lt. Hutter assisted with our staff raising their EMS Licensures. Within the GRFD, he shines as a leader and by challenging his engine company to be better every day. Compassion is always shown to the citizen that he serves.



GRFD Medical Licensure Levels
17 - EMS Instructor Coordinators
31 - Paramedics
2 - EMT Specialist
141 - EMT Basics
20 - Medical First Responders
26 - Medical Vehicles Certified
68 - Medical Licenses Reviewed

### Return of Spontaneous Circulation (ROSC)

ROSC is when a person’s heart begins beating on its own again after suffering cardiac arrest.

**Of the 319 Cardiac Arrests in 2023, only 70 received bystander CPR.** Call 911 and follow the dispatchers instructions for hands-only CPR.

Total Cardiac Arrest Events .....	319
Witnessed Events .....	100
ROSC in Witnessed Events.....	51%
ROSC in all Cardiac Arrest Events.....	23%

## Two steps to save a life:

**1**

**Call Right Away!**

**2**

**Push Hard & Fast in the Center of the Chest!**

# SPECIAL OPERATIONS

## TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAM ----- 36 Team Members

*(Confined Space, Trench/Building Collapse, Vehicle Stabilization/Extrication, Heavy Lifting/Rigging)*

- 4 Team members completed the MI Urban Search & Rescue: Trench Rescue Technician Program
- 8 Team members completed the 50 hour MUSAR Structural Collapse Technician Program
- 27 members completed a Heavy Vehicle Stabilization and Extrication Program
- Now responding to all elevator incidents in the City in order to quickly ensure the health and safety of our community members and guests. There were 85 elevator emergency responses in 2023.
- 6 Team members continue to work closely with Michigan Task Force 1- Urban Search and Rescue Team and are deployable to any natural or man-made disaster anywhere in the country

## WATER RESPONSE TEAM ----- 36 Team Members

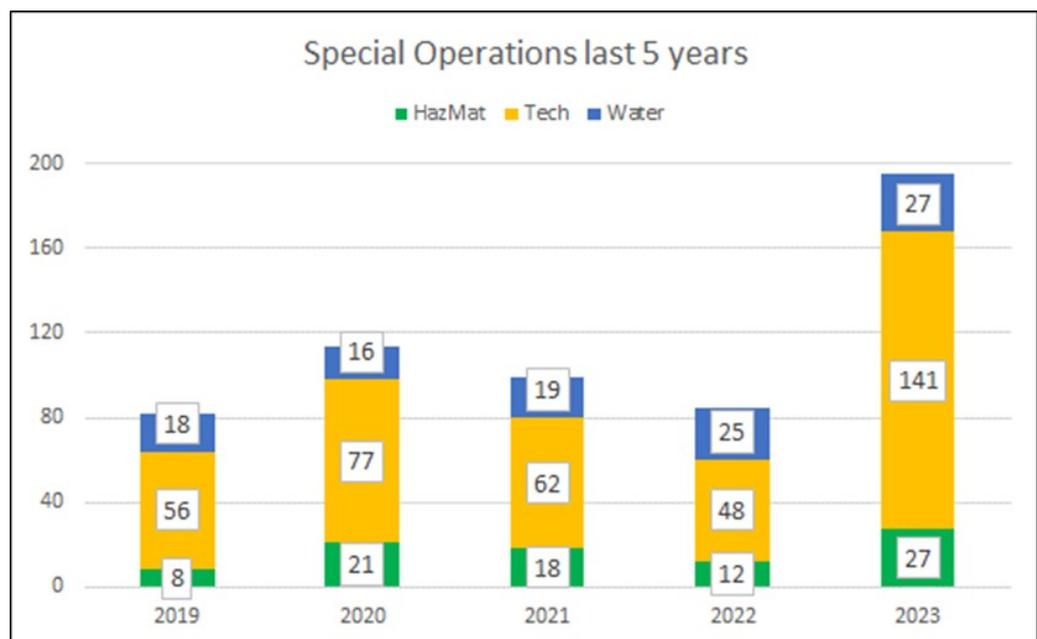
- Addition of dive operations has increased team complexity. Work has been assigned to include better management by creating supervisor positions: Dive Operations -Lt Schnieder, Watercraft/Vehicle Operations-Firefighter Wehler, and Swiftwater/Surface Operations - Equipment Operator Lorelli.
- With the new organizational structure, we started the process of making a strategic plan for the Water Rescue Team.
- 27 responses included: 1 Ice rescue, 3 animal rescues, 6 river rescues, 1 mutual aid dive rescue operation in Walker and 1 assist call for Grand Rapids Police Department.

## HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM ----- 36 Team Members

- Chemical reaction at local beverage plant; HazMat crews reconned and air monitored
- Assisted Algoma Township FD on bonding/grounding and tanker product transfer
- Person into an acid tank; HazMat crews deconned and treated two patients
- Air monitoring/investigation at 3 Mile Post Office
- Assisted Walker FD w/ recon and air monitoring and chemical neutralization

HazMat Team Trainings
Hazmat Officer (4)
USPS Bio Detection System
Confined space Air Monitoring and ventilation
Haviland Chemistry familiarization
Chlorine kits, Grounding/ bonding, product transfers

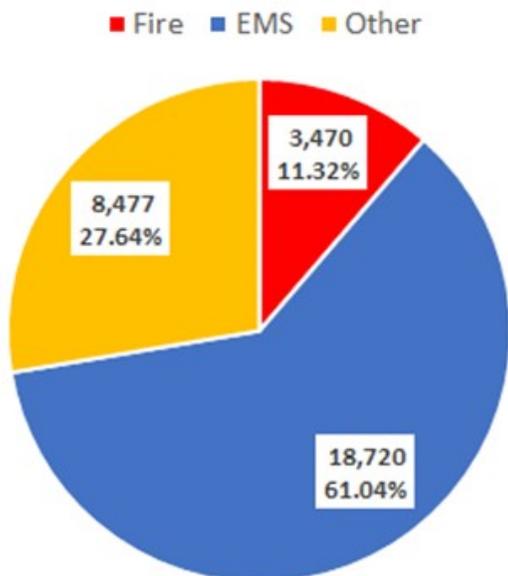
**New Equipment:**  
 Explosive Dust Meter  
 Electric Vehicle Shut off Plugs  
 Car Fire Blanket  
 Confined space rescue vent fan



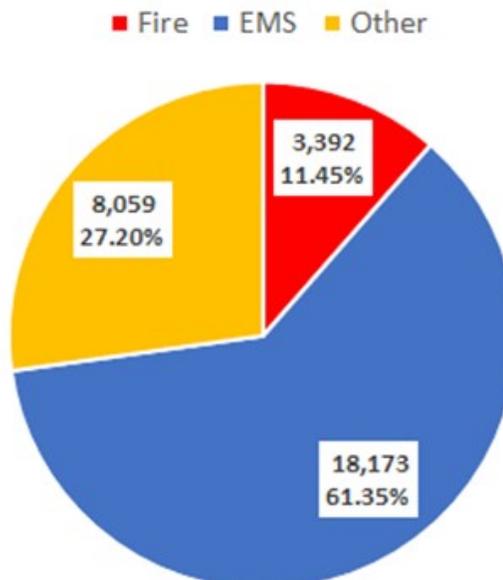
*Calls cancelled enroute or where the airboat was used for ventilation are excluded from this chart.*

# RESPONDER HOURS

**Total Responder Hours 2022**



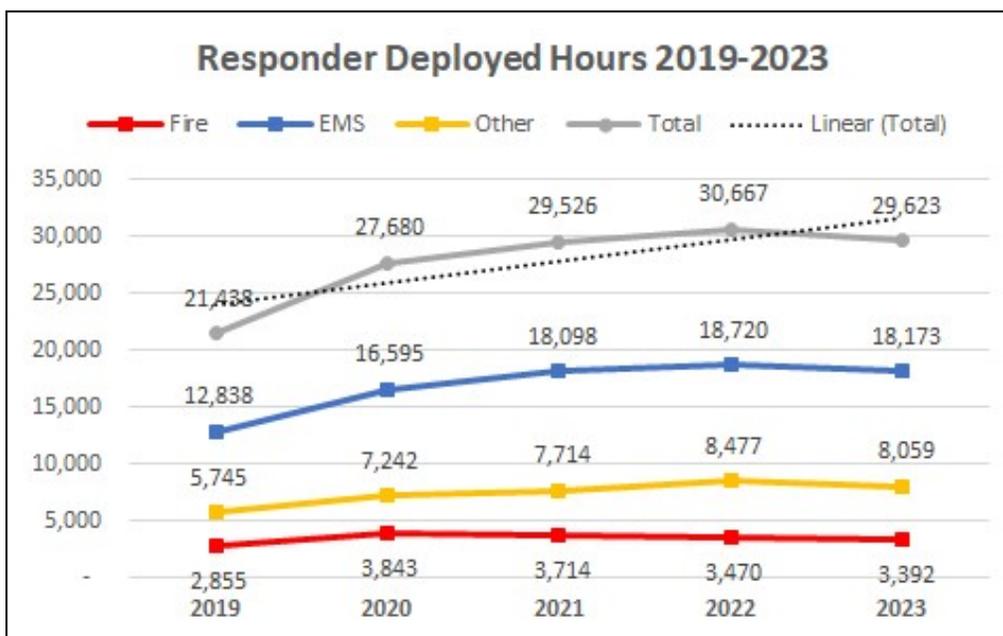
**Total Responder Hours 2023**



EMS incidents accounted for **67.84%** of all incidents and **61.35%** of total responder hours in 2023. While Fire incidents generated only **2.23%** of the total incident volume last year, it required **11.45%** of our deployed time for safe and effective mitigation. Responder hours for fires is down from 2022, but that is primarily due to 20 less structure fire incidents in 2023.

The time personnel spent on scene of “Other” incidents has also trended upwards for the past few years; an increase of **4.47%** since 2021 (see chart below), more than the **.41%** EMS increase in the same time frame. *(since 2019 EMS calls have risen 41.56%)*

The trendline for responder deployed hours over the last five years continues to show a steady increase.



# TEMPORAL ANALYSIS

Temporal Analysis - All Alarms								
Hour	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Total
00:00-00:59	165	119	88	115	100	126	127	840
01:00-01:59	145	83	100	87	91	92	119	717
02:00-02:59	113	72	80	88	69	74	131	627
03:00-03:59	90	67	62	71	62	64	95	511
04:00-04:59	79	74	63	63	58	58	84	479
05:00-05:59	68	84	77	65	60	58	75	487
06:00-06:59	79	97	88	97	81	82	77	601
07:00-07:59	91	120	104	126	125	120	89	775
08:00-08:59	121	163	141	165	134	168	153	1,045
09:00-09:59	151	161	158	176	200	165	136	1,147
10:00-10:59	133	184	157	188	175	176	164	1,177
11:00-11:59	158	170	183	197	192	203	183	1,286
12:00-12:59	191	202	202	207	221	205	192	1,420
13:00-13:59	188	190	200	190	211	198	171	1,348
14:00-14:59	182	200	202	209	239	194	197	1,423
15:00-15:59	208	213	194	220	224	209	172	1,440
16:00-16:59	207	186	210	191	209	213	199	1,415
17:00-17:59	220	198	201	206	209	230	201	1,465
18:00-18:59	190	209	186	186	190	187	177	1,325
19:00-19:59	188	167	164	155	189	208	198	1,269
20:00-20:59	159	171	165	152	142	182	176	1,147
21:00-21:59	151	155	156	149	168	165	170	1,114
22:00-22:59	118	110	140	133	159	175	160	995
23:00-23:59	130	116	123	126	170	164	152	981
Total	3,525	3,511	3,444	3,562	3,678	3,716	3,598	25,034

Temporal Analysis - Fires								
Hour	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Total
00:00-00:59	1	2	1	7	0	2	1	14
01:00-01:59	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	14
02:00-02:59	3	3	1	2	4	3	3	19
03:00-03:59	1	2	0	4	0	2	3	12
04:00-04:59	5	4	2	1	0	2	2	16
05:00-05:59	0	4	0	2	2	1	4	13
06:00-06:59	0	2	1	1	0	1	2	7
07:00-07:59	3	1	3	4	0	3	2	16
08:00-08:59	4	2	2	3	1	3	1	16
09:00-09:59	1	3	3	2	3	2	1	15
10:00-10:59	2	3	2	4	2	2	2	17
11:00-11:59	1	2	6	3	3	3	4	22
12:00-12:59	2	2	4	2	2	2	5	19
13:00-13:59	3	5	6	2	4	2	3	25
14:00-14:59	7	4	2	5	5	3	5	31
15:00-15:59	7	3	4	3	12	5	4	38
16:00-16:59	4	5	4	5	6	4	3	31
17:00-17:59	7	7	3	5	5	5	6	38
18:00-18:59	5	11	3	4	7	4	6	40
19:00-19:59	6	3	3	8	6	4	3	33
20:00-20:59	4	2	3	4	9	7	5	34
21:00-21:59	8	3	6	3	5	5	4	34
22:00-22:59	5	1	3	2	4	4	5	24
23:00-23:59	3	3	14	1	1	3	5	30
Total	84	79	78	79	83	74	81	558

Temporal Analysis - EMS/ Rescues								
Hour	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Total
00:00-00:59	124	83	62	70	67	56	90	552
01:00-01:59	95	66	73	51	61	60	71	477
02:00-02:59	86	52	54	51	43	45	90	421
03:00-03:59	59	42	43	48	41	45	70	348
04:00-04:59	54	49	43	48	39	39	63	335
05:00-05:59	45	64	55	46	42	37	49	338
06:00-06:59	62	73	66	67	56	53	56	433
07:00-07:59	59	84	67	90	88	79	62	529
08:00-08:59	82	105	104	114	95	119	109	728
09:00-09:59	106	97	104	116	137	99	107	766
10:00-10:59	96	122	117	130	112	122	114	813
11:00-11:59	103	119	117	131	130	135	129	864
12:00-12:59	129	137	148	138	153	145	135	985
13:00-13:59	136	142	132	126	146	134	117	933
14:00-14:59	126	129	143	137	158	134	134	961
15:00-15:59	133	138	139	143	154	147	122	976
16:00-16:59	148	117	141	124	139	140	126	935
17:00-17:59	151	141	144	135	141	158	145	1,015
18:00-18:59	135	135	120	127	124	115	123	879
19:00-19:59	134	104	115	108	125	142	145	873
20:00-20:59	112	123	115	111	91	126	122	800
21:00-21:59	98	99	106	97	111	119	114	744
22:00-22:59	77	74	96	88	91	110	110	646
23:00-23:59	87	80	74	92	96	113	89	631
Total	2,437	2,375	2,378	2,388	2,440	2,472	2,492	16,982

For 2023, the most active time period for the day of the week and hour of the day occurred on **Thursdays between 2pm and 3pm**, with 239 calls for service. In 2022, the busiest day and hour were Tuesdays between 5pm and 6pm, with 240 calls.

EMS responses continue to be higher between 9 am and 10 pm, the time period most people are active and awake. This year’s busiest hours for EMS calls were on **Thursdays from 2pm to 3pm, and Fridays between 5pm to 6pm** with a tie count of 158 incidents.

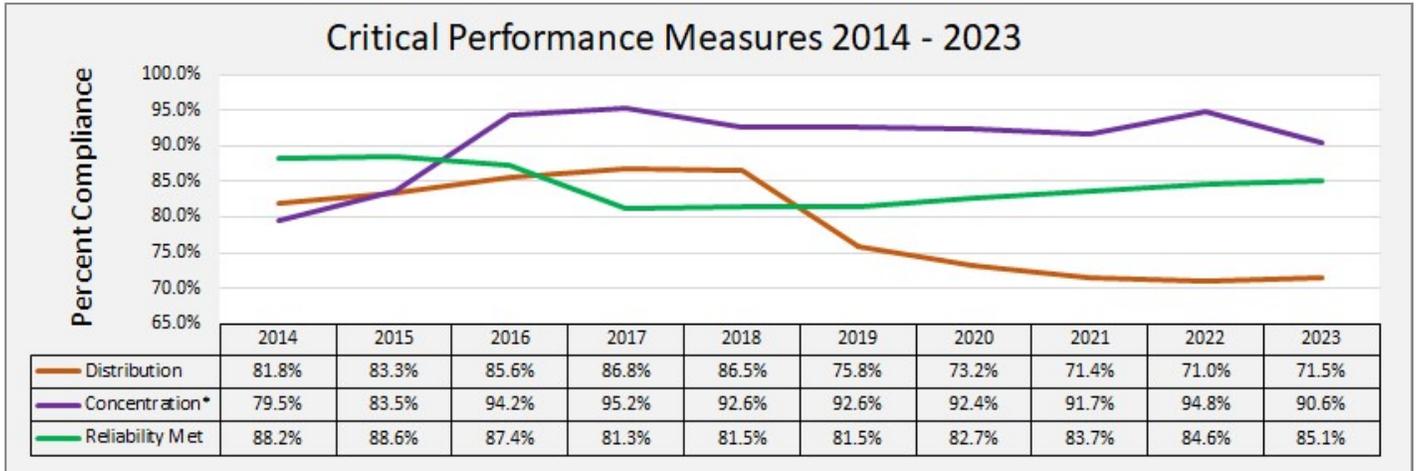
The most responses to fire incidents were seen **Thursdays between 2pm and 11pm and Sundays between 2pm and 12am.** (See page 30 for a break down of Structure Fire Causes).

# CRITICAL PERFORMANCE MEASURES

**Distribution** is the ability to get our first unit on scene within a set time; **Distribution Travel Time** being the biggest factor for meeting this benchmark.

**Concentration** is the ability to assemble an **effective response force (ERF)** within a set time. **ERF** is the number of personnel required to perform the required critical tasking per incident type in alignment with GRFD policies.

**Reliability** is the percentage of time a unit is able to answer calls in their own district.



\*Concentration in this chart specifically looks at multi-unit fire alarm types; Distribution and Reliability reflect all alarm types.

Exhibit A

\*\*In 2019, the department began using a more accurate start time when calculating these metrics.

## DISTRIBUTION TRAVEL TIME - 2023 distribution travel time compliance for all alarms. 2022 Citywide: 72.73%

	Bridge	Burton	Chester	Covell	Division	Kalamazoo	La Grave	Leonard	MLK Jr.	Monroe	Plainfield	Citywide
Pass	1947	656	1231	770	1359	1377	2982	1093	1362	1316	517	14610
Fail	269	499	350	606	387	1158	171	682	190	284	296	4892
Compliance	87.86%	56.80%	77.86%	55.96%	77.84%	54.32%	94.58%	61.58%	87.76%	82.25%	63.59%	74.92%

Exhibit B

## CONCENTRATION (ERF) - 2023 concentration ERF compliance for all multi-company alarms. 2022 Citywide: 73.05%

	Bridge	Burton	Chester	Covell	Division	Kalamazoo	La Grave	Leonard	MLK Jr.	Monroe	Plainfield	Citywide
Pass	121	25	44	33	64	81	81	40	71	56	11	627
Fail	18	16	4	22	17	10	13	47	6	19	22	194
Compliance	87.05%	60.98%	91.67%	60.00%	79.01%	89.01%	86.17%	45.98%	92.21%	74.67%	33.33%	76.37%

Exhibit C

## RELIABILITY - Trend over 10 years for all alarms.

When reliability gets too low, the deployment model requires review to determine if another unit is needed in that district.

	Reliability									
Station	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Bridge	92.62%	92.07%	89.88%	79.83%	78.04%	80.14%	81.57%	83.65%	84.93%	82.78%
Burton	87.16%	88.06%	86.87%	83.30%	84.24%	83.41%	84.45%	86.72%	86.43%	86.99%
Chester	83.39%	84.02%	81.17%	73.76%	72.64%	71.56%	65.89%	69.47%	73.99%	77.39%
Covell	85.82%	85.01%	85.19%	77.53%	78.43%	76.87%	79.81%	82.72%	82.65%	84.60%
Division	83.90%	83.27%	82.19%	78.91%	79.86%	76.04%	80.96%	81.53%	81.97%	81.95%
Kalamazoo	95.43%	95.34%	94.13%	86.92%	87.90%	90.93%	91.72%	91.52%	90.97%	92.35%
La Grave	83.50%	91.20%	94.13%	88.29%	85.30%	85.50%	89.10%	88.55%	89.37%	89.82%
Leonard	86.99%	86.47%	85.13%	76.36%	81.29%	78.69%	83.45%	80.50%	82.56%	83.77%
MLK Jr.	95.78%	94.77%	93.07%	81.62%	87.25%	89.02%	88.82%	89.22%	88.41%	88.99%
Monroe	85.80%	79.59%	77.77%	76.35%	74.56%	72.68%	76.42%	77.21%	79.28%	76.23%
Plainfield	90.09%	86.70%	85.38%	84.50%	82.81%	81.37%	85.16%	85.48%	84.30%	84.00%
CITYWIDE	88.20%	88.55%	87.37%	81.29%	81.48%	81.00%	82.66%	83.67%	84.64%	85.06%

Exhibit D

# PERFORMANCE GAP ANALYSIS

This page evaluates performance gaps for the total response area, such as inadequacies, inconsistencies, and negative trends. In addition, this data compares the current operational capabilities and capacity of the department to the identified risk level within the community. Once the gaps have been identified, a continuous improvement plan will be developed and tracked throughout the following year to address these existing gaps and variations.

## **Distribution - Goal of 90% compliance.**

- **Citywide Distribution** increased to **74.92%** from **72.73%** in 2022 . This is a slight improvement of 2.19%. Distribution issues continue to be driven by large single company districts on the edge of the city, combined with an increasing population/risk.
- **Kalamazoo Avenue Station Distribution** travel time improved slightly to **54.32 %** from **52.95%** in 2022. This district has continued to under perform as it experienced 1,158 failures to meet the desired outcome. (see page 7, New Kendall St. Station, for more information regarding this issue.)
- **Leonard Street Station Distribution** improved slightly to **61.58%** from **up from 60.11%** in 2022. This district experienced 682 failures. Details pertaining this issue can be found on pages 18-19.

## **Concentration (Effective Response Force) — Goal of 90% compliance (measures all call types).**

The following outlying districts, where it is more difficult to assemble effective response forces, three of eleven districts showed a decline in their concentration compliance.

- Plainfield ERF fell from **43.14% to 33.33% (-9.81%)**
- Covell's ERF improved from **58.00% to 60.00% (2%)**
- Burton ERF improved from **60.00% to 60.98% (.98%)**
- Leonard ERF improved from **41.49% to 45.98% (4.49%)**

## **Reliability - Goal of 90% compliance. Overall, reliability has improved from 81% in 2019 to 85.06% in 2023.**

- **Covell Reliability** is at **84.60%**, a slight improvement from **82.65%** in 2022, this district has improved each year since 2019.
- **Chester Reliability** at **77.39%**, up from **73.99 %** in 2022, this district has improved each year since 2020.
- **Bridge Reliability** fell from **84.93%** in 2022 to **82.78%** last year.

## **Simultaneous Responses - Monitored for overall call volume in response districts (pg. 17)**

6 districts saw increases in simultaneous responses compared to 2022.

- **Bridge district**, a double company station with the growing district population, is the highest district for simultaneous calls at **11.93%** .
- **Kalamazoo and LaGrave districts** are the next highest double company stations at **10.91%** and **10.61%** respectively.
- **Leonard and Plainfield districts** are the highest single company districts at **11.31%** and **9.69%** respectively.

# ADMINISTRATIVE CHIEFS

## DEPUTY CHIEF OF OPERATIONS - Jack Johnson



**Strategic Plan Pillar Owner - Response**

- Operations Personnel
- Radio, Gas Monitor, Drone Programs & Mask Room
- Safety Committee
- Station Alerting & Communications
- EMS Division & Special Operations
- Response Metrics Analysis



## DEPUTY CHIEF OF SUPPORT SERVICES - Eric Freeman



**Strategic Plan Pillar Owner - Support Services**

- Personnel & Human Resources
- Evaluations & Injury Documentation
- General Management Support
- Scheduling & Leave Usage
- Promotions, Retirements, & New Hires
- Prevention & Recruitment



## ASSISTANT CHIEF - Keith Borreson



**Strategic Plan Pillar Owner - Wellness**

- Fiscal Services (Budget)
- Procurement
- Building & Fleet Maintenance
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Planning Division
- Administration Personnel



## TRAINING CHIEF - William Race



**Strategic Plan Pillar Owner - Training**

- Multi-Company & Instructor Training
- Host state classes
- Facilitates CPR & Confined Space Training
- Academy Training



## FIRE MARSHAL - Don Gerkey



**Strategic Plan Pillar Owner - Prevention**

- Commercial Inspections & Plan Reviews
- Fire Investigations
- Public Education
- Residential Safety Program
- Fire Match



## BATTALION CHIEFS

Battalion Chiefs, our highest ranking suppression officers, direct large-scale emergency scenes, coordinate community interaction opportunities, bring direction from administration to our crews, and tend to the needs of suppression personnel, including fostering professional development and coordinating accident/injury investigations. Daily personnel staffing is managed by the South Battalion Chiefs to assure an effective response across the city.

### NORTH BATTALION

Leonard, Bridge, Monroe, La Grave, Covell, Plainfield



**David Noorman**

Extrication

External Agency Liaison  
(including MABAS)



**Ed Braman**

Tech Rescue



**Richard Clark**

Water Rescue

### SOUTH BATTALION

Martin Luther King Jr, Kalamazoo, Burton, Division, Chester



**Mark Noorman**

Wellness



**Kathleen Thompson**

Hazardous Materials



**Scott Stevenson**

Mask Repair  
Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)

# COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

*Protecting against loss of life and property through education and prevention efforts.*

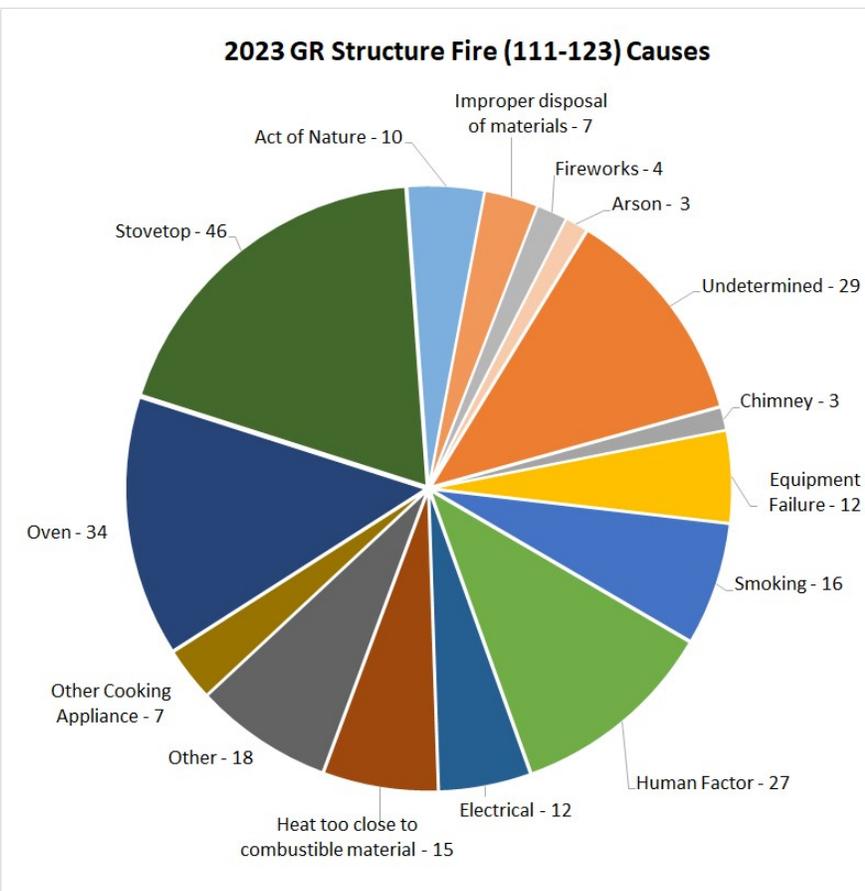
## Inspections & Investigations

- 100 % of the assigned Operational Permit Inspections were completed.
- Began Part Time Inspector Program to assist with Operational Permit Inspections.
- Nearly 400 Commercial Building Referrals concerning fire code violations were reported by fire suppression officers. All of these referrals were addressed.
- Fire Prevention Investigators responded to 44 fire incidents where injuries, deaths, Police Department requested, or high dollar losses due to fire.
- Unfortunately, due to fire, 3 civilians were injured, and 1 person lost their life in 2023, which is down from 12 injuries and 2 fatalities in 2022.
- Two investigators provided testimony on fatal fire cases, both from 2022 that ultimately led to one conviction and one plea deal.

## Construction & Plan Review

Inspecting new construction and renovation projects within Grand Rapids can help determine new areas of potential risk in the community. The table below shows completed plan reviews by district.

	Bridge	Burton	Chester	Covell	Division	MLK Jr	Kalamazoo	La Grave	Leonard	Monroe	Plainfield	Citywide
<b>Count</b>	80	55	26	21	39	7	22	75	69	43	7	<b>444</b>
<b>Percentage</b>	18.02%	12.39%	5.86%	4.73%	8.78%	1.58%	4.95%	16.89%	15.54%	9.68%	1.58%	



## Public Education

The public engaged in fire safety education opportunities at 165 events last year, including community open houses, festivals, school visits, and church gatherings. From October 9 through December 11, teams of firefighters went into GRPS schools to educate 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students in the importance of fire prevention and safety education. fire prevention also acquired Freddie the Fire Truck as an addition to our child education outreach program. Since acquisition, Freddie has participated in several community events.

# Home Safety Assessments (HSAs) & Risk Assessments

This data shows the combined efforts of prevention and suppression personnel to mitigate hazards through commercial property risk assessments and Residential Safety Program (RSP) assessments. Of those completed, 29% were done within the Neighborhoods of Focus (NOF).

	Bridge	Burton	Chester	Covell	Division	MLK	Kalamazoo	La Grave	Leonard	Monroe	Plainfield	Citywide
Home Safety Assessment	48	35	75	79	71	34	113	11	50	38	58	612
Risk Assessment	108	122	112	55	100	93	151	96	119	131	56	1,143

## 2023 Statistics

Smoke Alarms installed	3,647
CO Alarms installed	1,546

Suppression members completed **1,143**

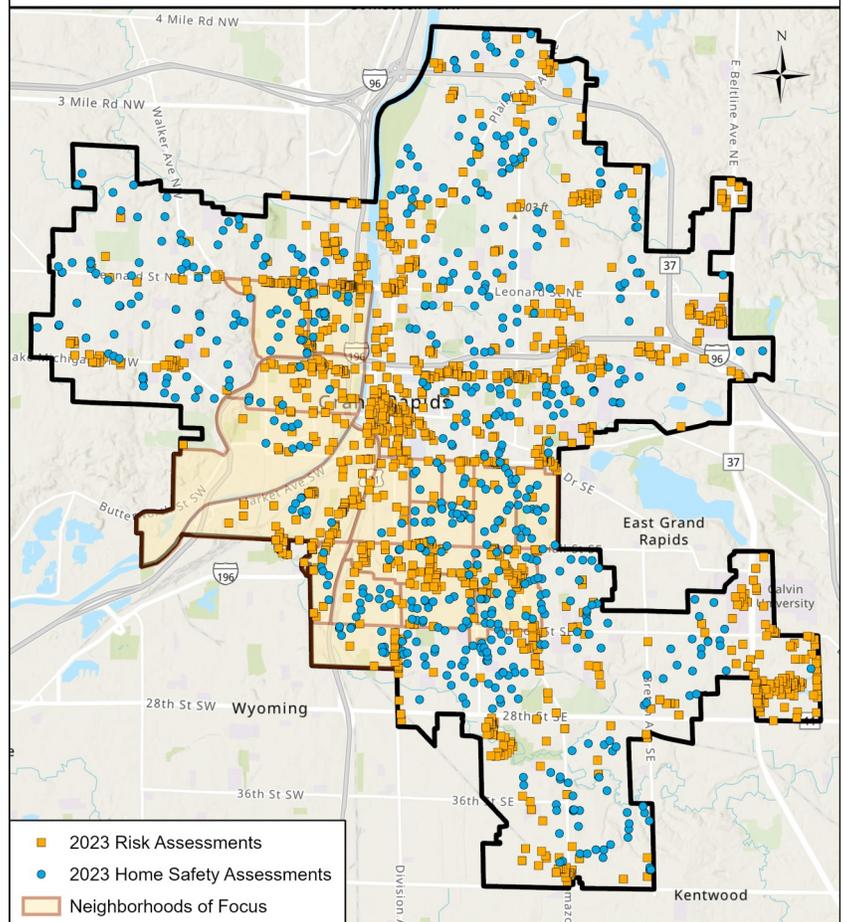
**Risk Assessments** on commercial and multi-family residential structures, helping to identify new hazards and updating response needs. With the City’s focus on Neighborhoods of Focus (NOF), the map here shows how many HSAs and Risk Assessments were performed in those areas. Additionally, when fire crews encountered residences that don’t have smoke alarms, they will install them.

## Fire Match Program

- With the assistance of our partnering agencies\*, we made successful contact with 14 families out of 15 referrals. 12 children have successfully completed the 6 month program with 2 on track with completion in Spring of 2024.
- 2 firefighters completed juvenile fire setting training in 2023 to ensure program sustainability.

*\*(Kent County Probation, DHHS/ Social Services, Arbor Circle, Grand Rapids Public Schools and DA Blodgett)*

## 2023 Home Safety Assessments & Risk Assessments



**Call 311 for Home Safety Assessment eligibility and scheduling, or scan the QR code above to learn more!**

## PLANNING DIVISION

*Providing information to support decision making activities throughout the organization.*

### Major Accomplishments

- Completed Insurance Services Office (ISO) audit and awaiting classification renewal.
- The Performance Management Records Specialist worked with the NFPA 1022 Technical Committee on Fire Service Analysts and Informational Technical Specialists Professional Qualifications (PQU-FSA) wrapped up; committee awaiting NFPA decision.
- Strategic Planning Officers (SPO) assisted Emergency Operations Center activation during the August Storm.
- SPO Division attended CPSE Summer Symposium, both officers have achieved Peer Assessor level 2 status and have accepted responsibility to assist other jurisdictions in their pursuit of accreditation.
- Provided detailed information pertaining to need for an additional recruit class for October 2023.

## OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



*Working toward creating a resilient and prepared community through preparedness, response, and recovery.*

### Emergency Management - Major Accomplishments

- Hired Emergency Management Specialist to focus on Public Outreach and Education
- Emergency Management Administrator graduated from the FEMA National Emergency Management Advanced Academy
- Hired IEM Consulting to perform a Threat and Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (THIRA), Stakeholder Preparedness Report (SPR), and a Community Preparedness Report (CPR) on the City of Grand Rapids.
- Facilitated a Hazmat Tabletop Exercise for Haviland Corporation
- Facilitated an Active Shooter Tabletop Exercise for Calvin University
- Coordinated response and recovery to the August 24, 2023 severe weather and tornado

### Public Outreach and Education - Major Accomplishments

- Implemented a community emergency response volunteer program, (CERT) leveraging strategic planning and grassroots outreach in the local municipality to enhance community resilience and readiness
- Crafted and implemented a dynamic social media presence for the office, increasing online engagement, fostering community awareness, and strategically disseminating emergent and non-emergent information to a broad audience.
- Conducted a series of impactful emergency preparedness workshops, reaching diverse organizations within the community and equipping participants with essential knowledge and skills to enhance resilience.

## PROMOTIONS

### CHIEFS

05/01/2023 Brown, Brad (Fire Chief)  
 05/15/2023 Freeman, Eric (DC of Support Services)  
 06/12/2023 Borreson, Keith (Assistant Chief of Admin)

### FIRE MARSHAL

06/23/2023 Gerkey, Don

### CAPTAINS

01/09/2023 Waldron, Mike  
 07/06/2023 Holmes, Justin  
 07/11/2023 Rood, Robert  
 08/01/2023 LaGrone, Roy  
 11/08/2023 Van Lente, Jon

### LIEUTENANTS

01/06/2023 Zamarron, Jason  
 01/09/2023 Ryder, Erik  
 01/21/2023 Honderd, Kurt  
 06/09/2023 Tuttle, Jason  
 06/09/2023 Miller, Greg  
 06/13/2023 Adamczyk, Steve  
 07/05/2023 McEntire, Molly  
 07/05/2023 Stevens, Matt  
 07/06/2023 Purser, Greg  
 11/30/2023 Shepard, Jeremy  
 11/30/2023 Welsh, Tim

### EQUIPMENT OPERATORS

04/19/2023 Greenfield, Xavier  
 04/19/2023 Sullivan, Casey  
 04/19/2023 Hall, Ashley  
 04/19/2023 Williams, Evan  
 04/19/2023 Slomp, Ryan

## NEW HIRES

### Class of 02/06/2023

Chavez, Severriano  
 Cross, Tyler  
 Gofoe, Joe  
 Gomez, Hugo  
 Heyblom, Jacob  
 Jefferies, Caleb  
 Johnson, James  
 Kranz, David  
 Lakatos, Jonah  
 Martin, Mason  
 Melville, Zachery  
 Metcalf, Major  
 Miller, Kathleen  
 Nelli, Brandon  
 Ortega, Samuel  
 Post, Keaton  
 Vermeulen, Samuel  
 Wilson, Matthew  
 Pincus, Jonathan

### Class of 10/30/2023

Cardenas, Antonio  
 Brennan, Thomas  
 Peterman, Tyler  
 Graham, David  
 Pantoja, Jeovani  
 Luke, Casey  
 Stout, Patrick  
 Noto, Lindsey  
 Schut, Dylan  
 Terry, Alexzander  
 Knowling, Jennifer  
 Rodriguez, Aaron  
 Diamond, Mitchell  
 Pimentel, Luis  
 Patterson, Christoffer  
 Holton, Seth  
 Keusch, Theodore  
 Wojczynski, Kyle  
 Burress, Dexter  
 Burress, Johnny  
 West, Amanda  
 Bess, Antoine

## RETIREMENTS

*Thank you to our 2023 retirees for their many years of dedicated service. Together these men and women have served the City of Grand Rapids and fulfilled the mission of the GRFD. We wish you the best in your future endeavors.*

01/02/2023 Murray, Sean (Lieutenant)  
 01/17/2023 DeBack, William (Firefighter)  
 03/01/2023 Draper, Aaron (Lieutenant—FPI)  
 05/01/2023 Lehman, John (Fire Chief)  
 07/01/2023 Rohloff, Tony (Equipment Operator)  
 07/06/2023 Dokter, Eric (Fire Marshal)  
 07/10/2023 Carmel, Kevin (Captain)  
 08/02/2023 Flinsky, Jack (Lieutenant—FPI)  
 08/14/2023 Timmer, Terrence (Equipment Operator)  
 10/04/2023 White, Fred (Captain)  
 10/24/2023 Hanes, Alex (Lieutenant—HOT)  
 11/04/2023 Gonzales, James (Lieutenant)  
 11/30/2023 Storteboom, Jim (Equipment Operator)



## MISSION

The Grand Rapids Fire Department values all people by saving lives, protecting property, and responding to the needs of our entire community.

## VISION

Providing world-class fire services for our community by employing a diverse workforce which respects, values and develops our members.

## VALUES

- Honesty
- Integrity
- Loyalty
- Teamwork
- Excellence



## Contact Information

**311** for Home Safety Assessment eligibility and scheduling - page 31

**616.456.4240** for Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) - page 9

**616.456.3900** for Grand Rapids Fire Department inquiries

**Dial 911** for Emergencies

**Grand Rapids Fire Department**

38 La Grave Ave SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503



For further information on this Annual Report contact the Grand Rapids Fire Department at 616.456.3900