



2024 GRFD Annual Report

2024 BREAK-EVEN DATE

3/7/2024

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

Total Alarms	25,415
Alarms in Grand Rapids	24,330
Alarms Outside of Grand Rapids.....	85
Apparatus Responses	34,920
Responder Hours.....	30,109

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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

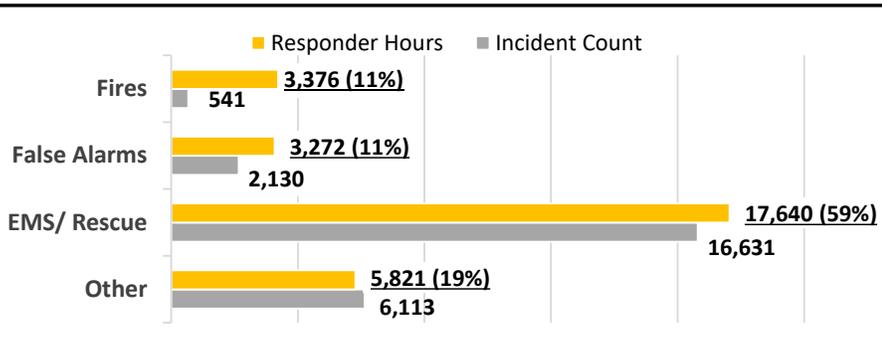
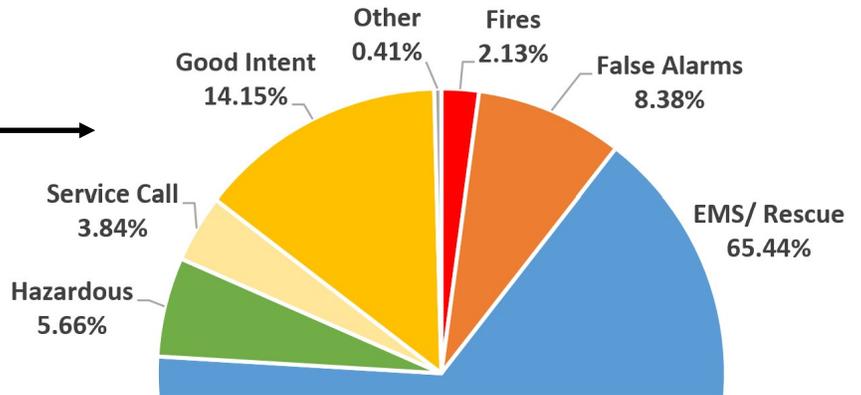
Alarm Type - What we are dispatched to

NFIRS Incident Type - What situation is actually found

2024 AT A GLANCE

Total Incidents
25,415

Incidents....
Within Grand Rapids: **25,340**
Outside Grand Rapids: **85**

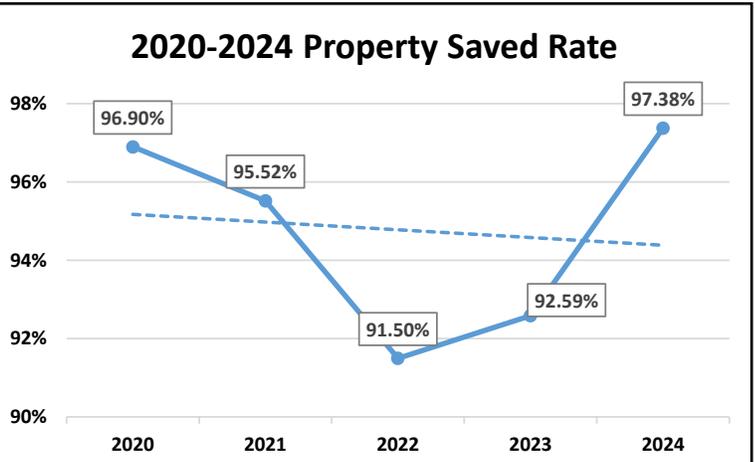


Apparatus Responses
34,920

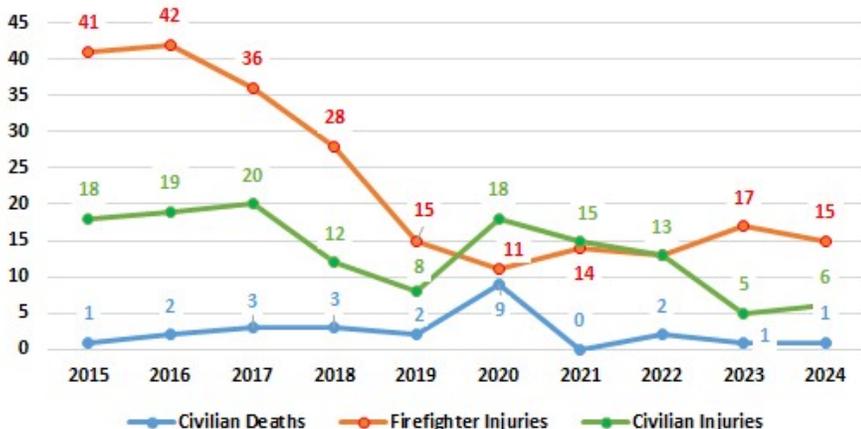
Responder Hours
30,109

Property Saved Rate 97.38%
Property Saved Value \$381,697,585
Property Loss Rate..... 2.62%
Property Loss Value..... \$10,257,710

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



2015-2024 Fire Incident Casualties

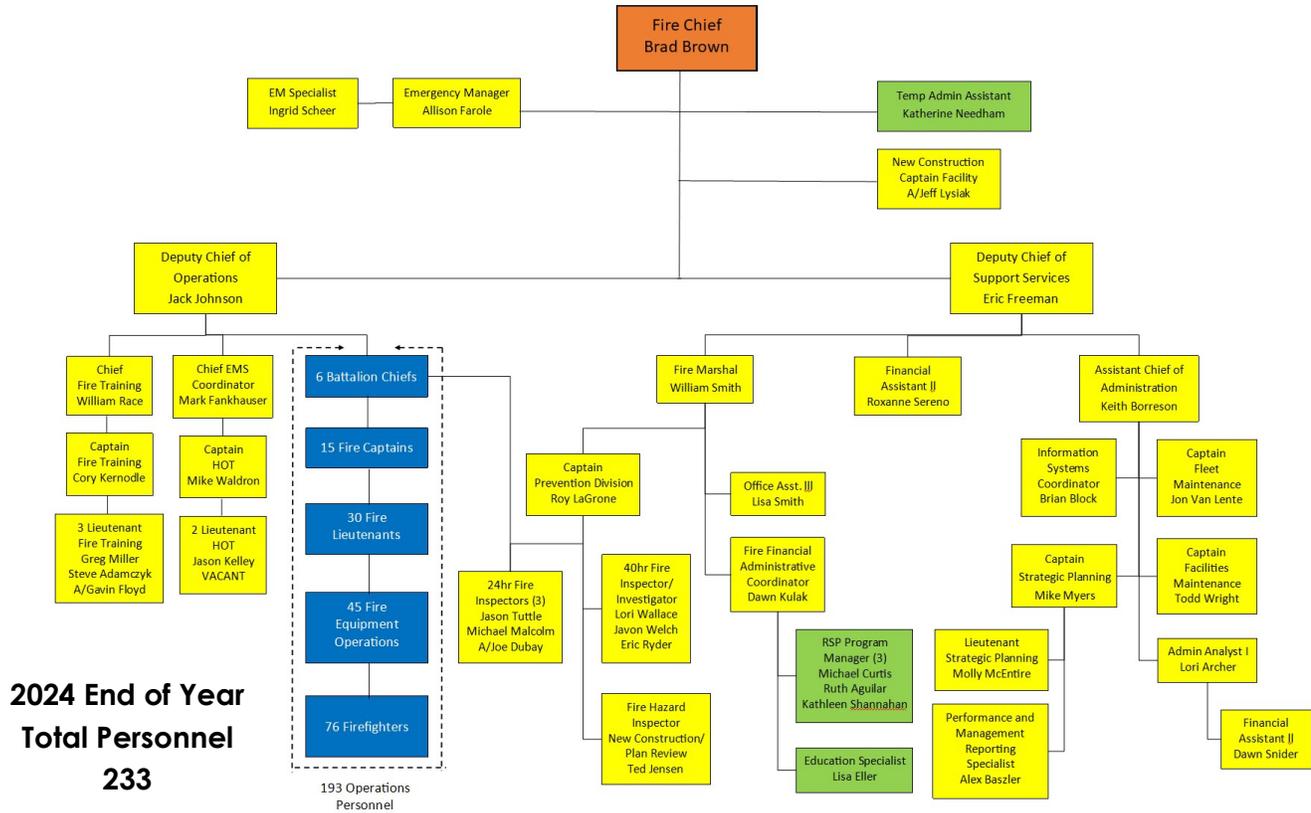


Civilian Injuries6
Civilian Deaths..... 1
Firefighter Injuries* 15
Firefighter Deaths0

*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 an additional 10 non-incident related, on-duty firefighter injuries in 2024.

GRFD ORGANIZATION & FISCAL



ADMINISTRATION: **20** OPERATIONS: **193** PREVENTION: **15** TRAINING: **5**

FY 2024 CITY BUDGET \$644,036,119

CITY GENERAL OPERATING FUND \$178,677,522

GRFD ADOPTED BUDGET \$40,288,938

GRANTS (Awarded, Open, or Closed in 2024)

SAFER: Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response Grant AFG: Assistance to Firefighters Grant FP&S: Fire Prevention & Safety Grant RCP: Regional Catastrophic Preparedness EDA: Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration MI-LEO: MI Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity

2024 EDA \$2,950,000 (2024 award)To construct live burn training tower at new facility

2024 MI-LEO \$640,884 (2024 award)New turnout gear for all frontline fire personnel

2023 SAFER \$3,178,199 (2024 award)Funds 10 firefighter positions for 3 years at Kendall station

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)

Grants closed out in 2024:

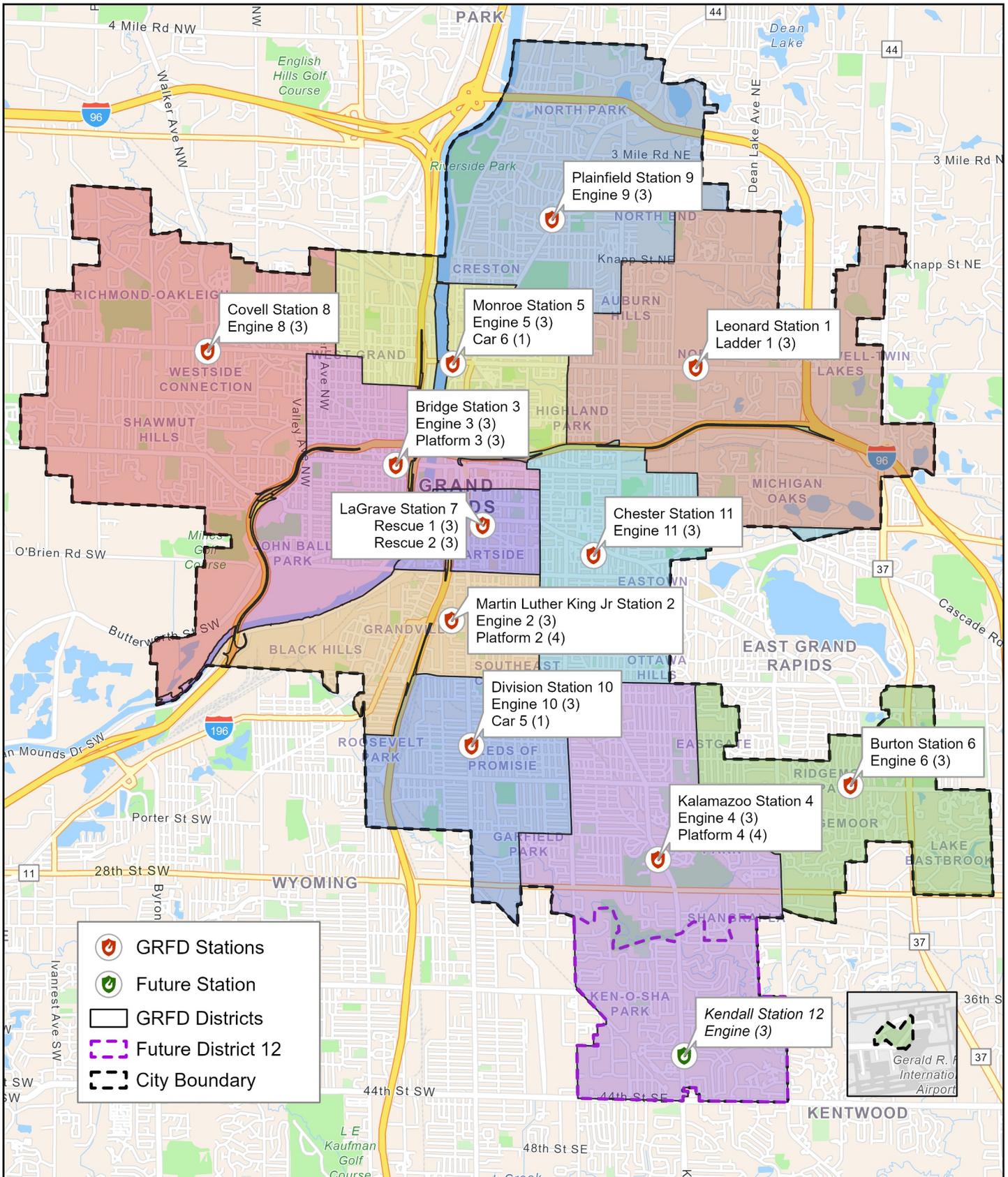
2020 AFG - \$9,991 (2021: COVID PPE expenses), **2020 AFG** - \$366,211 (2021: vehicle extrication training/ equip)

2020 FP&S - \$324,939 (2021: Installation of residential smoke/CO alarms)

2018 AFG - \$500,000 (2019: Installation of station backup generators)

2024 GRFD DEPLOYMENT MAP

Includes Frontline apparatus and (assigned crew counts)



2024 LETTER FROM THE CHIEF



2024 was a year marked by progress. That which has been in motion for years is becoming tangible, and it couldn't come at a better time. With the surge in construction and anticipated growth, it is as important as ever to ensure the fire department programs are staffed, trained, and prepared to respond to emerging risks within our community. Staffing was increased by 10 firefighters to facilitate the opening of our 12th fire station located in the third ward on Kendall St., which we anticipate being operational in the fall of 2025 with Engine 12. Once again, the GRFD grant team's hard work paid off,



On September 17th, City and State officials gathered with the Fire Chief and EV Construction to break ground on GRFD's new Kendall Station. The first walls went up in December with opening set for fall of 2025.

resulting in the additional personnel will be paid for by a SAFER grant. Planning continued on both the new training center at 850 Pannel St. NW and the new Division Ave. Fire Station and community input was sought to ensure our vision aligns with the community vision for their new fire stations.

Fire chiefs from across the state also got to witness our professionalism and growth as we hosted the Midwest Fire Rescue Expo in Grand Rapids for the first time in several decades at DeVos place.



On scene of Grand Rapids Brewing Co. fire February 23.

2024 saw a high profile fire incident downtown at the corner of Ionia and Fulton in the Grand Rapids Brewing building. Much news coverage and social media interest was generated with State Representative of the 84th District Carol Glanville remarking, "Every community deserves a fully-staffed & appropriately resourced professional fire department. Because of proximity to the station, equipment, expertise, & the number of firefighters available, what could have been a horrific tragedy in the heart of downtown was handled quickly and efficiently." I couldn't have said it better myself.

During the 2024 Artprize event, our fire station dog was not only in attendance, but a featured art piece! Local artist Kathie Van Hekken saw a news article about Smokey and reached out to see if we would allow her to enter a drawing of him. She met Smokey on several occasions and did a fantastic job, and after the competition ended, she graciously donated the drawing to fire headquarters. Although he did not make the top ten, this project was a winner in many people's hearts, including mine. Looking forward to a successful and prosperous 2025!



Kathie Van Hekken, Smokey, and the Fire Chief visiting ArtPrize.

Dr. Brad Brown
Brad B.

2024 NEWS SPOTLIGHTS



New Training Center Design selected- anticipated opening slated for early 2027. The new location will include training areas, multiple meeting rooms and offices, and an exterior 5-story burn building.



GRFD implemented a new station alerting system that went live on July 16. The prior system did not allow for zoned alerting, visual notifications, and towards the end required the manual dispatching of fire units.



The South Annex Training building was vacated in preparation for demolition to make way for the new Division station, anticipated to open in 2026. In the meantime, GRFD leased the East Leonard Elementary school in September for multiple uses until the new training center is built.



Carlye Haisma represents GRFD as she sings the National Anthem at a Detroit Tigers game at Comerica Park in July.



In September, the GRFD welcomed Ingrid Scheer to the team as an Emergency Management Specialist. One of her roles includes managing the CERT program (page 30 for more details).



On June 15th, GRFD successfully defended its Championship Title in the Rockford Fire truck pull for the Special Olympics.

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



	RESPONSE Owner: Chief Johnson Support: Chief Lehman	TRAINING Owner: Chief Race Support: Captain Kernodie	PREVENTION Owner: Fire Marshal Doktor Support: Captain Gerkey	WELLNESS Owner: Chief Freeman Support: Chief Thompson	SUPPORT SERVICES Owner: Chief Brown Support: Captain Marchinda
DESIRED OUTCOMES	<p>Increase and then maintain response capabilities to meet the growing and evolving needs of our community by meeting the 90% critical performance metric compliance.</p>	<p>Provide the appropriate skills and education to ensure all ranks can address existing and emerging threats.</p>	<p>Continue to foster a safe community by improving the Community Risk Reduction program through measurable outcomes.</p>	<p>Provide progressive wellness programming that improves the well-being of our members, families, and communities.</p>	<p>Ensure systems and processes meet the needs of the organization.</p>
FISCAL 2023 STRATEGIES	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
FISCAL 2024 STRATEGIES	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
FISCAL 2025 STRATEGIES	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

RESPONSE

In 2024 the Response pillar completed all of FY24's goals and completed two of the three goals for FY25. The last goal to be completed in FY23-25 Operational Plan for Response is to evaluate mental health via a survey. Response analyzed metrics closely to observe the impact made by SAFER staffing. The pillar learned that increase in staffing leads to improvement in response concentration. During the last few months of operating under the FY23-25 Strategic Plan, goals that have not yet been accomplished will be carried over into the new Strategic Plan to ensure follow through. Deputy Chief of Operations has been busy completing other tasks not mentioned specifically in the operational plan such as starting the implementation of Tablet Command two-way and wrapping up department-wide Leadership training. Another huge success that falls under the Response pillar is the official transition from being a Medical First Responder (MFR) agency to an Emergency Medical Technician—Basic (EMT-B) agency allowing our members to provide more advanced medical care to our community.

TRAINING

The Training Division spent much of 2024 researching and designing plans for the new training facility scheduled to be operational in the fall of 2026. Among the divisions success was ensuring members were properly trained for the transition to EMT-B, reviewed training leave process and related sources, developed a rubric for reviewing hands-on skills, and established a list of Subject Matter Experts to assist in trainings. Aside from specific tasks laid out in the Operational Plan, Training also successfully wrapped up a large class of 21 recruits in the spring of 2024 and completed two Equipment Operator courses, a Cadet program, and a Summer Youth Academy. The training Division also hosted Instructor 1 & 2 courses featuring an outside speaker.

PREVENTION

Last year the Fire Prevention Division (FPD) developed a Fire Extinguisher training program and began delivering training quarterly with the use of a newly purchased fire extinguisher simulator. The FPD appointed the Captain of Prevention as the city education liaison for the deaf community, and is in the process of establishing recurring education classes. The division is also in the process of producing seasonal fire education clips for media platforms as a task carried over from the FY24 of the Operational plan. All FY25 goals and tasks were completed in or prior to calendar year 2024. The FPD has been busy with tasks outside of those defined in the Operational Plan such as adopting the 2021 International Fire Code (IFC), successful transition to a new Fire Marshal after a retirement, adjusted inspection districts to match city wards, conducted 28 full investigations, and received bed shakers and strobe alarms for the deaf and hard of hearing to name a few.

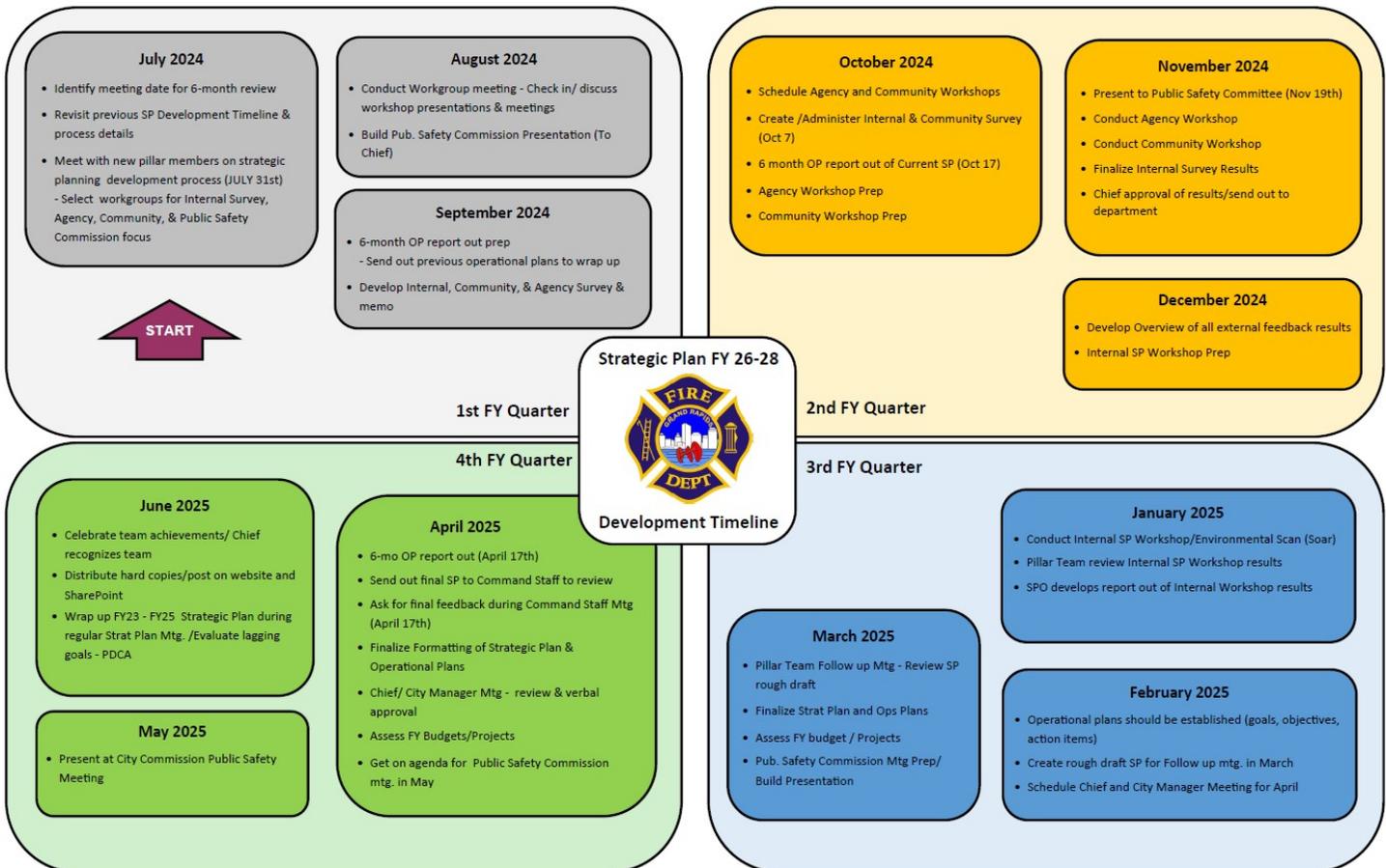
WELLNESS

The Wellness department engaged spouses via social media, defined potential scope of an on-site Athletic Trainer, decided against the feasibility of a family Pickleball tournament, offered an O2X class “Adaptive Movement and Conditioning”, and began evaluating injury trends in 2024. Members of the wellness committee began work towards securing a grant for ultrasound cancer screenings and exercise equipment. 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.

SUPPORT SERVICES

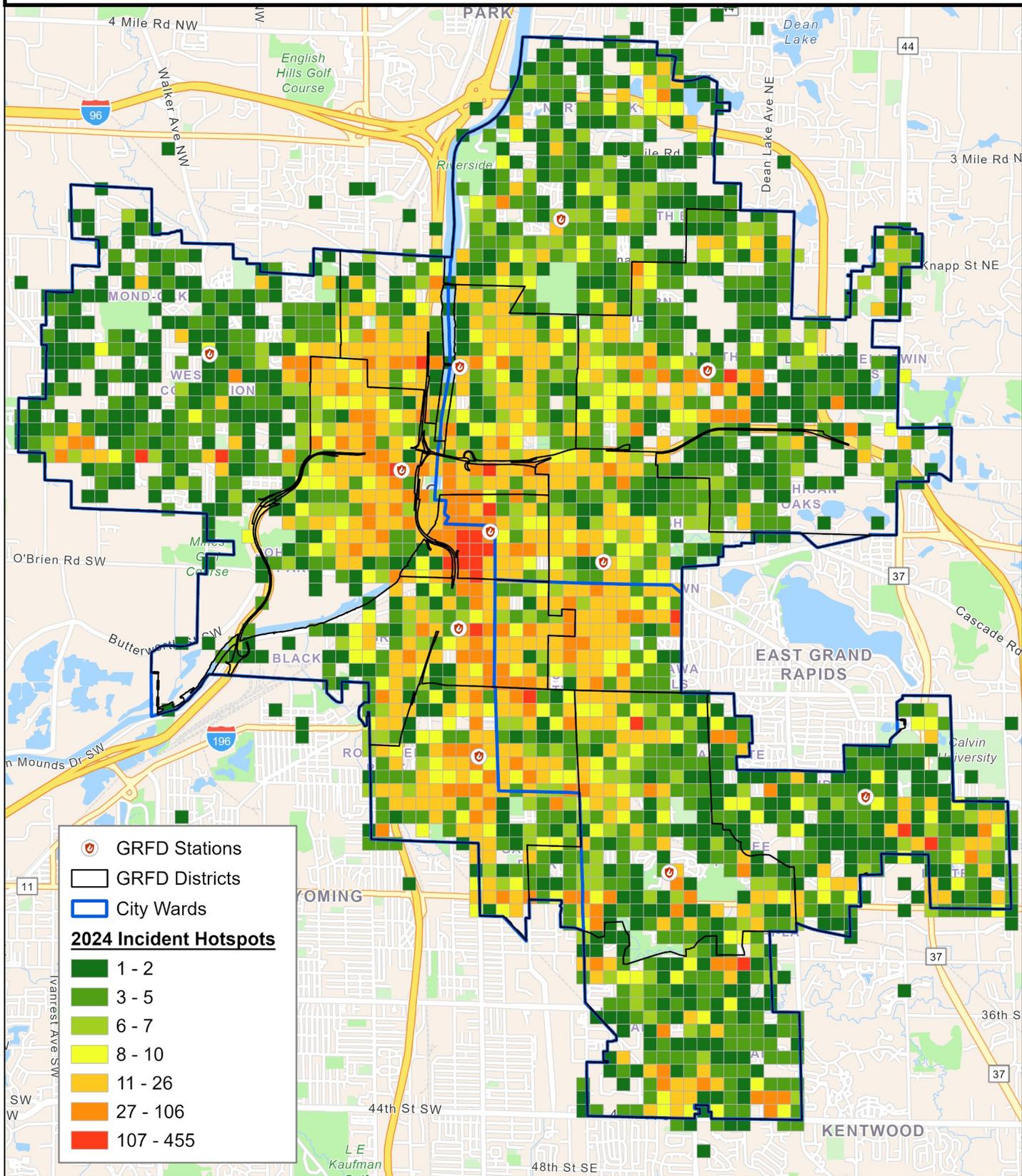
In 2024 the Support Services pillar achieved the following; developed PowerPoint to educate members on ISO and Accreditation benefits and requirements, incorporated information into New Officer training curriculum, performed SWOT analysis of maintaining ISO class 1 and established recurring meetings to review compliance with ISO sections such as Fleet, Communications, and the Water Dept. The pillar also completed FY25 goal by utilizing GR Communications department to refine the media request process and reworked social media presence to engage the community more effectively. Support Services worked with Human Resources department to create a timeline for all future hires, procured multiple fire apparatus and secured future orders from a local manufacturer. Lastly, plans were created to update all fire stations sleeping quarters and bathroom facilities to make them compliant with federal law.

DEVELOPING THE FY26-28 PLAN



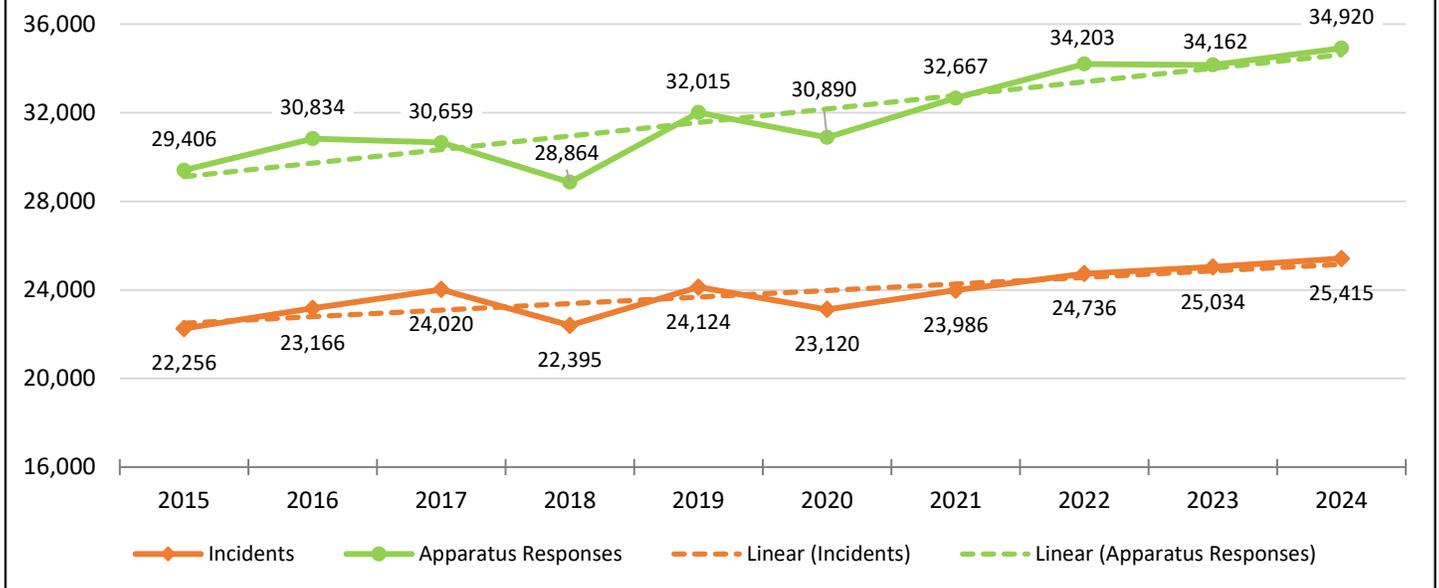
In 2024, the GRFD started its year-long process to develop the new Strategic Plan. FY26-28 Strategic Plan will take effect in July 2025, as we wrap up our current plan. The process began with several project scoping meetings and formation of workgroups from the established strategic planning team. In the second quarter, the workgroups created surveys and held workshops with external stakeholders to gather feedback on the GRFD’s strengths and areas for improvement. An internal survey was also sent department-wide to collect input from all members. In the third quarter, the Strategic Planning Team held an internal workshop where they began establishing strategies, goals, and tasks for the new plan. During this workshop, the vision statement was updated and the Prevention pillar was renamed to Community Risk Reduction. In the final quarter of the process, pillar teams will finalize their Operational Plans and the Strategic Plan before being presented to the City Manager for approval.

2024 INCIDENT HOTSPOTS



	<u>Fire</u>	<u>False Alarms</u>	<u>EMS/ Rescue</u>	<u>Good Intent</u>	<u>Hazardous Cond.</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
Ward 1	249	772	7,462	1,499	476	466	10,924
Ward 2	142	755	4,403	1,054	516	326	7,196
Ward 3	129	603	4,755	1,006	442	275	7,210

Total Incident & Apparatus Activity Summary



In 2024...

There were **381 more incidents** and **758 more unit responses** than in 2023.

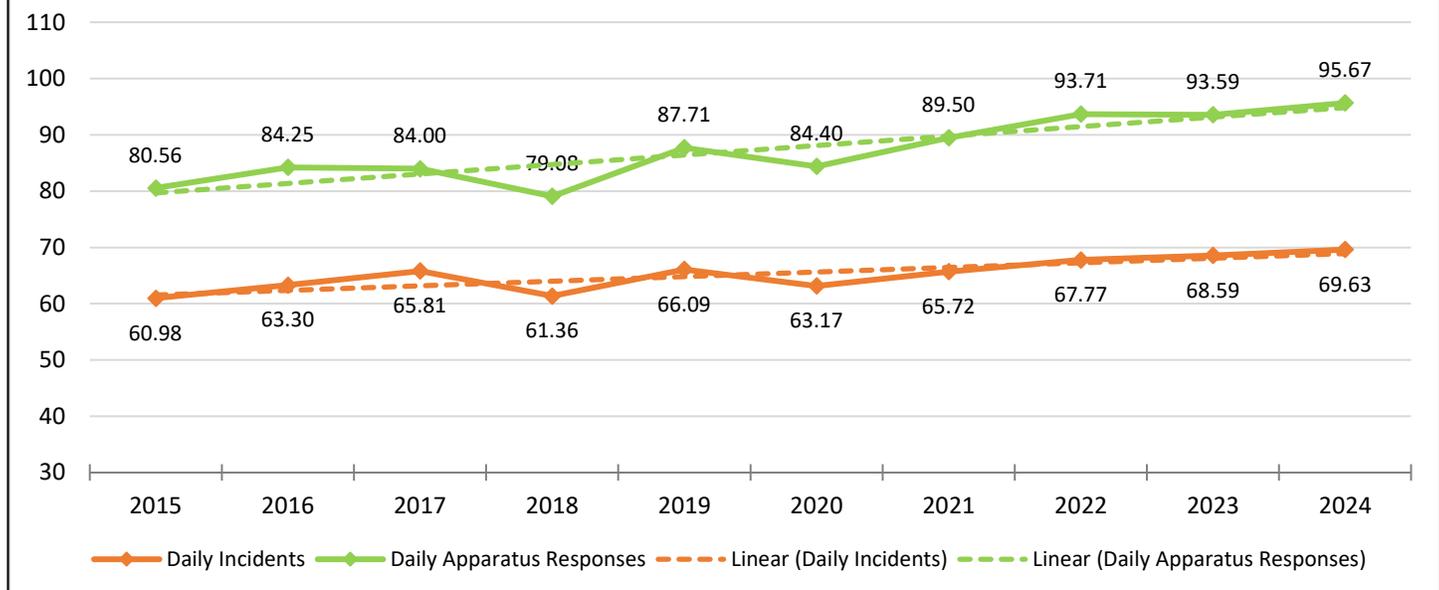
There were **3,159 more incidents** and **4,030 more unit responses** than 5 years ago.

Total Incidents rose (+12.43%) over the last 5 years; (+10.10%) since 2015.

Apparatus responses rose (+11.54%) over the last 5 years; (+14.33%) since 2015.

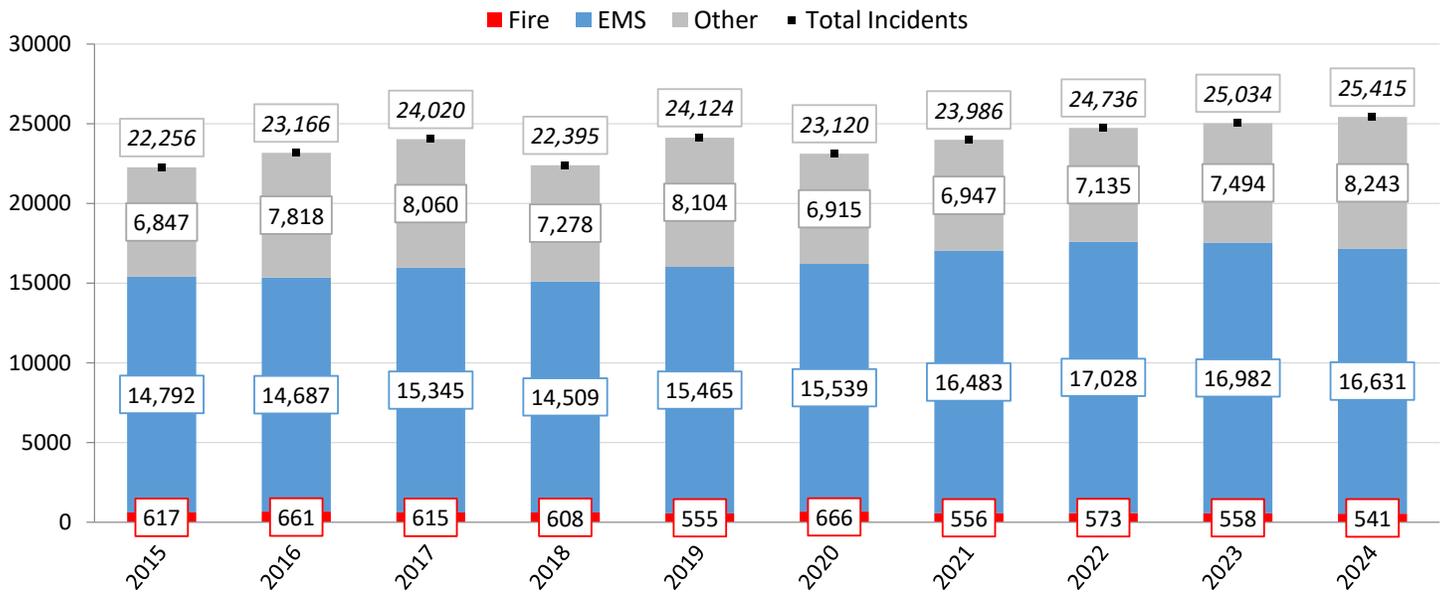
There were approximately **6 more incidents** and **9 more unit responses per day** than 5 years ago (chart below).

Daily Incident & Apparatus Response Activity



2024 INCIDENT REVIEW

Total Incidents by Type



	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Fires	617	661	615	608	555	666	556	573	558	541
Overpressure	43	51	191	202	158	113	138	115	127	98
EMS/ Rescue	14,792	14,687	15,345	14,509	15,465	15,539	16,483	17,028	16,982	16,631
Hazardous Conditions	898	1,166	1,155	1,006	1,574	1,006	1,064	1,147	981	1,439
Service Call	1,368	1,492	1,704	1,542	1,252	1,053	876	953	925	975
Good Intent	2,976	3,315	3,462	3,033	3,258	3,252	3,070	2,995	3,559	3,596
False Alarm/Calls	1,555	1,774	1,537	1,487	1,849	1,488	1,783	1,909	1,890	2,130
Severe Weather	4	14	10	6	11	2	5	8	8	2
Special Incident	3	6	1	2	2	1	11	8	4	3
Total	22,256	23,166	24,020	22,395	24,124	23,120	23,986	24,736	25,034	25,415

Highlights

- **Hazardous conditions increased (+31.83%)** due to 385 more incidents involving power lines, including over 130 just during the June 25th storm event.
- **EMS incidents**, specifically those unrelated to vehicle crashes, **continue to decrease for the second year in a row (-2.11%)**.
- **False Alarms increased (+11.27%)**, and also sees the highest increase of responder hours. This is likely due to more accurate reporting of unintentional alarm activation due to burnt food (no fire), also causing a decrease in fires.

	Change 2023 to 2024	% Change 2023 to 2024	% of 2024 Incidents
Fires	-17	-3.14%	2.13%
Overpressure/Rupture	-29	-29.59%	0.39%
EMS/Rescue	-351	-2.11%	65.44%
Hazardous Conditions	458	31.83%	5.66%
Service Call	50	5.13%	3.84%
Good Intent	37	1.03%	14.15%
False Alarm/Calls	240	11.27%	8.38%
Severe Weather	-6	-300.00%	0.01%
Special Incident	-1	-33.33%	0.01%
Total	381	1.50%	

2024 INCIDENT SPOTLIGHTS

The derailment caused a 3"- 4" tear at a seam on the north end of the tank



January 13 - CSX train derailment punctures fuel tank

When a 3,600 gallon fuel tank punctured, the GRFD was able to creatively capture and reclaim several hundred gallons, preventing large amounts from entering the ground while CSX pumped off the rest.

February 23 - Fire at Grand Rapids Brewing Co. *Front page, bottom left*

The restaurant's fryer caught fire in the basement and spread the entire height of the building through the HVAC system. Within 20 minutes, there were 40 GRFD personnel operating on the incident. Thankfully, there were no injuries and damage to building was minimal due to quick reporting and the location being only a few blocks from GRFD headquarters.



June 25 - Storm Event with 70 mph winds

A line of severe thunderstorms moved through West Lower Michigan, resulting in winds strong enough to trigger tornado alarms, and hail in certain areas. GRFD responded to over 130 power line calls just on this day.

May 8 - Fire at Bimbo Bakeries

Insulation from an 80 ft commercial oven burned in multiple spots, resulting in labor intensive overhaul of smoldering material.



July 15 - Fire at Padnos Recycling Center

Starting around 3am, it took crews over 2 hours to extinguish the flames; over 11 hours and 60 responders to address hotspots and overhaul.

Due to recycling contents and bow string truss construction, interior attack was conservatively used. The fire was caused by a lightning strike, one of only 2 incidents reported that year due to an act of nature. Over two million dollars in property lost.



November 27 - A public announcement was released by the department regarding traffic safety after multiple vehicles hit GRFD units.

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.

In 2024

- Citywide simultaneous call rate decreased **(-1.75%)**
- District 1 (Leonard) has highest simultaneous call volume increase **(+12.41%)**
(304 of 2450 incidents in their district)

In the last 5 years:

- Top (2) Stations with highest jump: **Leonard (+3.62%), La Grave (+2.22%)**
- Station with largest decrease: **Division (-1%)**

City Wide Simultaneous	
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%
2024	60.97%

Simultaneous Call Percentage by Station District										
Station	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Bridge	10.19%	10.01%	11.49%	9.62%	10.62%	10.18%	10.96%	10.48%	11.93%	11.46%
Burton	6.07%	4.80%	5.50%	6.07%	6.90%	5.97%	7.33%	7.43%	6.54%	6.47%
Chester	7.05%	9.00%	11.59%	8.61%	11.80%	8.10%	8.59%	8.63%	7.17%	8.53%
Covell	7.28%	7.31%	9.39%	7.84%	13.15%	7.45%	8.07%	8.10%	8.16%	8.26%
Division	7.18%	9.53%	9.31%	8.00%	9.38%	9.91%	9.07%	10.58%	9.43%	8.91%
Kalamazoo	11.56%	12.73%	13.70%	22.65%	13.07%	10.26%	13.54%	14.05%	10.91%	11.78%
La Grave	7.45%	9.81%	10.49%	11.71%	11.22%	7.88%	9.09%	11.03%	10.61%	10.09%
Leonard	6.97%	9.23%	7.70%	7.57%	12.89%	8.79%	9.28%	10.76%	11.31%	12.41%
MLK Jr.	7.30%	6.61%	7.05%	7.35%	7.85%	7.10%	10.16%	8.06%	9.06%	7.12%
Monroe	8.59%	8.25%	6.75%	7.45%	11.69%	8.41%	9.15%	8.46%	9.00%	9.56%
Plainfield	6.68%	3.96%	5.27%	4.59%	10.40%	5.51%	6.33%	6.56%	9.69%	6.21%

AID GIVEN OR RECEIVED

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. The table below shows the number of times we were involved in aid type responses, including instances where only the GRFD responded (Other). *The counts reflect all alarm types, not just structure fires.*

	AID RECEIVED			AID GIVEN			
	Auto	Mutual	Total	Auto	Mutual	Other	Total
Grand Rapids Township		1	1		3	1	4
Kentwood	5	0	5	8	2	0	10
Plainfield	5	2	7	11	1	0	12
Walker	3	0	3	6	8	0	14
Wyoming		1	1		6	1	7
			Other		3	8	11
2024 Total	13	4	17	25	20	10	58

In 2024, 27 aid type calls were cancelled enroute and are not reflected in the numbers above. This brings total non-city incident calls to 85.

TEMPORAL ANALYSIS

In 2024, the most active time of day was on **Wednesdays between 12pm and 1pm**, with 243 calls for service. In 2023, the busiest time was **Thursdays between 2pm and 3pm**, with 239 calls.



The time with the most EMS responses overall was between 12pm and 1pm. The most active times for EMS responses were **Fridays between 2pm and 3pm** (158 calls).

See page 22 for an EMS incident breakdown.



The highest number of responses to fires were **Wednesdays between 5pm and 6pm** and **Saturdays between 3pm and 4 pm**.

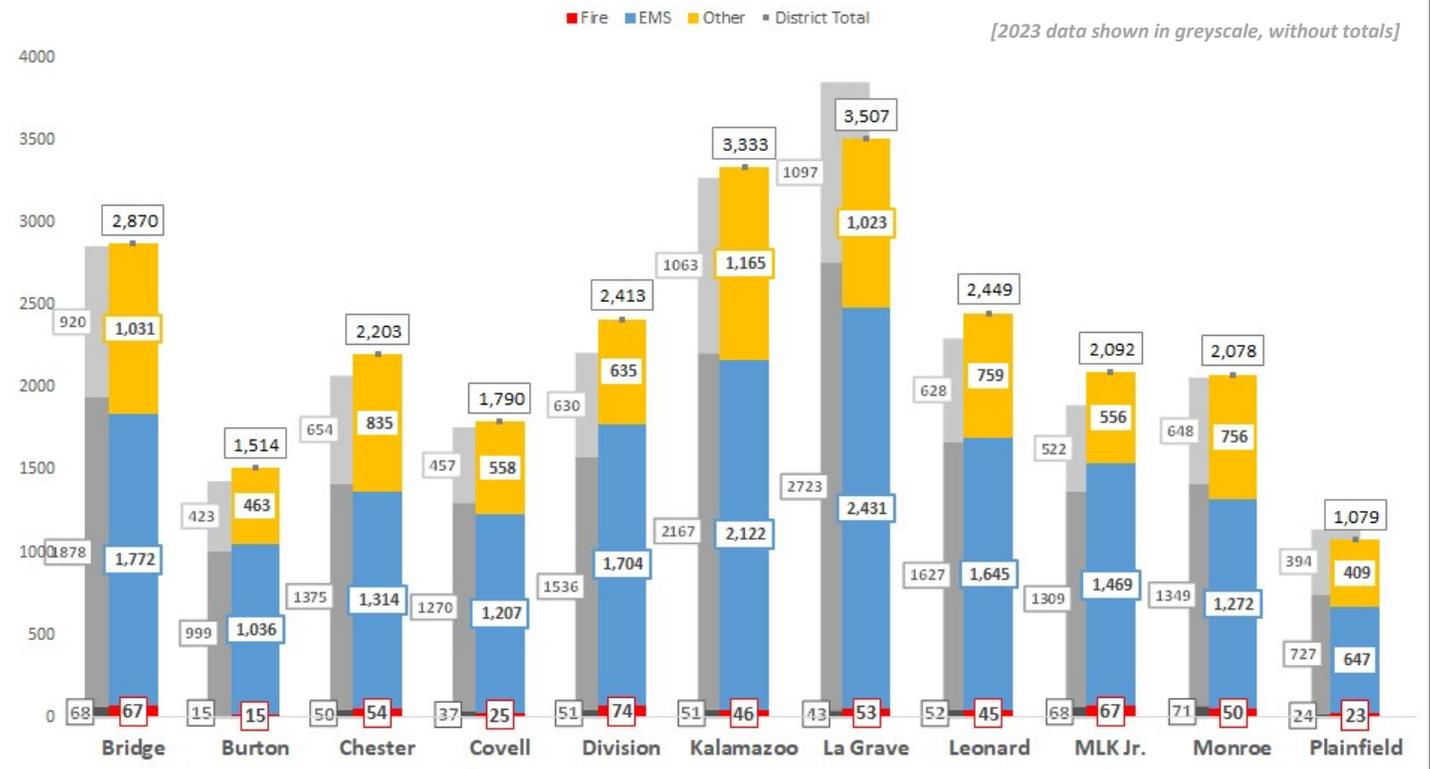
See page 21 for a fire incident breakdown.

Temporal Analysis - All Alarms								
Hour	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Total
00:00-00:59	144	100	98	108	100	104	136	790
01:00-01:59	131	86	92	99	87	95	117	707
02:00-02:59	123	77	85	70	77	80	118	630
03:00-03:59	91	70	75	80	76	72	85	549
04:00-04:59	82	92	64	56	67	82	78	521
05:00-05:59	87	79	71	66	65	80	86	534
06:00-06:59	83	90	111	62	85	89	94	614
07:00-07:59	109	110	170	127	128	116	125	885
08:00-08:59	121	140	214	150	144	159	130	1,058
09:00-09:59	129	179	196	176	174	163	148	1,165
10:00-10:59	133	196	197	193	191	185	137	1,232
11:00-11:59	147	194	226	186	215	187	151	1,306
12:00-12:59	166	219	228	243	211	197	180	1,444
13:00-13:59	172	222	189	225	210	200	167	1,385
14:00-14:59	176	215	203	220	221	215	176	1,426
15:00-15:59	179	201	211	195	229	220	185	1,420
16:00-16:59	170	229	227	195	208	224	192	1,445
17:00-17:59	179	202	224	225	198	231	191	1,450
18:00-18:59	182	159	186	193	168	196	178	1,262
19:00-19:59	178	163	195	170	167	191	183	1,247
20:00-20:59	167	169	204	180	173	195	159	1,247
21:00-21:59	161	155	145	137	155	185	182	1,120
22:00-22:59	135	150	159	150	149	156	167	1,066
23:00-23:59	110	133	129	113	120	163	144	912
Total	3,355	3,630	3,899	3,619	3,618	3,785	3,509	25,415

Temporal Analysis - Fires								
Hour	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Total
00:00-00:59	0	3	3	2	0	5	7	20
01:00-01:59	1	0	0	3	1	2	1	8
02:00-02:59	3	0	2	1	2	3	5	16
03:00-03:59	2	6	1	2	2	4	2	19
04:00-04:59	1	4	2	1	0	5	0	13
05:00-05:59	3	2	2	0	2	2	2	13
06:00-06:59	0	2	3	1	4	1	1	12
07:00-07:59	2	0	3	3	3	6	5	22
08:00-08:59	2	2	3	1	3	2	3	16
09:00-09:59	2	5	4	1	2	4	5	23
10:00-10:59	1	4	4	2	6	4	1	22
11:00-11:59	2	2	3	1	1	1	2	12
12:00-12:59	2	2	2	3	1	1	5	16
13:00-13:59	5	3	4	6	5	5	3	31
14:00-14:59	5	1	4	2	8	4	2	26
15:00-15:59	2	4	2	4	9	4	10	35
16:00-16:59	1	9	5	4	8	2	4	33
17:00-17:59	3	5	7	10	3	6	3	37
18:00-18:59	7	3	2	7	3	5	1	28
19:00-19:59	6	4	7	4	6	7	4	38
20:00-20:59	5	5	5	2	2	4	3	26
21:00-21:59	4	0	7	4	3	2	5	25
22:00-22:59	4	3	3	8	1	4	5	28
23:00-23:59	2	3	1	3	6	3	4	22
Total	65	72	79	75	81	86	83	541

Temporal Analysis - EMS/ Rescues								
Hour	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Total
00:00-00:59	96	70	56	69	70	73	92	526
01:00-01:59	90	59	59	69	52	61	72	462
02:00-02:59	77	51	51	47	53	48	70	397
03:00-03:59	61	39	52	50	54	38	57	351
04:00-04:59	53	57	46	39	38	53	48	334
05:00-05:59	60	59	49	41	37	59	60	365
06:00-06:59	55	65	61	39	60	62	58	400
07:00-07:59	73	80	80	92	83	82	87	577
08:00-08:59	72	95	110	93	98	115	84	667
09:00-09:59	96	126	110	106	107	101	94	740
10:00-10:59	89	128	123	128	126	123	86	803
11:00-11:59	100	126	143	125	156	142	108	900
12:00-12:59	113	153	148	151	157	137	118	977
13:00-13:59	117	148	127	142	132	136	115	917
14:00-14:59	104	154	130	134	137	158	111	928
15:00-15:59	107	133	129	124	143	150	115	901
16:00-16:59	115	145	152	123	142	157	129	963
17:00-17:59	113	134	156	141	128	143	134	949
18:00-18:59	128	100	128	122	98	125	124	825
19:00-19:59	108	101	131	102	110	124	124	800
20:00-20:59	114	125	130	119	109	123	112	832
21:00-21:59	104	95	91	89	98	133	119	729
22:00-22:59	87	100	104	96	102	102	116	707
23:00-23:59	66	87	80	75	70	105	98	581
Total	2,198	2,430	2,446	2,316	2,360	2,550	2,331	16,631

INCIDENT ACTIVITY BY DISTRICT



Largest 2024 overall changes

- La Grave, with 356 less calls (-10.15%)
- Division with 196 more calls (+8.12%) and Martin Luther King Jr with 193 more calls (+9.23%)

Largest 2024 Fire Incident Changes:

- Division had 23 more fires (+31.08%)
- Monroe had 21 fewer fires (-42%)

Largest 2024 EMS Incident Changes:

- Division had 168 more medicals (+9.86%);
Martin Luther King Jr saw 160 more medicals (+10.89%)
- La Grave had 292 fewer medicals (-12.01%);
Plainfield had 80 fewer medicals (-12.36%)

CAR 97 - 2024 STATISTICS

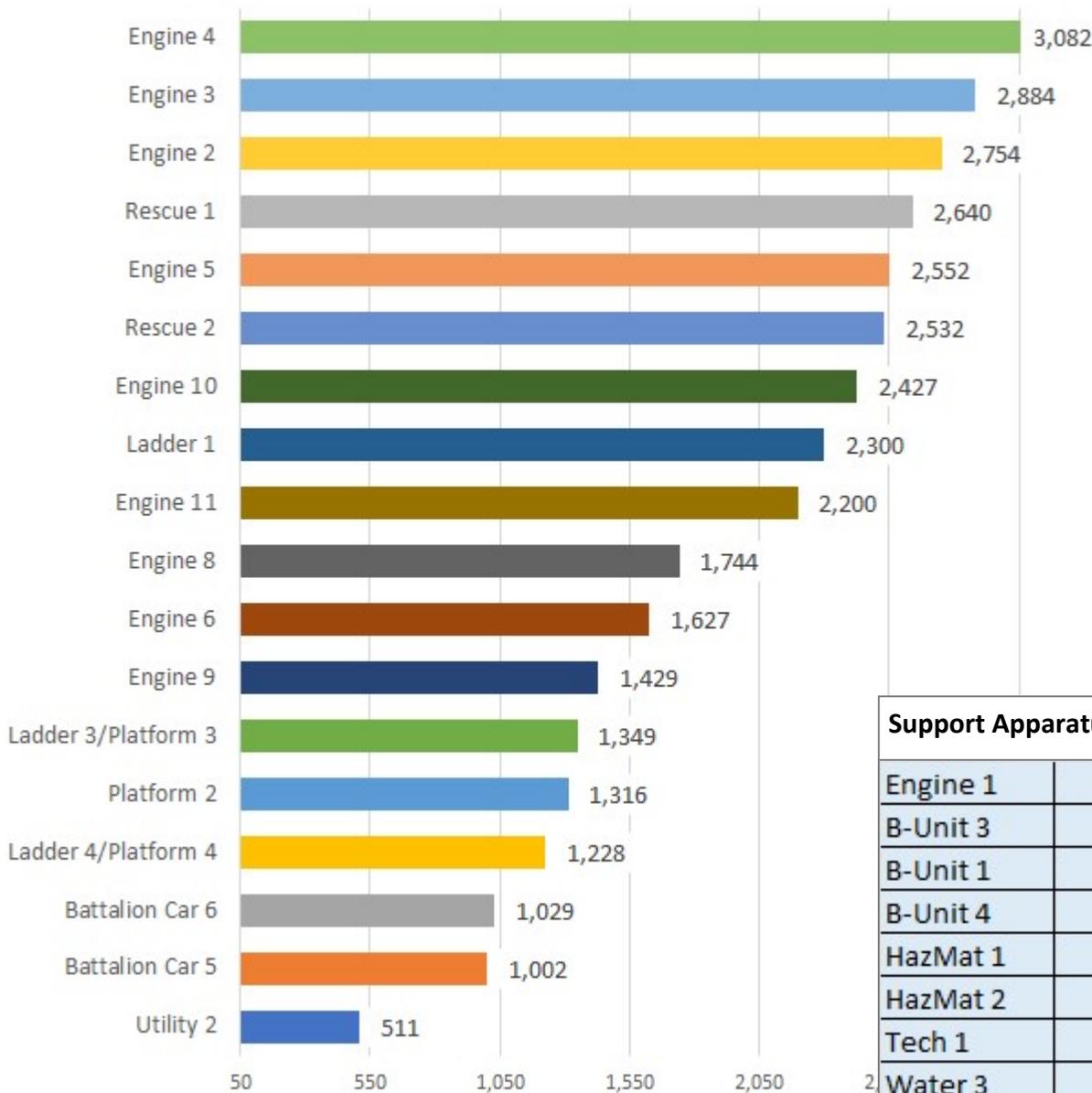
Alarms Dispatched to	461
Alarms Cancelled/ on Standby.....	167
Alarms with Action Taken	295
Time Deployed (hh:mm:ss).....	295:43:39

Car 97, staffed by 1 person and stationed at La Grave, works on a 24 hour shift; its main duties include acting as Safety Officer on incidents, working with companies to reset fire alarms, responding to Commercial Building Referrals (CBRs), and providing initial fire investigation. It went into service in 2023 as a trial.

APPARATUS RESPONSES

2024 Frontline Apparatus Responses

See page 5 for station unit locations.



Support Apparatus Responses

Engine 1	164
B-Unit 3	29
B-Unit 1	21
B-Unit 4	14
HazMat 1	13
HazMat 2	12
Tech 1	9
Water 3	9
Dive 3	7
Water 5	6
Engine 13	6
Engine 14	5
Engine 12	5
Utility 1	5
Ladder 6	5
Tech 2	1
Engine 7	1
B-Unit 7	1
Platform 5	1

Largest Jump in Incidents

- Frontline - Engine 10 (+181)
- Support - Engine 1 (+164)
This unit was put into service this year at Leonard Station, as staffing allowed.

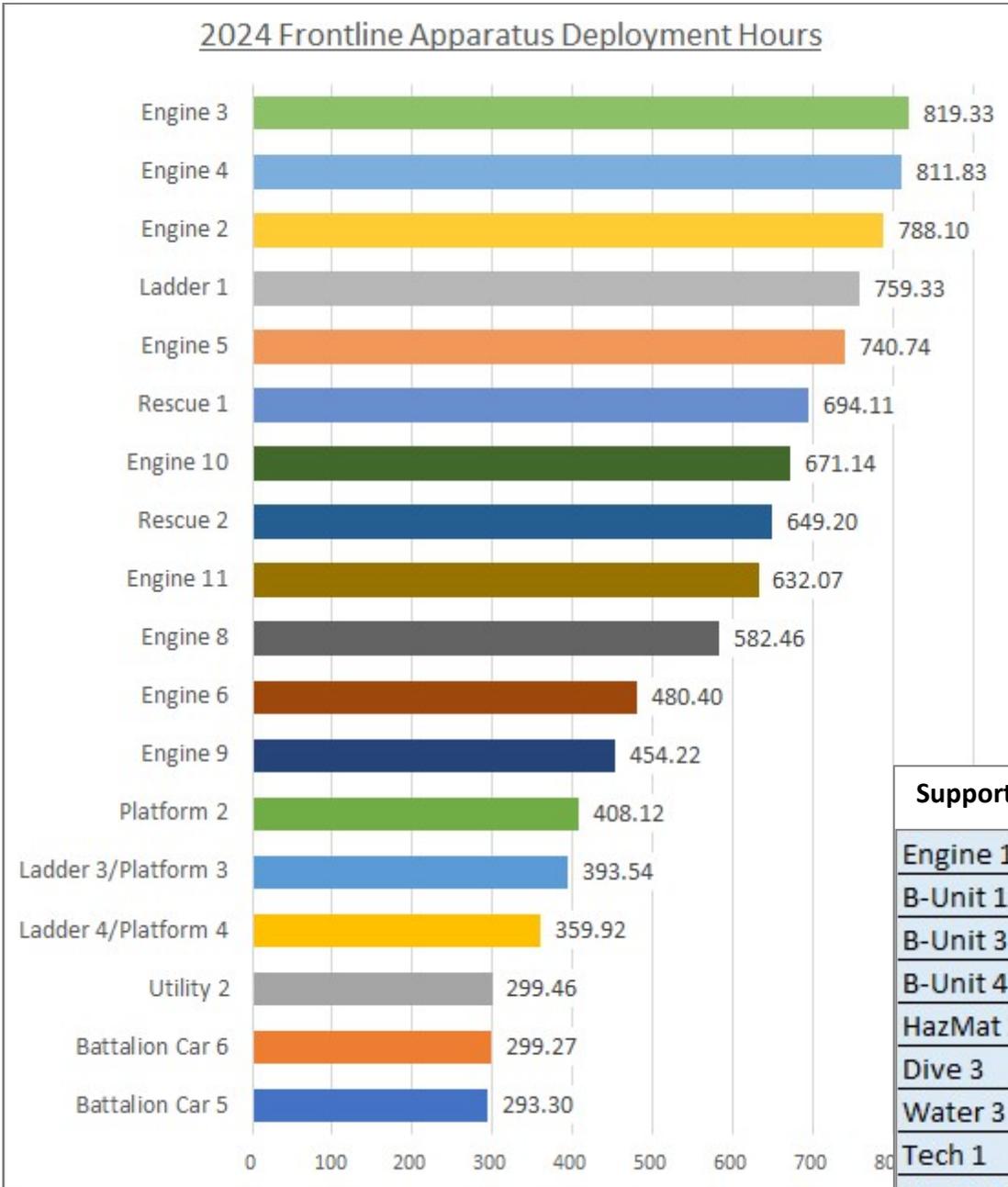
Largest Decrease in Incidents

- Frontline - Rescue 2 (-173)
- Support - HazMat 1 (-17)

Largest % Change (Frontline Only)

- Battalion Car 5 (+ 8.58%)
- Utility 2 (-14.87%)

APPARATUS DEPLOYED HOURS



Support Apparatus Hours

Engine 1	49.12
B-Unit 1	34.30
B-Unit 3	34.01
B-Unit 4	22.92
HazMat 2	17.99
Dive 3	14.21
Water 3	13.72
Tech 1	10.73
HazMat 1	9.43
Platform 5	8.88
Water 5	6.91
Utility 1	6.32
Engine 12	2.63
Ladder 6	1.54
B-Unit 7	1.34
Tech 2	1.29
Engine 14	0.82
Engine 13	0.53
Engine 7	0.35

Largest Jump in Hours

- Support - Engine 1 (+49.12)
- Frontline - Engine 3 (+40.81)

Largest Decrease in Incidents

- Frontline - Utility 2 (-60.91)
- Frontline - Rescue 2 (-41.34)

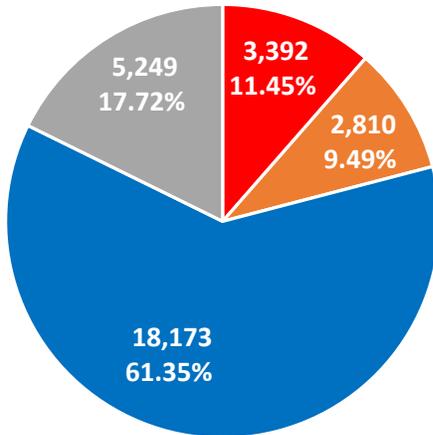
Largest % Change (Frontline Only)

- Engine 3 (+4.98%)
- Utility 2 (-20.34%)

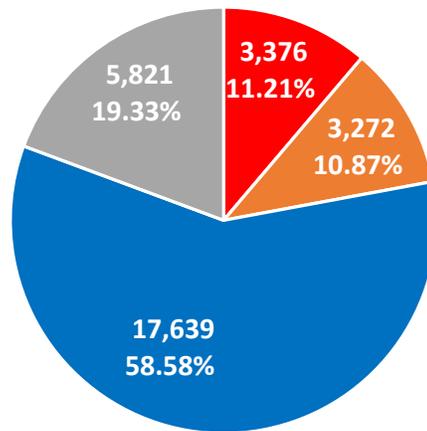
RESPONDER HOURS

The number of personnel multiplied by the amount of time responding to an incident (Notification to Cleared).

2023 Responder Hours

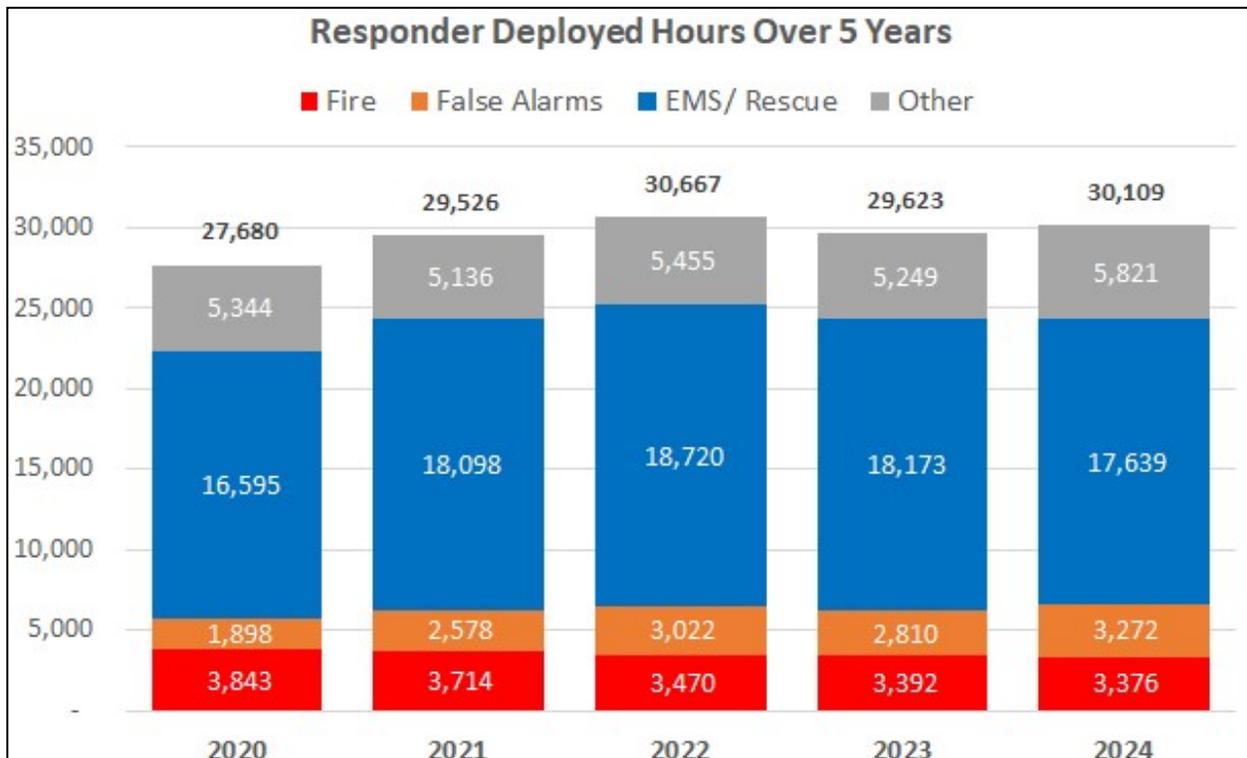


2024 Responder Hours



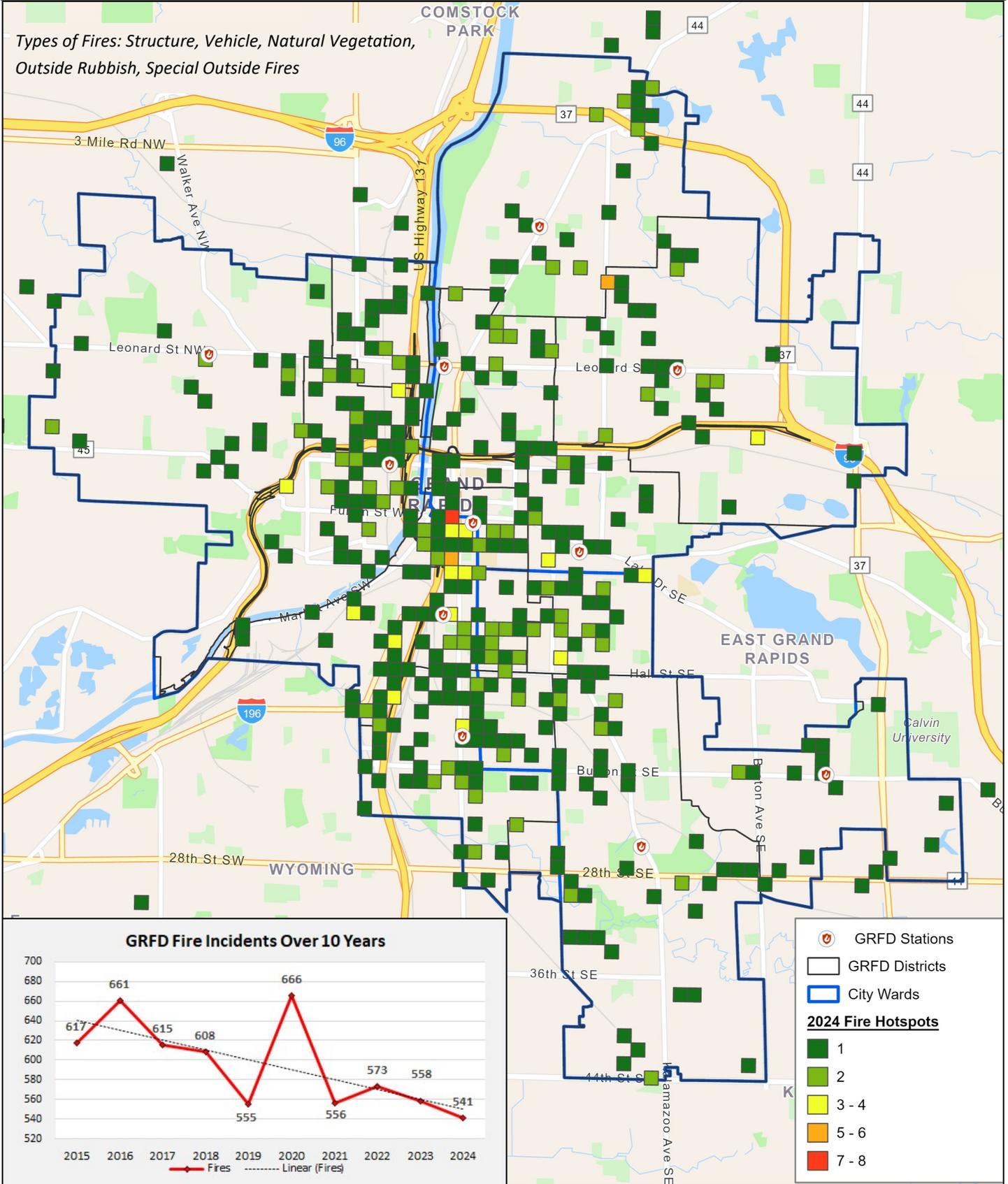
- Biggest 1 year Increase: **False Alarms (+1.38%, + 462 hours)**
- Biggest 5 year Increase: **False Alarms (+4%, +1374 hours)**
- Biggest 1 year Decrease: **EMS/ Rescue (-2.76%, -533 hours)**
- Biggest 5 year Decrease: **Fires (-2.67%, -467 hours)**

Though Fire Incidents make up 2.13% of all calls in 2024, they required 11.21% of our deployed time. There were 17 fewer Fire incidents in 2024. This year we pulled out False Alarms from the “Other” category to further review potential causes of its upward trend.

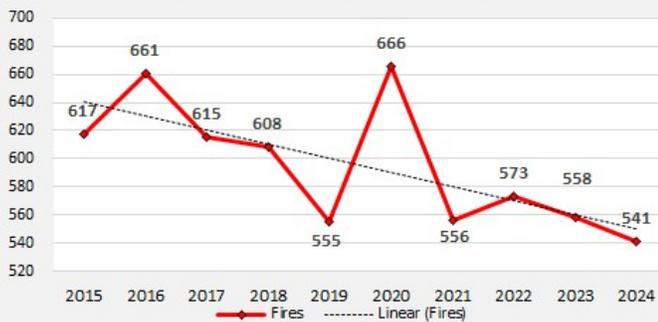


2024 FIRE INCIDENT HOTSPOTS

Types of Fires: Structure, Vehicle, Natural Vegetation, Outside Rubbish, Special Outside Fires

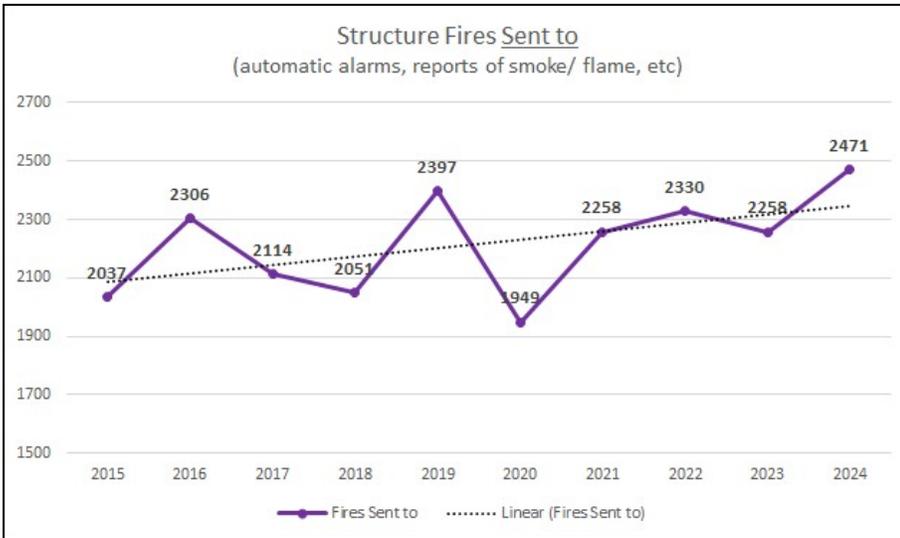


GRFD Fire Incidents Over 10 Years

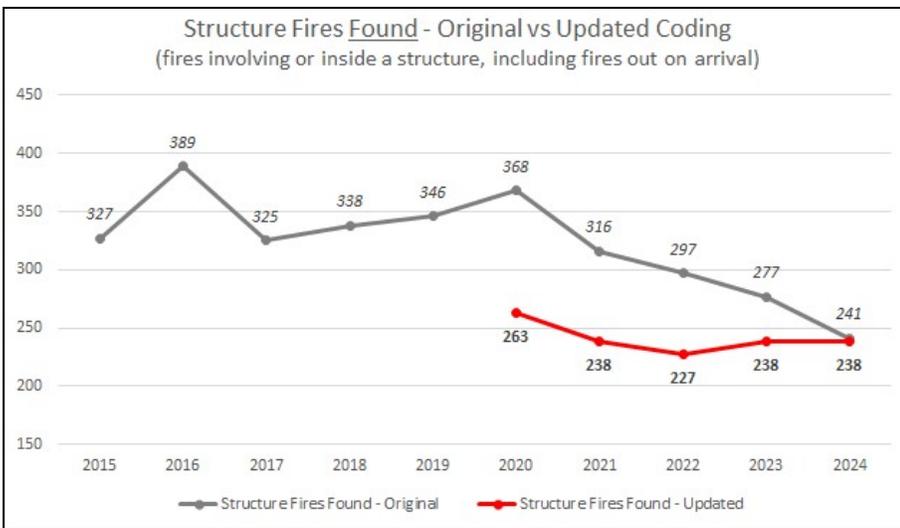


GRFD responded to **541 fires** in 2024; 21 of those outside the City.

STRUCTURE FIRE INCIDENT BREAKDOWN



The number of structure fires we are sent to continues to trend upwards (left). Structure fires found upon arrival appears to trend downward; this is actually due to an incorrect coding of cooking incidents with no fire (i.e. Smoke alarm triggered by burnt food). Since 2020, closer review and education has resulted in more accurate coding of these calls as false alarms or smoke scare/removal (lower left).

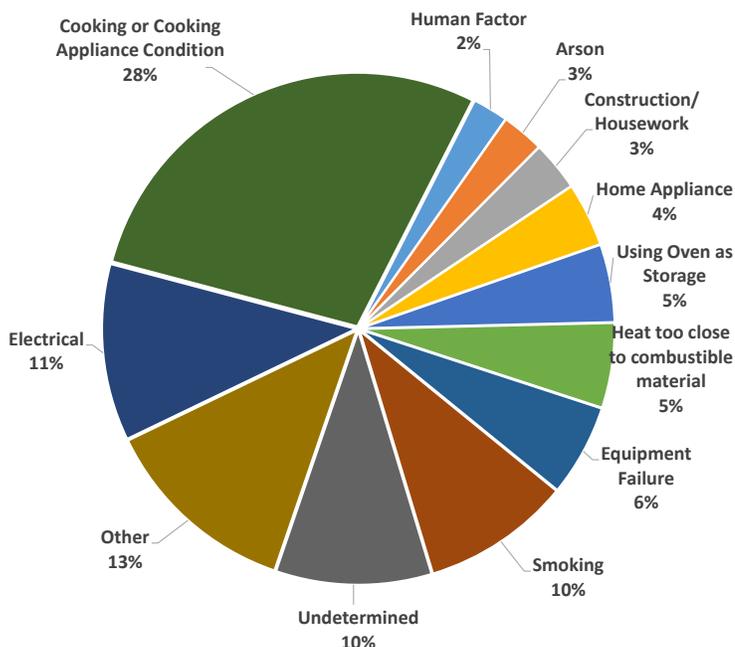


2023 Simultaneous Structure Fires			
	Description	Count	%
2	Structure Fires at Same Time	13	3.85%
3		1	0.30%
4		1	0.26%

2024 Simultaneous Structure Fires			
	Description	Count	%
	2 Structure Fires at the Same Time	11	3.25%

2024 Structure Fires		
# Per Day	Frequency	Total
1	134	134
2	34	68
3	7	21
4	3	12
5	0	0
6	1	6

2024 Structure Fire Causes



In 2024

- Structure Fires decreased (-14.94%, 36 less)
- In 11 different instances, 2 Structure Fire incidents took place at the same time
- The number of days with at least 1 structure fire increased (+9.7%, 13 more)
- There were 2 fires caused by fireworks and 2 caused by acts of nature. See page 13 for incident caused by lightning strike.
- There were 222 structure fires analyzed for cause (NFIRS Incident types 111-123).

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAM (36 Members)

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

- Assisted Water Rescue Team (WRT) with several rescues; continued training with WRT to improve coordination
- Three Michigan Task Force 1- Urban Search and Rescue deployments: to Texas for severe flooding, to South Carolina for severe flooding caused by Hurricane Debby; to North Carolina for severe flooding, mud slides, and building collapses caused by Hurricane Helene
- Shoring operation of a compromised structure from a vehicle accident
- Mobilized for Kalamazoo/ Portage Tornado touchdowns
- Deployed to assist Portage FD on a Trench Rescue

Tech Rescue Trainings
Elevator Emergency Management Technician (15 attendees)
Ropes That Rescue Structural Tower Rescue (12 attendees)
Indiana River Rescue- Swiftwater Rescue Technician (3 attendees)
MI-TF1 GPS/ Land Navigation Course (2 attendees)
National US&R Conference (1 attendee)
Trench Rescue Ops (1 completed)
Texas A & M- TEEX Adv. Interior Shoring (2 attendees)

New Equipment: Personal Tower Rescue Gear/ Equipment for qualified Tower Rescue Technicians, Specialized Tower Rescue Equipment, Hazardous Radio Frequency monitors/ detectors for tower rescue response, Specialized Elevator stabilization and rescue tools

WATER RESPONSE TEAM (36 Members)

(River, Ice, and Lake Rescue + Dive Team)

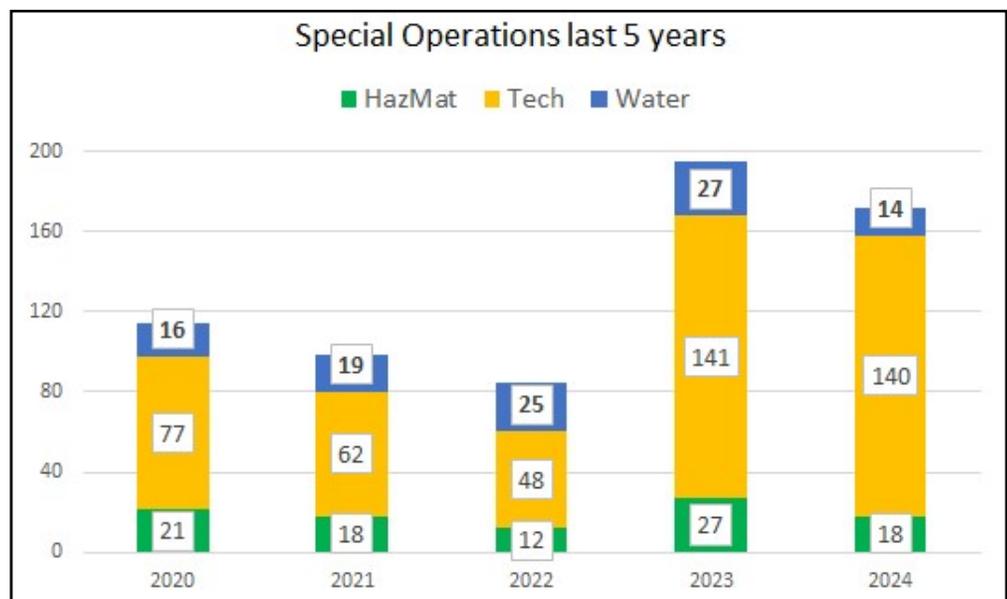
- Continued to obtain equipment to equip our Swiftwater and Dive rescuers with proper PPE
- Continued work with Tech Rescue to improve coordinated responses to river rescue incidents.
- 1,199.5 hours of Water Rescue Training; 171 hours of Dive Rescue training; 14 GRFD members completed Open Water Dive certification; 3 Team members completed an OTS Mask Repair Program

HazMat Trainings
9 team trainings on various subjects
1 member trained to technician level
7 attended MI HazMat Responder Conf.
5 attended Advanced Air Monitoring
8 attended the Region 6 Annual HazMat Exercise at Lacks Enterprises

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM (36 Members)

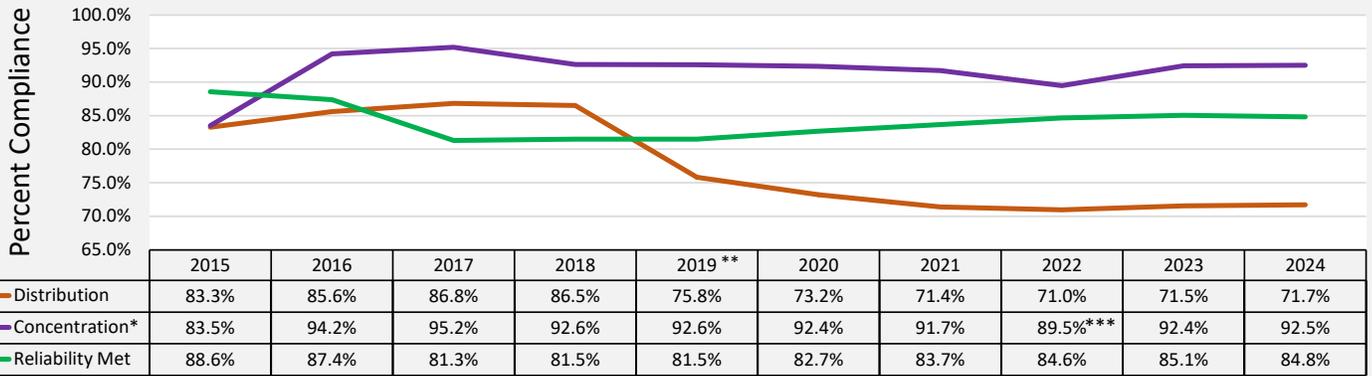
- Isolated a leaking 500 gal propane tank leak /monitored surrounding buildings
- Responded to a ruptured fuel tank on a passenger vehicle
- Overpacked a laptop battery that had caught fire
- Issue at Haviland prompted a hazmat response - no cause found after monitoring and investigation
- Assisted Big Rapids FD w/ recon, air monitoring, and chemical neutralization

GRFD started responding to all elevator incidents in 2023. In 2024, there were 80 elevator alarm, down only 3 from the previous year.



CRITICAL PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Critical Performance Measures 2015 - 2024



*Concentration in this first chart looks at multi-unit fire alarm types; Distribution and Reliability look at all alarm types. **In 2019, the department began using a more accurate start time when calculating these metrics. ***This year we used the Insurance Services Office (ISO) method of calculating Concentration where incidents that don't reach ERF but had earlier units respond within the required time, count as passes - this was retroactively done for 2022 and 2023 to compare.

All critical performance metrics have a 90% Compliance Rate Goal.

2024 Distribution by District- All alarms.

Distribution is the ability to get a first unit on scene within a set time. Most alarm types require a unit get on scene within 7 minutes (Fire) or 7 minutes 30 seconds (EMS) from the time the alarm report is created by Dispatch.

Moderate Fires (most structure fires) require a 6 minute 45 second Distribution time.

	Bridge	Burton	Chester	Covell	Division	Kalamazoo	La Grave	Leonard	MLK Jr.	Monroe	Plainfield	Citywide
Pass	1625	741	1115	800	1389	1415	2533	1252	1323	1161	457	13811
Fail	463	464	394	492	540	1135	351	627	322	364	299	5451
Compliance	77.83%	61.49%	73.89%	61.92%	72.01%	55.49%	87.83%	66.63%	80.43%	76.13%	60.45%	71.70%

- **Our Citywide Distribution compliance rate rose to 71.7%** from 71.54% the previous year **(+0.16%)**.
- All 4 outlying districts have a compliance rate lower than 70% (Kalamazoo, Plainfield, Burton, Covell, Leonard).

2024 Distribution TRAVEL TIME by District- All alarms.

Distribution Travel Time is the biggest factor in meeting the Distribution benchmark; this is the time from when the unit goes enroute to when it arrives on scene (first unit only). Looking specifically at this sub-metric helps determine how many overall Distribution fails are due to the travel time to the incident.

	Bridge	Burton	Chester	Covell	Division	Kalamazoo	La Grave	Leonard	MLK Jr.	Monroe	Plainfield	Citywide
Pass	1787	729	1137	739	1520	1433	2705	1223	1416	1230	488	14407
Fail	301	476	372	553	409	1117	179	656	229	295	268	4855
Compliance	85.58%	60.50%	75.35%	57.20%	78.80%	56.20%	93.79%	65.09%	86.08%	80.66%	64.55%	74.79%

- **Our Citywide Distribution Travel time compliance rate fell to 74.79%** from 74.92% the previous year **(-0.13%)**.
- The 4 outlying districts have an even lower distribution travel time compliance rate (less than 65%).
- **Kalamazoo's Distribution Travel compliance rate rose slightly to 56.2%** from 52.32% the previous year **(+1.08%)**
- **Leonard's Distribution Travel compliance rate improved the most (+3.51%)**, with 130 more passing incidents which offset the 26 additional incidents that failed to meet the benchmark.

CRITICAL PERFORMANCE MEASURES

2024 Concentration (ERF) by District - Multi-company Fire Alarms only.

Concentration is the ability to assemble an **effective response force (ERF)** within a set time; ERF being the number of personnel required to perform the required critical tasking per alarm type. This analysis looks at multi-company Fire responses, where a moderate response requires at least 19 crew members on scene within 11 minutes from the time the alarm report is created by Dispatch.

	Bridge	Burton	Chester	Covell	Division	Kalamazoo	La Grave	Leonard	MLK Jr.	Monroe	Plainfield	Citywide
Pass	40	9	29	14	31	43	32	32	28	26	12	296
Fail	0	6	1	3	1	5	1	2	1	1	3	24
Compliance	100.00%	60.00%	96.67%	82.35%	96.88%	89.58%	96.97%	94.12%	96.55%	96.30%	80.00%	92.50%

- **Our Citywide Fire Concentration compliance rate rose to 92.5%** from 92.41% the previous year.
- Bridge has had no Fire Concentration failures in 3 years, which may be partially attributed to its central location and double company station.
- **Burton has the lowest Concentration compliance rate for fires at 60%.** The district also saw the most fails (6) of any district, following closely by Kalamazoo (5). Most fails are due to responses to known fail areas on the edges of the Burton's district.

RELIABILITY - All alarms

The percentage of time a unit is able to answer calls in their own district. When reliability gets too low, the deployment model requires review to determine if another unit is needed in that district.

Reliability										
Station	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Bridge	92.07%	89.88%	79.83%	78.04%	80.14%	81.57%	83.65%	84.93%	82.78%	85.06%
Burton	88.06%	86.87%	83.30%	84.24%	83.41%	84.45%	86.72%	86.43%	86.99%	87.26%
Chester	84.02%	81.17%	73.76%	72.64%	71.56%	65.89%	69.47%	73.99%	77.39%	74.02%
Covell	85.01%	85.19%	77.53%	78.43%	76.87%	79.81%	82.72%	82.65%	84.60%	83.68%
Division	83.27%	82.19%	78.91%	79.86%	76.04%	80.96%	81.53%	81.97%	81.95%	81.46%
Kalamazoo	95.34%	94.13%	86.92%	87.90%	90.93%	91.72%	91.52%	90.97%	92.35%	92.08%
La Grave	91.20%	94.13%	88.29%	85.30%	85.50%	89.10%	88.55%	89.37%	89.82%	89.95%
Leonard	86.47%	85.13%	76.36%	81.29%	78.69%	83.45%	80.50%	82.56%	83.77%	81.99%
MLK Jr.	94.77%	93.07%	81.62%	87.25%	89.02%	88.82%	89.22%	88.41%	88.99%	87.71%
Monroe	79.59%	77.77%	76.35%	74.56%	72.68%	76.42%	77.21%	79.28%	76.23%	78.36%
Plainfield	86.70%	85.38%	84.50%	82.81%	81.37%	85.16%	85.48%	84.30%	84.00%	86.73%
CITYWIDE	88.55%	87.37%	81.29%	81.48%	81.00%	82.66%	83.67%	84.64%	85.06%	84.84%

- **Our Citywide Reliability compliance rate fell very slightly to 84.84%** from 85.06% the previous year (-0.22%).
- Chester has the lowest Reliability compliance rate, falling (-3.34%) to 74.02% compliance. A further breakdown showed Fire calls had an 85.15% compliance rate while EMS calls had a 75.48% compliance rate in that district.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

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

Inspections & Investigations

- The part-time fire inspector program assisted with Operational Permit Inspections (OPIs) and fire safety education for business operators/ owners. 100 % of OPIs were completed in 2024.
- Inspection districts were reorganized to match the (3) Wards; currently one inspector is responsible for each ward, including overseeing and assigning OPIs to part-time fire inspectors.
- Nearly 400 Commercial Building Referrals concerning fire code violations were reported by fire suppression officers. All referrals were addressed in 2024, primarily by Car 97 staff.
- Fire Prevention investigated 29 fire incidents in 2024 with injuries, a death, high dollar losses due to fire, or where a crime was possibly committed which would require police to work with them on the investigation.
- 5 civilians were injured and 1 person lost their life in 2024 due to fire; 4 firefighters were injured during fire suppression activities.

Construction Plan Review

Inspecting new construction and renovation projects within Grand Rapids.

	Bridge	Burton	Chester	Covell	Division	MLK Jr	Kalamazoo	La Grave	Leonard	Monroe	Plainfield	Citywide
Count	154	57	71	27	54	51	75	150	83	84	16	822
% of total	18.73%	6.93%	8.64%	3.28%	6.57%	6.20%	9.12%	18.25%	10.10%	10.22%	1.95%	

Fire Match Program

- With the assistance of our partnering agencies*, we made successful contact with 13 families out of 15 referrals.
- 12 children entered the program, 5 already successfully finishing their 6 months monitoring with no return to fire setting activity.
- 3 new GRFD screeners (1 additional from the previous year) are being trained for Fire Match duties.

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

Public Education

- The public engaged in fire safety education opportunities at 237 community events last year, including community open houses, festivals, school visits, and church gatherings.
- Firefighters visited 41 schools for 2nd grade education on fire prevention and safety.



Public Education Specialist Lisa Eller with “Freddie”, an animated, remote controlled educational tool that moves, speaks, plays MP3s, and sprays water.

Home Safety Assessments (HSAs) & Risk Assessments

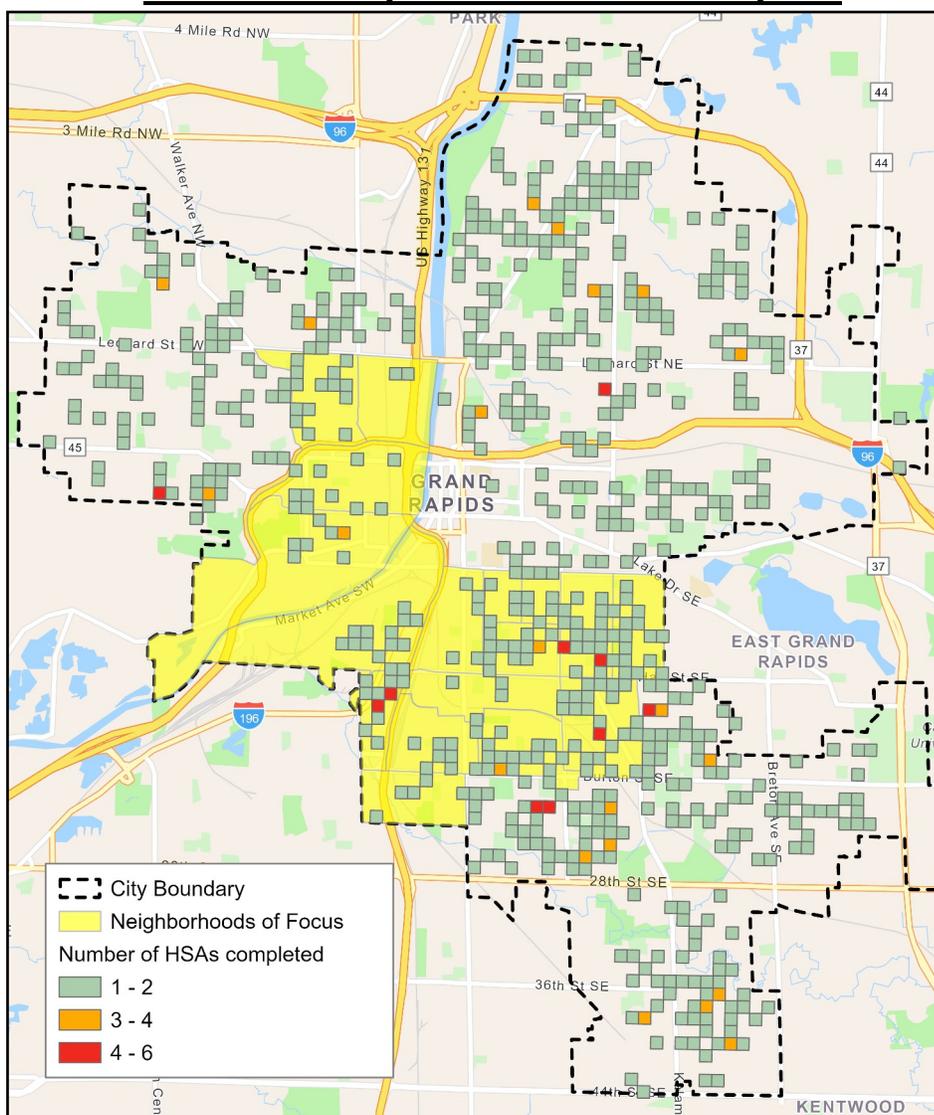
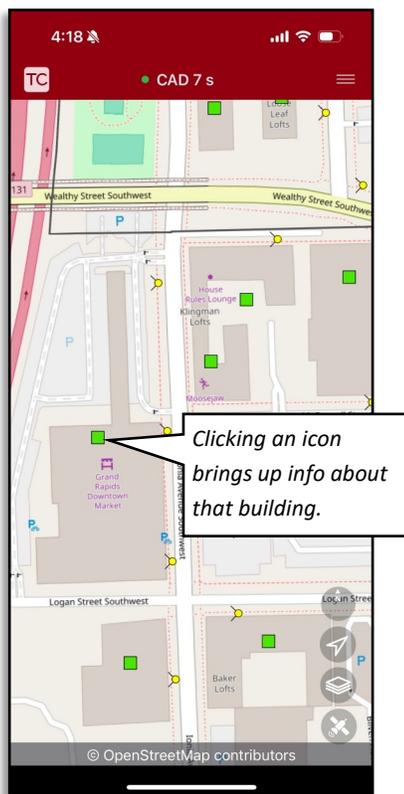
Prevention and suppression personnel work to mitigate hazards through property risk assessments and the Residential Safety Program (RSP). Additionally, when fire crews encounter residences that don't have smoke alarms as a part of an emergency response, they will offer to install the alarms for free.

	Bridge	Burton	Chester	Covell	Division	MLK	Kalamazoo	La Grave	Leonard	Monroe	Plainfield	Citywide
Home Safety Assessment	31	51	102	135	78	45	179	8	93	49	102	873
Risk Assessment	83	86	122	53	100	92	119	102	90	123	53	1,023

Risk Assessments are completed currently on a 4 year cycle on commercial and industrial buildings and on residential complexes with 13 or more units (12 units and under are inspected by GR Code Compliance). Certain buildings not normally a part of this list may be assessed, on as needed basis, if suppression members believe the information valuable during an emergency response. The collected information is available to GRFD members through map layers within Tablet Command, our incident command software (below, left)

Home Safety Assessment Hotspots

- 8,112 smoke alarms installed
- 2,297 CO alarms installed
- 231 HSAs completed in Neighborhoods of Focus



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 - William Smith



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



Matthew Keusch

Water Rescue



Ed Braman

Tech Rescue



Richard Clark

Extrication
External Agency Liaison
(including MABAS)

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)

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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

Emergency Management

- Established the City of GR as a Storm Ready Community, the largest city in Michigan with this designation.
- Conducted full-scale active shooter exercise with Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC), the Grand Rapids Police Department (GRPD), and other public safety partners.
- Participated in the FEMA Strategic Foresight 2050 project to provide insight into what emergency management may look like at the local level in the next 25 years.
- Activated the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) five times: January 13 Blizzard; St. Patrick's Day Water Main Break; Trump Rally (July), Trump Rally (November), and Presidential Election Day.
- Partnered with FEMA to connect residents to disaster assistance in response to the presidential declaration for the August 24, 2023, tornado/severe weather.



Public Outreach and Education

- 13,587 GR Emergency Alert registrations (*up 23% from beginning of the year*)
- Personal preparedness for the Spanish speaking community with Puertas Abiertas (~500 attendees)
- Climate Readiness & Preparedness with C4 (~90 attendees)
- Outreach events such as: WGNO Community Partners Day, Commission Night Out, National Night Out, a Trunk-or-Treat, and the Grand Rapids Santa Parade.



- 56 Level 1 attendees, 21 Level 2 graduates
- 37 trained CERT volunteers (*up from 16 in 2023*)
- CERT activated during March Boil Water Advisory to assist with water distribution.

PLANNING DIVISION



SPO celebrated the official launch of the NFPA 1022 standard and the development of the Fire & Emergency Services Analyst (FESA) Credential through the Center for Public Safety Excellence's (CPSE), which recognizes the critical and growing role analysts play in the modern and evolving fire and emergency services.

Performance & Management Reporting Specialist Alexandria Baszler received the newly developed FESA credential in late 2024 after assisting with its development earlier that year.

Lieutenant Molly McEntire achieved Peer Review Level 1 status after her first peer review agency visit and began preparing for GRFD's reaccreditation peer review visit in Q1 of 2026.

PROMOTIONS

CHIEFS

01/09/2024 Fankhauser, Mark (EMS Battalion Chief)

09/04/2024 Keusch, Matthew (Battalion Chief)

FIRE MARSHAL

04/12/2024 Smith, William

CAPTAINS

01/22/2024 Walsh, Curtis

06/25/2024 Myers, Michael

09/04/2024 Steeby, Justin

LIEUTENANTS

01/22/2024 Ravell, William

04/12/2024 Wallace, Lorien

04/12/2024 Malcolm, Michael

07/15/2024 Greenfield, Xavier

07/15/2024 Bazen, Nate

09/04/2024 Walker, Michael

12/02/2024 Rusiecki, Theodore

EQUIPMENT OPERATORS

04/12/2024 DenHartigh, Jessica

04/12/2024 VanStensel, William

04/12/2024 Garza, Gary

04/12/2024 Ingersoll, Benjamin

04/12/2024 Shepard, Kristy

04/12/2024 Veldkamp, Eric

04/12/2024 Milanowski, Kevin

04/12/2024 Gonzales, Matthew

Due to two recruit academies in 2023 and the scheduled recruit academy for 2025, there were no new hires in 2024.

RETIREMENTS

Thank you to our 2024 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.

01/05/2024 MacBride, Steven (EMS Coordinator)

04/03/2024 Gerkey, Donald (Fire Marshal)

07/12/2024 Gurd, Travis (Fire Lieutenant)

09/24/2024 Noorman, David (Fire Battalion Chief)

11/29/2024 Spielmaker, Casey (Fire Lieutenant)

2024 Firefighter of the Year Captain Ryan Sparks



As the primary grant writer for the GRFD, Captain Sparks has secured over \$21 million in funding, significantly enhancing equipment, apparatus, and staffing. He has mentored others in grant writing, reviews grant submissions for FEMA as an industry expert and accomplished all of this while working at the busiest stations serving the citizens of Grand Rapids. A dedicated husband, father, and community volunteer, his exceptional contributions make this recognition well-deserved.



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

Dial 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



Scan to sign up for Emergency Alerts in your area.

Grand Rapids Fire Department

38 La Grave Ave SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503



Scan to visit the GRFD website or visit
www.grandrapidsmi.gov/Government/Departments/Fire-Department