



## Montrose Fire Protection District

### 2023 Annual Report

*The mission of the Montrose Fire Protection District is to help improve the quality of life for our citizens by providing prompt, safe, and efficient response to emergencies with highly trained professional firefighters and emergency medical providers.*

# Fire Chief's Message

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It is my pleasure to submit to the Board of Directors the Montrose Fire Protection District's Annual Report and to provide this general information on the District's financial, incident response, and other operational activities to the citizens we serve.

District call volume increased 6% overall in 2023 despite a decrease in fire responses due to a relatively mild brush and wildfire season. Battalion Chief Brent Culver was promoted to Deputy Chief in July to assist in the oversight of District operations. Captain Bill Luis was subsequently promoted to Battalion Chief and will be responsible for the District's training program in addition to his duties as a shift supervisor and incident commander.

Looking forward to 2024 we are excited to receive five new apparatus that have been on order since 2019. These apparatus purchases are to replace a 25-year-old structural fire engine, 3 ambulances ranging from 14 to 19 years old, and will add a new Type-III wildland engine to our fleet. We will also be adding one FF/EMT to each shift and begin planning for an additional station to service the community.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the District, please feel free to contact us by email at [info@montrosefire.org](mailto:info@montrosefire.org), or by phone at (970) 249-9181. We are also active on social media, so give **MontroseFire District** a "Like" on Facebook, or follow **@MontroseFPD** on the Twitter/X for information on incidents, fire safety and injury prevention tips, and other District information.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tad J. Rowan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Tad J. Rowan, Fire Chief

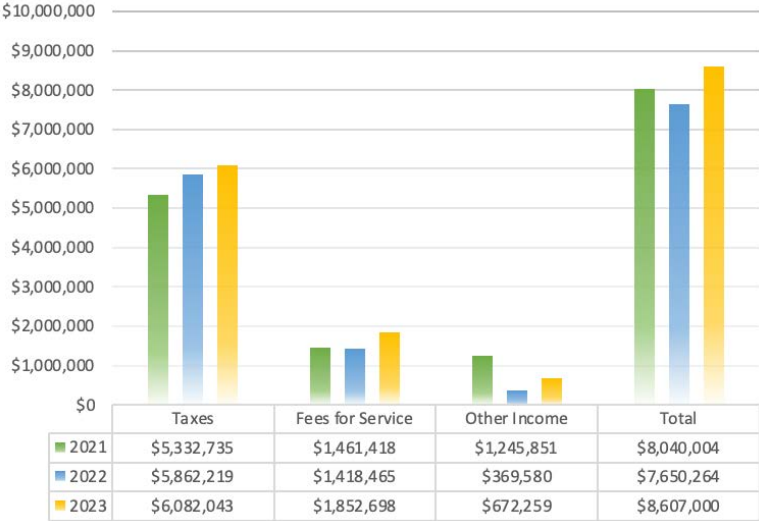
# Financial Summary

The District is governed by a 5-member Board of Directors elected by residents of the District. They are responsible for annual approval of a proposed budget and to provide oversight and direction for District services and policy. 2023 District Board members were:

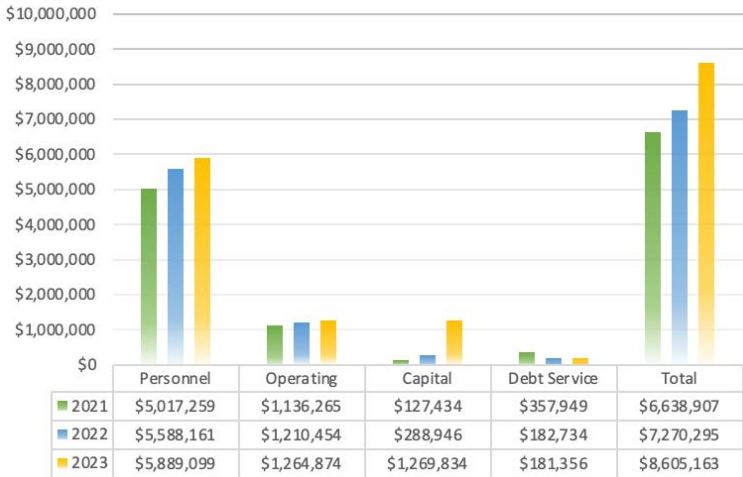
- Leslie Caimi
- Peter Cassidy, Jr.
- Cody Russell
- Greg Bollig
- Ron Cairns

In 2023, revenue from taxes increased by \$219,824 and Income from *Fees for Service* increased by \$434,233, primarily due to more EMS transports and collections. Other Income increased by \$302,679 with a planned transfer from reserves to pay for new apparatus. Revenue sources and amounts for 2023 and the previous two years are shown in the chart to the right. *Tax* revenue comes from an 8.991 mil levy assessed to property and specific ownership taxes, *Fees for Service* are primarily EMS reimbursements and permit fees, and *Other Income* represents revenue from grants, federal fire cooperation, donations, interest earned, transfer from reserves, or other sources of income.

## REVENUE



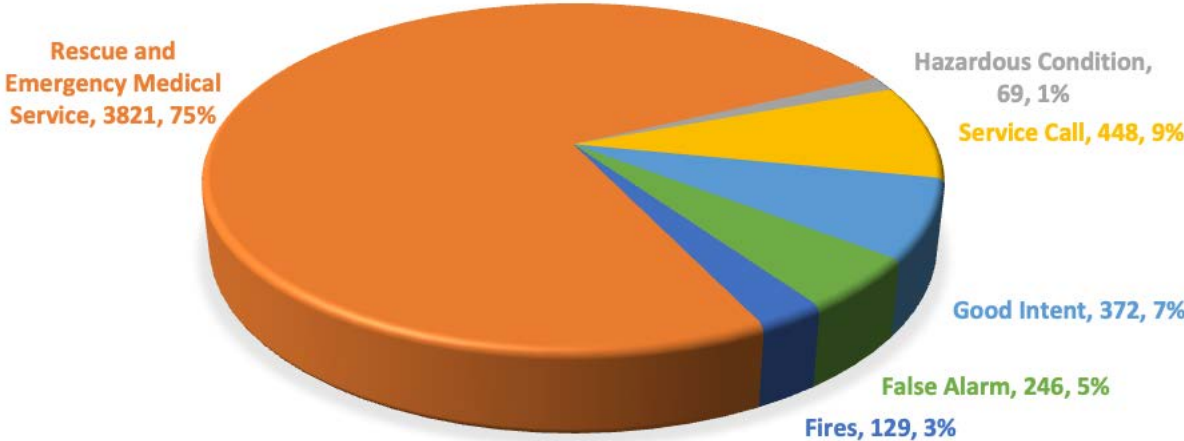
## EXPENDITURES



2023 Expenditures represent four basic categories of spending: Personnel, Operating, Capital, and Debt Service. Revenue exceeded expenditures by \$1,837 leaving an ending reserve balance of \$4,204,998.

# Incident Summary

## 2023 CALLS FOR SERVICE



MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	129	2.54%
Rescue and Emergency Medical Service	3821	75.14%
Hazardous Condition	69	1.36%
Service Call	448	8.81%
Good Intent	372	7.32%
False Alarm	246	4.84%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5085</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

In 2023 the Montrose Fire Protection District responded to 5,085 requests for service from three stations strategically located throughout our community. Calls for service are separated into six Major Incident Types above and are further divided into specific types of calls on the following pages. These incidents represent an average of 14 calls per day. Wednesdays were the busiest day for incident responses, July was the District’s busiest month, and more requests for service originated between 11:00 hrs and 12:00 hrs than any other time period.

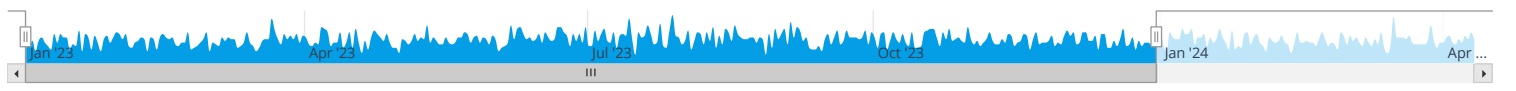
Previous Year ▾ Jan 1, 2023 - Dec 31, 2023 ▾

**25%**  
**FIRE**  
 Percentage of Total Incidents

**75%**  
**EMS**  
 Percentage of Total Incidents

**5,084**  
**INCIDENTS**  
 In Selected Time Slice

**365**  
**DAYS**  
 In Selected Time Slice



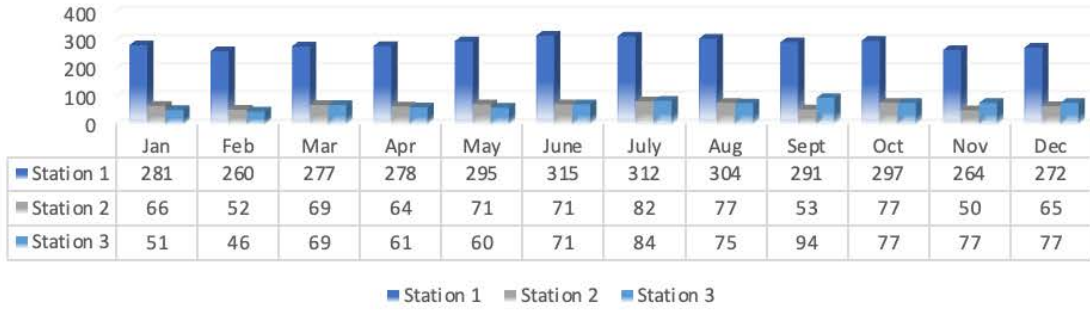
**Counts** | % Rows | % Columns | % All

	Jan '23	Feb '23	Mar '23	Apr '23	May '23	Jun '23	Jul '23	Aug '23	Sep '23	Oct '23	Nov '23	Dec '23	Jan '24	Total
(10) Fire, other								1						1
(11) Structure Fire	4	3	4	2	3	3	4	2	1	1	5	2		34
(12) Fire in mobile property used as a fixed structure		1				1								2
(13) Mobile property (vehicle) fire	1					1	3	4	1	1				11
(14) Natural vegetation fire	1		1	8	1	6	10	7		5	2			41
(15) Outside rubbish fire	2		5	6	2	1	2	3	3	5	1	1		31
(16) Special outside fire			1	1			2	1	1					6
(17) Cultivated vegetation, crop fire							1							1
(20) Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheat, other			1											1
(22) Overpressure rupture from air or gas (no fire)												1		1
(30) Rescue, emergency medical call (EMS), other	2	6			2	1	9	9	2	2	1			34
(31) Medical assist		3		2			1	2	1		3			12
(32) Emergency medical service (EMS) incident	293	268	322	291	331	347	333	318	313	333	282	320		3,751
(33) Lock-In									1	1				2

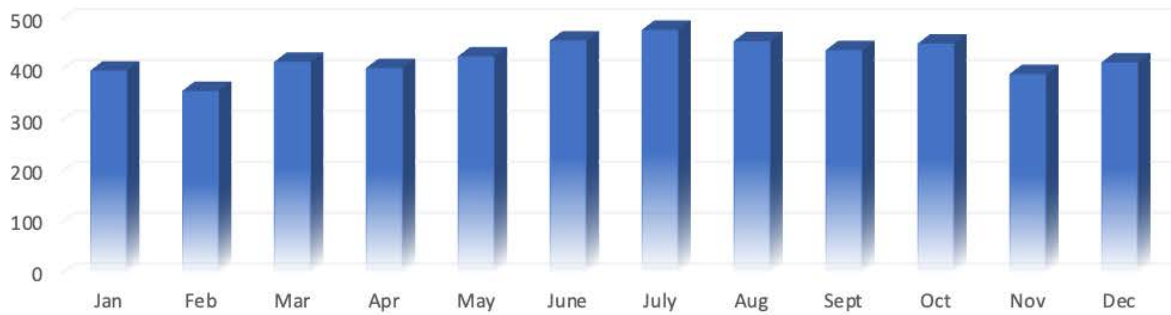
	Jan '23	Feb '23	Mar '23	Apr '23	May '23	Jun '23	Jul '23	Aug '23	Sep '23	Oct '23	Nov '23	Dec '23	Jan '24	Total
(35) Extrication, rescue		1	2			1	1							5
(36) Water or ice-related rescue								1						1
(38) Rescue or EMS standby				1	1		3		3	5	2	1		16
(40) Flammable gas or liquid condition, other	1						1							2
(41) Combustible/f.. spills & leaks	2	4		1		6	5	3	3	2	1	3		30
(42) Chemical release, reaction, or toxic condition	1	2	2		2			2	1	1	2			13
(44) Electrical wiring/equipm.. problem		1		2		2	2	5	2		1	1		16
(46) Accident, potential accident	1			1				2		1	3			8
(50) Service call, other	2	1	1	1			1							6
(51) Person in distress	1	1			1	1	1			1				6
(53) Smoke, odor problem			1			1			1		3	1		7
(54) Animal problem or rescue							1		1					2
(55) Public service assistance	37	26	27	26	25	40	45	39	47	32	35	41		420
(56) Unauthorized burning	1							1	2					4
(57) Cover assignment, standby at fire station, move-up												1		1
(60) Good intent call, other		1	1	1	1	2	1	1				2		10
(61) Dispatched and canceled en route	14	16	18	25	27	21	16	17	21	17	18	12		222
(62) Wrong location, no emergency found	7	3	5	2	5	3	9	9	11	9	2	7		72
(63) Controlled burning	4	1	2	3	4	2	1	3		3	1			24
(65) Steam, other gas mistaken for smoke	2			7	3	1	5	4	3	3	2	3		33
(66) EMS call where party has been transported							1							1
(67) HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat			1			1			1					3
(70) False alarm and false call, other	8	12	9	14	8	5	9	7	9	9	11	10		111
(71) Malicious, mischievous false alarm		1												1
(73) System or detector malfunction	4	3	5	6	7	2	3	8	3	7	8	5		61
(74) Unintentional system/detect... operation (no fire)	10	3	5	3	3	9	7	5	6	13	7	2		73

	Jan '23	Feb '23	Mar '23	Apr '23	May '23	Jun '23	Jul '23	Aug '23	Sep '23	Oct '23	Nov '23	Dec '23	Jan '24	Total
(90) Special type of incident, other		1	1						1		1			4
(91) Citizen complaint			1									1		2
UNK							1	2						3
Total	398	358	415	403	426	457	478	456	438	451	391	414		5,085

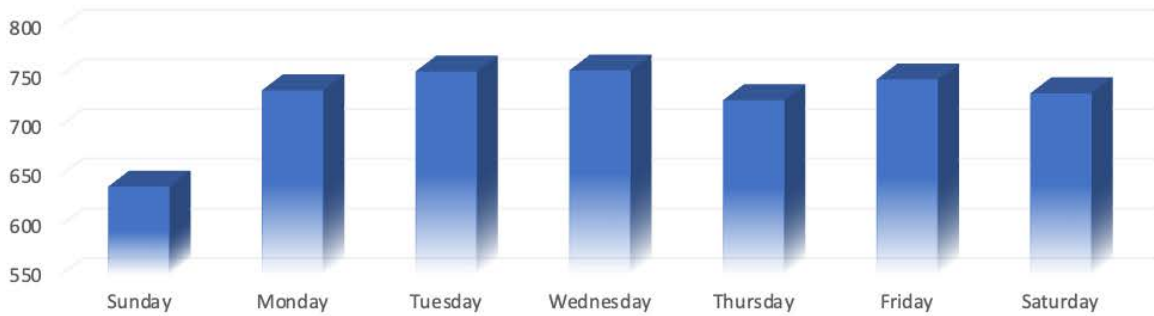
## INCIDENTS BY STATION



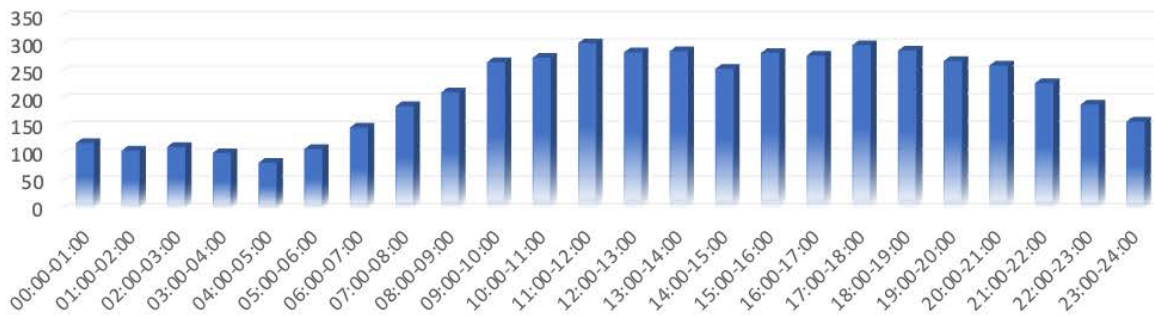
## INCIDENTS BY MONTH



## INCIDENTS BY DAY OF WEEK



## INCIDENTS BY HOUR OF DAY



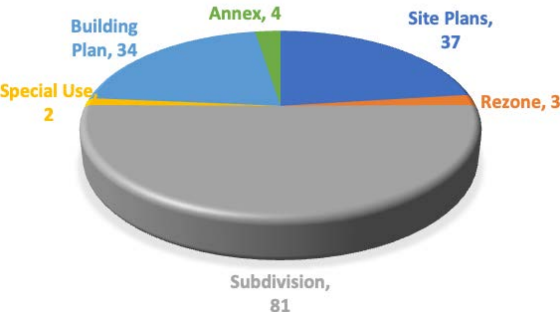


# Prevention Summary



The District is committed to the belief that the most efficient way to keep our community safe from fire, injury, and illness is through prevention. This is accomplished through building inspections, plan reviews, fire code enforcement, and public education. Fire Marshal Mark Bray coordinates and oversees the prevention activities for the District.

## PLAN REVIEWS



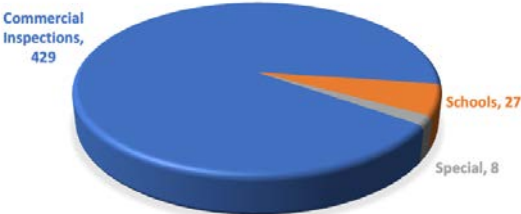
As new construction continues to remain strong within the District, permits and plan reviews have increased. Physical inspections of new commercial construction are conducted for compliancy of permits issued.

## PERMITS



Fire Prevention staff and on-duty Firefighters also conduct fire safety inspections of commercial occupancies within the District. These inspections are intended to find general Fire Code violations and to allow firefighters to familiarize themselves with the building layout and construction in the event of a fire. As issues are identified, the property owner is made aware and requested to remedy the problem. A follow-up inspection is then conducted to check compliancy.

## INSPECTIONS



While public education programs, fire prevention, and community relations activities take place throughout the year, the primary emphasis for fire prevention education occurs during Fire Prevention Week in October of each year. Firefighters use puppets and equipment tours to teach the importance of family escape plans, accessing the 911 system, and other health and safety messages. Other public education activities include:

- Station Tours
- Puppet Programs
- Juvenile Fire Setter Program
- Fire Extinguisher Classes
- Elementary School Programs
- General Adult Fire Education
- Infant and Child Car Seat Inspections
- Community Events (Public Fireworks Display, Drive-Thru Flu Clinic, Career Days, etc.)



The District is also responsible for the determination of the cause and origin of all fires. This is performed by staff trained in fire investigation or, if needed, with consultation by investigation experts such as the Colorado Bureau of Investigations or other private, professional investigation firms. In 2022, the District conducted 25 formal fire investigations. Fires determined to be incendiary or suspicious are referred to the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction.

# Training Summary

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Battalion Chief Jon Cryer was the District Training Officer in 2023 and responsible for planning, coordinating, and tracking all the various training that occurs throughout the year. Training occurs daily, with various on-duty drills and subjects. In addition to the on-duty training, other classes are conducted to provide continuing education for the maintenance of required fire and emergency medical certifications.

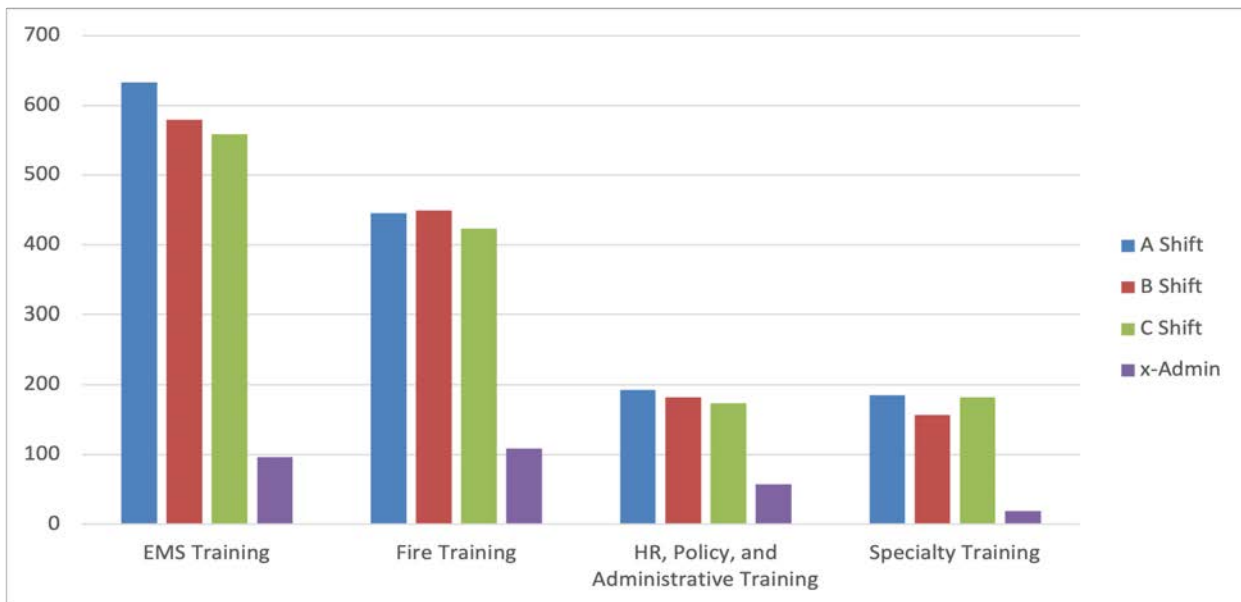
Training highlights for 2023 include:

- Rope Rescue Training – 11 new personnel were certified to Rope Rescue I/II by technicians from Technical Rescue International.
- Swift Water Rescue – Recertification of the District Swift Water Technicians.
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support – conducted in February for the District’s paramedics and EMT-Intermediates. This two-year certification is a requirement for all advanced life support providers.
- Annual Wildfire Refresher Class (RT-130) – conducted in March for all District staff. This class reviewed wildland fire behavior, suppression tactics, and the practical use of fire shelters. All personnel were required to complete the Arduous Pack Test as well.
- Pediatric Education for Prehospital Professionals (PEPP) – conducted in May and November for all MFPD ALS staff.
- Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS) – conducted in April and November for all MFPD staff.
- Live Burn Training – conducted multiple times throughout the year.



In 2023, District staff completed 2,350 man-hours of training in the following topics:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Anger, Violence, and Conflict in the Workplace | MFPD EMS Training (Airway, Breathing, Cardiology) |
| Arson Investigation                            | MFPD EMS Training (Elective)                      |
| Building Construction                          | MFPD EMS Training (Medical / Behavioral)          |
| Computer Security Awareness                    | MFPD EMS Training (Preparatory & Operations)      |
| Customer Service for Fire Department Personnel | MFPD EMS Training (Trauma)                        |
| Defensive Driving                              | MFPD Fire Officer                                 |
| Driver Operator Engine/Pumper                  | MFPD Fire Training                                |
| Emergency Vehicle Operations                   | MFPD HazMat Training                              |
| EMS Allergies and Anaphylaxis Basic            | MFPD Ice Rescue Training                          |
| EMS Altitude Illness (Advanced)                | MFPD Mandatory Reporter Training                  |
| EMS and Fire Documentation                     | MFPD SOP Manual Review                            |
| EMS Back Injury Prevention                     | MFPD TIM Certification                            |
| EMS Detailed Physical Exam                     | MFPD Triage Training                              |
| EMS HIPAA Awareness                            | MFPD Wildland RT-130 Pack Test                    |
| EMS Pain Management (Advanced)                 | MFPD Wildland RT-130 Refresher                    |
| EMS Slips, Trips and Falls                     | MFPD-Sexual Harassment Policy                     |
| EMS-ALS  | NFPA 1001 Ground Ladders                          |
| FF JPRs  | NFPA 1021 Fire and Life Safety Inspections        |
| Fire Alarm Systems                             | Primary Attack from Hydrant                       |
| Fire Inspection                                | ProEMS ACLS EP Course                             |
| Haz Mat Ops                                    | ProEMS AMLS Refresher Course                      |
| LFTE 1403 JPRs                                 | ProEMS ATLS Refresher Course                      |
| MFPD Directives Manual Review                  | Ropes Rescue Training                             |
| MFPD Driver Operator                           | Sexual Harassment Awareness                       |
| MFPD EMS Protocol Review                       | Mass Casualty Response                            |

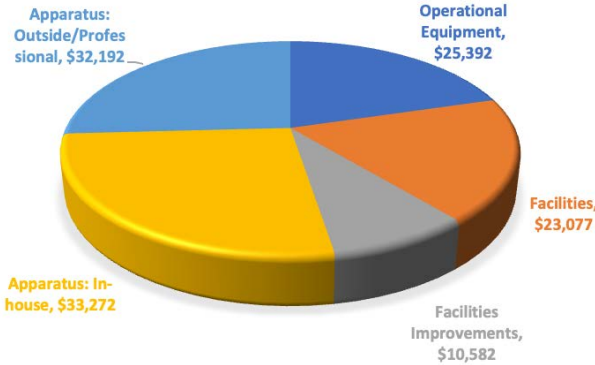


# Maintenance Summary

The District operates and maintains 3 fire stations, a training/live-burn building, 24 vehicles and numerous pieces of support equipment. Deputy Chief Brent Culver supervises and coordinates the District maintenance program with a goal to maintain a superior state of readiness while being as cost-effective as possible. That challenge is met by purchasing quality equipment and apparatus and maintaining that equipment to a high standard. Equipment and apparatus are subject to daily, weekly, and annual inspections as required. Every effort is made to comply with applicable guidelines established by the National Fire Protection Association and Occupational Safety and Health Association.



**MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR COSTS**



In an effort to keep costs as low as possible, the District performs the majority of maintenance and repair to facilities, equipment, and apparatus using District staff. When projects are beyond the scope and experience of in-house staff, local professional mechanics or contractors are used.

# Staff Awards and Recognitions

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## Employee of the Year

The Fire Chief awards an Employee of the Year award to person(s) who perform exemplary or go beyond the call of duty.

- Firefighter/Paramedic Austin Stone (pictured left) was awarded Employee of the Year for his continued excellence in patient care. Austin was instrumental in the management of multiple critical incidents accounting for positive outcomes. He continues to advance his knowledge and mentors other providers on his shift with enthusiasm and a positive attitude.

## Years of Service Recognitions

- Captain Jessie Galvan was recognized for 15 years of service.
- FF/EMT-I Randy Friend and Captain Eric McCullough were recognized for 20 years of service.
- FF/EMT-I Tim Caton and Battalion Chief Bill Luis (pictured below) were recognized for 25 years of service.

