

Carol Stream Fire Protection District Annual Report 2024



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From the Chief

To: Fire District and Board of Trustees,

It is my pleasure to present the Carol Stream Fire District 2024 year-end report. I am very proud that the fire district was able to accomplish all of the goals that were set forth in the beginning of the year.

In 2024, the fire district wrapped up approximately 8-years of capital improvements to all of our fire stations. This concluded with the exterior station 27 project. The project included new siding, gutters, fascia, and windows. A new station sign was erected at station 28 and bay floor columns were removed at station 29 to allow a safer ingress & egress of fire apparatus.

The fire district puts a great emphasis on fire and EMS training. we continue to be a part of the West Suburban Fire Alliance which is comprised of eight fire departments (Carol Stream, Glenside, Wheaton, Bloomingdale, Hanover Park, West Chicago, Winfield, and Roselle). As the Alliance, we train together each month and operate under the same standard operating guidelines. In addition, we have the same responses for fire incidents, which gives us the resources needed immediately with all personnel being trained and operating the same on an emergency scene. This equates to a safer and more efficient fire ground and emergency scene.

In 2024, the fire district issued three life-saving EMS citations for three different patients who were pulseless and not breathing in the field. All three of these patients made a full recovery and were present for the awarding of the EMS citations to fire district personnel.



The fire district experienced two retirements in 2024. Deputy Chief Tom Nash & FF/PM Kevin Hames retired both having over 20 years of service with the district. Lieutenant Jason Kanzia was promoted to Deputy Chief and FF/PM Tyler Poffenbarger was promoted to Lieutenant. Nick Potthoff and Dylan Schultz were hired as new candidate FF/PM's.

Many fire district apparatus changes occurred in 2024. We continue to see delays to the delivery of all types of apparatus once ordered. We placed in service a new Engine 29 which is located at our station 29. Four new chief vehicles were placed in service for the command chiefs and battalion chiefs of the fire district. A new utility truck was purchased for station 28 and a new ambulance was ordered. Many of the apparatus in which these vehicles replaced were sold.

Operationally, the fire district responded to 6,232 calls in 2024 from our three fire stations.

In closing, The Carol Stream Fire District will continue to provide the best service possible to our residents and visitors. We are very fortunate to have such great personnel working for the fire district giving their best each and every day for a difficult and demanding profession. Thank you for taking the time to look over our 2024 annual report.

Respectfully,

Robert M. Schultz

Fire Chief

Board of Trustees

William G. Natick
President



Karl Langhammer
Treasurer



Richard Fisher
Secretary



Brian Jordan
Trustee

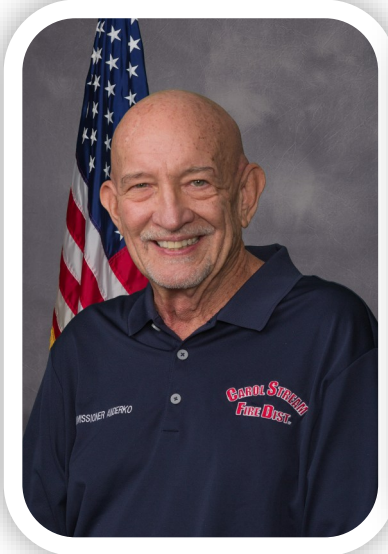


James Panopoulos
Trustee



Fire Commissioners

Kenneth Anderko
Chairperson



Joseph Pauling
Secretary



Robert Hoff
Commissioner



District Personnel

Administrative Staff

Robert Schultz
Fire Chief

Jason Day
Deputy Fire Chief

Jason Kanzia
Deputy Fire Chief

Angela Kneisel
Administrative Manager

Sara Moist
Administrative Assistant

Terri Flores
Administrative Assistant

Tim Ryan
Fire Inspector

Scot Neil
Fire Inspector

Vick Maxon & Butch Smith
MSW – IT Consultants

Sara Moist
Recorder – Board of Trustees

Shift Battalion Chiefs

Jeff Blaksley

Chad Grandgeorge

Danny Stelter

Lieutenants

Michael Bratta

Kevin Hencinski

Steve Netzel

Tim Cicero

Rick Kozak

Tyler Poffenbarger

Patrick Coulter

Eric Larson

Domiano Shurba

Kevin Gay

Ben McClarey

Eric Wieringa

Firefighters & Paramedics

Lucero Avina

Donald Hane

James Mulligan

Joshua Beaman

Joseph Hanson

Scott Naylor

Mark Bjorklund

Max Hively

Dan Nelson

Josh Conlon

Derek Killey

Frank Palermo

Tony Davenport

Kasia Koscielniak

Dan Patt

Frank Defino

Michael Kucia

Jesus Pineda

Lauren Fairfield

Jason Larson

Nick Potthoff

Mike Fairfield

Joe Lauria

Drew Schultz

Patrick Felde

Eric Mandujano

Dylan Schultz

Chris Fischer

Jake Mapalo

Steve Sievers

Tom Flannery

Ethan McReynolds

Landon Starkey

Michael Foss

Joe Melone

Josh Stein

Levi Franklin

Chris Molsen

Tim Stratton

Nate Gianpetro

Zach Morel

Gilberto Villa

Nathan Grant

Adam Mullendore

Isabella Volpe

Financial Summary 2024

The Carol Stream Fire Protection District utilizes a conservative budgeting process that stresses financial responsibility to its taxpayers while providing the highest level of protection and education possible.

For the fiscal year 2024, the Carol Stream Fire Protection District once again received a clean, unqualified audit from its outside CPA firm. Revenues exceeded expenses by a moderate amount, demonstrating strong management in maintaining and controlling expenses. Below is a recap of the District's revenues and expenses.

Revenues

For the fiscal year ended May 31, 2024

Property Tax	\$12,494,642
Replacement Tax	\$ 337,983
Foreign Fire insurance Tax	\$ 98,253
Charges for Services	\$ 2,417,912
Intergovernmental	\$ 106,989
Investment Income	\$ 535,067
Insurance Reimbursement	\$ 18,889
Miscellaneous	\$ 152,670
Sale of Assets	<u>\$ 89,400</u>
Total	\$ 16,251,805

Expenditures

For the fiscal year ended May 31, 2024

Fire Protection	\$ 8,381,255
Ambulance	\$ 5,360,082
Insurance	\$ 318,199
Social Security	\$ 124,309
Audit	\$ 13,625
Foreign Fire	\$ 133,882
Capital Outlay	<u>\$ 2,821,973</u>
Total	\$ 17,153,325

Division and Staff Reports

Information Technology Vicki Maxon and Butch Smith

Accomplishments

- Selected a new, more comprehensive cyber security product that includes remote threat monitoring with and action plan to be executed by the vendor
- Increased proactive monitoring for cyber threats
- Extended additional wireless capabilities at station 27
- Upgraded all vehicle mobile phones
- Upgraded server and workstation operating systems to comply with Microsoft's end of product support policy



Preplan Program Lieutenant Steve Netzel

Pre-plans contain drawings and building information for commercial and multi-tenant buildings which the fire district protects. This information is uploaded to our vehicle computers, enabling firefighters to reference locations of equipment such as sprinkler connections, hydrants, hazards inside, roof access, gas shut off, electric shut off and much more in case of emergencies.

Accomplishments

- Created new preplan drawings for new construction in the fire district
- Scheduled companies to update commercial/multifamily buildings every month
- Oversaw and created CAD drawings for all updated pre-plans
- Worked with Fire Prevention Bureau to update fire district hazards and key box keys

Safety Committee Lieutenant Steve Netzel

Year End Review

- Discussed and Updated Safety Program Policies
- Maintained supply of safety equipment at all three fire stations
- Reviewed safety concerns at the firehouses
- Reviewed accident/injury reports and discussed recommendations to improve safety

Safety Committee Members

Chief Schultz

Deputy Chief Kanzia

Deputy Chief Day

Lieutenant Netzel (Committee Chair)

Inspector Ryan

Firefighter/Paramedic L Fairfield

Firefighter/Paramedic Felde (Local 3192 Safety Steward)



Public Education Lieutenant Tim Cicero

The importance of Public Education in the Fire Service cannot be overstated. Fire Safety Education provides the following benefits:

- Preventing injury/death for our residents
- Preventing injury/death for our firefighters
- Saving hundreds of thousands of dollars for our residents
- Saving hundreds of thousands of dollars for our fire district
- Promote positive public relations and experiences to our residents

It is the mission of the Public Education Department to provide excellent educational programs to the residents of our community and reduce/eliminate both civilian and firefighter deaths and injuries from home accidents and fires, while also creating positive experiences to the residents of our community.

Lieutenant Tim Cicero is the Public Education Coordinator. All of our firefighters/medics participates in some form of education/public relations during the year, and everyone does an outstanding job.

2024 Highlights/Statistics

67 live events
Over 5,000 Children educated

Social Media Statistics

The fire district's Facebook webpage is continuing to gain followers and likes. This is a great way to inform our social media community.

10 Facebook posts in 2024
61,700 people reached virtually
14,300 Page Visits and 3,033 followers



Public Education Month

We visited 15 educational facilities in October. Instructing over 3,000 children in person at their schools. Off duty members and on duty crews were the instructors for the children. Every student went home with activity books to complete.

Open House

We successfully hosted Open House this year at station 28 on Saturday October 5, 2024 from 10am-2pm. We had over 1000 guests visit that day, and had multiple new presentations throughout the day of our hands on equipment.

Senior Events 4 events - 12 hours

Community Events 16 Events – 15 Hours

Church Events 3 Events – 5 Hours

Fire Extinguisher and First aid 14 Classes – 54 Hours

School Visits 9 visits for 17 Hours (excluding October)

Other Highlights

-10 Block parties

-8 Station tours

-On duty crews handed out Glow Sticks in the neighborhoods on Halloween



CPR

Firefighter/Paramedic Michael Fairfield

CPR has been proven to save lives for those in cardiac arrest. The Carol Stream Fire District provides CPR and first aid instruction to the public and businesses in the community. We have been teaching more businesses in our district than in previous years, both on-site at station 28, off-site at the business locations, and repeat classes at some of the schools in our district.

American Heart Association Statistics

Annually, 475,000 Americans die from a cardiac arrest. Globally, cardiac arrest claims more lives than colorectal cancer, breast cancer, prostate cancer, influenza, pneumonia, auto accidents, HIV, firearms, and house fires combined. 90% of those who suffer cardiac arrest outside the hospital setting will die. However, CPR, especially if administered immediately after cardiac arrest, can double or triple a person's chance of survival. Every minute without CPR reduces survivability by 10%, bystander CPR buys the time needed for EMS to arrive on scene and administered ALS care.

Classes Taught in 2024

CSFD instructors taught 27 Classes to 277 participants.



EMS Operations

Firefighter/Paramedic Lauren Fairfield (EMS Coordinator)

- Attended Chief/EMS Coordinator meetings with CDH
- Oversaw the IDPH and CDH annual inspections for the 4 medic units
- Completed the IDPH and CDH self-inspections for the 3 fire suppression vehicles
- Completed the annual maintenance on the cardiac monitors
- Completed the annual maintenance of the ambulance cots, stair chairs, and power load systems
- Maintained the EMS supplies and equipment for all 3 stations

EMS CE

Firefighter/Paramedic Frank Palermo

Each month all of the fire districts EMT's & paramedics attend monthly continuing education to maintain their respective license. This continuing education is taught by our paramedics who are EMS CE facilitators.



Personal Protective Equipment

Lieutenant Rick Kozak

The gear that all of our firefighters wear to protect them is the responsibility of the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Division. Supplying gear for our new firefighters as well as replacing and maintaining gear for our current firefighters is an ongoing task. This gear is worn by the firefighters almost every shift they work at least once, and sometimes several times throughout their shift. Gear that is in need of repair is sent out as soon as possible to make sure the firefighters are protected. The PPE division not only supplies and manages the firefighters turn out jacket and pants, but also provides their fire gloves, extrication gloves, fire helmets, fire boots, and Nomex hoods.

Station 27,28,29 Small Tools

Lieutenant Dom Shurba, Firefighter/Paramedic Dan Patt, & Firefighter/Paramedic Derek Killey

Accomplishments

- Replaced old AFFF Foam with a new Universal Green AR-SFFF Foam
- Completed annual hydraulic maintenance of all extrication tools
- Maintained the calibration of all the fire district gas meters which included replacing sensors
- Placed in service a new thermal imaging camera for the battalion chief vehicle
- Completed annual inspection and maintenance on all ground ladders
- Maintained all consumables including batteries, saw fuel, oil dry, and saw blades and chains
- Completed annual inspection and maintenance on all fire extinguishers

Vehicle Maintenance

Firefighter/Paramedic Michael Foss

Accomplishments

- Maintained the fleet for minor repairs
- Continued with the semi-annual preventative maintenance
- Conducted annual pump testing
- Completed annual aerial certifications
- Took delivery of the new Engine 29 and put into service
- Took delivery of the new Station 28 pickup and put into service
- Four new chief buggies put into service for the fire chief, deputy chiefs and battalion chiefs
- The old chief vehicles were surplused and sold
- Sold the old engine 29
- Ordered one new ambulance



Fitness Program

Firefighter/Paramedic Josh Stein

Accomplishments

- Preventive maintenance performed on all fire district fitness equipment.
- Purchased ancillary exercise equipment for all three stations including two new fitness bikes for station 27 and 29
- Purchased a second treadmill for station 28
- Conducted fitness incentive program for district employees

Communications

Lieutenant Dom Shurba

Accomplishments

- Maintained all the portable radios for the district through the ETSB of DuPage County
- Replaced and repaired all small parts for pagers and radios including antennas, knobs, mic cables and batteries

Fire Investigation

Firefighter/Paramedic Eric Wieringa

The Carol Stream Fire Investigation Unit (FIU) investigated 37 fires during 2024. These fires ranged anywhere from vehicle fires, structure fires, cooking fires, and multiple miscellaneous fires.

The iPads that were secured in 2023 have worked great for the team in 2024 and have streamlined the process for a more organized reporting system. This, in conjunction with switching to the Bomb Arson Tracking System, (BATS) for reports, has allowed for a better reporting system and more streamlined report.

Each investigator completed various tasks to remain certified as a fire investigator. This can be done through life experience, classes, or online training through CFITrainer.net. These are online training videos that test the student at the end of the program. When the test is then passed, each student gains a certain number of tested hours to use towards recertification every 4 years. Two new members were added to the team in 2024 with the intention of adding more members in 2025.

The team at this time consists of 10 members:

Lt. Eric Wieringa	Lt. Domiano Shurba
FF Joe Hanson	FF Frank Palermo
FF Dan Nelson	FF Chris Fischer
FF Lucy Avina	FF Jesus Pineda
FF Tim Stratton	FF Kasia Koscielniak

SCBA Division Lieutenant Kevin Gay

Accomplishments

- Placed into service new SCBA Compressor and Fill Station purchased through AFG Grant
- Performed annual fit testing
- Performed annual flow testing
- Purchased G1 SCBA mask covers to simulate low visibility for training
- Performed hydrostatic bottle testing
- Performed SCBA repairs, as needed
- Applied for Office State Fire Marshal Small Tools Grant for new fit test machine



Hose and Appliances Lieutenant Eric Larson

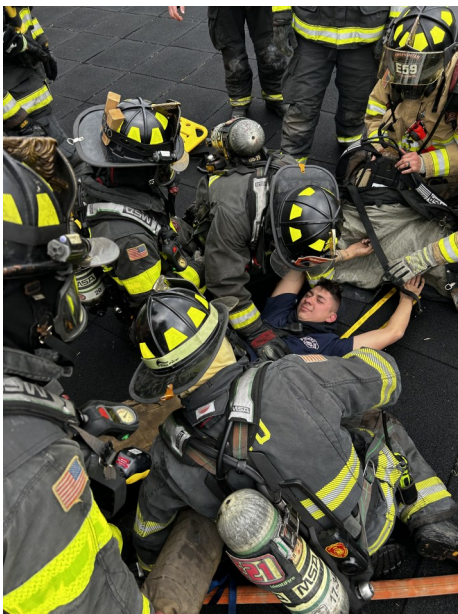
Accomplishments

- Completed Annual Hose Testing for all District Fire Houses per NFPA 1962
- Removed all failed hose and retired all hose prior to 2005
- Purchased numerous lengths of hose to replace outdated or failed hose for our apparatus

Training Lieutenant Patrick Coulter

Accomplishments

- Worked with the other members of the Alliance Training Committee to provide quick drills, company officer drills, and mandatory training for Carol Stream and the other Alliance towns
- Provided and instructed multi-company training and live-fire training at our training tower
- Worked with the chief officers to develop a direction for our training
- Worked with Target Solutions to better capture and track our training



Training Tower Lieutenant Eric Larson

The training tower strives to produce the best and most realistic training every year. Multiple fire departments and agencies attended and benefited from training at the Carol Stream Facility. Carol Stream firefighters also benefit from the training. Below is a list of training tower accomplishments for 2024.

Accomplishments

- Set up training tower for 2024 Season over multiple days.
- Purchased and Stored hay, flares, and lumber materials throughout 2024
- Cut and Stocked multiple materials for forcible entry and ventilation props
- Cleaned and Organized Training tower storage room
- Assembled SCBA Maze for Carol Stream Fire in January and February
- Performed general maintenance and upkeep of training tower including repairs and rebuild of walls on multiple floors of the burn tower.
- Maintenance and repairs made to smoke machines
- Installed 2nd floor forcible entry prop
- Hosted “Firemanship” Class for search in which firefighters from multiple agencies attended in the summer
- Hosted multiple Alliance Multi-Company Live Fire trainings in which more than 50-60 firefighters participate in each day.
- Multiple Live Fire Evolutions performed by each shift of the Carol Stream Fire Department.
- Hosted Multiple Special Operations Drills for the Alliance in which 50 to 60 firefighters attend each day. Including Rope, Confined Space and Collapse drills.
- Hosted multiple fire academy/department live fire trainings



Technical Rescue Lieutenant/Paramedic Kevin Hencinski

The Technical Rescue Team was busy sending members to Technical Rescue Classes, upgrading/replacing equipment and coordinating drills.

Accomplishments

- Upgrade of high-speed/lightweight rope rescue equipment
- Replacement of equipment that has reached the service life (helmets, anchor straps, etc.)
- LT Hencinski deployed to Hurricane Helene with IL-TF1
- Members obtained 15 technical rescue state certifications
- Created monthly technical rescue roll call drills for Target Solutions
- Prepared, coordinated and instructed two Technical Rescue Team Drills
- Prepared, coordinated and instructed five Alliance Special Operations Drills
- Hosted WSFRA, Rope Rescue Operations Class (Eight CSFD members)
- Continued sending members to classes with the intention of technician level of all members



Station 27,28,29 Building Maintenance Firefighter/Paramedics Mike Kucia, Chris Molsen & Joe Hanson

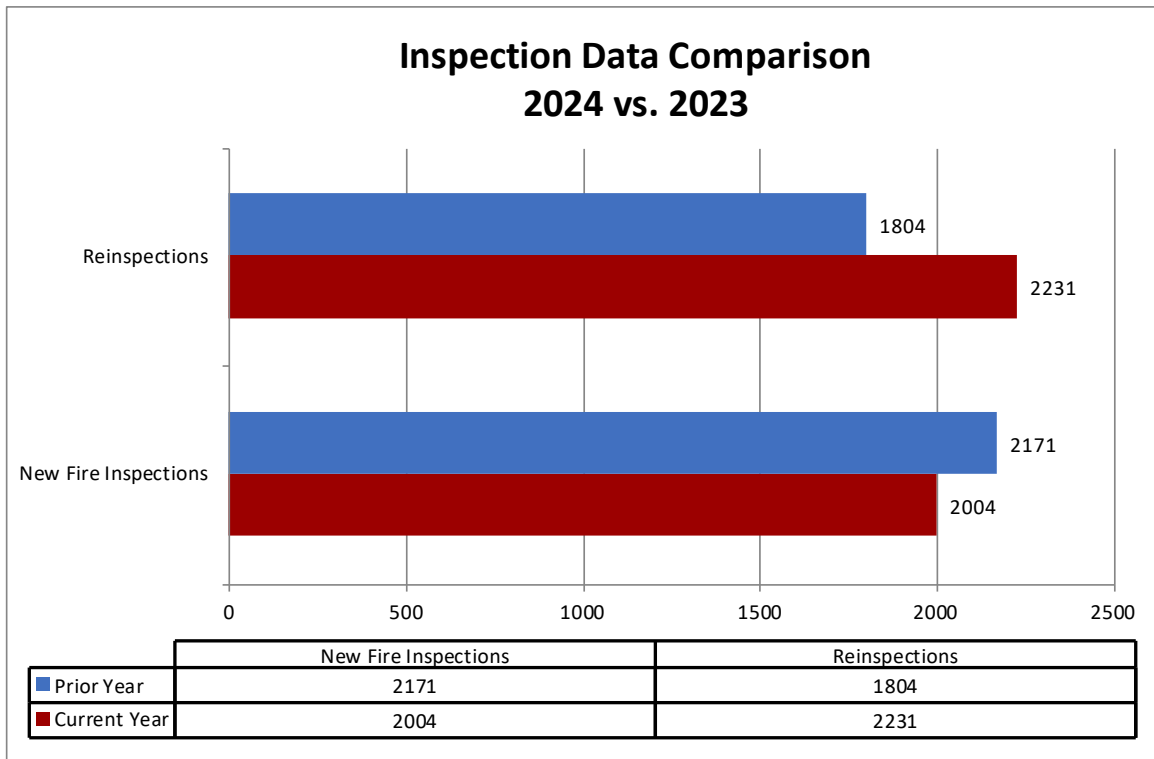
Accomplishments

- New Rooftop Furnace unit installed at station 27
- Windows on Maintenance Bay side replaced at station 27
- Siding on the station was replaced at station 27
- Bay doors were all painted and re-lettered at station 27
- Replaced living quarters washer at station 27
- Repaired sump pump plumbing
- Completed annual sprinkler testing and maintenance at all three stations
- Completed annual generator maintenance at all three stations
- Completed annual landscape maintenance at all three stations
- Completed annual floor drain and basin cleaning at all three stations
- Completed annual backflow preventer testing at all three stations
- Completed annual crane inspection at station 28
- Completed annual garage door maintenance at all three stations
- New weather seals installed around overhead garage doors at station 28
- New kitchen faucet installed at station 28
- Removed pillars on bay floor to create safer entry for vehicles at station 29
- Purchased clothes washer and dryer at station 29
- Replaced man door entrance on apparatus floor at station 29



Fire Prevention—Inspections Inspector Tim Ryan and Inspector Scot Neil

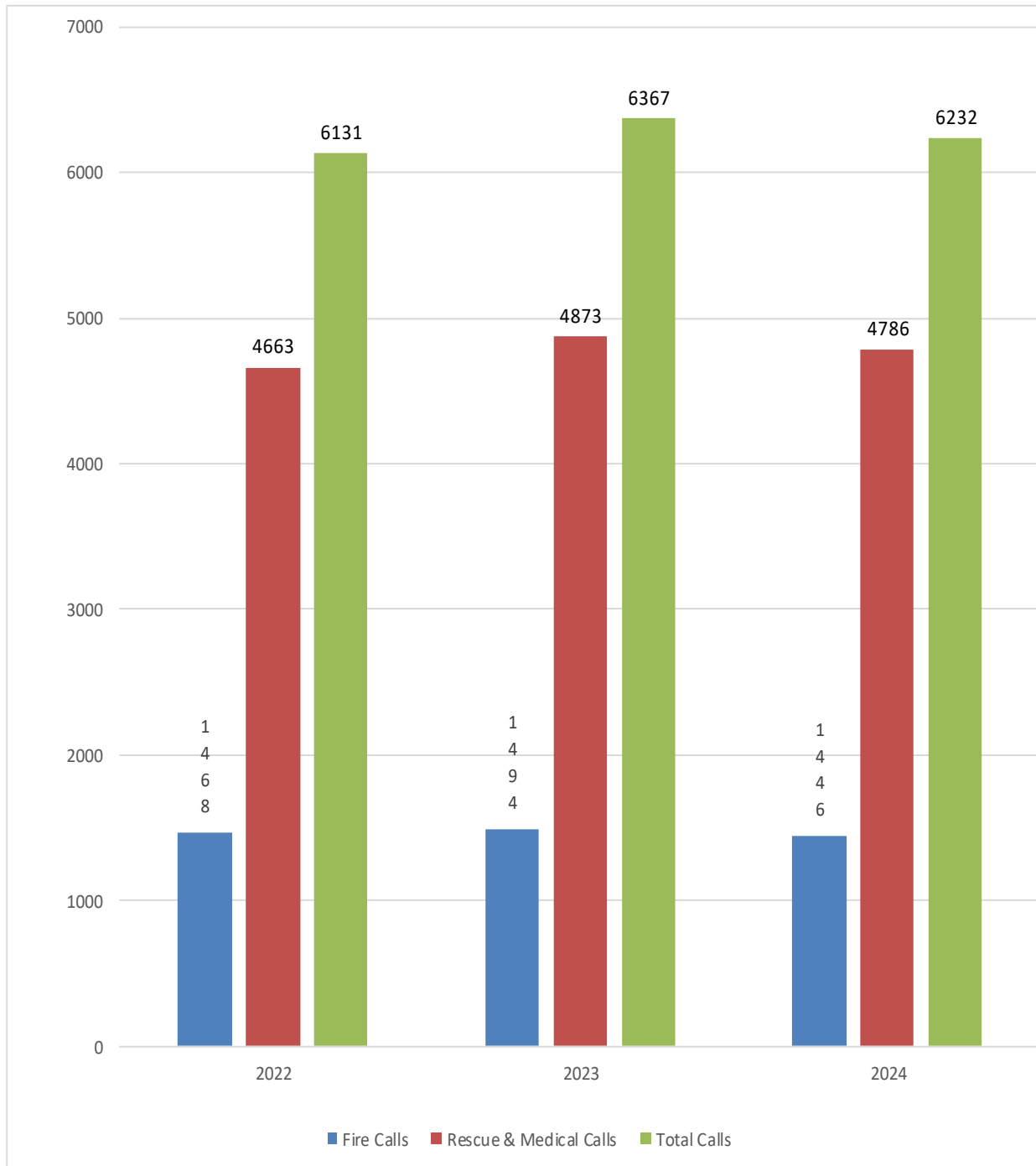
The Deputy Fire Chief is responsible for the management and daily operation of the Fire Prevention Bureau. The Fire Prevention Bureau is responsible for conducting life safety and code compliance inspections of all businesses, commercial and industrial occupancies along with all schools and multi-family occupancies within the fire district. The Fire Prevention Bureau is staffed with 2 full-time fire inspectors who strive to meet the demands of an increasingly diverse occupancy inventory and maintain knowledge of everchanging technology and code enforcement practices. The approximate 1,567 buildings are inspected at the minimum annually and depending on the occupancy type they may be inspected on a semi-annual basis. The Fire Prevention Bureau works closely with the Village of Carol Stream Community Development to provide a safe place to work and live by reducing the risk of fire and life safety hazards.



The Fire Prevention Bureau inspection duties include:

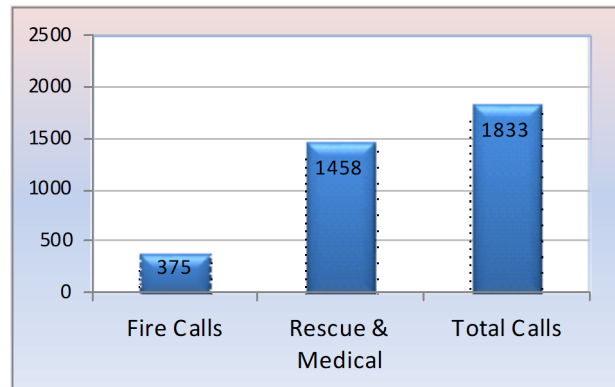
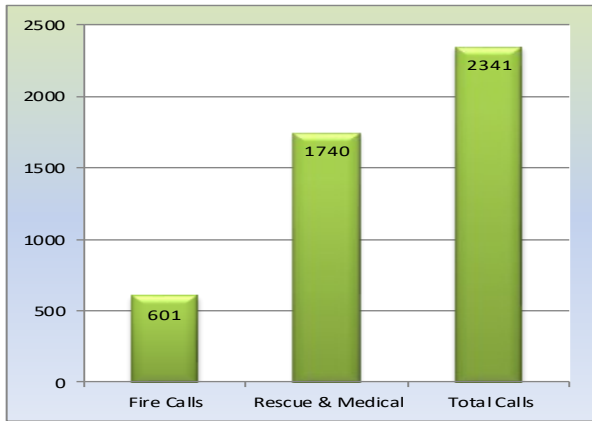
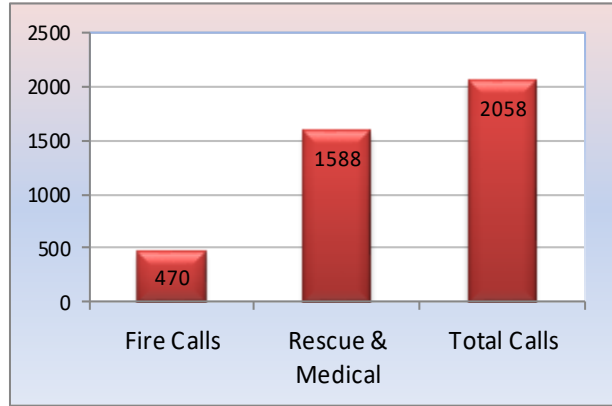
- Review fire alarm and sprinkler plans for both new construction and renovations.
- Re-inspections for code violations to ensure code compliance
- On-going construction permit inspection
- Final Installation inspections of Solar Panels on all types of occupancies.
- Final Occupancy inspections on renovated commercial structures and new structures.

2022 ~ 2024 Three Year Comparison of Fire, Rescue & Medical Calls



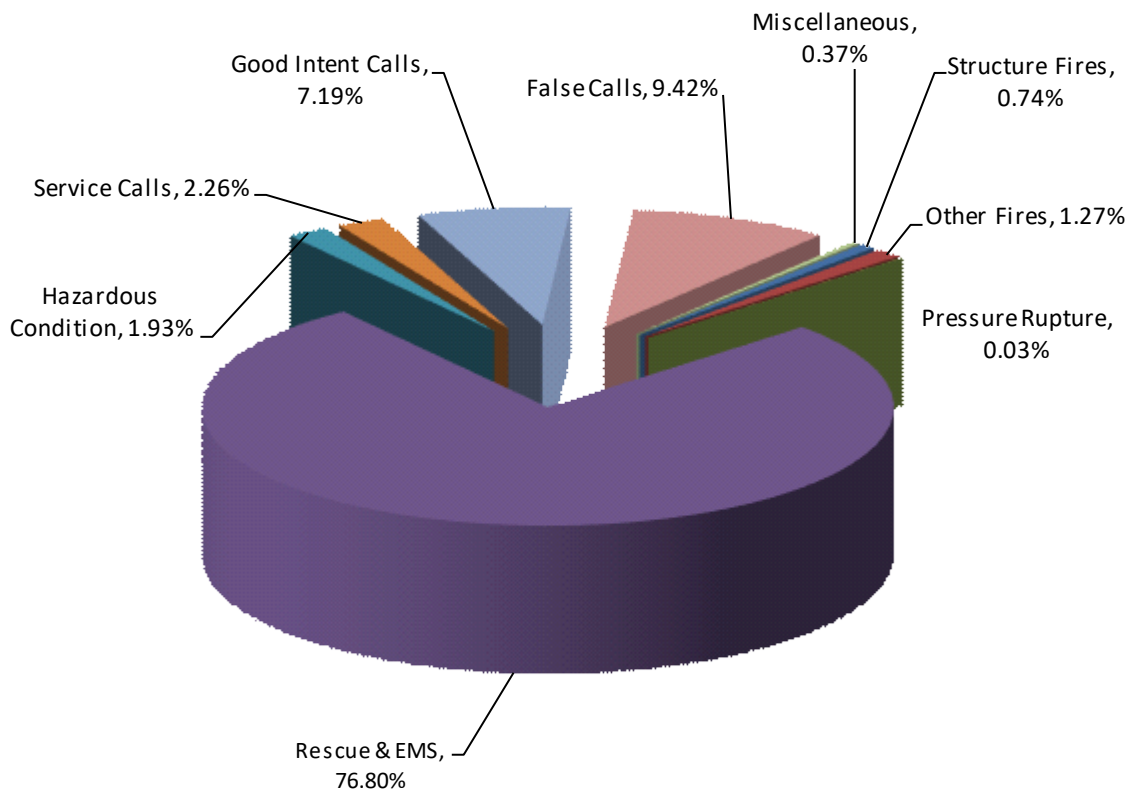


2024 Calls Handled by Station



2024 Fire District Responses By Incident Type

Incident Type	# of Incidents	% of Total Incidents	Incident Type	# of Incidents	% of Total Incidents
Structure Fires	46	0.74%	Service Calls	141	2.26%
Other Fires	79	1.27%	Good Intent Calls	448	7.19%
Pressure Rupture	2	0.03%	False Calls	587	9.42%
Rescue & EMS	4786	76.80%	Miscellaneous	23	0.37%
Hazardous Condition	120	1.93%			



2024 Rescue & EMS Responses Statistical Breakdown

Type of Call	# of Patients	% of Total Patients	Type of Call	# of Patients	% of Total Patients
Medical Emergencies	1986	41.50%	Psychiatric	349	7.29%
Traumatic Injuries	1135	23.72%	Overdose / Poisonings	67	1.40%
Vehicle Accidents	349	7.29%	Miscellaneous	95	1.98%
Breathing Related	422	8.82%	Obstetrical	25	0.52%
Cardiac Related	358	7.48%			

