

2019 Annual Report



Windows on Life Photography

Camas-Washougal Fire Department

Our Mission: "To provide the highest quality service to our community through the protection and preservation of life and property."

Mayors, Councils, and Citizens of Camas & Washougal:

I am pleased to submit to you the Camas-Washougal Fire Department's annual report for 2019. The activities and accomplishments contained in this report reflect the quality and dedication of the employees of CWFD.

Although our most well-known functions include responding to medical emergencies and fires, this report demonstrates the wide array of other comprehensive services and programs we provide for our citizens. Employees and volunteers of CWFD are dedicated professionals who take tremendous pride in the mission of the agency. This report is a summary of our mission to improve public safety thru emergency response, prevention, and public education.

One of the biggest projects undertaken by the department in 2019 was development of our first Master Plan by the consulting firm ESCI. The Master Plan was designed to help our agency map out our staffing and growth needs for the next several years. The plan showed future station, staffing, and equipment needs for our agency. This extensive document is available on our website.

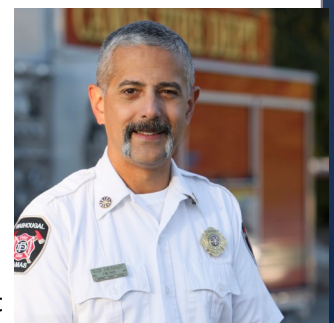
The year 2019 also saw some of the most substantial personnel additions we've seen in nearly two decades. Four new full time positions were added to our line staff in 2019, along with a new deputy fire marshal. These positions will help with our daily staffing needs and improve the level of service we provide to the community. We are grateful to our elected officials and our community for supporting the addition of these new positions.

Another significant change in the department in 2019 was the launch of our own recruit fire academy, in partnership with Portland Community College. April of 2019 saw the start of our inaugural class, consisting of new CWFD hires, as well as recruits from all over Southwest Washington and Northern Oregon. This move was necessitated by the long-term closure of the North Bend Fire Academy for renovation. While we may eventually return to sending recruits to North Bend if the need arises, we feel our new local academy has been a great success, allowing us to personally supervise the training and growth of new staff. Special thanks to BC Kevin Villines for his hard work in getting this off the ground.

Acknowledgement is also due Division Chief Cliff Free and Administrative Assistant Kacie Jones for getting our agency signed up for GEMT, a program that has allowed us to collect nearly \$600,000 of unanticipated additional ambulance revenue in 2019. Chief Free will discuss more about the program later in this report.

It has been my distinct pleasure to continue to serve the citizens of Camas, Washougal, and Clark County. Our agency's continued success would not be possible without the dedication and support of our staff, our elected officials, and our community.

Nick Swinhart, EFO, CFO, MIFireE
Fire Chief
Camas-Washougal Fire Department



Ambulance Revenue			
	Billed	Collected	Percentage
2015	\$1,982,009	\$1,037,886	52%
2016	\$2,308,062	\$1,169,438	51%
2017	\$2,426,058	\$1,275,360	53%
2018	\$2,378,513	\$1,113,626	47%
2019	\$3,846,787	\$1,970,748	51%

Ambulance Billing

Ambulance billing is handled in-house at the city's finance department by Ameer Rasmussen. Nationally, ambulance revenues have varied drastically over the years due to changes in federal Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements. When call volume and transports go up, the reasonable inference is that revenues should go up as well. While revenues will often trend upwards with increasing call volumes, write-offs increase at an even more substantial rate. One question we get frequently is, "why not just be more aggressive with collections?" Unfortunately we are forbidden by federal law, as are all ambulance providers, to bill a patient above and beyond what Medicare or Medicaid determine is their allowable rate. As a result, over 90% of our write-offs signify money that can never be recovered. One of the recommendations from a 2017 ESCI study was for CWFD to investigate whether ambulance billing rates should be increased. While we are committed to looking into this recommendation further, CWFD is hampered by its location in the Portland metropolitan area. This can significantly limit the amount of federal funds that can be collected, regardless of the approved transport billing rate. 2019 saw a substantial upward trend in our collected percentage. We believe this is due to the ongoing diligence of our finance staff, as well as the new GEMT program, which is designed to help offset insurance write-offs.

Ambulance billing is getting more complex every year, and we appreciate the continued work by staff in our finance department to keep up with the latest changes. After several years of discussion, 2019 finally saw the first revenue from the "GEMT" program. This program allows CWFD to collect more federal funds for ambulance transport than have been previously allowable. CWFD's participation in this program has been spearheaded by Division Chief Cliff Free and it will be some time before we see how much we may benefit. Our staff will continue to stay on top of such opportunities and researching other tools with which we can improve our billing efficiency.

2019 Budget Summary

\$11.86 Million Fire/EMS 2019

Where's it Going? How's it funded?

● Fire/EMS broken down by Program

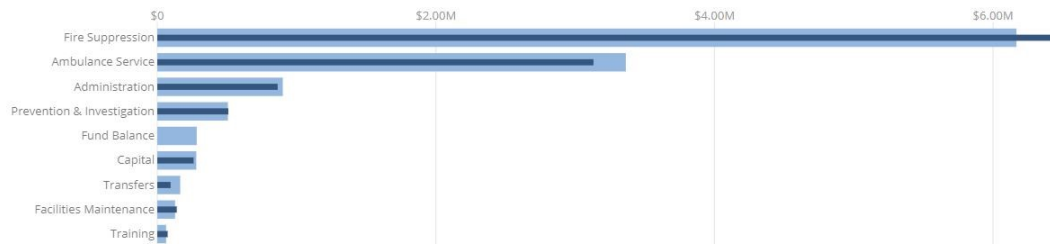
Share

Within Fire/EMS

Select a segment on the chart to explore details.

← Back

Budgeted Amount Actual Amount



Snapshot
Pie Chart
Over Time

Show As: \$ %

Sort: Total (Descending)

Ledger Details

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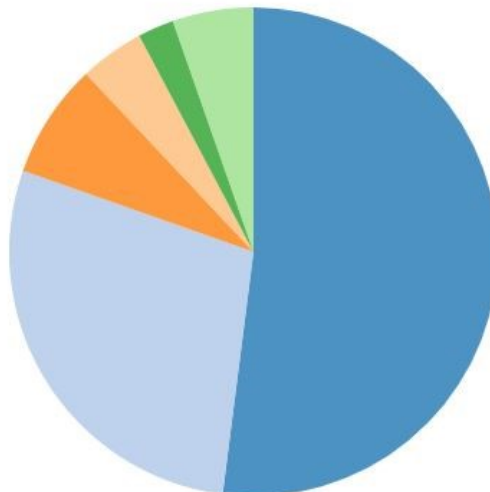
Program	Budgeted Amount	%	Actual Amount	%
Fire Suppression	\$6,167,898	52.02%	\$6,496,738	105.33%
Ambulance Service	\$3,363,662	28.37%	\$3,131,433	93.10%
Total	Budgeted Amount \$11,857,692		Actual Amount \$11,571,979	

● Fire/EMS broken down by Program

Within Fire/EMS

← Back

- Fire Suppression
 - Ambulance Service
 - Administration
 - Prevention & Investigation
 - Fund Balance
 - Other
- Show

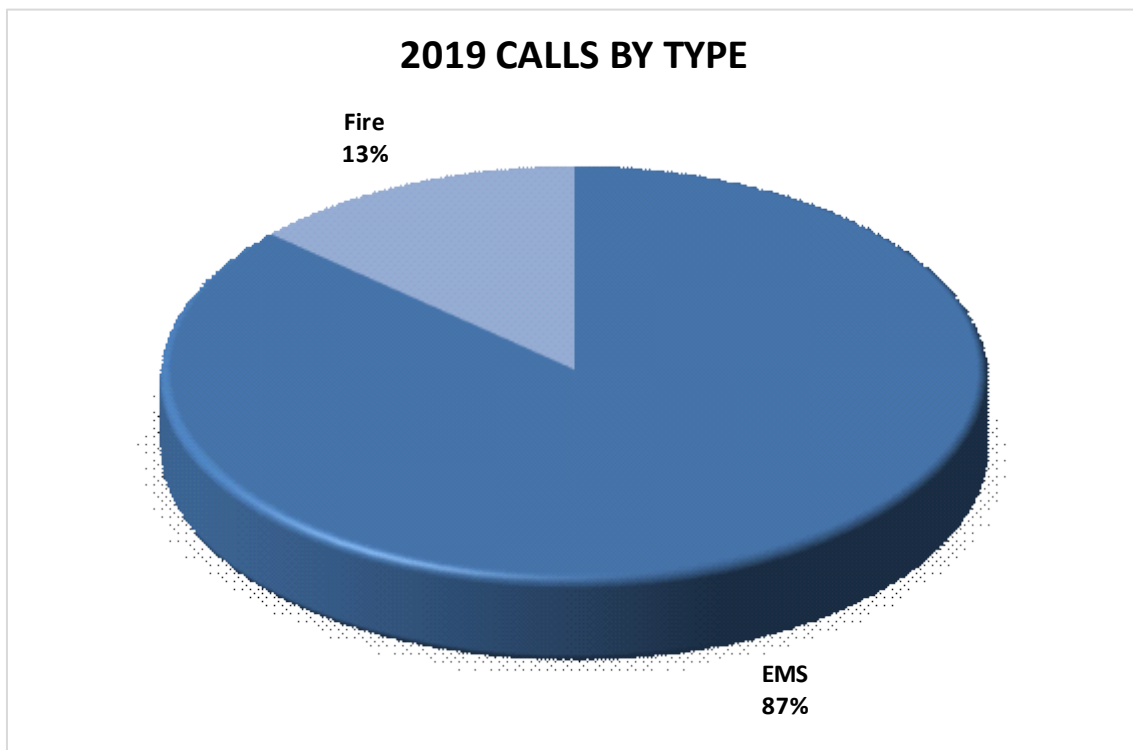


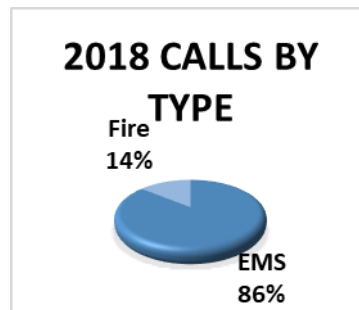
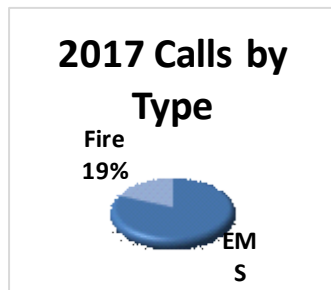
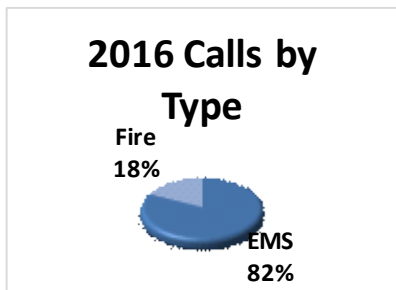
Emergency Medical Services Report

2019 Total Call Composition:

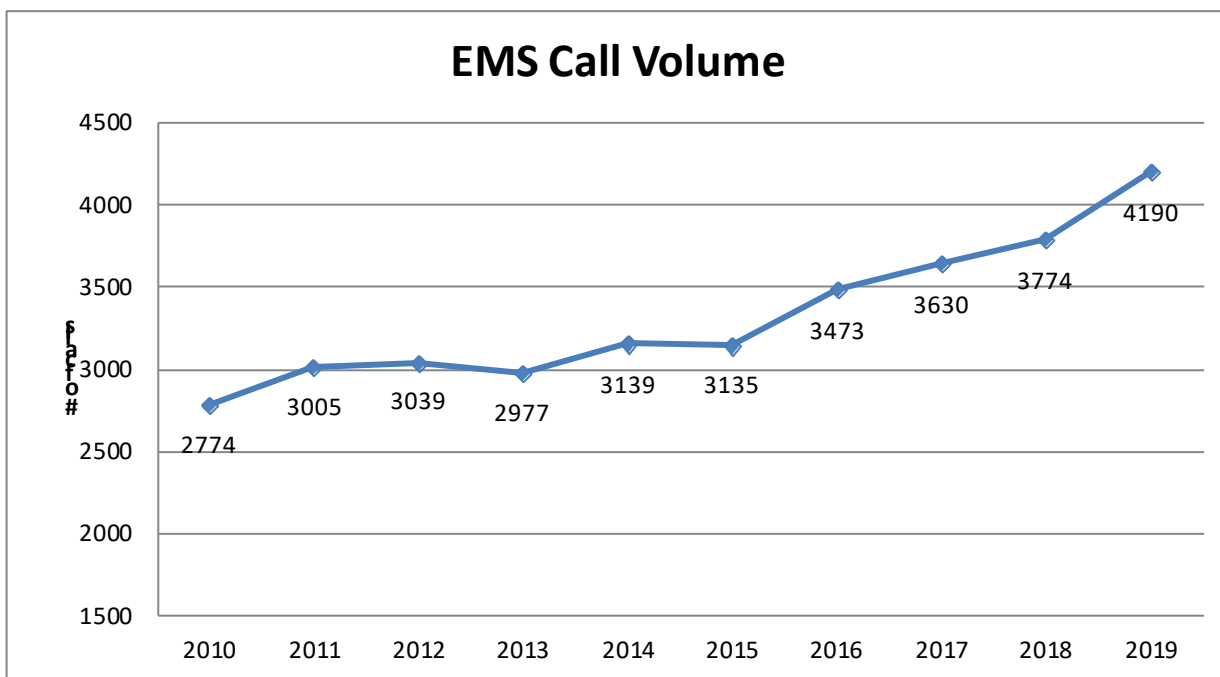
Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency (CRESA) receives, processes and dispatches all 911 calls originating in Clark County. For CWFD, these requests for services fall into one of two categories as characterized by their nature: EMS calls or Fire calls. EMS calls are medical in nature. Fire calls are an amalgam of non-EMS calls. Examples of fire calls could be active structure fires, wildland fires, fire alarms, smoke in an area requiring investigation, hazardous conditions (ex. Down power lines) etc. Less intuitive are motor vehicle accidents (MVA's). MVA's are split between Fire and EMS call types depending on whether there was an EMS component or whether the services required could be handled by the responding engines alone. MVA's without injury are tabulated as Fire calls, MVA's with injury are tabulated as EMS calls.

The majority of requests for service of the CWFD are EMS in nature. This is not exclusive to CWFD, it mirrors Fire Department statistics nationally. In 2018, 87% of our requests for service were EMS in nature, 13% were Fire. This ratio is relatively stable year to year, deviating by +/- 5 percentage points.





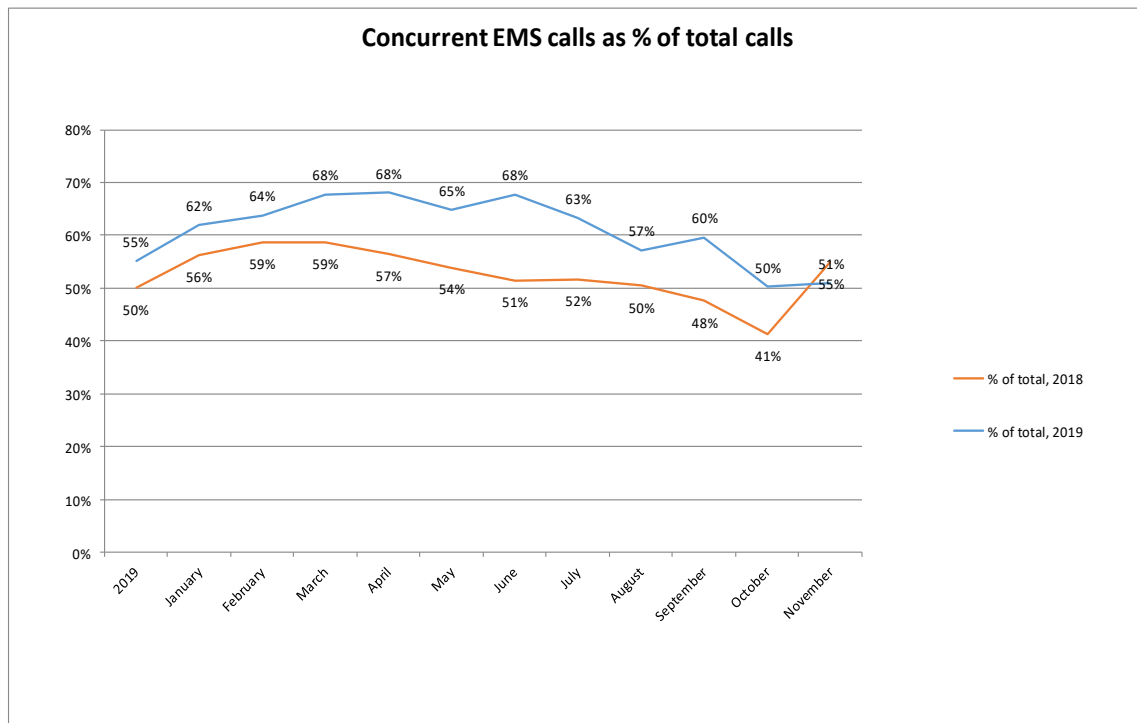
2019 EMS Total Call Volume:



2019 saw an increase in EMS call volume of 11% over that of 2018. Though we have seen some years of plateau (2011-2015), call volume has been steadily increasing. Over the span of 10 years we have experienced a 51% increase in EMS call volume.

In the face of steadily rising EMS call demand, concurrent EMS calls are monitored to assess adequate ambulance availability and distribution for our service area. CWFD maintains four in-service ambulances housed within three stations in Camas and Washougal. (Additionally,

CWFD has a fifth, reserve ambulance, which is too old to be employed continuously, but is put into service intermittently to accommodate loss of time for the in-service ambulances due to mechanical repairs, etc. This ambulance does not contain a full complement of required equipment without migrating such from the ambulance leaving the system for repairs). In 2019, 62% of our call volume required more than one ambulance to respond concurrently to separate calls. This is a 9% higher than 2018. The 62% concurrency rate is comprised of doubles, where two ambulances are on calls simultaneously; triples, where three ambulances are on calls simultaneously; and quads, where all four ambulances are on calls simultaneously. Two ambulances (doubles) ran concurrent calls on an average of 33% of our call volume. Three ambulances (triples) ran concurrent calls on an average of 22% of our call volume. Four ambulances ran concurrent calls on an average of 8% of our call volume.



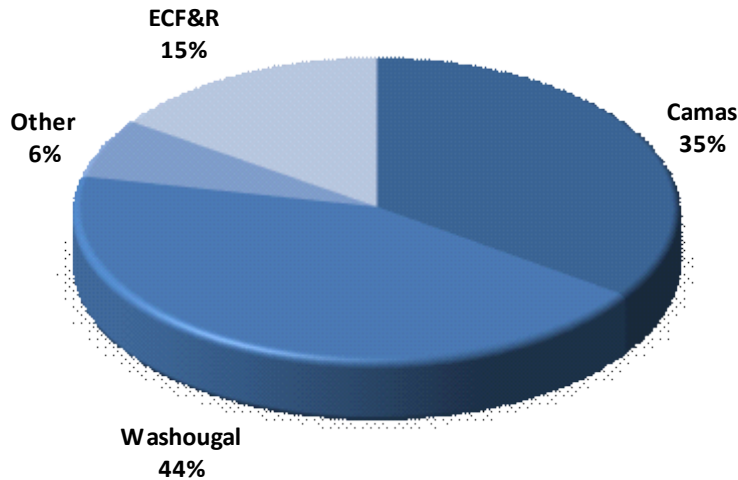
As a result of concurrent call volume, CWFD found itself Level Zero 349 times in 2019, at an average of 29 times per month. During these periods of Level Zero, the Cities of Camas and Washougal had no intrinsic fire protection, and the 90 square miles that comprise the ambulance service, had no available intrinsic ambulances.

2019 Calls by District:

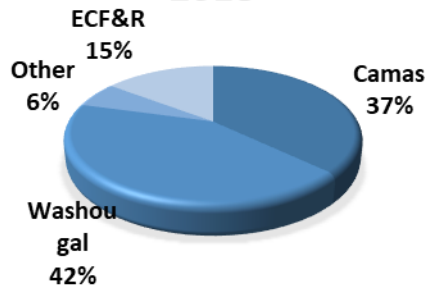
CWFD provides ambulance transport primarily for the cities of Camas and Washougal and the fire district of East County Fire and Rescue. This is facilitated through written agreement between the stated entities. EMS services are also provided to the City of Vancouver, EMS

District 2, NCEMS and Skamania County through mutual aid agreements. 94% of EMS calls originated within the boundaries of Camas, Washougal and ECFR, while 6% of calls were mutual aid calls outside of this service area.

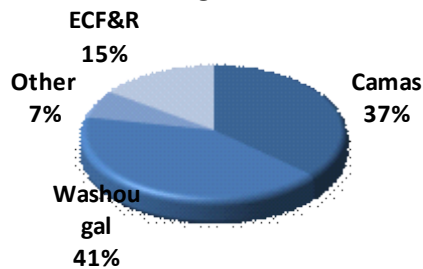
EMS Calls by District 2019



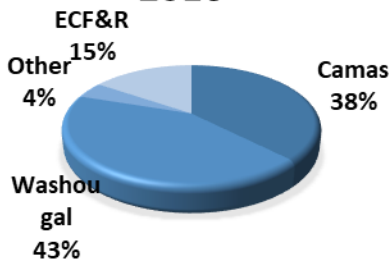
EMS CALLS BY DISTRICT 2018



EMS Calls by District 2017



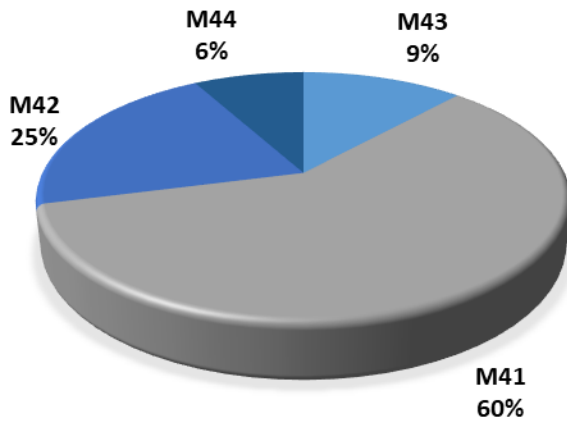
EMS CALLS BY DISTRICT 2016



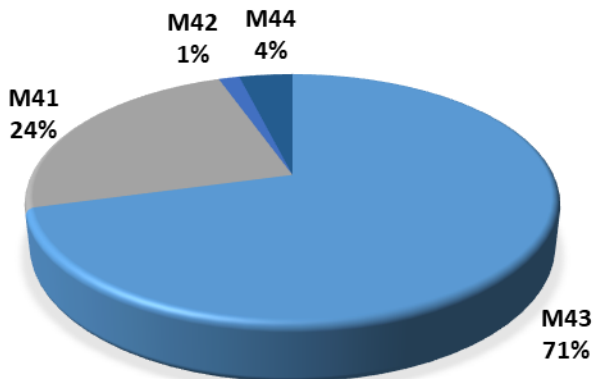
The City of Camas is primarily served by the two stations found within its city limits: Station 41 and Station 42. Station 41 houses M41, which maintains constant, dedicated ambulance staffing; and M44 which is cross-staffed with E41. Station 42 houses M42 which at minimum staffing is cross-staffed with E42, and at full staffing, has dedicated staffing for both M42 and E42. In 2019, Station 42 was fully staffed (meaning no cross-staffing of the engine and ambulance) 2.75 days out of the 365 day calendar year.

For EMS calls that originated in the City of Camas, 91% were responded to by ambulances residing in the City of Camas.

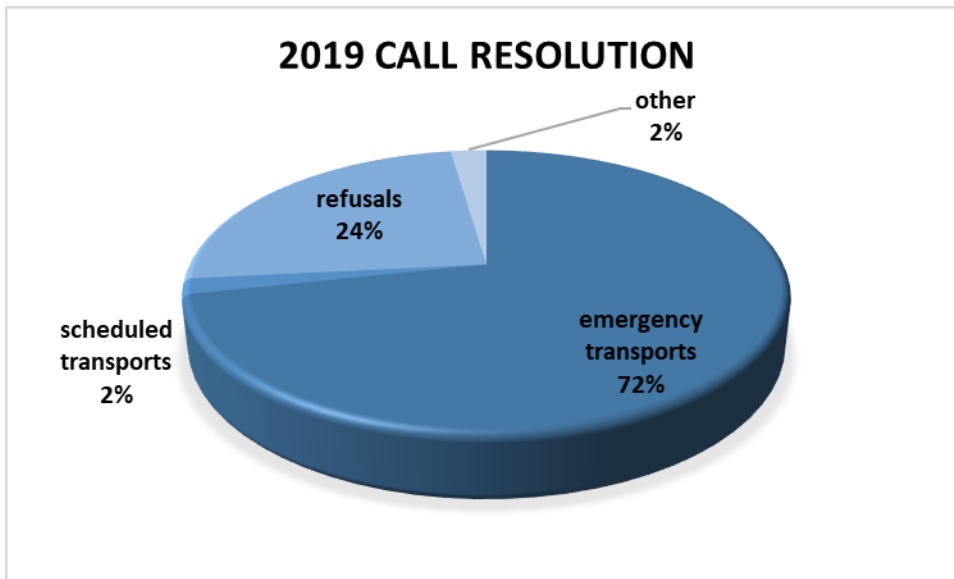
2019 CITY OF CAMAS CALLS BY MEDIC UNIT



2019 CITY OF WASHOUGAL CALLS BY MEDIC UNIT



The City of Washougal is primarily served by Station 43 which resides in the Washougal City limits. Station 43 houses M43, which maintains constant, dedicated ambulance staffing. For EMS calls that originated in the City of Washougal, 71% were responded to by an ambulance stationed within the City of Washougal. 99% of the calls originating in the City of Washougal were served by ambulances from either downtown Washougal or downtown Camas.



In terms of call outcome, 72% of EMS calls terminated in ambulance transport to a hospital. 24% were patient refusals. Patient refusals are patients who have a bonafide injury or illness, but refuse the option of being transported to the hospital by ambulance. Some of these patients refuse transport against the advice of the medical providers, others are low enough acuity that after initial assessment and treatment, an alternative form of transportation is more appropriate. 2% were non-emergency scheduled transports either to a hospital, clinic or hospice facility. The remaining 2% (other) were treat and releases, no medical necessity, public assists, or transport through private means.

2019 EMS System Improvements:

GROUND EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORT SERVICES (GEMT):

In 2016 the WA State Health Care Authority began implementing a state program to partially remunerate public transport services for certain GEMT qualified medical transport fees. The remuneration is intended to help 'bridge the gap' between the cost of patient transport for publicly owned or operated qualified GEMT transport agencies and the allowable amount historically received from Washington Apple Health (Medicaid). The program is only available

to public ambulance providers because the State recognizes that Medicaid's reimbursement rates are below the cost of providing the service, which generally means a higher tax burden on local residents, since tax dollars are being used to subsidize the ambulance service.

CWFD enrolled in the program, met the eligibility requirements, and in 2019 began receiving supplementary payments dating back to July 1 of 2016. Future funding of the program is political and thus not guaranteed; however, CWFD is committed to participating in the program as long as it is funded.

Goals for 2020:

Spec and build a new ambulance to be put in service at the beginning of 2021. For the first time in the history of the Camas (now Camas-Washougal) Fire Department, we will have a fleet of like ambulances. The continuity of like ambulances makes transitioning from one ambulance to another easier on personnel and eliminates 'relearning' of the internal workspace of each apparatus each day. Four wheel drive is essential to navigating the snow and ice conditions often encountered with our proximity to the gorge, and our response into the upper elevations of East County. Steep roadways within the city of Camas and Washougal also contribute to the value of our 4WD ambulances. As our call volumes increases (50% in 10 years) so does the mileage accrued on our ambulance fleet. Total mileage per biennium is now equal to the lifespan of an ambulance. A programmed, every other year, replacement plan is necessary to maintain a fleet with the capacity to meet our call demand.

Spec and find funding for a replacement IRS (Incident Reporting System). Our current platform was implemented in 2005, and has been outmoded by newer systems several times over. Of specific concern is that it is no longer powerful enough to be compliant with national and state reporting requirements and it lacks the analytics to adequately measure and report many of the system performance measures provided earlier in this report. This requires a great deal of staff time to make up the difference in its deficiencies. Medical incident reporting is inefficient and time consuming and delivering one written medical report to the receiving hospital (a legal requirement) requires the use of multiple software systems, a computer, a printer, a scanner, and a fax. When we purchased our current software platform, the first episode of Lost had just aired on TV, George W. Bush was still in his first term, flip-phones were still a thing and computers still had floppy discs. Noticeably absent? I-phones, they were still 4 years out!

Continue to provide the best possible EMS service to the citizens of Camas, Washougal and ECF&R through recruiting quality talent and retaining the dedicated group of EMS personnel that we currently have.



Cliff Free

Division Chief of EMS

Fire Marshal's Office Report

It is a pleasure to submit the Camas-Washougal Fire Marshal's Office (FMO) Annual Report for 2019. It was a busy year in our office that saw an increase in pre-application meetings, plans reviews, and inspections of large projects including a five-story office building (with an adjacent 276-unit apartment complex) and multiple mini storage complexes. In addition to these and other construction projects, other notable events included:

- **Hiring a 2nd Deputy Fire Marshal**

In 2019, the CWFD was granted approval to hire a 2nd Deputy Fire Marshal (DFM), a position that had been eliminated over a decade ago. In May, Kevin Bergstrom, a CWFD captain with over 20 years of experience in the fire service, was hired. Kevin brings a wealth of knowledge in fire suppression and building construction to our team. Having an additional DFM has significantly increased the number of fire and life safety inspections we are able to perform, and has been invaluable in helping alleviate the increasing work-load in performing permit inspections.

- **New Fire and Life Safety Inspection Software Implemented- Streamline**

Businesses in Camas and in Washougal are required to have regular fire and life safety inspections (with frequency depending on the hazard level of the occupancy and the type of systems installed). The purpose of these inspections is to assess and mitigate potential fire and life safety hazards for the protection of occupants, employees and customers.

While the addition of a new DFM has allowed for a significant increase in the number of fire and life safety inspections we are able to complete, the software we had been using for tracking those inspections had become outdated. In late 2019, we signed a contract with *Streamline Automation Systems* and have started the process of converting our data into their cloud-based inspection software. Streamline is nationally-tested and quickly becoming the standard interface throughout the inspection world. The addition of this software will greatly increase the efficiency of our inspection program in 2020 and beyond, providing us with real-time compliance tracking.

- **Parade of Homes**

The Building Industry Association (BIA) of Clark County hosted their annual Parade of Homes in February at the new Dawson Ridge development in Camas. The FMO worked closely with contractors and the BIA to ensure a safe and successful parade for all who attended.

- **Open House Success**

The FMO headed up the team effort in the successful 2019 CWFD Open House. The event focuses on health, safety and emergency preparedness and includes live demonstrations in extinguishing fires, car extrications and K9 dog skills just to name a few. The event also includes informational exhibits from over 2 dozen local health, safety and emergency response agencies.

Success is in the numbers! We estimate 1300 -1400 people attended, many of whom enjoyed the free lunch (730 hot dogs with chips and cookies - made possible by our generous sponsor NW Natural), free soft serve ice cream (275 cones!), and free bike helmets (close to 225 fitted thanks to the generosity of Peace Health).

One of the highlights for the FMO is building two 8'x 8' rooms for the side-by-side burn demonstration. The rooms are similarly "decorated/furnished", with one being protected with a fire sprinkler and the other without. Fires are started simultaneously in each "room" offering a dramatic visualization of how quickly fire can grow and how quickly residential sprinklers can control a fire with little resulting damage. The non-sprinklered room when fully ablaze also gives attendees a chance to see fire crews put their skills and training to work extinguishing a large fire.

The FMO and all CWFD staff and volunteers look forward to providing this important and fun community event again in 2020.

THE 3 E's OF FIRE PREVENTION ***Education, Enforcement and Engineering*** **2019 in Review**

The primary goal of the FMO is to save lives and property by reducing the occurrence of fires within our jurisdiction through what we call the three E's of Fire Prevention; Education, Enforcement and Engineering.

EDUCATION

The Camas – Washougal Fire Department (CWFD) is committed to ensuring that we have the safest possible community through public education and prevention programs. In 2019 the FMO staff, along with on-duty and volunteer firefighters, enjoyed many opportunities to provide fire and life safety education to our citizens of all ages. It was our privilege to connect with our citizens in meaningful ways including our many classroom visits and station tours and our participation in numerous community events.

The FMO not only participates in these scheduled events, but we also have the opportunity to connect with and educate the public every day. Many citizens stop in or call with questions regarding permits, code violations, outdoor burning, life safety issues, hazard conditions, code development and legislation, residential fire sprinklers, fireworks, tall grass hazards, fire department access, fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, and carbon monoxide detectors, to name a few.

Some of the Public and Educational Events that the FMO participated in this year were:

- Family Promise Program (in conjunction with local churches)
- Youth-in-Action Program sponsored by the Camas Washougal Rotary for Hathaway Elementary
- Fourth of July fireworks show at the Port
- Fourth of July and New Year's Eve patrolling to enforce firework ordinances
- Camas Days
- Harvest Festival (downtown Washougal) and Boo Bash (Camas)
- Community Fun Day at Hamlick Park (Washougal)
- Fire Prevention Week
- CWFD Open House
- Christmas Parade (Washougal)
- Hometown Holidays (Camas)

We enjoy engaging with the community through the public education facet of our work. In 2020 as in every year, we will continue to place a high priority on connecting with the citizens we serve as we share the important message of fire safety and injury prevention.

ENFORCEMENT

The FMO enforces the fire code through plans review, and also through routine fire and life safety inspections, hazardous materials inspections, and fire investigations as follows:

- **Fire and Life Safety Inspections**

The FMO conducts annual and bi-annual fire and life safety inspections at local businesses with no charge to the occupants. Serious fire code violations are required to be corrected on the spot, but in most other cases building owners are allowed thirty days to make corrections. Rather than assessing penalties and fines for violations, our philosophy is to focus on fire prevention through the education of our local building owners/businesses.

- **Hazardous Material Inspections**

The communities of Camas and Washougal have many diverse industries; some of these industries have processes that are considered hazardous by definition. We issue permits and conduct inspections for the maintenance, storage, use or handling of hazardous materials, and for the installation and use of equipment used in connection with such activities. These types of businesses must meet stricter standards and it is the responsibility of the FMO to enforce these standards.

- **Fire Investigations**

One of the primary functions of the FMO is the investigation of the origin and cause of the fires within our jurisdictions. In conjunction with this task, we also provide assistance to fire victims by helping them connect with other emergency agencies such as the Red Cross, and we help with facilitating the rehabilitation process with insurance companies and building security companies.

Below are summaries of the total number of fires by type, total fire loss by month, and the more significant fires in our jurisdiction in 2019:

Total Number of Fires (by type) in 2019

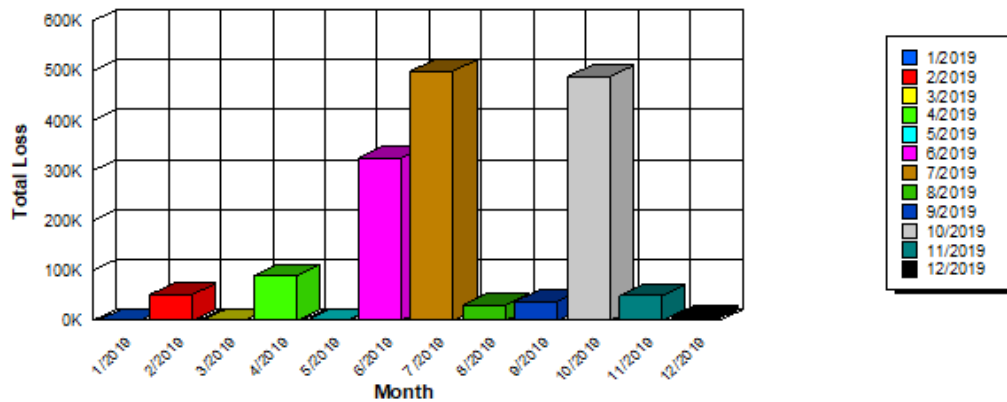
Incident by Incident Type With Detail

Date Range: From 1/1/2019 To 12/31/2019

Incident Type	Incident Count	Used in Ave Resp.	Average Response Time HH:MM:SS	Total Loss	Total Value
<u>Fire</u>					
Fire, other	12	6	00:07:22	\$2,000.00	\$1,500.00
Building fire	14	7	00:06:26	\$968,930.00	\$4,571,430.00
Building fire Residential	6	4	00:06:55	\$570,000.00	\$710,500.00
Cooking fire, confined to container	14	10	00:08:23	\$2,200.00	\$1,200.00
Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue	3	2	00:06:31		
Commercial Compactor fire, confined to rubbish	1	1	00:08:28		
Trash or rubbish fire, contained	4	1	00:05:12		
Fire in mobile home used as fixed residence	1	1	00:07:26	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
Mobile property (vehicle) fire, other	1	1	00:09:09		
Passenger vehicle fire	7	6	00:04:25	\$13,500.00	\$13,500.00
Water vehicle fire	1	1	00:07:00		
Off-road vehicle or heavy equipment fire	1				
Natural vegetation fire, other	9	2	00:03:17		
Brush, or brush and grass mixture fire	4	2	00:05:16		
Grass fire	1				
Outside rubbish fire, other	2				
Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	15	4	00:08:09	\$100.00	\$100.00
Special outside fire, other	8				
Outside equipment fire	1	1	00:05:33	\$350.00	\$700.00
Total Fire:	105	49	00:06:47	\$1,587,080.00	\$5,328,930.00
Total Incident Count:	105	49		\$1,587,080.00	\$5,328,930.00

Total Fire Loss by Month in 2019

Month	Total Loss	Total Value
01/2019		
02/2019	\$52,000.00	\$52,000.00
03/2019	\$500.00	\$500.00
04/2019	\$90,350.00	\$90,700.00
05/2019	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
06/2019	\$325,500.00	\$667,500.00
07/2019	\$500,100.00	\$500,100.00
08/2019	\$31,930.00	\$3,100,430.00
09/2019	\$38,500.00	\$38,500.00
10/2019	\$488,500.00	\$820,000.00
11/2019	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
12/2019	\$8,500.00	\$9,500.00



Significant Fires in Camas and Washougal in 2019

Date	City	Street	Type	Cause	Prop. Loss
6/11/2019	Washougal	921 4 th St.	Laundromat	Undetermined	\$400,000
7/19/2019	Washougal	2107 38 th Ct.	House	Undetermined	\$500,000
8/12/2019	Washougal	3307 Evergreen Suite #105	Nail Salon	Electrical Motor Fire	\$31,000
9/18/2019	Washougal	3332 G St.	Garage	Combustibles too close to a heat source	\$35,000
10/7/2019	Washougal	1453 Shepard Rd.	House	Arson	\$13,500
10/20/2019	Washougal	921 4 th St.	Laundromat	Undetermined	\$375,000
11/4/2019	Camas	3112 NE 2nd	House	Combustibles too close to a heat source	\$50,000

ENGINEERING

The FMO works with the Planning and Building Departments in both Camas and Washougal along with architects, builders, and civil engineers to provide fire and life safety code comments on new developments and building permits as follows:

- We attend the Planning Department's pre-application meetings with developers to ensure that potential new projects allow for plenty of available water to fight fires and that all new developments include fire apparatus access roads.
- We conduct plans reviews (and issue permits) to ensure requirements for IFC compliance are identified for all new construction, building alterations/change in use, and for the installation, or alteration of fire and life safety systems.
- Following plans reviews we conduct inspections during and at the completion of each project.
- We conduct final inspections to confirm that public safety components are installed and working as designed.

COMMERCIAL PROJECTS

2019 was an extremely busy year for the Camas-Washougal Fire Marshal's office. New construction projects with all of their related fire- and life-safety systems require significant coordination and oversight throughout the planning and building process. Numerous commercial projects were approved, started, and/or completed including:

Camas Commercial Project Reviews of Note

- * Grass Valley Apartments - The Largest Complex Built in the City - This development includes 13 buildings with close to 300 apartments and a large common space. The permitting and inspection of the numerous required systems (hydrants, fire lines, fire sprinklers, fire alarm systems etc.) necessitate coordination before the project starts through the design and construction phases, and finally acceptance testing. The Fire Marshal's Office has spent countless hours on plan review, permitting, and inspections to date. The entire project will take nearly a year from ground breaking to occupying the final building and the Fire Marshal's office will remain integral in ensuring a safe, protected complex.
- * Fisher Investments 5-Story - Fisher Investments is constructing a third 5-story office building in Camas.
- * Camas Mixed Use Bldg. A and Bldg. B - Located in downtown Camas at 6th and Birch, one of the buildings will be for commercial use on the first floor, with 10 apartments above; the other will be a four-story 18-unit apartment building.
- * Riverview Bank - Located in downtown Camas at 3rd and Dallas, Riverview Bank is building a new 4,000 sq. ft. office/bank building.
- * Samson Sports - Samson Sports, located on Lake Rd., is adding a second manufacturing building. At just over 12,000 sq. ft. this building will be used for the powder coating process used in their product production.

- ◇ 38th Avenue Storage – This project will include three 1-story buildings offering 363 rental spaces.
- ◇ Union Storage - This new storage facility on Friberg-Strunk will include 446 storage units in a 3-story building.

Washougal Commercial Project Reviews of Note

- ◇ Building 18 – This 50,000 sq. ft. tenant improvement project being built in the industrial park is already 100% leased.
- ◇ Rig-A-Hut - This tenant improvement project on Main St. in downtown Washougal is a mixed- use commercial and residential building.
- ◇ B-Crystal – This tenant improvement project in the industrial park is for a manufacturer of crystals for the hi-tech industry.
- ◇ Iron Gate – This recondition/reconstruction project located on C St. will include 4 storage facility buildings; three of which will be self-storage, the fourth will provide storage for RV's and boats.

As we look ahead to 2020, our work related to construction looks to be even busier than last year. There are numerous commercial projects in the initial review phases in both cities. We are excited about the new projects and look forward to the many challenges that lie ahead.

FIRE PERMITS, INSPECTIONS, AND FEES

2019 was an extremely busy year in terms of new construction in both Camas and Washougal. Many of the new construction and tenant improvement projects required the installation of fire alarms and fire sprinklers. One of the goals of the FMO is to conduct on site permit inspections in a timely manner. Nearly 95% of the time permit inspections are completed on the same day they are requested and as close as possible to the hour requested. This level of performance is extremely rare in our industry.

PERMITS AND INSPECTIONS BY THE NUMBERS

- Permits Issued: 660 (473 of those for residential fire sprinklers)
- Inspections Performed: 1,787 (Includes construction, permit, and fire and life safety code related inspections.)
- FMO Permit Fees Collected: \$103,562

FIRE IMPACT FEES

New growth and development in our cities creates additional demand for public fire safety facilities. Fire impact fees are collected to help recover a portion of the costs incurred for these new facilities. In 2019 fees collected were:

- Fire Impact Fees / Camas 2019 \$322,887
- Fire Impact Fees / Washougal 2019 \$25,734

LOOKING AHEAD

In closing, it has been a privilege to serve as Fire Marshal for the Camas-Washougal Fire Department for the past six years. I just want to say thank you to our fine staff and that it's a privilege to serve alongside so many dedicated people in a great organization.

Our office looks forward to the many challenges that lie ahead in 2020. We have and will continue to strive to provide excellent service to the customers we serve adhering to our motto of "Working toward a safer Community"



Ron Schumacher
Fire Marshal
Camas-Washougal Fire Department



2019 Operations Summary

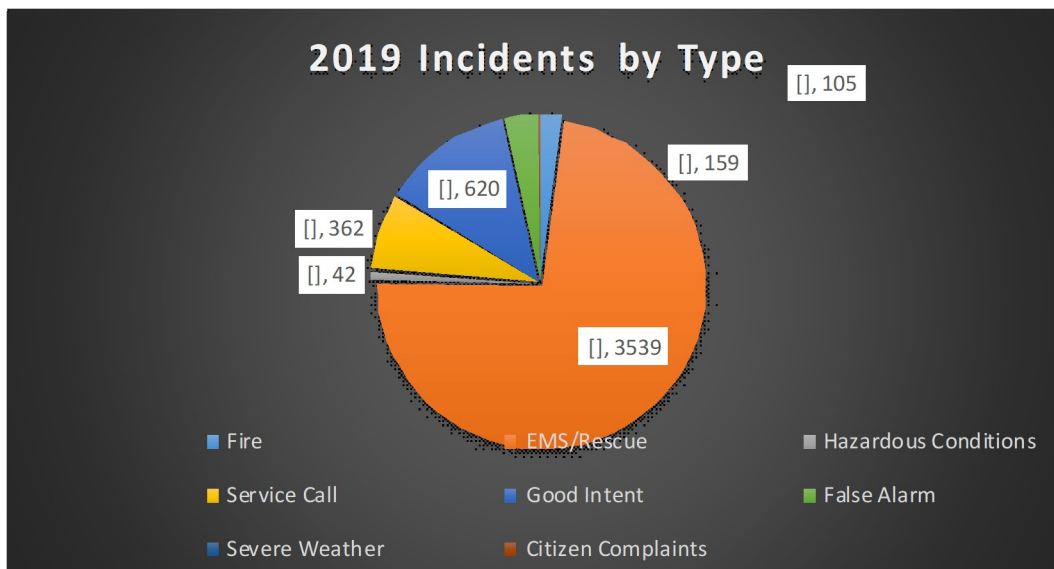
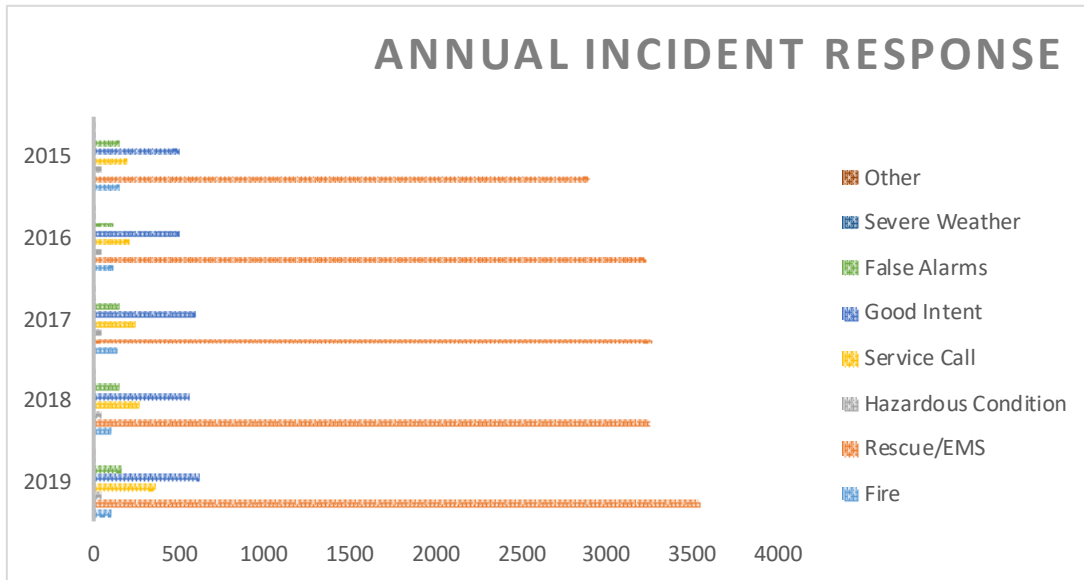
CWFD operations are all inclusive of our personnel, apparatus and fire stations used in our day to day operations to respond to all hazard emergencies throughout Camas and Washougal, as well as, mutual aid to our neighboring fire departments. The day to day operations at CWFD are the nuts and bolts of what we do and how we do it. The following report details the number of calls that we responded to both in Camas and Washougal, as well as, mutual aid responses. The report breaks down the type of responses along with comparisons to prior years.

In 2019 we added 10 new employees that were hired to fill vacant positions, as well as, 4 new positions approved by the City Council to increase staffing. The department has requested adding additional new employees in the future to allow the department to stop cross staffing a fire engine and an ambulance at Station 42 in Grass Valley.

In 2019 we did not add any new apparatus to our fleet, nor did we make any significant changes/upgrades to our stations. But we did add a significant piece of Fire Fighting equipment to our operations. Our Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) were due for replacement in 2019. This particular piece of equipment has a 15 year service life and the only way to comply with manufacturers recommendations was to completely overhaul our current SCBA's or replace them. After a very comprehensive review by a county committee, it was recommended that the current SCBA's be replaced at a cost of \$347,605.74. One of the major considerations and reasons given to replace the 15 year old model was the technology and safety improvements of the newer version. Some significant upgrades were having a built in Thermal Imaging Camera integrated into the mask that allows our personnel to see the heat signature of a fire and search for victim's hands free; mask lenses that are much more resistant to melting from high heat; and updated PASS devices for helping locate an incapacitated firefighter. Another improvement was in the heads up display and integrated alarms that allows Firefighters to monitor the amount of air they have and give them time to exit a building safely without running out of air. The new SCBA air bottles operate at a higher pressure (5500 psi vs 4500 psi), so a new fill station was installed at Station 42, while the fill station at Station 43 received a simple upgrade. Now both fill stations meet the requirements for the new SCBA.

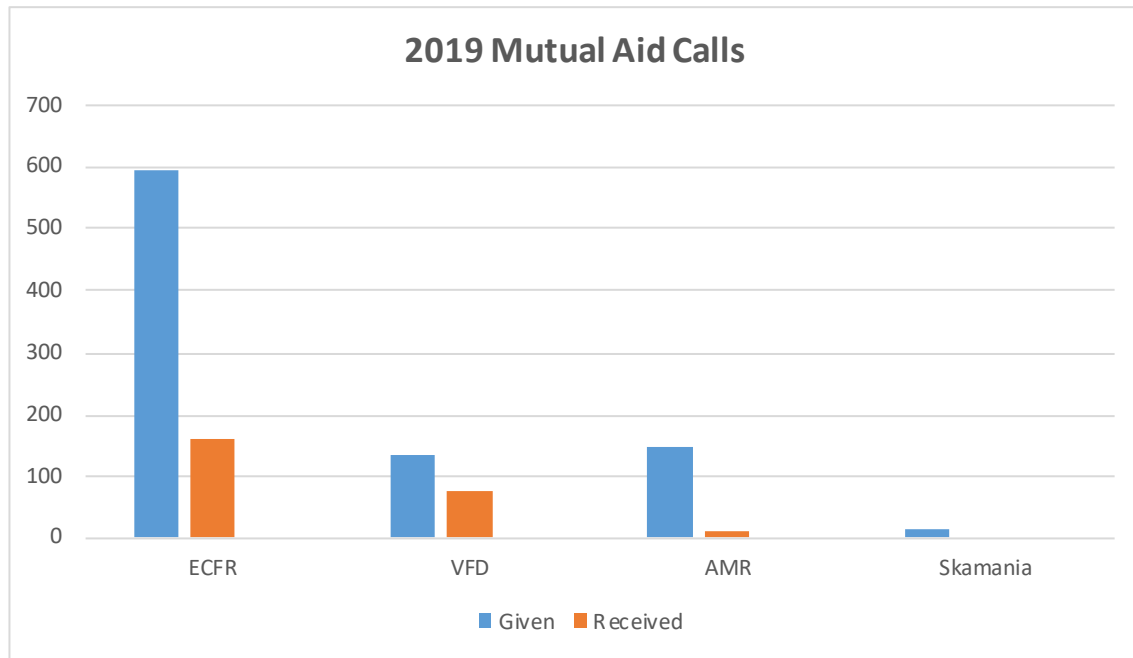
CWFD personnel responded to 4,853 in 2019 compared to 4,391 calls in 2018, which was a 9% increase in 2019. The chart below is a breakdown of our incident responses by type of incident. As you can see the majority of our call volume is EMS (emergency medical service) this is typical throughout the county and accounted for 73% of our call volume. Also, as represented by the chart, the call volume for the other categories has remained fairly constant. One category in particular to look at is the dark blue bar that represents 'good intent' calls. These are calls typically generated by citizens who are passing by something of concern or that see or smell something from their home or business. Frequently these calls are phoned in by cell phone users who have not or cannot investigate on their own. These are generally things like steam mistaken for smoke, or smoke from BBQ's or approved fire pits, various smells that are not a natural gas odor, or someone sleeping in their car. While we do respond to all 911 calls, these are typically calls that could be avoided by citizens taking the time to check out the source before calling 911, as long as they feel safe doing so. This step would avoid taking a fire engine or ambulance out of service to follow up on these innocuous incidents.

2019 Operations Summary



In 2019 we provided mutual aid on 784 calls and received mutual aid 240 times. Mutual aid is an agreement between all fire agencies in Clark County to provide assistance to one another during high call volume or events that require more resources than any one department has available. As an ambulance provider we also have a mutual aid agreement with American Medical Response (AMR), the private ambulance company that provides EMS transport service for most of Clark County. As you can see by the graph below we generally provide more mutual aid that we receive. The mutual aid to ECFR is higher because we have an EMS levy in place to provide ambulance service in their jurisdiction.

2019 Operations Summary



Submitted by,

Mark Ervin
Administrative Battalion Chief
Camas-Washougal Fire Department



2019 Training Report/Volunteer Organization

The Camas-Washougal Fire Department separately manages fire and medical (EMS) training. The EMS Division Chief oversees EMS training while the Administrative Battalion Chief is responsible for fire training. CWFD's fire training program is designed to comply with the requirements set forth by the State of Washington Administrative Code, the Washington State Survey and Ratings Bureau, as well as specific guidelines instituted by our department to best serve our community's needs.

Washington State WAC 305-296 Training Requirements (WAC)

The State of Washington requires that firefighters receive comprehensive training in many elements. These topics include but are not limited to:

- Ongoing Officer Development
- Hazardous Materials Operations Training
- Fire Apparatus / Driver Training
- Fire Suppression Training
- Safety Training
- Technical Rescue Training

Washington State Surveying and Ratings Bureau Training Requirements (WSRB)

In addition to the WAC required training, we also strive to meet the rigorous training guidelines that the WSRB uses to determine the Fire Department's insurance rating. These areas of training include:

- Firefighter Training
- Driver / Operator Training
- Officer Training
- Recruit Training
- Multi-Company Training
- Hazardous Materials Training
- Drill Ground Training
- Night Training

2019 Training Report/Volunteer Organization

Training Summary

The Camas/Washougal Fire Department has historically sent new recruits to the Washington State Fire Academy. However, in 2019 it was closed for remodeling. The training division scrambled for an alternative. After numerous calls to departments all over the state, no alternatives were found. Portland Community College showed an interest in establishing a Southwest Washington Recruit Academy to be held at Camas/Washougal Fire station 42. Longview Fire joined in and enrolled their new hires. Recruits became PCC students and enrolled in the first academy on March 25th. After completion of the twelve-week academy, recruits completed their IFSAC Firefighter 1, Firefighter 2, and Hazardous Materials certificates as well as receiving 19 college credits. The second academy started on Sept. 16th, and we welcomed recruits from Longview, Clark County Fire and Rescue, and the Portland Airport. Upon completion, new hires are assigned to one of three shifts and have a skills based task book to complete with their assigned Captain over the remainder of their one year probation.

In June, crews completed the annual rope rescue drill at the “pot holes” on Lacamas Creek. This is a common area for emergencies, and crews practice setting up rope systems to haul injured patients up steep terrain to an awaiting medic unit.



2019 Training Report/Volunteer Organization

On October 17th, the on duty crews participated in a mock earthquake drill. This included practicing exiting the stations, how to evaluate if it is safe to return, and following written procedures on earthquake emergency operations.

The department also conducted quarterly multi-company evolutions with neighboring fire district ECFR. This training usually takes place at Station 42's drill ground and training tower. Three engine companies and a Battalion Chief conduct multiple training scenarios and evolutions including; motor vehicle crashes, house fires, apartment fires, etc.

In 2019, the training division created the first Acting Captain task book. Members who qualify to be an acting Captain can now complete the task book and fill the officer role when it becomes vacant due to illness, vacation, etc.

Volunteers

The Camas Washougal Fire Department has an active volunteer program that recruits new members annually. The Volunteer Association added six new members in 2019, and had two resignations. There are currently 15 line members, and 4 auxiliary members. Prospective volunteers participate in a selection process that is quite similar to the department's hiring process, including an oral board interview. Subsequent to this selection process, new volunteers attend a twelve-week training academy. Volunteers are required to be trained commensurate with full time employees' training. Our active volunteer members currently respond with full time crews to emergencies. Last year, volunteers logged 708 hours of hands on and computer based training. Combined, they volunteered 2566 hours of ride-along time to the community. This was an increase of 836 hours from 2018!

Overall, 2019 was a great year for training. Our crews amassed over 4,154 hours of training. CWFD members broadened their knowledge base and expanded their rescue skills greatly. We enthusiastically look toward 2020 for new learning opportunities!

Submitted by,

Battalion Chief Kevin Villines



2019 Employee Milestones

Anniversaries

Greg Payne	Career Battalion Chief	30 years of service
Brooks Cooper	Career Firefighter	30 years of service
James Tierney	Career Fire Captain/Paramedic	10 years of service
Shayne Bradley	Career Firefighter/Paramedic	10 years of service
Nick Ober	Career Firefighter/Paramedic	5 years of service
Jeff Martizia	Career Firefighter/Paramedic	5 years of service

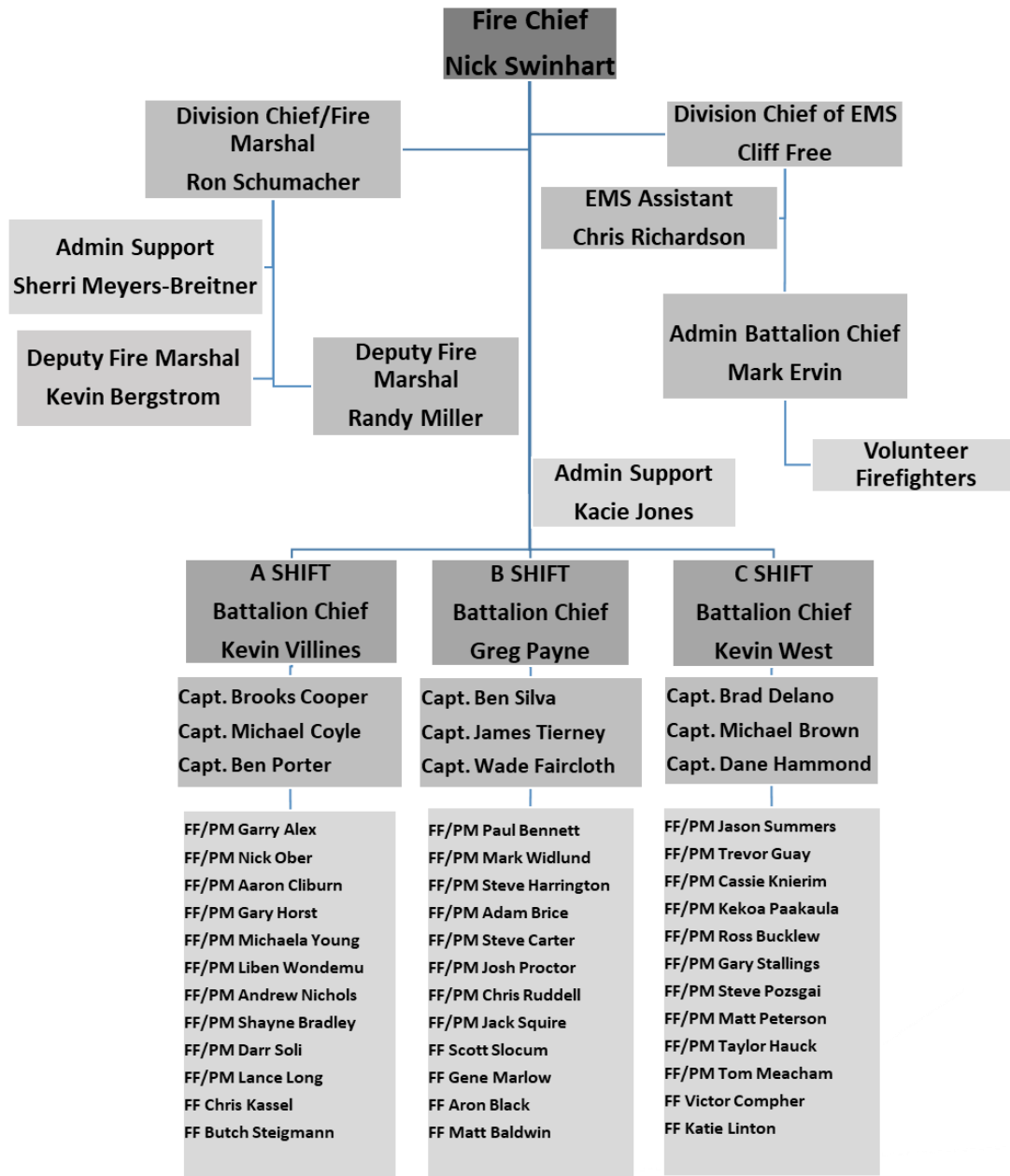
New Hires

Jason Summers	Career Firefighter/Paramedic
Jack Squire	Career Firefighter/Paramedic
Taylor Hauck	Career Firefighter/Paramedic
Tom Meacham	Career Firefighter/Paramedic
Aaron Cliburn	Career Firefighter/Paramedic
Michaela Young	Career Firefighter/Paramedic
Liben Wondemu	Career Firefighter/Paramedic
Ross Bucklew	Career Firefighter/Paramedic
Steve Harrington	Career Firefighter/Paramedic
Lance Long	Career Firefighter/Paramedic

Retirees

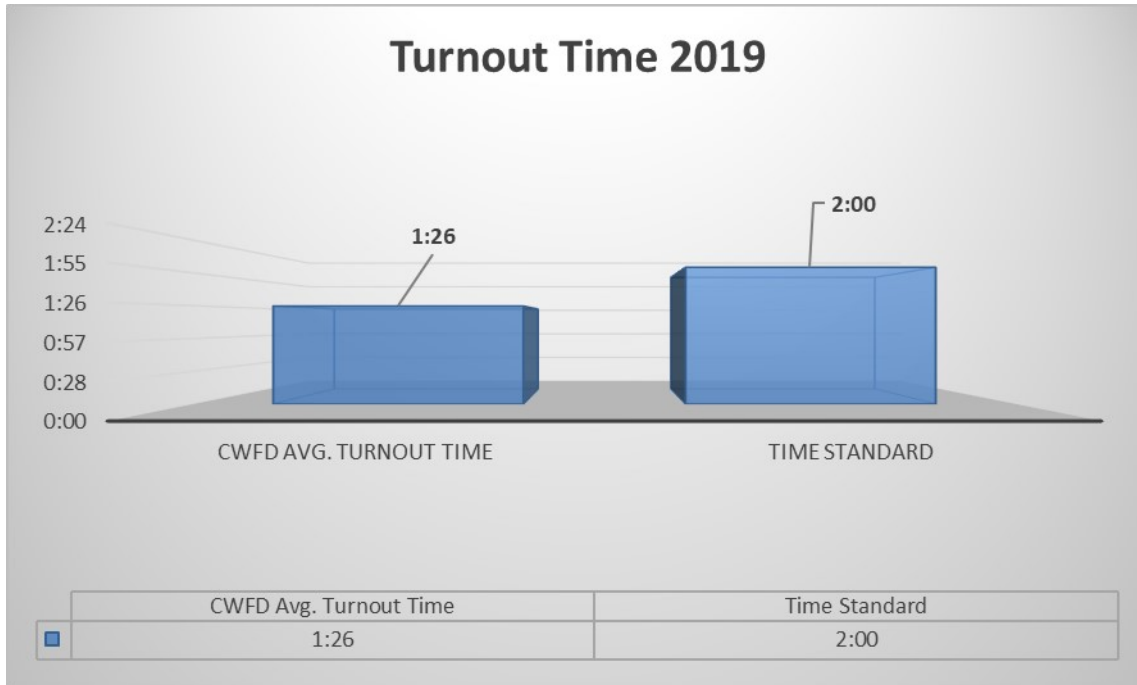
Joe Scheer	Firefighter/EMT
Greg Weisser	Fire Captain/Paramedic
Dale McKenzie	Firefighter/EMT

Organizational Chart



Standard of Cover

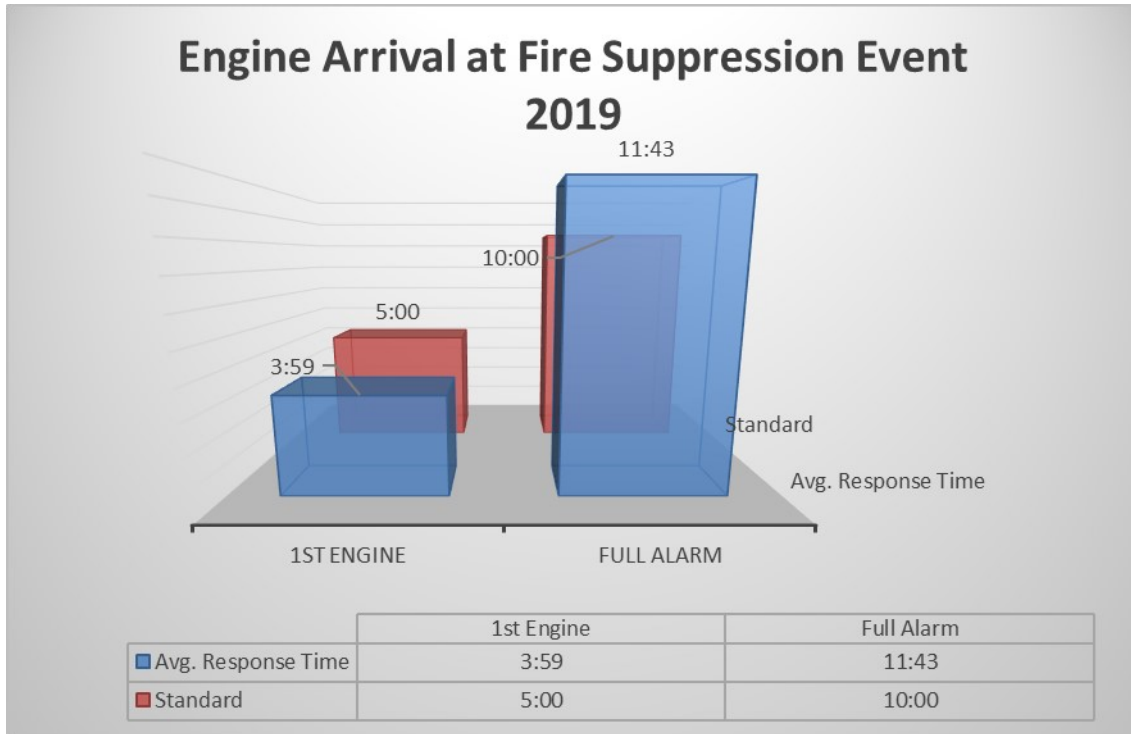
Turnout Time:



Turnout time is defined as the duration in minutes between initial dispatch and the dispatched resource going en route to the call. Turnout times depicted are for all apparatuses for all priority calls (meaning Code 3 response) regardless of call type, time of day or staffing level.

For systems that maintain dedicated staffing for all apparatuses; and a reasonable defined service area (typically five square miles); a customary turnout standard is 60 seconds for EMS calls and 90 seconds for fire calls. The current level of staffing for CWFD apparatuses relies on personnel to cross-staff an ambulance and an engine. This requires the moving of gear from one apparatus to another depending on the call type and then placing the complimentary apparatus out of service. Additionally, the service area of our ambulances is 90 square miles, which requires mapping the destination prior to leaving the station. To accommodate these added responsibilities prior to leaving the station, CWFD has adopted a turnout time standard of 120 seconds for all call types.

1st Arrival Engine Company/Deployment of Full First Alarm on Fire Suppression Incidents:

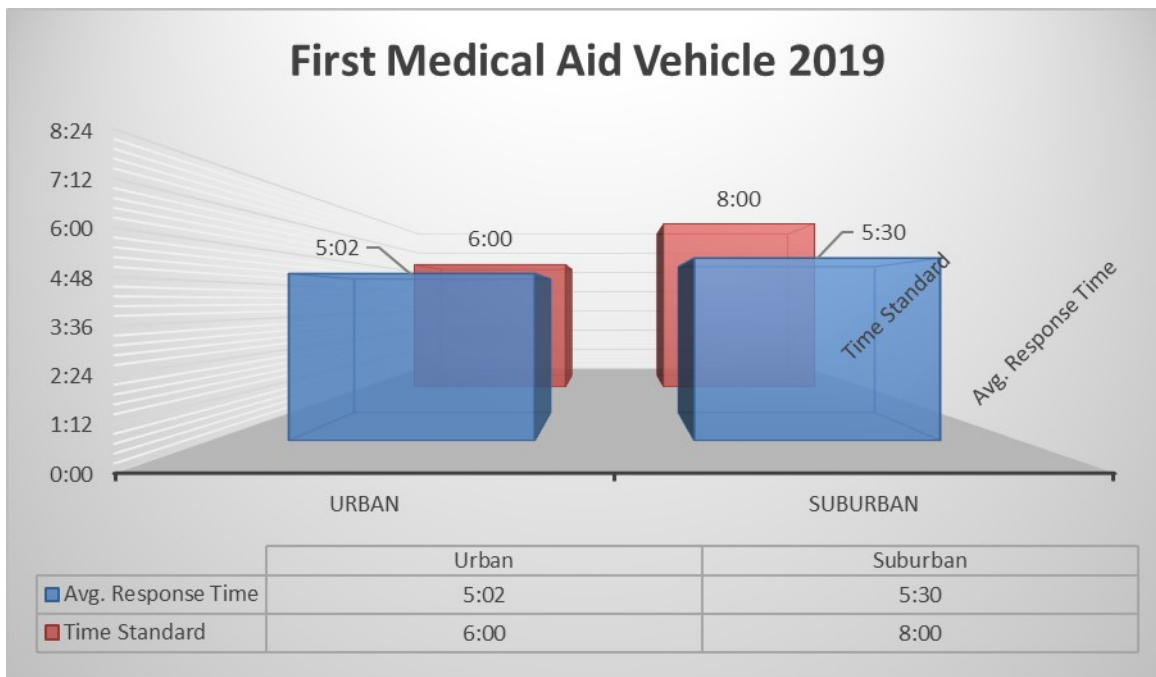


The standard of response for a 1st arriving engine company in their first due area for fire suppression incidents is 5:00 minutes. Currently, we have no software that can calculate the first due area of each respective station’s engine and cross-match that with the first arriving unit. However, what is a more prescient assessment is the response time of the first arriving CWFD engine to any fire suppression incident within our fire suppression area, regardless of station of origin. Essentially, it is less important where they came from, but how long it took the first mitigating engine to arrive for any fire suppression incident. This is represented in the first column of the above chart.

The standard to deploy the first full alarm assignment to a fire suppression incident is 10:00 minutes. The second column represents this average. It should be noted that mutual aid is required to achieve a ‘full’ first alarm assignment. A full first alarm assignment is defined as a four engine response. It is difficult to calculate the response times of mutual aid apparatuses because their times are outside of our data set and purview. The average demonstrated in the chart above is the time to arrival of all first alarm CWFD resources dispatched to fire suppression incident within CWFD’s fire suppression boundary.

In addition to Average response times, Fractiles are an additional performance metric. A fractile is the % of fire suppression events that we achieve the time standards. The fractile for the arrival of the first suppression engine within 5 minutes is 86%. The fractile for achieving a full alarm arrival withing 10 minutes is 17%.

Arrival of First Response Medical Aid Vehicle to EMS Calls:



The Arrival of First Response Medical Aid Vehicles is a metric historically used for systems where two different agencies are employed for EMS response: an initial EMS engine response from the local fire department (MFR: Medical First Response), and a transport ambulance, typically from a separate private ambulance transport agency. The Standard is based on the concept that the initial first response medical aid vehicle arrives first and ‘stops the clock’ for the response of the ALS Transport Unit (ambulance...usually private). In the CWFD system, the engine and the transport ambulance are both part of the CWFD. Operationally, CWFD sends the ambulance out in the lead for most EMS calls, and the engine trails. In some situations, CWFD may send the engine and ambulance from separate stations depending on available resources and location of the call. However, the closest ambulance is always dispatched. What is unique to our EMS system in the Cities of Camas and Washougal, is that the ambulance response times on an EMS call, are often shorter than the engine response times. However, the intent of the Standard of Cover is to track the arrival of first response medical aid. The times listed

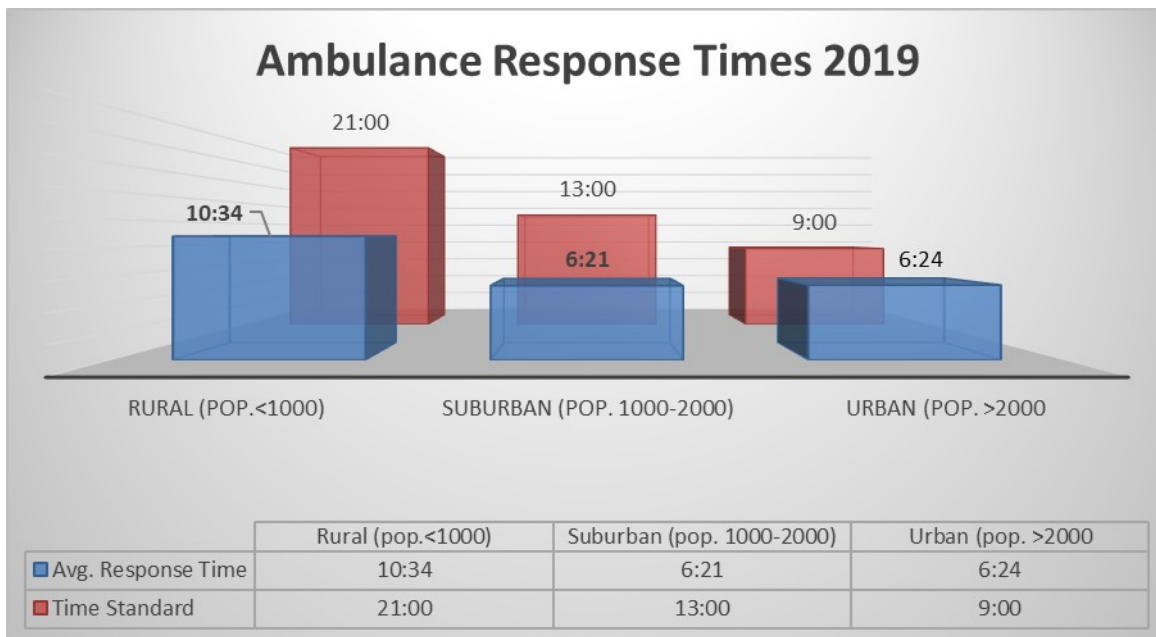
are the arrival times of the first aid vehicle staffed with medically trained personnel regardless of whether it is an engine or an ambulance.

CWFD’s standard is six minutes for urban designations; eight minutes for Suburban designations; and eleven minutes for rural designations (Rural designation is not shown separately on the chart: The City of Camas and the City of Washougal do not have many Rural designations, so those response times are lumped into the Suburban data.

CWFD’s Medical Aid Vehicle First Arrival Standard is the sum of the travel time standard and the turnout standard. CWFD’s travel time standard is based upon GIS mapping of our four and six minute travel radii from our three stations. Four minutes captures the majority of our urban area and six minutes captures the majority of our suburban area from the nearest CWFD station. CWFD’s turnout standard is 120 seconds.

In addition to Average response times, Fractiles are an additional performance metric. A fractile is the % of priority EMS incidents events where we achieve the time standards. The fractile for the arrival of the first medical aid vehicle on priority EMS incidents in the urban designation within 6 minutes is 91%. The fractile for the arrival of the first medical aid vehicle on priority EMS incidents in the suburban designation within 8 minutes is 73%.

Arrival of Advanced Life Support Transport Unit to EMS Calls:



Ambulance response times are monitored for all priority EMS calls (dispatched as a Code 3 response). They are broken down into three categories: Urban, Suburban and Rural, depending on the population density per square mile*. These categories are defined by the State of Washington and do not take into

account proximity of response, only population per square mile. The CWFD ambulance response area incorporates 8 square miles of Urban designation, 10 square miles of Suburban designation, 62 square miles of Rural designation and 14 square miles of Wilderness designation, although there is no defined Washington State time standard for Wilderness designation.

The rural response times at first glance seem improbable and warrant some further explanation. Proximity, which is not a factor in designation, pulls down the response average for the Rural designation response. For example, Bi-Mart in Washougal is on Map page 1417 and is designated by definition as Rural though it is within one mile of Station 43. This square mile map page incorporates much of the Columbia River, which has no registered population. By proximity, the response times are very short, though it is designated as rural. Additionally, as you move away from the two cities in proximity, the call volume decreases, explaining the seemingly short average response times for such a vast response area. Understanding the relationship between proximity and population density explains the relatively short rural response average over such a vast area.

CWFD separately and additionally employs a Fractile Response Percentage for ambulance response. Fractile response percentages begin with the response time standard per Urban, Suburban, Rural designation, and calculates the percentage of responses that meet that criteria. The fractile response percentages are listed below. This addresses the question of whether we are meeting our remote response times despite the proximity weighted average response times.

Fractile response percentage:

Urban: 88% (N=1281) Suburban: 96% (N=566) Rural: 95% (N=554)

**Population Designation Data provided by Clark County GIS. See Appendix A.*

Arrival of Hazardous Materials trained and equipped Technicians:

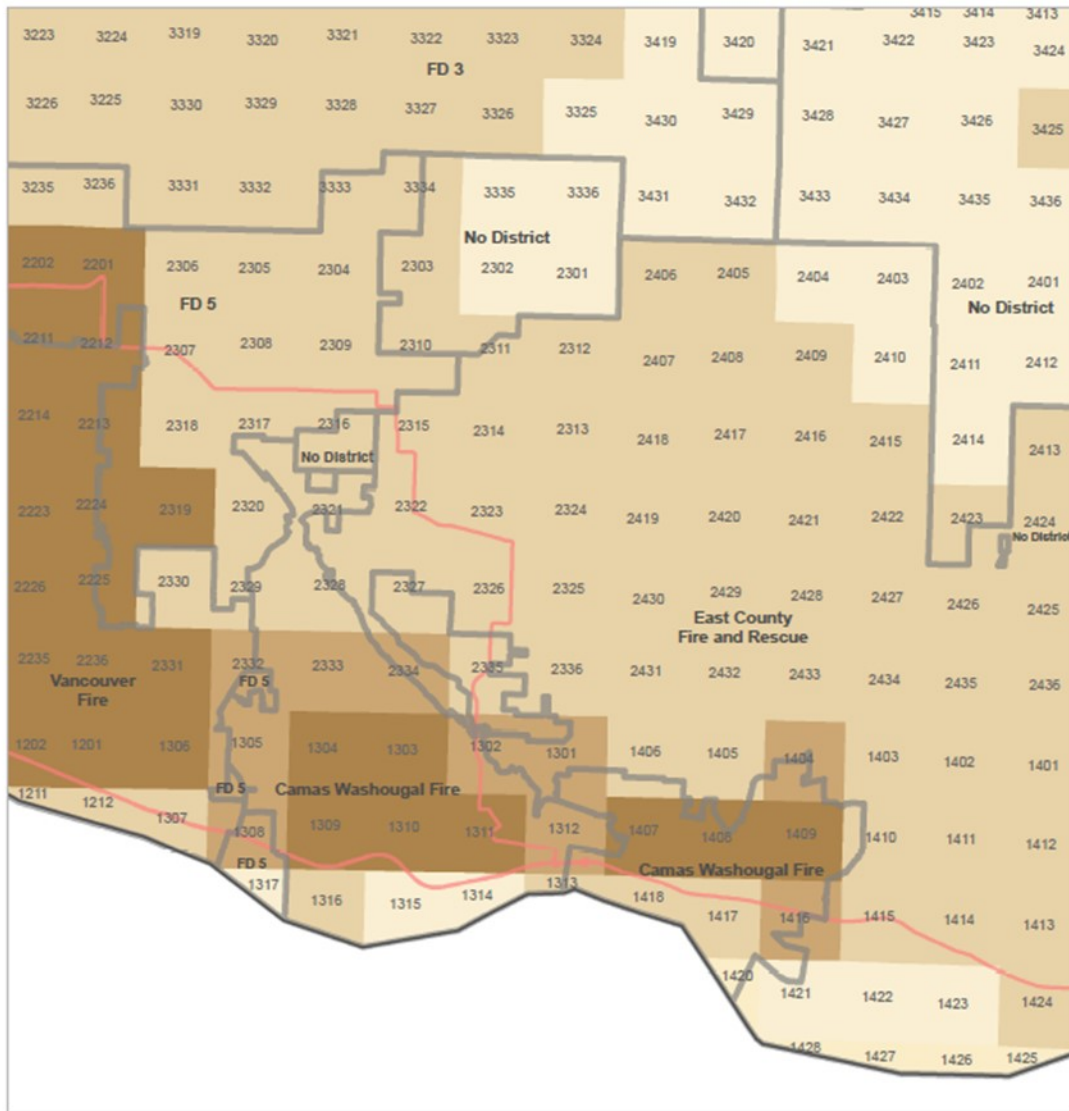
In 2019, there were no significant Hazardous Materials Incidents requiring the employment of specialty resources.

Appendix A

Population Density

Camas Washougal Fire Department

Population Estimate Date: 2012



- Fire District Boundary
- Highway
- Population per Square Mile (with Map Page Numbers)
 - Wilderness (no people)
 - Rural (1 to 999 people)
 - Suburban (1000 to 1999 people)
 - Urban (over 2000 people)

0 1 2 4 Miles

Population densities are based on current Assessor information (taxlots) along with persons per household counts from the 2010 Census.

Extreme care was taken in the completion and analysis of this map. However, due to the need to rely on several outside sources for information, Clark County, Washington cannot accept any responsibility for errors, omissions, or positional accuracy and, therefore, there are no warranties which accompany this product.

