



OAK HARBOR FIRE DEPARTMENT

2015
ANNUAL REPORT



**RCW 35.103.040 — Annual evaluations
Annual report.**

- (1) Every city and town shall evaluate its level of service and deployment delivery and response time objectives on an annual basis. The evaluations shall be based on data relating to level of service, deployment, and the achievement of each response time objective in each geographic area within the jurisdiction of the city or town.
- (2) Beginning in 2007, every city and town shall issue an annual written report which shall be based on the annual evaluations required by subsection (1) of this section.
 - (a) The annual report shall define the geographic areas and circumstances in which the requirements of this standard are not being met.
 - (b) The annual report shall explain the predictable consequences of any deficiencies and address the steps that are necessary to achieve compliance.

[2005 c 376 § 104.]



2015 Annual Report of the City of Oak Harbor Fire Department
Published March 2016, Oak Harbor, Washington
All Rights Reserved © 2016



Oak Harbor Fire Department Directory

Headquarters, Station 81.....	(360) 279-4700
Administrative Staff	
Fire Chief Ray Merrill	279-4701
Deputy Chief Mike Buxton.....	279-4702
Administrative Assistant Angela Braunstein.....	279-4703
Maintenance Division	
Captain Mike Engle	279-4705
Training Division	
Captain Craig Anderson	279-4706
Suppression Division	279-4707
Captain Don Baer, E Shift	
Captain Paul Schroer, F Shift	
Captain Mike Engle, G Shift	

Vision, Goals & Objectives.....	4
Area Served.....	7
Message from the Chief.....	8
Department organization	11
Personnel (Years of Service).....	12
Finance	14
Suppression Division	18
Prevention Division	26
Training Division.....	30
Maintenance Division.....	34
OH Firefighters Association	38
Social Media	40
Emergency Management	42
Year in Review	44
Looking forward to 2016.....	50



CENTENNIAL

MAYOR
Scott Dudley

**City of Oak Harbor
Vision Statement**

MAYOR PRO TEM
Danny Paggao, Position 7

Oak Harbor... Whidbey Island's
Premier Waterfront Community

COUNCIL MEMBERS
Rick AlMBERG, Position 3

**City Mission
Statement**

- James M. Campbell, Position 6
- Beth Munns, Position 2
- Robert (Bob) Severns, Position 4
- Tara Hizon, Position 1
- Joel Servatius, Position 5

The staff of the City of Oak Harbor is committed to delivering the highest possible level of service to its citizens, improving economic opportunity, quality of life and fostering community partnerships

City Goals

- Goal 1: Promote a healthy and growing business community
- Goal 2: Improve the appearance and livability of the community
- Goal 3: Encourage a safe community
- Goal 4: Build and enhance community partnerships
- Goal 5: Deliver superior quality service to our customers
- Goal 6: Protect and enhance capital investment in the City
- Goal 7: Promote a healthy work environment and employee excellence
- Goal 8: Annual review of the City's overall performance

Celebrating 100 years of incorporation 1915 to 2015

OBJECTIVES of your Oak Harbor Fire Department:

- To respond to fire, rescue, medical, and hazardous incidents on land or water;
- To conduct fire and life safety inspections of existing businesses, multi-family dwellings, and public assembly facilities;
- To review plans and conduct on-site inspections of new developments and buildings to ensure fire and life safety code compliance;
- To provide public education in the areas of fire prevention, CPR, first aid, life safety, accident prevention, and disaster planning preparedness;
- To provide disaster equipment such as generators, lighting, mobile command units, and multiple casualty units during natural and manmade disasters;
- To provide training and technical support to fire and city personnel;
- To provide classroom facilities and assist with the instruction of the Juvenile Fire-Setter Intervention Program;
- To provide career opportunities with a Firefighter Pilot Program for high school students;
- To provide training facilities and assist with the Island County Recruit Academy;
- To conduct investigations of all fires to determine their cause and origin;
- To maintain the mutual aid agreement with all emergency service providers on Whidbey Island;
- To maintain and operate an Emergency Operations Center for the City and as back-up for Island County;
- To conduct and participate in county-wide training at the department's training facility; and
- To provide meeting facilities for non-profit organizations.



VISION STATEMENT

To continue to be recognized as consistently providing quality services in an efficient manner to our growing community.

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide professional and cost effective services by maintaining highly trained and highly motivated career and paid-on-call staff, combined with sufficient apparatus, equipment and facilities.



We minimize injuries, death, and property loss related to fires, medical emergencies, and other disasters through the efficient delivery of effective fire suppression and pre-hospital treatment.

Oak Harbor Fire Department Organizational Overview

Oak Harbor Fire Department is committed to creating a healthy community for residents and visitors by delivering the highest quality of emergency services to the City of Oak Harbor. Your 40 firefighters (10 career and 30 paid-on-call) operate from one station staffed 24 hours per day.

The department is responsible for fire suppression, emergency medical services, rescue services, hazardous emergency response, enforcement of fire and safety codes, environmental protection, and fire cause/arson investigation.

Emergency Management Services enhance the community's overall level of emergency preparedness by providing an emergency operations plan and emergency operation center.

Our community of over 22,306 residents in 9.714 square miles valued at \$1.6 billion, is protected by one fire station with an annual departmental operating budget of \$1.9 million. Residents and businesses enjoy lower property insurance premiums due to the City's Washington Survey and Rating Bureau (WSRB) / Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating of 4.

Personnel in your fire department are committed to customer service, both internally and externally, and provide services with an attitude of professionalism. We believe that training is a critical component necessary to providing high quality services. We take pride in the dedication of our personnel and their ability to provide the highest quality emergency services to the Oak Harbor community.



City of Oak Harbor Stats

Area Served in Square Miles

9.714

Miles of city streets

68.81

Population (as of 2014)

22,306

Assessed Valuation

\$1,590,666,301

Fire Insurance Rating

4

2015 Emergency Incident Responses

Average Response Time

4 minutes, 17 seconds

Incident Responses

All Types

1,173

Fire Incidents

66 (6%)

Medical Incidents

545 (46%)

Fire Loss

\$121,000.00

Injuries

-none-

Fire Chief's Report



Ray Merrill
Fire Chief
Director of Emergency Services
25 years of service
Member Since 1989

Welcome to the Oak Harbor Fire Department's 2015 annual report.

People first: The City of Oak Harbor is fortunate to have all of our dedicated firefighters on staff. Your fire department is comprised of 10 career firefighters (including myself), 1 administrative assistant and currently 30 paid-on-call firefighters. This type of staffing is considered to be a combination department and has saved the City's General Fund hundreds of thousands of dollars over the years. All of our members are dedicated, enthusiastic, and passionate about their involvement with the department. Later in this annual report you'll 'meet' those members.

During 2015 three (3) recruit firefighters graduated from the 2015 Island Recruit Academy. Those members spent approximately 190 hours of classroom training and hands-on skills in order to become a firefighter. Upon graduation from the Academy they all became Nationally Certified as a Firefighter; their training has not stopped and they continue to learn new

skills, tasks and obtain required certifications.

Four (4) members attended the Washington State Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training. This is a 180 hour course on emergency medical care. All did very well with the training and all became Nationally Certified EMTs.

Some of our members attended specialized training at the Emergency Management Institute, a division of the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD. The courses attended provided education in advanced disaster preparedness, duties of government during disasters, and maintaining the safety of our citizens.

During 2015 our department responded to 1,173 calls for assistance. The following pages of this report will detail some of those incidents. The department did respond to 66 fire calls including 19 confirmed structure fires. Those 19 structure fires resulted in \$121,000.00 in property damages, however not all structures were a total loss which resulted in \$1.7 million in saved property.

As we have seen around the country violence in schools, malls, and places where people gather has been increasing. Our fire department has taken the approach of being prepared if this ever happens in Oak Harbor. We now have a medical team that actively trains with the Police Department and provides medical support in the event there is an emergency. The words Active Shooter brings all forms of images and our goal is to provide the best possible medical care during an emergency.

The Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau reviews fire agencies to provide a service level classification and the rating structure for insurance companies. The lower protection class rating a department receives the better insurance rates home owners and commercial occupancies enjoy. During our 2013 review, we received a Class 4 rating. We are attempting to obtain a Class 3 rating; missed that by a mere 161 points. We learned several things we can do to help lower our rating. Some have already been implemented, others will be more costly. Departmental

ADMINISTRATION
creating a safe and healthy community

staffing is a key issue, in order to help lower our deficiency points the department must hire additional firefighters in order to staff the proposed new fire station.

2016 and beyond: as growth has taken place and the City continues to grow, the time is fast approaching that we consider a new fire station in the Southwest section of the City. There is an area of land by Fort Nugent Park that was set aside many years ago for a future fire station. We have begun the process of selecting a design team, sharing the vision with the public, obtaining input, and hopefully will begin the actual construction of a facility. This will require a voter approved bond for the construction phase. The last time the fire department asked for a bond was 25 years ago, in 1992, when we funded our current fire station; that bond was retired 7 years ago.

Along with the construction of the fire station we will look for creative ways to fully staff the station. This too plays a key role in our Surveying and Rating Bureau protection classification, as well as providing the best possible level of service to our community. In 2016 we will begin public forums and informational meetings to obtain public input and direction.

In closing, I would be remiss in not thanking all of the members of this great fire department. They all do an outstanding job and are here when needed. We have a great team – who are here to serve, here to protect, and here to keep safe the citizens and visitors of Oak Harbor.

Every organization has a go to person for computer skills, answering questions, and being available for every task assigned – at Oak Harbor Fire Department that would be Angela Braunstein. Her skills and talents are visible throughout this report. Members of the department submitted information, she compiles it, arranges it, and makes it look great. So thank you Angie.

Please feel free to contact me at 360-279-4701, rmerrill@oakharbor.org, or stop by the fire station should you have any questions, concerns, or input. We are here to serve the public.

Ray Merrill

Ray Merrill,
Fire Chief



Fire Chief Ray Merrill (right) and Deputy Chief Mike Buxton (left). (OHFD photo, L. Titherington, January 2015)

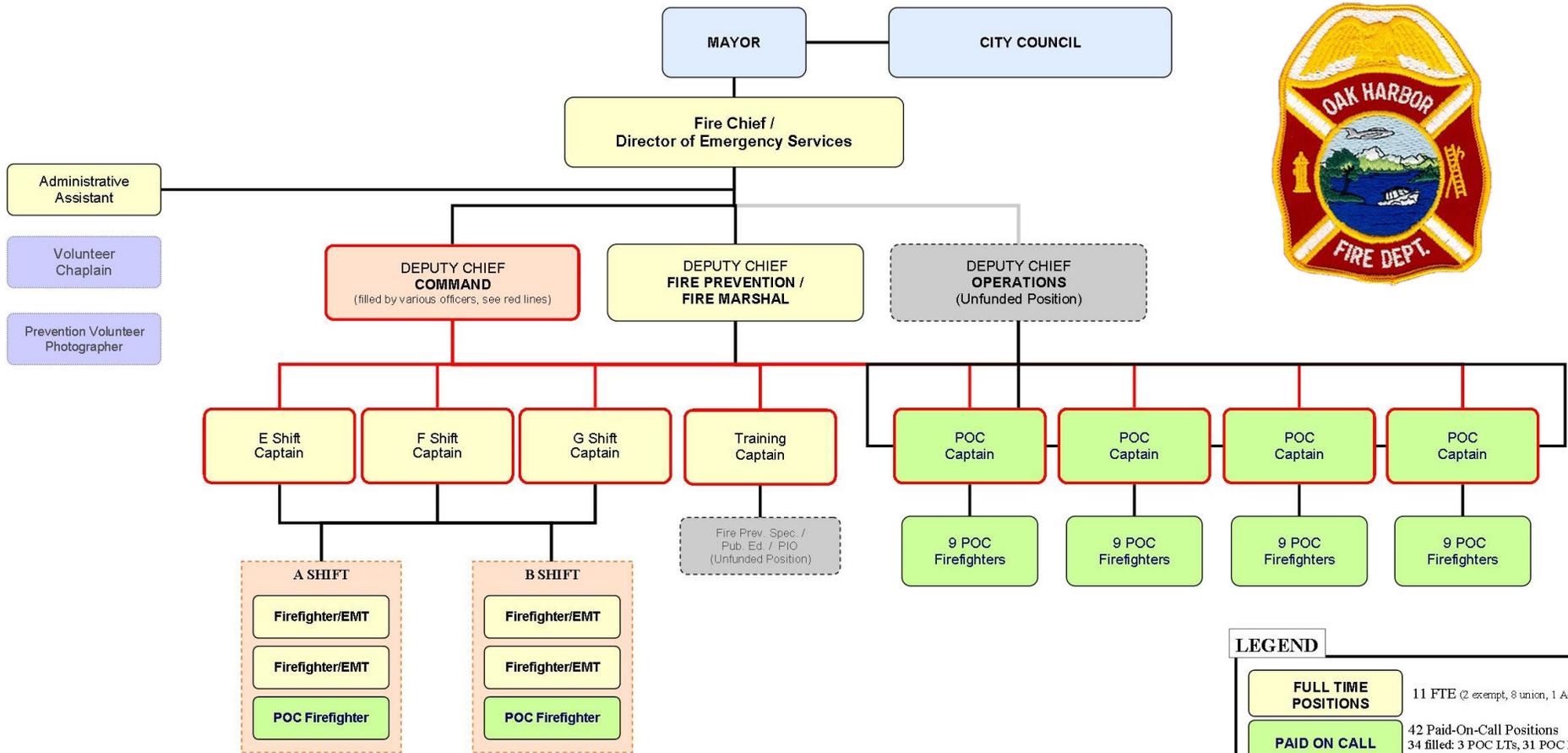




Our community remains safe, healthy, and economically viable because we hire well-qualified candidates, put them through our rigorous training program, maintain high performance standards, and have all members engage in continuous training and development to maintain and upgrade their skills.

ORGANIZATION *taking care of our community*

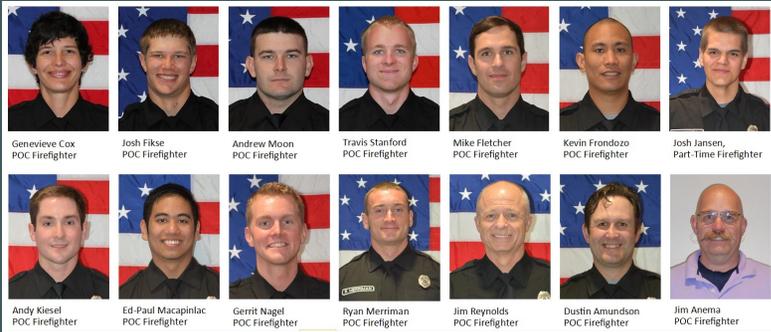
Organizational Chart



LEGEND	
FULL TIME POSITIONS	11 FTE (2 exempt, 8 union, 1 Admin)
PAID ON CALL	42 Paid-On-Call Positions 34 filled: 3 POC LTs, 31 POC FFs (EFF 3/4/2015)
COMMAND POSITIONS	Red Outline - positions also cover Deputy Chief Command Shifts
UNFUNDED POSITIONS	2 Unfunded Positions
VOLUNTEER POSITION	Chaplain & photographer

COURAGE *physical and moral courage to always do right*

Years of Service



LESS THAN 5 YEARS OF SERVICE
50 %



** (former POC firefighters not included in percentage)

5-9 YEARS OF SERVICE
16%

Career Firefighters 5-9 YEARS OF SERVICE
30%

All OHFD full-time firefighters have more than five (5) years of service to the City of Oak Harbor.



10-14 YEARS OF SERVICE
10%
(admin not included in Firefighter %)



15-19 YEARS OF SERVICE
10%



Oak Harbor Fire Department is a combination department staffed by full-time and paid-on-call firefighters. Of 41 OHFD members, just 11 are in full-time positions. This staffing model provides great savings to the City, but is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain.

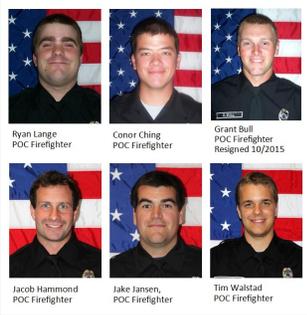
Ten full-time firefighters and one full-time administrative assistant maintain regular schedules of at least 40 hours per week, receive full City employee benefits, and fill civil service positions. The median wage for full-time firefighters is \$35.14 per hour + benefits. Full-time firefighters (with the exception of non-exempt chiefs) are

represented by IAFF Local 4504.

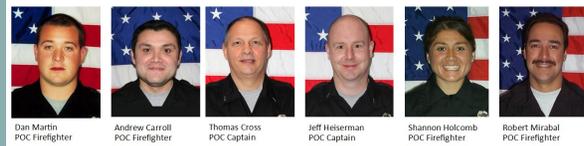
The remaining 30 members are in Paid-On-Call Firefighter (POCFF) positions; an evolution of volunteer firefighting, designed for those with full-time careers elsewhere. Currently, just 71% of the allotted 42 POCFF positions are filled – it's difficult to find people

willing and able to put in the time and effort required to become qualified to participate as a POCFF. The median POCFF wage is \$12.31/hour, with minimal benefits. These are not civil service positions and are not union represented. While full-time firefighters have set schedules, POCFFs maintain very fluid schedules without

PERSONNEL
our most important asset here to serve and protect



10-14
YEARS OF SERVICE
17%



15-19
YEARS OF SERVICE
3%



Chris Garden
29 years

OVER 20
YEARS OF SERVICE
13%



Dennis Wright
22 years



Rich Rodgers
40 years



Dwayne Jansen
35 years

OVER 20 YEARS OF SERVICE
50%



Ray Merrill
Fire Chief

Steve McCalmont
Firefighter

Craig Anderson
Captain

Mike Buxton
Deputy Chief

Paul Schroer
Captain

2015 OHFD
FIREFIGHTER AVERAGES

Full-Time Firefighter:
Median Wage: \$35.14/hour
201 hours worked per month
16.5 years of service

Paid-On-Call Firefighter:
Median Wage: \$12.31/hour
60 hours worked per month
8.4 years of service

guaranteed hours. Five 12-hour shifts are available each day: one day shift and four night shifts. Members sign up for shifts they will cover each month (one shift is required). In addition to shifts, POCFFs are paid their hourly rate for off-duty incident response and training drills. POCFFs not in PERS eligible positions must keep their total hours to less than 70 hours per month. In 2015, POCFFs averaged 60 total hours/month (49 hours/month in shift worked at

Station 81). As contrast, full-time firefighters averaged 201 hours/month.

For many, being a POCFF is an entry point to securing a full-time firefighting position. OHFD's training program has an excellent reputation and makes POCFFs from Oak Harbor Fire Department very desirable candidates for full-time positions. This is part of the reason 50% of the POCFFs have less than 5 years of service; they start here, become fully qualified [to the

same qualifications as full-time firefighters], gain valuable experience, and move on to full-time positions with other departments. Few people have the ability to work a full-time job elsewhere and put in the required time, energy, and dedication needed to participate as a POCFF.

The Washington Survey & Rating Bureau credits one firefighter for every three POCFFs. They have specified staffing as an area that must be improved.

POCFFs serve an important need in the community and save the City a great deal of money. It is hard work, requires strict training, and offers little payment in return, but brave men and women choose to participate for the same reason as full-time firefighters: the love of the job, the desire to serve, and to save lives.

Revenue



FINANCE
 Angela Braunstein
 Administration Assistant
 10 years of service
 Member Since 2005

Revenue			YEAR 2015		YEAR 2014	
Line	Type	Bars Account Code	Subtotals	Totals	Subtotals	Totals
1	Donations & Contributions	001.00.367.11.2000		\$0.00		\$0.00
2	Fire Control Services	001.00.338.22.0000				\$44,733.75
	Prehospital Medical Alarms			\$36,833.75	\$44,733.75	
3	Fire Facility Rental: Station 81					\$3,822.00
	Island County Recruit Training	001.00.362.40.0000		\$0.00	\$3,822.00	
4	Fire Protection Services: Permit Fees	001.00.338.22.1000		\$1,880.00		\$2,765.00
5	Incident Report Fees	001.00.342.90.0000		\$30.00		\$40.00
6	Other Miscellaneous Revenue					\$0.00
	Taxable	001.00.369.91.1000		\$0.00	\$0.00	
	Non-Taxable	001.00.369.90.0000		\$57.17	\$0.00	
	Xerox/Fax - Taxable	001.00.341.69.1000		\$0.00	\$0.00	
Total Revenue				\$40,500.92		\$51,360.75

Grants					
Line	Type	Bars Account Code		Totals	Totals
1	WA DOH Prehospital Participation	001.00.334.04.9000		\$1,341.00	\$1,473.00
Total Grants				\$1,341.00	\$1,473.00

contributing to community economic viability

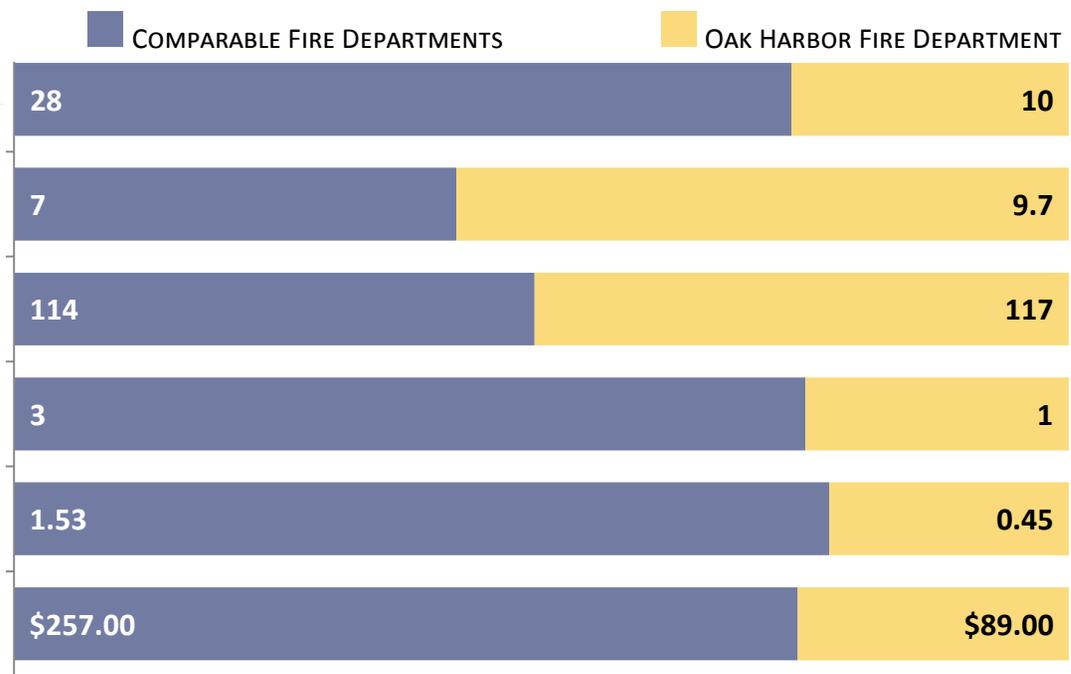
Benchmarking

The Paid-On-Call Firefighter program saves the City a lot of \$\$\$

With the increase in traffic, 9.7 sq. miles feels larger all the time!

We truly need a second station to meet the needs of all citizens!

Wow! Comparable cities spend nearly 3x for fire service!



We evaluate staffing and service levels of comparable jurisdictions to determine the standard of care we may attempt to achieve. The operating budget, staffing levels, and facilities for Oak Harbor Fire Department are far below those of comparable departments, yet, our service level shines!

Department	Population	Valuation of Area (in billions)	Square Miles Fire	Square Miles ASA	Operating Budget	Cost per capita	WSRB /ISO Rating	Total Calls FY2010	Calls per 1000 population	EMS Transport Agency	# of Stations	# Miles Per Station	Total Career Staff	Career Staff per 1000 Population	Calls per career staff
Arlington (City)	18,000	\$1.80	8	30	\$4,997,500	\$277.64	5	3,958	200	Y	3	2.7	27	1.50	146.59
Anacortes (City)	16,800	\$2.46	15.4	85	\$3,509,000	\$208.87	5	2,732	156	Y	3	5.2	24	1.43	113.83
Moses Lake (City)	20,350	\$2.80	19	19	\$5,000,000	\$245.70	4	3,389	167	Y	2	9.5	33	1.62	102.70
Mt Vernon (City)	32,700	\$2.47	15	15	\$4,392,121	\$134.32	4	4,626	129	Y	3	5	34	1.04	136.06
Port Angeles (City)	19,080	\$1.59	10	10	\$3,958,100	\$207.45	4	3,760	180	Y	1	10	22	1.15	170.91
Whatcom 7 (Dist)	21,500	\$3.68	75	77	\$4,600,000	\$213.95	5.5	2,184	102	Y	6	12.5	30	1.40	72.80
Vason Island (Dist)	10,624	\$1.98	36	36	\$5,440,979	\$512.14	6	1,453	136	Y	5	7.2	27	2.54	53.81
Average of Comparable Fire Agencies	19,865	\$2.40	25	39	\$4,556,814	\$257.15	5	3,157	153	Y	3	7	28	1.53	114
Oak Harbor (City)	22,136	\$1.60	9.741	NA	\$1,959,678	\$88.53	4	1,173	53	N	1	9.7	10	0.45	117

Data on comparable cities/districts is from 2014, with the exception of Moses Lake and Whatcom 7 which is from 2010. Oak Harbor Fire's total calls do not include all emergency incidents occurring in the City of Oak Harbor; in 2015 — Whidbey General Hospital responds to the majority of medical alarms within the City of Oak Harbor.

Budget Report

Financial management contributes to the safety, health, and economic viability of the community by allocating the department's resources in ways that promote effective and efficient emergency and non-emergency operations.



	Appropriation	Expenditures	Returned to	Percentage
SUPPRESSION (includes ICOM)	\$ 1,183,591.00	\$ 1,184,813.80	\$ (1,222.80)	100.10%
ADMINISTRATION	221,237.00	223,094.40	(1,857.40)	100.84%
PREVENTION / INVESTIGATION	138,254.00	131,429.60	6,824.40	95.06%
TRAINING	182,634.00	171,703.15	10,930.85	94.01%
INTRFUND REPAIRS/MAINT (apparatus)	48,616.00	48,616.00	0.00	100.00
FACILITIES	75,700.00	59,704.76*	15,995.24	78.87%
INTRFUND TECHNOLOGY CONTRIBUTIONS	47,742.00	47,742.00	0.00	100.00
INTRFUND EQUIP REPLACEMENT CONTRIBUTIONS (vehicle fund)	92,574.00	92,574.00	0.00	100.00
CAPITAL OUTLAY/IMPROVEMENTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 1,990,348.00	\$ 1,959,677.71	\$ 30,670.29	98.46%

*On 3/3/15, City Council approved an \$847,705 contract with Ameresco to upgrade all city buildings and city-owned street lights to energy-efficient LED lighting. The project was to be funded by a combination of grant and bond funding. Due to the City's need to meet a grant spending deadline, City reserve funds were utilized to fund the lighting upgrade not covered by the grant until LOCAL bonds were applied for and received. Lighting upgrades to Station 81 totaled \$87,650.03 and were charged to our facilities, repair & maintenance budget — causing a \$90,620 line item shortage. We chose to exclude the upgrade expenses in our expenditure reporting as it was not budgeted for, was not optional, and including it would make it appear as though we were nearly \$57,000 over-budget.

The Fire Department is funded by the City of Oak Harbor General Fund. The General Fund receives property taxes, sales taxes, and other revenues, it accounts for approximately 15% of the City's total operating budget (20% when including reserve funds).

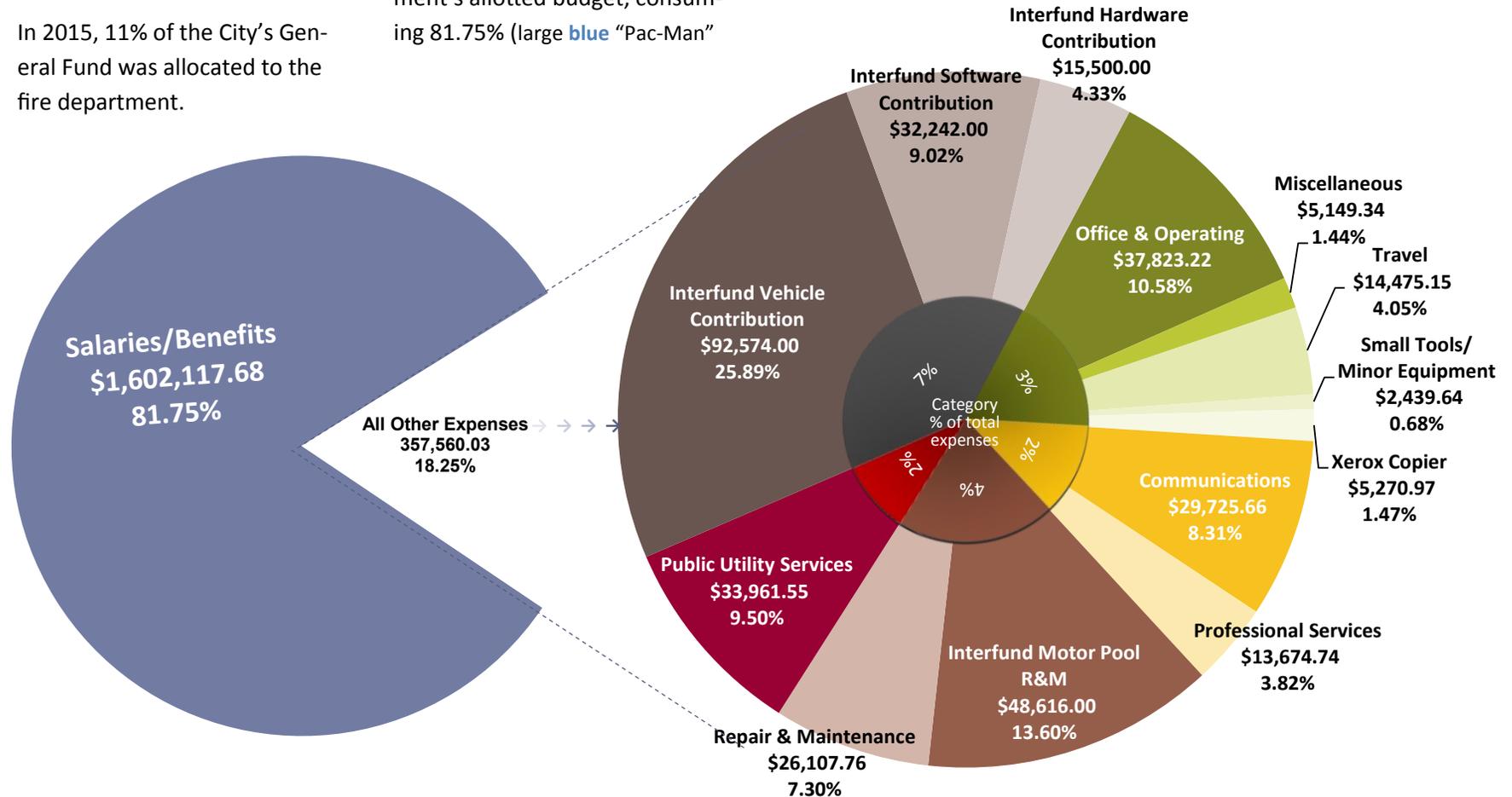
In 2015, 11% of the City's General Fund was allocated to the fire department.

In other words, 11% of 15% of all City funds — 2% of the City's total operating budget; \$2 million — are allocated to Fire Services.

Salaries and benefits for our personnel — our greatest asset — use the bulk of the department's allotted budget, consuming 81.75% (large blue "Pac-Man"

below, left). Of the remaining 18.25%, shown in the break-out chart, nearly 40% is set-aside into reserve funds for planned large purchases—vehicles, equipment, and technology upgrades (grays). 20% is dedicated to repair and maintenance of

facilities, equipment and vehicles (browns), daily operations expend 18% (greens), communications claim 12% (yellows), and 10% pays public utilities — electric, gas, water, sewer (maroon).



Emergency Response



Mike Engle
Captain
G Shift -- Suppression
18 years of service
Member Since 1997



Don Baer
Captain
E Shift — Suppression
12 years of service
Member Since 2003



Paul Schroer
Captain
F Shift - Suppression
21 years of service
FT Member Since 2014
Member Since 1994

Emergency Incident Response for 2015

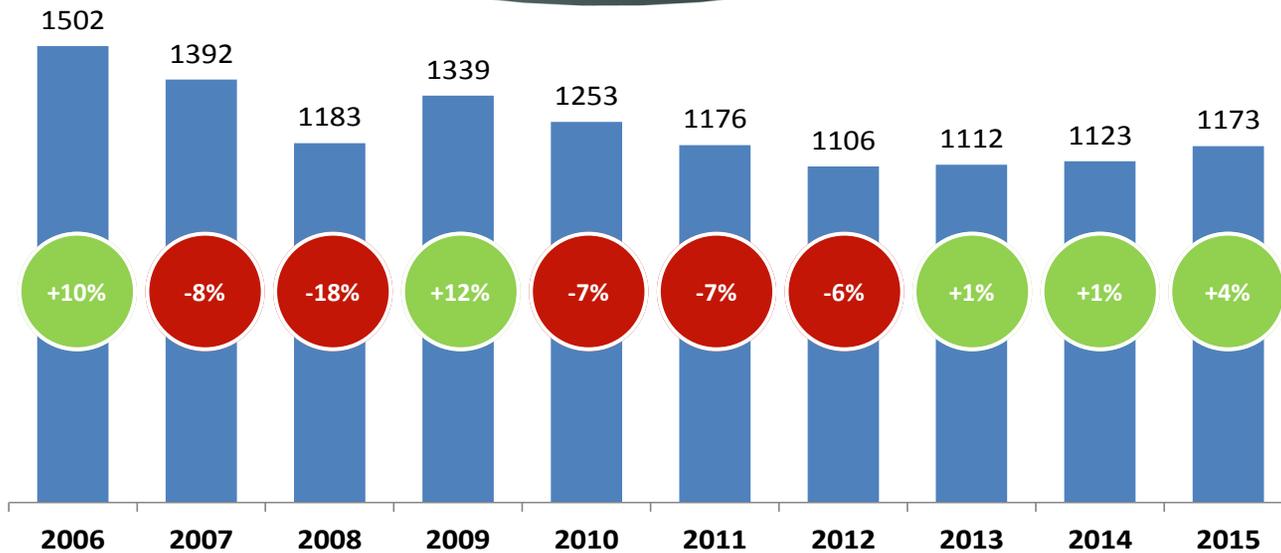
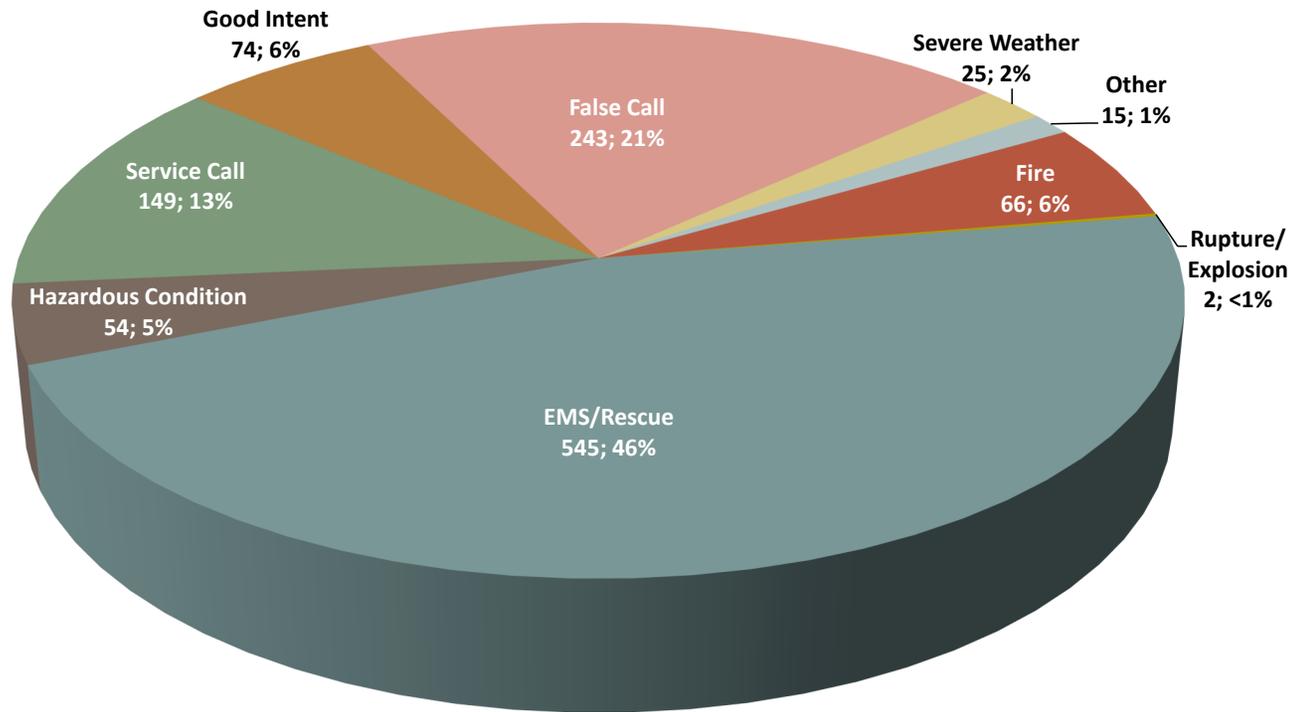
The Suppression Division is primarily responsible for the mitigation of emergency incidents. Other functions include fire and life safety inspections and assistance with public education activities.

<u>Fire</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>Service Call</u>	<u>149</u>
Residential Structure	12	Water Problem/leak	20
Building (non residential)	2	Public Service	65
Cooking Fire	13	Assist Invalid	24
Chimney Fire	0	Unauthorized Burning	18
Grass/Brush Fire	12	Assist police or gov. agency	14
Vehicle	11	Other	8
Trash/Dumpster	5		
Other	11	<u>Good Intent</u>	<u>74</u>
		Dispatched & Cancelled	38
<u>Rupture/Explosion</u>	<u>2</u>	Smoke Scare	19
		Other	17
<u>EMS/Rescue</u>	<u>545</u>	<u>False Alarm (No Fire)</u>	<u>243</u>
Assist EMS Crew	397	System Activation, Malfunction	71
Motor Vehicle Accident	125	System Activation, Unintentional	148
EMS Call (not MVA)	11	System Activation, Malicious	9
Rescue	11	Other	15
Other	1		
<u>Hazardous Condition</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>Severe Weather</u>	<u>25</u>
Gasoline or Oil spill	11		
Natural Gas Leak	11	<u>Other</u>	<u>15</u>
Electrical Problem	25	No Response/	
Carbon Monoxide Incident	1	Dispatch Error	11
Other	6	Citizen Complaint	4
		<u>Total</u>	<u>1,173</u>

SUPPRESSION protecting the safety and health of our community

Emergency Response

2015 Emergency Incident Response by Call Type (1,173 total calls)



Total Incident Response:
1,173 Incidents

Average Response Time:
4 minutes, 17 seconds

Concurrent Incidents:
126 (10.75%)

Number of EMS Calls:
545 (46%)

Busiest Month:
August with 144 calls

Busiest Day of the Week:
Saturday (215 Calls)

Busiest Hour of the Day:
17:00-17:59 (92 calls)

Slowest Day of the Week:
Tuesday (150 calls)

Slowest Hour of the Day:
04:00—04:59 (7 calls)

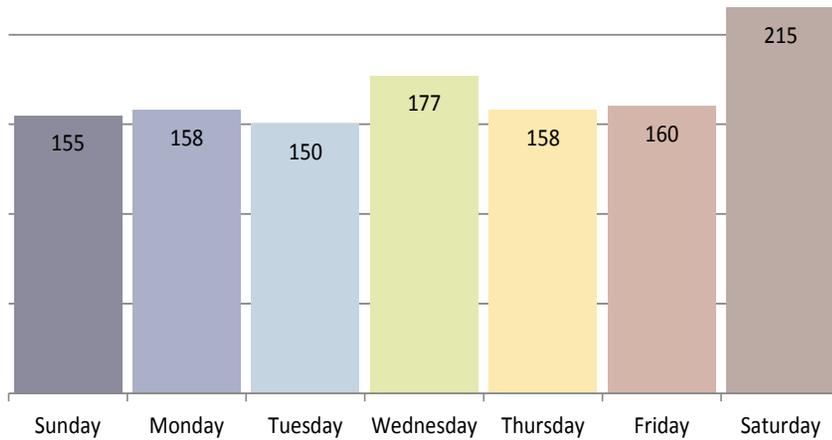
1 Year Response Trend:
INCREASING
4.26% more than 2014

10 Year Response Trend:
DECREASING
22% less than 2006

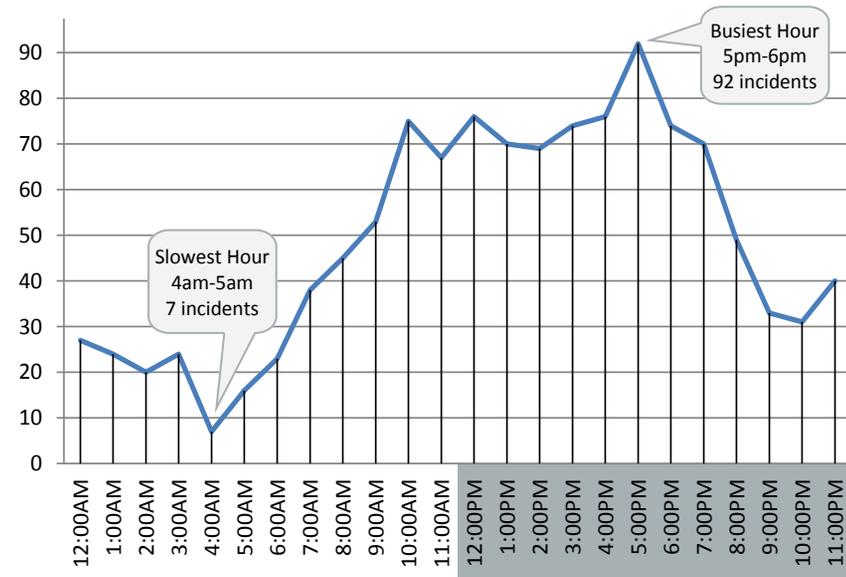
Average Number of Calls
[2006-2015]:
1,247

Emergency Call Volume

2015 Incidents by Day of the Week



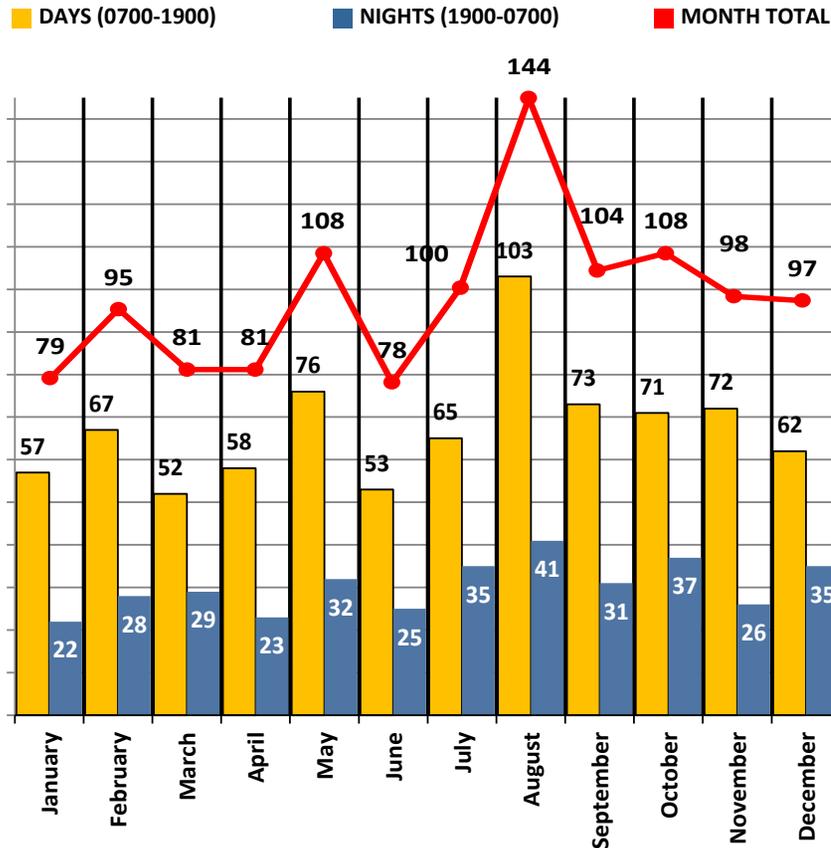
2015 Incidents by Hour of the Day



2015 Incidents by Type and by Month

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	TOTAL
Fire	3	3	3	5	9	6	16	5	6	4	0	6	66
Rupture/Explosion	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
EMS/Rescue	38	44	39	38	53	37	43	64	50	50	39	50	545
Hazardous Condition	4	1	2	7	2	4	8	3	7	4	9	3	54
Service Call	8	14	8	8	10	12	14	13	14	18	19	11	149
Good Intent	4	8	8	7	7	6	3	11	6	6	4	4	74
False Call	21	25	19	14	26	12	15	25	21	22	23	20	243
Severe Weather	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	0	0	2	1	25
Other	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	1	0	4	2	2	15
Total Incidents	79	95	81	81	108	78	100	144	104	108	98	97	1,173

Continuous Coverage: Call volume Day vs. Night



You're protected DAY and NIGHT

Full-time firefighters provide coverage from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm [809 calls; 69% call volume—yellow bars in chart above]. **Paid-On-Call firefighters** provide coverage from 7:00 pm and through the night to 7:00 am [364 calls; 31% call volume — blue bars in chart above]. Being a combination department allows for great savings. Comparable cities with all career fire fighters, spend three times more that the residents of Oak Harbor for fire protective services.

Utilizing paid-on-call firefighters, residents save \$3.5 million EVERY YEAR.

How do you staff the station?

Oak Harbor Fire Department is a combination department. Staffed by a combination of full-time firefighters and Paid-On-Call (POC) firefighters who work together to provide **continuous coverage to the City of Oak Harbor - 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.**

Command 8: 24 hours a day. Command duty is filled by the deputy chief, full-time captains, and POC captains.

A/B Full-time Firefighter Shifts: Twelve-hour shifts Tuesday through Sunday, 0700-1900 hours (14 hour shifts on Mondays—0700-2100 to accommodate weekly training drills). Four full-time firefighters work a rotating schedule: two firefighters on shift for four consecutive days followed by four consecutive days off shift.

E/F/G Officer Shifts: Three full-time captains work a rotating cycle of 24-hour shifts (24/24/24/24/24/96): 24 hours on duty, 24 hours off duty, 24 hours on, 24 hours off, 24 hours on, and 96 hours off. From 0700-1900 the captain is the engine company officer. From 1900-0700 the captain fills the Command 8 position and works with the POC engine company.

Paid-On-Call Firefighters (POCFFs) are equipped with pagers and respond from home or work to Station 81 when additional manpower is required. POCFFs work 10 or 12 hour platoon shifts (not to exceed 53 hours per week).

POC Platoon Day Shift: Twelve-hour shifts, 7 days a week, 0700-1900 hours. Completes a daytime four member engine company: 1 POC platoon day shift, 2 FT FFs (A or B shift), and 1 Officer (E, G, or F shift).

POC Platoon Night Shifts: Twelve-hour shifts (1900-0700) 6 nights per week, and ten-hour shifts (2100-0700) on Mondays [to accommodate weekly training drill]. An engine company of four POCFFs perform various duties and respond to emergency incidents. Personnel occupy sleeping quarters at station 81 while on shift.



Firefighters at live training burn (OHFD Photo, L. Titherington, May 2015)

Mutual Aid Agreements

Oak Harbor Fire Department provides better service to, and reduces risk for, the citizens of Oak Harbor by maintaining mutual and automatic aid agreements with neighboring emergency service agencies. We lend and receive assistance across jurisdictional boundaries when the need arises.

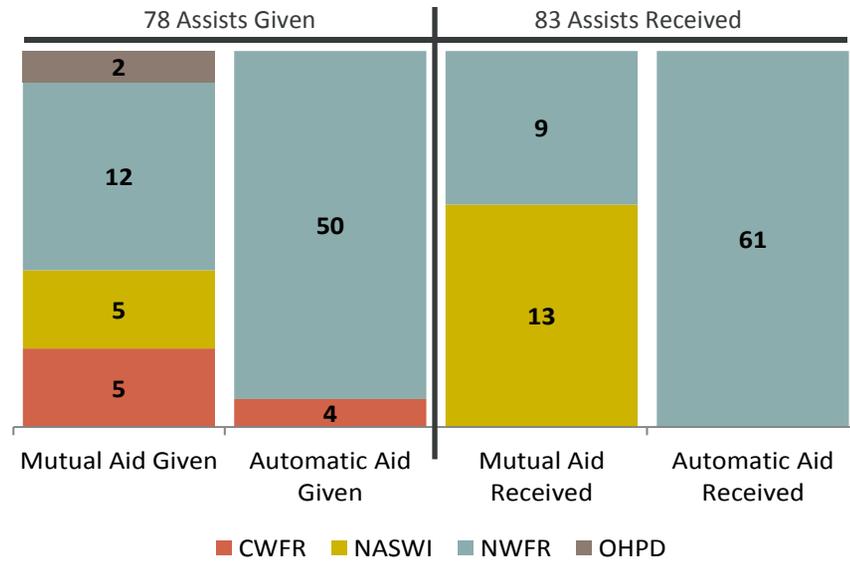
In the event of a large-scale manmade or natural disaster it is expected that all agencies will work together to prevent loss of life and property and get things back to normal. But did you know that we work closely with other emergency agencies on Whidbey Island all the time?

One example: Island County Fire Districts do not have an aerial ladder truck. The City of Oak Harbor has agreed to send its 100-foot aerial ladder truck to any 2-story structure fire on central and north Whidbey Island. It is an automatic aid agreement; when I-COM (our dispatch center) receives a call

We provide better service and reduce risk by maintaining mutual aid agreements.

to a structure fire in Coupeville; they automatically tone out Ladder 81 from Oak Harbor Fire Department. If there is a large structure fire in Oak Harbor, I-COM automatically tones out engines and crews from North Whidbey Fire & Rescue along with Oak Harbor Fire's apparatus and personnel. It's part of the response plan and helps rapidly deploy needed resources. A mutual aid agreement is utilized when an agency realizes it needs assistance and asks another agency to respond (it's not automatic).

After 9/11/01, FEMA established a comprehensive National Incident Management System (NIMS) and encouraged agencies to create mutual aid agreements. Emergency responders across the Nation use NIMS, it's also used in school systems, hospitals and private organizations. NIMS allows emergency responders to work together to mitigate any emergency even when they don't normally work together. It provides a common framework



	CWFR	NASWI	NWFR	OHPD	Totals
Mutual Aid Given	5	5	12	2	24
Mutual Aid Received	0	13	9	0	22
Automatic Aid Given	4	0	50	0	54
Automatic Aid Rec'd	0	0	61	0	61
Totals	9	18	132	2	161

that all agencies are familiar and comfortable with.

In 2015, we received slightly more aid than we gave. Automatic aid is not only an economical solution but also a moral obligation to our citizens and our firefighters and meets our ultimate goal of saving lives and protecting property as quickly and efficiently as possible.





Top: FF Robert Mirabal and Cpt Jeff Heiserman, training drill at OH Marina. Right: FFs Josh Jansen and Cameron Hopkins laugh it up. Above: Captain Paul Schroer with Firefighters from NWFR & NASWI. Opposite page: FFs practice CPR at training drill. (OHFD photos, L. Titherington, 2015

Response by Quadrant

Emergency Response within the City of Oak Harbor by Quadrant

The City of Oak Harbor is divided into four quadrants. Whidbey Avenue separates north/south; Oak Harbor Street separates east/west.

Oak Harbor's only fire station is located on Whidbey Avenue in the southeast quadrant, largely a commercial area. Being close by, this quadrant shows the fastest response time.

The SW quadrant, is farthest from the fire station and shows the 2nd greatest response time. It is primarily a residential area and has the greatest potential for future residential and commercial growth. It is the logical place to build a second fire station. An area of land has been set aside for this purpose at Fort Nugent Park.

* Incidents not included in this chart are 58 calls cancelled enroute (no arrival) and calls to areas outside of our jurisdiction. These included two fire calls, the average response of these "other" calls was 00:15:46.



Response Time for OHFD (does not include dispatch time)

	2015	2014	2013	2012
Fire	00:04:03	00:03:52	00:04:06	00:04:19
Rupture/Explosion	00:03:45	None	00:05:14	00:05:26
EMS/Rescue	00:04:10	00:04:12	00:04:15	00:04:10
Hazardous Condition	00:04:00	00:04:11	00:04:33	00:05:32
Service Call	00:05:38	00:04:43	00:05:02	00:05:55
Good Intent	00:03:44	00:04:48	00:04:04	00:05:02
False Call	00:04:09	00:03:29	00:03:41	00:04:19
Severe Weather	00:04:10	00:03:55	None	None
Other	00:04:54	00:03:51	00:02:04	00:03:01
Average for Year	00:04:17	00:04:08	00:04:07	00:04:43



On November 28th an Oak Harbor resident fell through his yard and 40 feet into an abandoned well. Oak Harbor Firefighters used a pulley system to hoist him out of hole. (OHFD Photos, November 2015)



Mike Buxton
Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal
23 years of service
Member Since 1992

Fire Code Enforcement and Fire Prevention

Fire Inspections

Fire and Life Safety Inspections are performed annually by the Oak Harbor Fire Department and serve many purposes. They identify and correct fire and life safety hazards, provide the fire department with an opportunity to educate the public on best practices for fire and life safety, and enable engine companies to become better informed on each building's layout and fire protection features. Business owners have asked, "Why do you bring a fire engine just to do a fire inspection?" The on-duty crews are tasked with performing fire inspections along with their emergency response duties. When their pager calls them to an emergency situation, the inspection becomes secondary.

"So what are we looking for?" There are many occupancy classifications within the city, an assembly "A" occupancy classification is one where people congregate.

"Why do you bring a fire engine just to do a fire inspection?"

"What are you looking for?"

This could be a restaurant where we check their cooking line suppression system for proper maintenance, also housekeeping and storage practices that may obscure exit routes for employees and customers. Another "A" type occupancy would be a church where a potentially large occupancy load may exist. Means of egress and access to exits are a priority along with ensuring that fire protection, such as fire sprinkler and fire alarm systems, are maintained. Some common fire code deficiencies cited are extension cords being used in lieu of permanent wiring, obstructions to exits, aisles, corridors and stairways, exit signs needing repair, delayed annual service for fire alarm, sprinkler systems, and fire extinguishers.

Obvious changes to the building construction are referred to the building department. The Oak Har-

bor Fire Department works in conjunction with Island County Health Department when there are concerns noted in an eating establishment, whether the issue regards a kitchen fire or questionable condition observed during a routine inspection. In 2015, Oak Harbor Fire Department conducted **1,035** annual fire and life safety inspections.

Plan Review

The plan review process is the first phase of fire protection. The process ensures the appropriate codes and standards are applied in the design and renovation phases of construction in order to provide an acceptable degree of public safety from fire and other hazards and risks. The fire department and building department work in conjunction with City planners and engineers to ensure proper codes, standards and laws are applied in the construction and design of projects within the City and its urban growth areas. Permits are issued after plans are examined and determined to meet all fire code and NFPA standards.

FIRE PERMITS ISSUED IN 2015: 22	
QTY	Permit Type
11	Fire Alarm System
2	Fire Sprinkler System
2	Fuel Tank Removal
1	Operational Permits
4	Fireworks Stand
2	Fireworks Display

PREVENTION *influencing safe community infrastructure design*

REGION 3 FIRE INVESTIGATION TASK FORCE

Oak Harbor Fire Department is a member of the Region 3 Fire Investigation Task Force; Region 3 covers Whatcom, Island, Skagit and San Juan counties. The role of the task force is to assist and support investigators in each county on large or complex fires such as arson fires and fire fatalities. Members meet quarterly for training and coordination in purchasing fire investigation supplies and equipment.

In 2015, the task force conducted a certification test for fire investigators. Investigators from around the State came to Skagit County to take the certification test for Certified Fire Investigator (CFI).

The Oak Harbor Fire Department currently has five certified fire Investigators.



Photos this page: (top, left) Test proctor, Fire Chief Ray Merrill, giving instructions to test evaluators at Region 3 fire investigation task force fire investigator testing. Above - fire investigators at Region 3 Certified Fire Investigator test. (photos by Cheryl Barth, November 2015)

Right: Kitchen fire in an Oak Harbor residence — notice the melted microwave above stove. (OHFD investigation photo, 2015)



Fire Loss Analysis

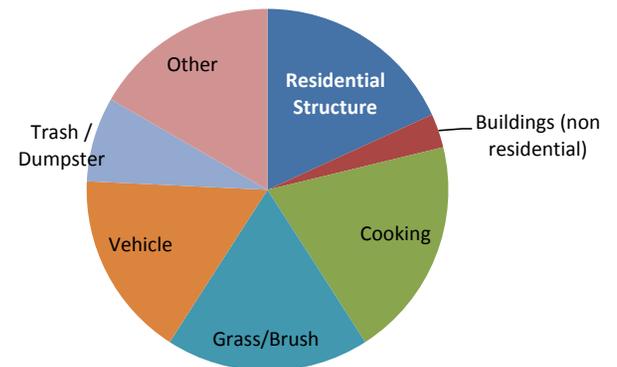
In 2015 the City experienced **20 fire incidents** putting

\$1.8 million of property at risk.

93% of the property involved was **SAVED**

and just **\$121,000** of that property was damaged/lost.

2015 Oak Harbor Fires, by type



Fire Investigations

The Oak Harbor Fire Department conducted 26 fire investigations in 2015. While the causes of some fires are obvious, others are determined using the scientific method for determining an origin and cause. A fire investigation is a complex endeavor involving skill, technology, knowledge, and science.



A December electrical fire was extinguished by the homeowner, overloaded electrical wiring overheated igniting curtains. Fire crew reassured homeowners the fire was out while fire officer conducted a proper investigation for the homeowner. The homeowner was asleep in the bed pictured when the fire erupted. Multiple electrical devices connected to a non-protected, multi-plug adapter overheated.



The Oak Harbor Fire Department Fire Investigation team assisted North Whidbey Fire and Rescue with a fatality fire in April. The team was able to determine the cause of the fire using a systematic approach based on the scientific method. This approach uses an analytical process that is necessary in a successful investigation. It was determined through this process that the fire was caused by an overheated extension cord powering a portable space heater.



A renter reported the hood vent fan ignited, closer investigation revealed a probable unattended cooking fire had occurred. Fire investigators provide reports and investigation results to insurance companies as well as property management companies.

(OHFD investigation photos, 2015)

2015 City of Oak Harbor Fire Investigations — 26 Fire Investigations Performed

Date	Location	Structure type	Type of fire	Cause
Jan 13th	City Beach St	Parking Lot	Vehicle fire	Electrical shorted out
Jan 17th	NE O'Leary St	Residential	Room and contents	Combustibles placed against wall heater
Feb 1st	S. Oak Harbor St	Parking Lot	Vehicle fire	Electrical shorted out
Feb 21st	SE Dock St	Residential	Kitchen Fire	Unattended cooking
Feb 23rd	Falls Creek Loop	Residential	Structure fire	Cigarette discarded in combustible container
April 5th	SW Judson St	Residential	Structure fire	Combustibles placed against gas fireplace
April 14th	Bay Front Lane	Residential	Structure fire with fatality	Overheated extension cord
April 23rd	N. Oak Harbor St	Parking Lot	Vehicle fire	Oil leaking onto hot engine
April 23rd	SW Tahoe St	Residential	Structure fire	Combustibles placed against gas fireplace
May 15th	Paragon Pl	Apartment	Kitchen Fire	Plastic kitchenware stored in oven
May 16th	N. Oak Harbor Rd	Residential	Structure fire	Overheated extension cord
May 25 th	SE Fisher Ct	Residential	Kitchen Fire	Unattended cooking
May 27 th	SW 24th Avenue	Residential	Structure fire	Gas vent pipe too close to structural framing
June 1st	SE 8th Avenue	Apartment	Landscape/Brush fire	Discarded Cigarette
June 24th	SW Fairhaven	Residential	Structure fire	Radiant heat reflected of sunglasses onto deck
June 25th	NE 16th Avenue	Apartment	Structure fire	Electrical shorted out
July 6th	NW Crosby	Residential	Kitchen Fire	Unattended cooking
Aug 2nd	N Oak Harbor St	Fence Line	Grass Fire	Undetermined
Aug 2nd	N. Oak Harbor St	Apartment	Structure fire	Occupant attempted suicide by fire
Aug 17th	NW 2nd Avenue	Residential driveway	Vehicle fire	Electrical malfunction
Aug 18th	NW Crosby	Residential	Structure fire	Cigarette discarded in combustible container
Sep 8th	Alder Lane	Residential	Garage fire	Intentionally set using flammable liquid
Sep 18th	NE Kettle St	Apartment	Kitchen Fire	Unattended cooking
Oct 7th	SE Pioneer Way	Apartment	Kitchen Fire	Unattended cooking
Dec 9th	NW 3rd Avenue	Residential driveway	Vehicle fire	Undetermined
Dec 17th	NW 3rd Avenue	Apartment	Structure fire	Overloaded extension cord

Training



*Craig Anderson
Captain
24 years of service
FT Member Since 1995
Member since 1991*

Real-world, realistic training to prove our competency and our abilities continued to anchor the training conducted at the Oak Harbor Fire Department during 2015. “Crawl, Walk, Run” is our ongoing saying during instruction to newer personnel and/or new techniques. What motivates our daily training is the emphasis of the attitude to “keep on running” in order to continually stress the delivery of the

highest level of service to our community. Obtaining a certification acknowledges that our firefighters and officers have achieved a basic level of competency. It’s the ongoing training and continual time and effort given by our personnel that allows them to perform at the highest level of expectation at an emergency scene.

As the demands of the community for

emergency services increase, there is also an increase in the complexity and nature of the responses. The intricacies involved in these emergency responses have required us to prepare for previously unforeseen situations. What has not changed is the commitment to training by our personnel to be prepared to “keep on running” as we provide the highest level of emergency service to our community.

Training under realistic conditions at real-world speed provides the best preparation for the real-world emergency.



*Left: Captain Craig Anderson instructs during live fire training.
Right: Captains Baer and Heiserman training on Station 81 tower.
(OHFD Photos, May and September 2015)*

TRAINING *the essence of transformation*



Oak Harbor Fire Investigators help investigate a fire in Navy housing; they search through the burned remains of a garage looking for the cause and origin of the fire, marking and collecting evidence. (OHFD Photos, September 2015)

Oak Harbor Fire Department Firefighter Oath

*I solemnly swear
to perform my duties
as a Firefighter
for the City of Oak Harbor,
to the best of my abilities.*

*I will serve
our firefighters and officers
with respect,
with dignity,
with honor.*

*I will serve
the citizens of Oak Harbor
with courage,
with compassion,
with integrity,
regardless of the consequences.*

*I will uphold
the laws and constitutions
of the United States of America,
the State of Washington,
and the City of Oak Harbor;
so help me God.*

Training Activity

2015 Training Hours provided to personnel, by Activity Type

Total Hours Offered: **1,483.25** • Personnel completed a combined total of **6,192** hours in training

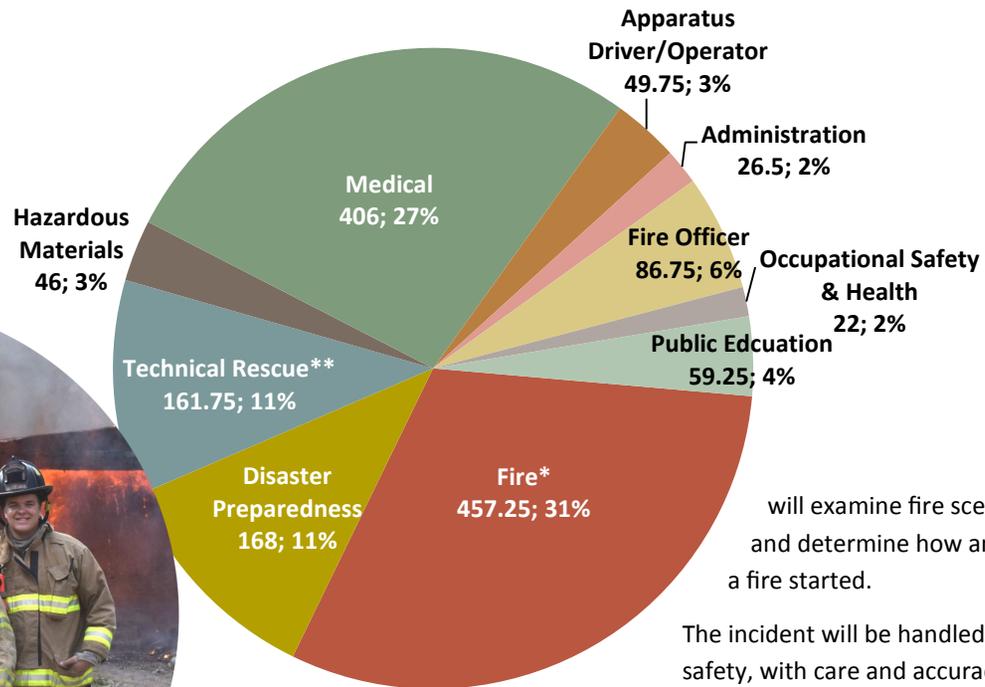
Our community remains safe and healthy because the Training Division ensures all fire and EMS personnel are knowledgeable, highly skilled, and experienced professionals.

Oak Harbor Firefighters, both paid-on-call and career, are highly trained and able to meet community needs in times of stress and trauma.

The chart above breaks down total training hours for the year by activity type. Naturally, the most time (31%) is spent on fire suppression training, as the lives of our personnel are at greatest risk while fighting fires. Twenty-seven percent is medical training, including EMT



certification training enabling us to meet the pre-hospital needs of the community. When you have an emergency, Oak Harbor Firefighters are able to arrive on scene quickly and safely



due to many hours of Emergency Vehicle Incident Prevention (EVIP) and Driver/Operator training.

We isolate and mitigate emergencies quickly without undue mess and destruction because we've trained extensively in all hazards and technical rescue.

Because Investigators have been trained, tested and certified, they

will examine fire scenes and determine how and why a fire started.

The incident will be handled safety, with care and accuracy following specific administrative, officer, fire code, and safety training.

Through our public education program, we spend time educating the community on how to live safely and prepare for emergencies.

Center photo: OHFD Firefighters pose during a live structure fire training. (OHFD Photos, L. Titherington, 2015)

Certifications



OHFD members who received certification (or re-certifications):

Graduated from IFSAC Accredited Island Recruit Academy, IFSAC Firefighter 1 Certification, and IFSAC Hazardous Materials

Operations Level Certification:
Ryan Merriman, POC Firefighter
Jim Reynolds, POC Firefighter
Brad VonHaden, POC Firefighter
(Completed Firefighter 1 and Haz-Mat Awareness)

IFSAC Fire Instructor 1

Andrew Moon, POC Firefighter

ICC Fire Inspector 1

Mike Engle, Captain

ICC Fire Inspector 1 (Re-Cert)

Craig Anderson, Captain
Don Baer, Captain

National Registry Emergency Medical Technician

Ryan Merriman, POC Firefighter

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

Kevin Frondoza, POC Firefighter
Zack Gifford, POC Firefighter
Andy Kiesel, POC Firefighter

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Re-Certification

Ray Merrill, Fire Chief
Tom Cross, POC Captain
Chris Garden, POC Captain
Jeff Heiserman, POC Captain
Paul Schroer, Captain
Andrew Carroll, POC Firefighter
Travis Stanford, POC Firefighter

Basic Public Information Officer

Laura Titherington,
Photographer / PIO

ICC: International Code Council
IFSAC = International Fire Service Accreditation Congress

Top: FFs on roof during training drill, June, 2015. Center: Oak Harbor Fire Department Recruit Firefighter Class of 2015 at a live structure fire training burn: Ryan Merriman (left), James Reynolds (center), and Brad VonHaden (right), May 2015. Bottom: OHFD Badge Pinning Ceremony, May 2015 (OHFD Photo, L. Titherington, 2015)

Facility & Fleet

It is not the most exciting topic, but it is essential. As the front line responder, our mission is to provide the best service possible to our city and citizens. It is the mission in maintenance to provide the best possible equipment.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) puts forth guidelines to constantly make responding to emergencies as safe for firefighters as possible. Unfortunately these guidelines are created because someone either got hurt or killed trying to do their job. As a result, all of our essential equipment is tested at least annually.

This includes all supply and discharge hose, self-contained breathing apparatus, ground ladders, and fire engine pumps. The ladder truck receives an annual third party inspection relative to safety and purpose. There are quarterly air samples tested from our breathing air compressor to ensure safe breathing air. Fire-fighting bunker gear is inspected and sent for cleaning and repair as needed.

Everyone is responsible for inspecting apparatus and equipment and reporting inoperative or inadequate equipment. A good pro-

gram is in place and personnel always look for ways to increase knowledge and improve the standard of readiness.

The maintenance division works closely with City mechanics who attend fire mechanic conferences and have a thorough understanding of our efforts to stay prepared to respond. They are meticulous and professional in what they do.

It isn't a frontline, glamorous job but there is pride and satisfaction in supplying our firefighters and officers with well-maintained equipment so they can provide the best service possible to our city and citizens.

FIRE HOSE TESTED IN 2015:

- 1.75" attack hose—75 pieces at 50 feet each. This includes the Marina hose.
- 2.5" attack hose: 105 pieces of 50 feet each.
- 5" supply hose—67 pieces

GROUND LADDERS TESTED:

- Extension ladders: 2 at 35', 5 at 30',
- Roof ladders: 6 at 14', 1 at 20'
- Captains ladders: 6 at 10'

APPARATUS is scheduled for annual preventive maintenance at City shops and maintained regularly at the Fire Department through daily apparatus checks and inspections

- 4 fire engines, includes annual pump test on each
- 1 aerial ladder truck; annual third party inspection and testing
- 1 Ford 550 rescue truck
- 2 command Chevy Tahoe SUVs
- 1 training/utility pickup truck
- 1 air trailer for filling breathing air bottles
- 1 fire investigation trailer
- 1 technical rescue trailer
- 1 spill containment/hazmat trailer
- 2 special operations trailers for mass casualty incidents
- 1 utility trailer
- 1 forklift
- 1 30KW diesel generator
- 1 diesel tractor truck
- 1 diesel flatbed truck
- 1 40' flatbed trailer
- 1 400-gallon potable water trailer



MAINTENANCE *Facilities Apparatus Equipment*

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE GEAR AND EQUIPMENT:

- 30 self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBAs) receive annual flow testing and as needed repairs
- Air bottles inspected and repaired as needed
- 45 sets of assigned PPE receive semi-annual inspection and as needed cleaning and repairs (repair/cleaning by qualified contractors)
- Approximately 45 SCBA masks are fit tested to assigned personnel annually as per NFPA requirements
- Boots, gloves, helmets; flash hoods are all replaced as needed
- Equipment such as flashlights, hand tools... axes, shovels, Halligan bars, EK-hooks, pike poles are cleaned and repaired as needed
- Portable, mobile and base radios receive repairs as needed
- Firefighting nozzles, appliances and large GPM nozzles are inspected regularly and repaired as needed
- Approximately 55 fire pagers are programmed and repaired as needed
- All medical equipment is checked daily and replaced as

necessary to include oxygen, pharmaceuticals, suction units, and AED's

- Each emergency response unit is equipped with laptop computers for address, prefire plans, hazmat reference, and dispatch information. Each computer requires updates and repairs as necessary
- Air monitoring equipment receives calibration and repairs as needed
- 5 thermal imaging cameras are maintained in ready status
- Technical rescue equipment (ropes, stokes baskets, and hardware) are inspected and maintained
- Various power tools including corded and cordless are inspected regularly
- Hazmat absorbent materials
- Salvage tarp repairs

GAS POWERED EQUIPMENT is essential to our mission and is inspected and annually serviced, these include:

- 10 Stihl chain saws
- 4 positive pressure fans
- 4 electric fans
- 4 Stihl circular saws
- 11 portable gas generators
- 2 power heads for Jaws

(OHFD Photos, L. Titherington, 2015)

- Various air-powered extrication tools

BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT:

- Hush breathing air compressor requires annual filter changes, quarterly air samples and necessary repairs
- Sprinkler confidence tests
- Alarm confidence tests
- HVAC quarterly maintenance
- Irrigation maintenance
- Annual truck bay door preventive maintenance
- Required annual fire extinguisher preventive maintenance
- Annual calibration of test gauges
- Load testing on backup generator and high wattage generators trailers
- Monthly generator checks on station 81 and ICOM
- Inventory and purchase of medical supplies

- Annual calibration of SCBA mask fit test machine

Building maintenance ranges from changing light bulbs, L&I hot water tank inspections, painting, cleaning gutters, and grounds maintenance to shower door repairs. All emergency backup generators are topped off with fuel regularly.

LED LIGHTING

As part of the 2015 citywide project to conserve energy and reduce spending, all lighting in Station 81 was converted to LED lighting. This included replacing all incandescent light bulbs and some fixtures in the interior and exterior of Station 81. The City received grant funding to help fund this project.





Command 8: Two 2004 Chevrolet Tahoe SUVs. Used by Command, usually first on scene. Carries supplies necessary for incident command as well as medical supplies, thermal imaging and photographic equipment.

Four Engines: Two 2007 E-Ones (E81 & E812) and Two 1998 Seagraves (E813 & E814) each equipped with 1500gpm pumps, hose, ladders, fans, tarps, air bottles, tools and enough medical and other equipment to operate alone for a limited period of time. In 2013, all engines (pumpers) passed the required NFPA 1911 annual 3-hour pump test.

Ladder 81 is a 1992 Seagraves aerial and carries volumes of equipment ranging from mass casualty medical supplies to ladders, ventilation fans, saws, lighting, salvage and rescue gear. Atop the truck is a 100-foot aerial ladder that is useful in reaching rooftops with limited access. NFPA 1914 requires and annual inspection of the ladder. The inspection takes an average of five hours and is conducted by a third party vendor.

Rescue 81 is a 2012 Ford 550 that entered

service in 2013 and is equipped with medical supplies, generator, lights, and water vacuums. It responds to medical calls, supports other apparatus, and pulls special ops trailers.

Spec Ops Trailers designed for specific response circumstances:

Spill Containment trailer—equipped for hazardous material response both in the sound and on the ground.

Confined Space Rescue trailer—equipped for rescue from tight quarters or precarious perches where rope rescue is necessary.

Air/Rehab trailer—houses an air compressor for on-scene SCBA bottle refilling and equipment to rehab working firefighters.

Mass Casualty Incident trailer—contains supplies and equipment for assisting in large scale incidents.

Crime Scene / Fire Investigation trailer—a unit shared with Oak Harbor Police Department, is equipped to assist in fire and crime scene

investigation in the field.

Support and Disaster Vehicles: Big Red truck, fire marshal van, training pickup, utility trailer, two tractor trucks, 40' flatbed trailer, diesel flatbed truck, fork lift, a mobile generator, and a 400 gallon potable water trailer ready for response.

Annual preventive maintenance and repair work is done on all apparatus. Much of the minor repairs are done here at OHFD while the annual servicing and major repair work is scheduled at City Shops. NFPA 1915 and 1071 stipulate accurate record keeping and high quality assurance when emergency vehicles need repair.

BIG RED 2000 Freightliner Truck entered service in 2014. It was received via US Military Surplus for no charge. Our talented staff transformed it from Army Green to Fire Truck Red. We then had striping added to match our fleet. (OHFD Photo / Laura Titherington, January 2015)



OHFD photos / Angela Braunstein and Laura Titherington



(OHFD Photos, L. Titherington, 2015)

Firefighters Association



Steve McCalmont
Firefighter, B Shift
Association President
25 years of service
FT Member since 2000
Member Since 1990



Shannon Holcomb
POC Firefighter
Association Vice-President
10 years of service
Member Since 2005



Genevieve Cox
POC Firefighter
Association Sec/Treasurer
3 years of service
Member Since 2012

The Oak Harbor Firefighters Association is a non profit 503(C) organization whose members are Oak Harbor Fire Department employees. It is a service organization providing assistance to firefighters and their families, department retirees, and the Oak Harbor community.

Oak Harbor Firefighters Association contributes to the safety, health, and economic viability of the community by allocating resources and support to Oak Harbor Fire Department's public education and public service programs. This is possible through monthly member dues and community donations.

Oak Harbor Fire Department members (both paid-on-call and full-time employees) pay monthly dues that fund Oak Harbor Firefighters Association events and activities.

Throughout the year we assist and contribute to members facing difficult times and joyous times. We provide plaques to retiring members and flowers for past family and member funerals. When a child is born, we provide a plant or tree for the family to enjoy.

We look forward to leadership from our association presidency serving again in 2016: Steve McCalmont, (President), Shannon Holcomb (Vice President), and Genevieve Cox (Secretary/ Treasurer).

Thanks to all the Association members for a productive 2015. These are some of the events we participated in:

- Annual Sweethearts Dinner — honoring our spouses near Valentine's Day.
- Centennial Open House at Station 81 in May — provided door prizes and refreshments.

- Sunrise Challenge series race
- Second Annual Family Toppins Party at Station 81
- Stashtober fundraiser for EOD Wounded Warrior Foundation
- Home Depot Safety Fair — distributed bike helmets to local children
- Holiday Shop-with-a-Hero at Wal-Mart
- Christmas present and Teddy Bear delivery to Oak Harbor neighborhoods
- Association Members' Christmas party

Note: Full-time firefighters and captains are also members of (and represented by) Oak Harbor Firefighters LOCAL 4504 IAFF, which is a separate organization from the Oak Harbor Firefighters Association.



ASSOCIATION

taking care of our community through service



CENTENNIAL
OAK HARBOR FIRE DEPARTMENT
OPEN HOUSE
 THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2015 • 2PM - 6PM
 STATION 81, 855 E. WHIDBEY AVE.

1915-2015 • CITY OF OAK HARBOR
 CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF INCORPORATION!

1851 ESTABLISHED **1915** INCORPORATED
 CITY OF OAK HARBOR

- Tour Fire Station
- Firefighter Demos
- Photo Display
- Safety Information
- Refreshments
- and more!

KICK-OFF EVENT FOR A YEAR OF CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS!

(OHFD Photos, L. Titherington, May 2015)

Social Media

Our presence in social media contributes to a healthy and safe community and offers the potential to make a positive impact on the community. And builds trust that will be critical in times of disaster.

Connect with us! We maintain a Facebook page and a Twitter feed to share news about Oak Harbor Department, safety information, breaking Oak Harbor announcements, and health and safety event information. Social media is two-way street, enabling us to interact with the public — if you have questions, comments or information to share, we're available.

When Oak Harbor faces a disaster our Public Information Officers will utilize every possible avenue to share information with the community, including posting to social media.

Half of the global population is under the age of 30!

Oak Harbor's population:

- Median age is 28
- 77.6% are under age 44
- 43.2% are under age 24

Social media is an excellent way to connect with and interact with our community. We hope you will join us!

 On Facebook find us at: <http://www.facebook.com/OHFire>

 On Twitter we're are @OakHarborFD or <http://www.twitter.com/OakHarborFD>

We currently have 368 followers on Twitter (a 72% increase over 2014) and 727 on Facebook (a 54% increase over 2014).

This effective tool enables us to reach many people in our community. 72% of adult internet users use Facebook; the number climbs to 82% for age 18-29 (Pew Research Center, 2015).

Social media has been integrated into our overall communications plan, however, one of our main objectives is to build credibility so that in times of disaster we will already be a trusted source of emergency services information — you will know we're available, active and ready with the data you need.

In 2015, our most popular post—reaching 8.1K people—was about fireworks safety and use. Other popular posts include a photo of OHFD personnel wearing green to support Dwarfism Awareness Month and Pink to support Breast Cancer Awareness. We posted a photo of a young boy who stopped by the station with his grandmother and asked if they could show their support for firefighters battling the Washington wild fires by holding a sign and waving to cars as they passed by the station; the post reached 3,370 people.



(OHFD Photos, 2015)

CONNECTION

leveraging technology to improve service delivery

HOW IS SOCIAL MEDIA USED IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT?

- Just one part of a much larger communication plan
- Keep the public updated with news and information
- User feedback via messages, wall posts, polls, etc.
- Available anywhere on any device
- Monitored during events
- Alert and warn in the midst of disaster
- Relief and recovery efforts
- Data Collection — what are YOU seeing and experiencing?
- Provides information to help all people prepare for emergencies, especially helpful for those with disabilities and non-English speakers.



(OHFD Photos, L. Titherington, 2015)

HOW AMERICANS USE SOCIAL TOOLS IN EMERGENCIES



Emergency Social Users

will take action based on social information



76% will contact friends to see if they are safe



37% will purchase supplies or seek safe shelter.



25% will download an emergency app



Mobile apps and social media are tied as the **4th** most popular source for emergency information during a disaster.



1 in 5 Americans have used an app for emergency info.



It's **BEST** to call **9-1-1**



American Red Cross



More than **76%** expect help to arrive within 3 hours of posting need to social site.

H21055 08/12

Emergency Management

Community based preparedness and planning allow us to manage potential hazards following a disaster event.

Being prepared and knowing what to do can help reduce fear, anxiety and losses.

Individually, we can prepare our homes and families to get through critical times. Community based preparedness and planning allow us to manage potential hazards following a disaster event.

Emergency Services is the disaster preparedness side of the fire department. The fire chief also serves as the City's Emergency Services Director (.90 FTE as Fire Chief and .10 FTE as EMS Director).

In 2015, the City experienced two weather related disasters—a wind storm in August and November. We continue to work closely with Island County Department of Emergency Management.

2015 Accomplishments:

- City Emergency Operations Center (EOC) utilized for management of Independence Day celebrations, and public events, including Whidbey Island Marathon and annual Home Depot Safety Fair.
- Participated in NASWI Oil Spill Training exercise.
- Island County Department of Emergency Management (DEM) utilized EOC.

- Active Shooter / High Risk Entry training and exercise conducted.
- Prehospital Grant utilized to purchase additional entry team protective gear.
- Unified Command and large scale disaster and response training continues.

2016 Goal:

Goal: Conduct an annual training exercise.

Objective: practice and evaluate the effectiveness of the CEMP and the readiness of City departments.

Emergency Services Financials

	Allocations	Expenditures	Balance	% Used
2015 EXPENDITURES	18,600.00	14,895.00	3,705.00	80.08%
2014 EXPENDITURES	5,700.00	3,387.46	2,312.54	59.43%

Emergency Services budget was increase in 2015 to include salaries and benefits for .10 FTE Emergency Services Director. In 2014, just \$1,000.00 was allocated for these expenses, they increase to \$13,925.00 in 2015. Without these expenses, the operating budget remains the same as in past years, approximately \$4,700, of which, just \$633 was spent in 2015

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
building service resiliency through emergency management



Island County Emergency Management information booth at the 2015 Annual Home Depot Safety Fair. Eric Brooks (on right in top right photo) discusses emergency preparedness information to Oak Harbor citizens and distributes educational materials. (OHFD Photos, A. Braunstein, 2015)

Year In Review

YEAR IN REVIEW

January

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 79**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 123.25**
- **ACTIVE SHOOTER WORKSHOP** with Island County DEM and FEMA.
- **EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN (EMT)** course (5-months) began for POCFFs K.Frondozo, Z.Gifford, and A.Kiesel.
- **ISLAND CO RECRUIT ACADEMY**, 5-months; began for 3 POCFF Recruits: R.Merriman, J.Reynolds, and B.VonHaden.
- **OHFD SAFETY COMMITTEE**



- Helped moved the PBY airplane for the Oak Harbor PBY Museum

YEARS OF SERVICE

- POCFF R.Rodgers - 41 yrs
- POCFF R.Lange - 6 yrs
- POCFFs C.Ching - 6 yrs



February

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 95**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 136.5**
- Annual **SWEETHEART'S DINNER** honoring spouses of OHFD firefighters/members



- Held a **BADGE PINNING** ceremony for new firefighters.
- **1 LATERAL POC FIREFIGHTER HIRED** welcome Dustin Amundson

YEARS OF SERVICE

- POCFF D.Martin - 13 yrs
- POCFFs S.Holcomb and J.Heiserman, and Admin Asst. A.Braunstein - 10 yrs



March

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 81**
- **TRAINING HOURS:**
- OHFD also participated in the **ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE**
- **FIREFIGHTER ANDREW MOON** received **LIFE SAVING AWARD** at City Council Meeting.
- **YEARS OF SERVICE**
- POCFF D. Wright - 22 yrs
- POCFF A.Carroll and POC Cpt T.Cross - 12 yrs



April

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 81**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 183**
- Support provided for **WHIDBEY ISLAND MARATHON & HALF MARATHON**
- Participated in **HOLLAND HAPPENING PARADE**
- Donated a **RIDE-TO-SCHOOL** to Broadview Elementary School
- Coordinated a **LIVE FIRE PRACTICE BURN** with North Whidbey Fire & Rescue



YEARS OF SERVICE

- FF S.McCalmont - 25yrs total (15 yrs full time)

May

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 108**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 185.75**
- **2015 ISLAND COUNTY RECRUIT ACADEMY GRADUATION** held at Station 81.



- **CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OPEN HOUSE** at Station 81: well attended.
- **S.A.D.D. DUI Presentation** at Oak Harbor High School
- Participated in Olympic View Elementary School's **CAREER DAY**
- Attended **WALK OF HONOR DEDICATION** on Pioneer Way
- **YEARS OF SERVICE:**
- POCFF R. Mirabal - 10 yrs
- POCFF V. Orellano - 2 yr



June

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 78**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 83.75**
- **ISLAND CO RECRUIT ACADEMY GRADUATION— FIREFIGHTER I CERTIFICATION**, three (3) POCFF Recruits: R.Merriman, J.Reynolds, and B.VonHaden.
- **WA STATE DEPT OF HEALTH (DOH) PRE-HOSPITAL PARTICIPATION GRANT \$1,341** awarded OHFD to help meet DOH requirements to provide prehospital services to the public
- **EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN (EMT) CERTIFICATION:** K.Frondozo, Z.Gifford, A.Kiesel, R.Merriman.
- **ANNUAL PUMP TESTING AT OHFD TRAINING TOWER:** Navy Region NW Fire & Emergency Services (NASWI), Central Whidbey Island Fire & Rescue, North Whidbey Fire & Rescue, and OHFD
- Held a **BADGE PINNING** ceremony for newly named **CAPTAINS**



- **2 LATERAL POC FIREFIGHTER HIRED** welcome James Anema and Jonathan Pollock
- **YEARS OF SERVICE**
- CPT D.Baer - 12 yrs

July

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 100**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 82.5**
- **ENTRY LEVEL POC FIREFIGHTER RECRUITMENT** began
- OHFD personnel participated in the **INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE**, crews were positioned by the fireworks display site and additional crews covered the City during July 4th festivities



- Joint OHFD / OHPD **INDEPENDENCE DAY BBQ** held at OHFD after parade
- Utilized **INCIDENT COMMAND TRAILER** during INDEPENDENCE DAY Firework display at Windjammer Park, Oak Harbor
- Island County **BURN BAN** begins, due to weather
- POCFF Brian Kidder resigned

YEARS OF SERVICE

- CPT C.Anderson - 24 yrs total (20 yrs full time)

August

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 144**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 60.5**
- **NATIONAL NIGHT OUT**, public education props provided for children, burn cell demonstration, literature provided with emergency resources, and an appearance by Smokey Bear
- Oak Harbor Firefighter Association held the 2nd Annual Frozen Yogurt Summer Social
- OHFD participated in the 2015 PIG FEST

Giving back to our healthy community



- Presented Fire Safety Information at Sno-Isle Library, Oak Harbor branch, **END OF SUMMER READING** program.
- 2nd Anniversary of OHFD's use of **SOCIAL MEDIA**. Find us at: www.facebook.com/OHFire and [@OakHarborFD](https://twitter.com/OakHarborFD) on Twitter

- In addition, OHFD provided an EMS station at the North Whidbey Island Sunrise Rotary Club **ANNUAL CHALLENGE SERIES RACE** and provided generators at the **NORTH WHIDBEY LIONS CLUB ANNUAL CAR SHOW**

YEARS OF SERVICE

- POC Cpt C.Garden - 29 yrs
- CPT M.Engle - 18 yrs

September

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 104**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 99.75**
- **CITY OF OAK HARBOR MILITARY APPRECIATION PICNIC** at Windjammer Park.
- **LATERAL AND ENTRY LEVEL PAID ON CALL FIRE-FIGHTER** testing: 13 candidates tested, 1 hired.



- Placed **MEMORIAL FLAGS** for 9/11/01 at Burley's Funeral Chapel



- Attended **9/11 MEMORIAL SERVICE** at NAS-Whidbey Island

- Island County **BURN BAN** due to dry weather ends. Permanent burn ban continues in City of Oak Harbor and it's urban growth areas

YEARS OF SERVICE

- POCFF D.Jansen - 35 yrs
- Chief R. Merrill - 25 yrs
- CPT P.Schroer - 21 yrs
- FF E.Klaszky - 6 yrs



October

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 108**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 150**
- **ANNUAL WELLNESS REQUIREMENT** for full time suppression personnel
- **NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK: "Hear the BEEP where you SLEEP"**



- OHFD also participated in **HOME DEPOT'S ANNUAL SAFETY FAIR**
- Attended the presentation of **9/11 WORLD TRADE CENTER STEEL** to Carpet One Floor & Home
- Oak Harbor Firefighters

participate in **STASHTOBER 2015** and earn donations for the EOD Wounded Warrior Foundation



- Wore **PINK OHFD T-SHIRTS** to support Breast Cancer Awareness
- Wore **GREEN OHFD T-SHIRTS** to support Dwarfism Awareness
- Engine 81 at Oak Harbor's Downtown **TRICK-OR-TREAT EVENT**.
- POCFFs Grant Bull, Zackery Gifford, Valentin Orellano, and Jon Pollock resigned

YEARS OF SERVICE

- Deputy Chief M.Buxton - 23 yrs

November

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 98**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 143.5**
- **CHANGE YOUR CLOCK, CHANGE YOUR BATTERY NATIONAL CAMPAIGN**, reminder to change smoke detector batteries
- Participated in the **VETERANS DAY PARADE**
- Participated in **REGION 3 FIRE INVESTIGATOR TESTING** in Skagit County



- Participated in the **ANNUAL NORTH WHIDBEY COMMUNITY HARVEST THANKSGIVING DINNER** at the Elk's lodge

December

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 97**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 70.25**
- **1 LATERAL POC FIRE-FIGHTERS HIRED** welcome Mark Soika



- Supported the **SHOP-WITH-A-HERO** annual event at Wal-Mart.
- **CHAUFFEURED SANTA** to Oak Harbor neighborhoods for gift deliveries.
- **26TH ANNUAL OHFD FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY** held at Station 81, honored firefighters and their families — Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest.

YEARS OF SERVICE

- POC FF J.Roberts — 19 yrs
- FF C.Hopkins — 5 yrs total (3 yrs fulltime)
- FF O.Haffner — 5 yrs total (2 yr fulltime)
- POCFFs J.Hammond, Ja.Jansen, and T.Walstad — 5 yrs
- POCFFs G.Cox, J.Fikse, A.Moon, and T.Stanford — 3 yrs
- POCFFs M.Fletcher, K.Frondozo, J.Jansen, A.Kiesel, E.Macapinlac and G.Nagel — 2 yr
- POCFFs R.Merriman, J.Reynolds, and B.VonHaden—1 yr



The Firefighter's Prayer

*When I am called to duty, God,
whenever flames may rage;
Give me strength
to save some life,
whatever be its age.*

*Help me embrace
a little child before it is too late
or save an older person
from the horror of that fate.*

*Enable me to be alert
and hear the weakest shout,
and quickly and efficiently
to put the fire out.*

*I want to fill my calling
and to give the best in me,
to guard my every neighbor
and protect his property.*

*And if, according to my fate,
I am to lose my life;
please bless
with your protecting hand
my children and my wife.*

— Author Unknown

Training Photos



Public Education Photos



HazMat Training



Training Photos



Goals & Objectives



Goal: Re-rate the City's insurance rating from a class 4 to class 3, per the Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau's standard rating scale.

Objective: A lower rating reflects the abilities and preparedness of the department to respond to emergency incidents.

Objective: Lower rating reduces property insurance rates.

Objective: Insurance rates for businesses and some residences may be decreased when the City has earned a lower insurance rating.

Goal: Sponsor six - eight Paid-on-call Recruit Firefighters per year to attend the Certified Recruit Firefighting Academy and certify to the IFSAC Firefighter 1 standard.

Objective: Increase the total number of paid-on-call personnel.

Goal: Continued effort in Public Education on fire safety and disaster preparedness.

Objective: Reduce loss and prepare for disasters that are likely to occur in the Oak Harbor area.

Goal: Continue certification process for Firefighter 2, Fire Officer 1 and 2, Fire Investigator, and Driver/Operator.

Objective: To maintain highly qualified personnel.

Goal: Complete a revised and accurate organizational chart of the fire department.

Objective: To develop and maintain the hierarchy of the fire department.

Objective: To maintain the vital positions and show the reporting structure of the department.

Goal: Design, fund, construct, and staff a new fire department facility in the southwest quadrant of the City.

Objective: Build a fire station to better serve the residents in the southwest quadrant of the City.

Objective: Provide for additional staffing at the existing station and to provide for around the clock coverage at the new fire station.

Objective: Be prepared for the anticipated growth in the southwest quadrant.

Goal: Purchase a 75-foot 'Quint style' fire apparatus.

Objective: To specify, and purchase a 75 foot quint ladder/fire engine to fulfill a Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau requirement to have two ladder trucks for the City of Oak Harbor.

LOOKING FORWARD

Preparing for the future Planning for success

Goal: Increase department staffing levels.

Objective: [option 1] Hire, as a minimum, four (4) career firefighters to staff Station 81 in order to provide 24/7 coverage on two (2) fire engines.

OR [option 2] Hire, as a minimum, six (6) career firefighters to staff Station 82 in order to provide 24/7 coverage at that station. Positions can be staggered on the hiring, 2 or 3 in 2015 and 2 or 3 in 2016.

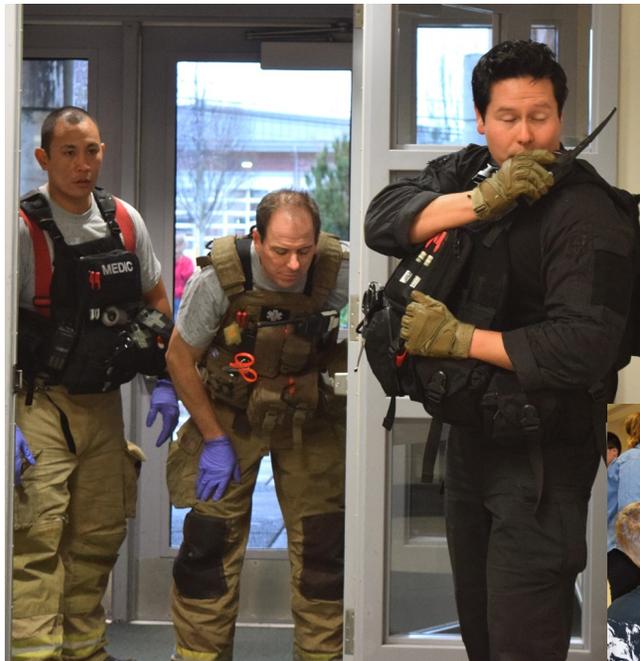
Objective: Hire a full time Office Assistant to assist with data entry, payroll, training, maintenance, and operational reports.

Goal: Replace the current MTR2000 analog base station / transmitter for the fire department. Purchase and install at ICOM a GTR 8000.

Objective: Replace the current MTR2000 analog base radio that is more than 15 years old. The current radio / transmitter will not operate on the new P-25 Federal guidelines as required for the digital band. Parts will become obsolete within the next 2-3 years. A Federal Assistance to Firefighters Grant was application was submitted in 2015 requesting assistance with this purchase. If awarded, funds will be available in 2016.

Goal: Purchase replacement and new firefighting tools and equipment for suppression activities.

Objective: To replace old and nearly worn out fire suppression tools and equipment to include portable circular saws, Blitz fire monitors, thermal imaging cameras, and ventilation fans.



HIGH RISK ENTRY TEAM TRAINING Photos these pages of a multi-agency Active Shooter Training Drill at North Whidbey Middle School on December 21, 2015. Coordinated by Island County Department of Emergency Management, this drill brought together law enforcement from Island County, Skagit County, and Oak Harbor Police Department, EMS personnel from Whidbey General Hospital, North Whidbey Fire & Rescue, and Oak Harbor Fire Department, Oak Harbor School District personnel, and volunteers from OHHS JROTC program (complete with stage-makeup gun shots and other wounds to help make the drill realistic). (OHFD Photos, L. Titherington, 2015)

Thank You Notes

Letters received from Oak Harbor Elementary School fourth grade students (September 11, 2015)

"Thank you for serving us and risking your lives and helping us. You are really good heroes and you save people from houses and put out fires. You also save the animals in forests. I think you are the best between police officers and soldiers. I know sometimes you have to leave your family and maybe your best friend dies. I feel sorry for you. I like you for reading this, maybe you can read one of your friends it might be about the same thing I said or not. I hope you like this letter and that you remember September 11, 2001." Sincerely, Kiersten

"You risk your lives to save us. You save people from fires in their home. You fight the fires and forest fires. You are very brave firefighters. In 911 lots of firefighters lost their lives on that day. That day was when the twin tower got hit from plane crashed" Sincerely, Ethan

"I know you guys risk your lives every day putting out house fires, saving people, saving animals, and putting out forest fires. I appreciate all you do. So I just wanted to take a few moments to tell you that! You guys die saving the life of someone you don't even know and I just think that

is amazing! When I grow up, I hope to be just like you guys." Sincerely, Catherine

"Thank you for risking your life for others that need your help. Thank you for saving the forest in Easter Washington. Without you Eastern Washington's forest would be burning until Winter. Thank you for saving people's houses." Sincerely, Tay

"Thank you for putting out big fires, saving our forests, and saving our house by putting the fires out. Thank you for risking your lives for other people. Also thank you for saving people. Thank you for being away from your family for a couple hours every day." Sincerely, Karima

"I love that you risk your life for us and I know that you help us a lot and I know that you help cats in a tree, you put out fires, and I know that you care about us or you would not be doing this for us and if you weren't there everybody's houses would be gone. So, I say, "Thank You" for all you do for us." Sincerely, Samantha

"Thank you for saving people from the fires that have started from something. I wanted to take some of your time to thank you for saving people's lives. I know there are fires somewhere else so you have to leave

your families and risk your life in burning buildings to save people so I wanted to say thanks." Sincerely, Makenza

"I know you risk your life, to save a lot of people's lives. You put out fires and you might get an emergency and almost die, but we will always remember you forever because you are special." Sincerely, Rylee

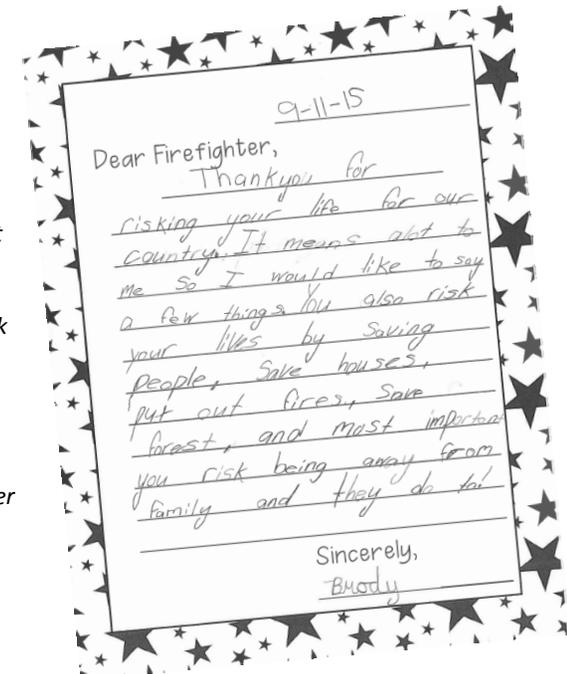
"I'm very glad you are working to risk your life for people in need. I think firemen like you are working extra hard do to the fires by Lake Chelan. I bet your family is proud. I bet your friends are proud! Thank you for literally everything." Sincerely, Gracie

"Thank you for taking a risk almost every day. And for all the people you help. And thank you for saving dogs, cats, and everybody's pets. And thank you for putting out fires and saving people, animals, and houses. You risk your lives to save us, so Thank You!" Sincerely, Jeremy

"I wanted to thank you for risking your life to save us every day. I am really happy that you guys worked together to put out the wild fire and saved the trees. I want to thank you for saving people

and houses. Thank you for everything you do. Without you everything would be on fire. Thank you." Sincerely, Meekah

"You are important to so many people. You help so many people. You are loved by lots of people. You risk your life for lots of people. You are a special someone. You save nature, you save lives, and you save homes. One time I saw a house fire next to the police station, and one time I saw a tree on fire. You and your team are very important." Sincerely, Kaylee



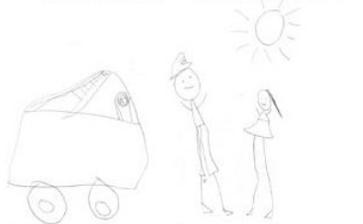
COMMUNITY

Support and appreciation from those we serve

Thank You Notes

OHFD,

Thank you participating in Olympic View Elementary's Career Day! The kids really enjoyed having you there and it was a great opportunity for them. We look forward to having you next year!
Whe- Ah- Carolyn



Subject: Another thank-you

Chief Merrill,
 I just wanted to take a minute to thank you and your Department for the constant support of Oak Harbor Public Schools. Today we took part in the state-wide earthquake drill. Captains Anderson and Schroer, Eric Brooks and a couple of Firefighters (sorry I've forgotten their names) helped us to monitor the drill, and offered some helpful suggestions for future exercises. Their presence helped make the drill realistic, successful, and helped the Principal and I to convey the seriousness of school safety. We appreciate the strong relationship between OHPS and OFD! Please relay our thanks to all involved.
 V/R

Brian Hunt
 Facilities Director-Oak Harbor School District
 360 279 5960 O 360 632 0507 C

Thank you for responding to our call out with such good will! We felt a little ridiculous but you were very patient and thorough. The gas tank we found behind the stage and I really appreciated the second look you took and the time to show us how to turn the gas off of the main line. The kids were very comforted knowing we have such supportive firefighters in our community.
 Thanks again!
 The Clarity Family.



Thanks For coming to our school
FIRE FIGHTERS
 From: Alyssa

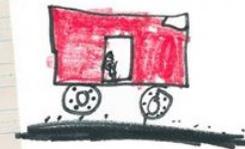


Thank You Firefighter!
 "The fireman saved the big guy from the big fire."
 Made With Love By,
 TLOB

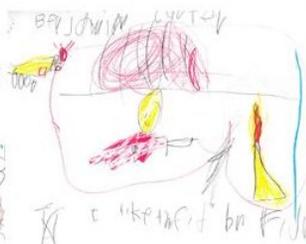


Thank You for the Stickers

Dear Fire Fighters
 thank you for giving me a sticker and erig me in your truck I wish I could go in it again. Thank you your friend
 Moxeyah



Many thanks to the Oak Harbor Fire Department and the precious firefighter who answered my problem with such prompt and efficient. Thank to the efficient staff.
 Marissa Beckman



Thank you for the stickers
 I like the stickers
 I like the stickers
 I like the stickers



I liked the fire fighter because he was wotr so it can mac the fir gun.



Thank You Firefighter!
 "A firefighter on his fire truck
 Made With Love By,
 EJA



Thank You Firefighter!
 "The fireman is on the truck
 hosing down the fire."
 Made With Love By,
 EJA



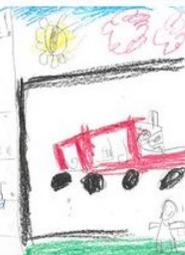
Thank You Firefighter!
 "The fireman in a hat has a hose."
 Made With Love By,
 EJA



Thank you for coming to our preschool and talking to them about fire safety. The kids love seeing the truck and putting out the "ju". They are still talking about how to stop, drop and roll! Thanks again!
 God Bless
 His Kids Preschool!

Thank you for letting me in the truck
 I like the stickers
 I like the stickers

I like the stickers
 I like the stickers



Received 3/19/2015
 4 long years ago we had a garage fire. You firemen came and put it out. For that we are ever grateful. Grateful too for helping anyone and everyone in need. I will pray for you. From Faith I. Eli (age 11). P.S. Thanks again for all that you do <3 Faith P.P.S. Don't forget to look at the back.

Barley Funeral Chapel
 September 1, 2005
 Oak Harbor Fire Department
 902 W. Middle Street
 Oak Harbor, WA 98277
 Dear Merrill,
 The staff of Barley Funeral Chapel would like to thank you crew for their help with the placement of Roger on Friday, August 26, for our 13 Memorial.
 2,877 Flaps were distributed, one for each life lost on September 11, 2001. This project would not have been possible without the help of your volunteers.
 Please extend our sincere thanks to your crew for helping.
 Most Sincerely,
 Cathy George
 Office Manager
 Doug Conrad
 Funeral Director



The **key message** of 2015's Fire Prevention Week campaign was to install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of your home, including the basement. Larger homes may need more alarms.



2015 Annual Report
Oak Harbor Fire Department

Copyright © 2016
Oak Harbor, Washington

Produced and presented by Ray Merrill, Fire Chief
Editor: Angela Braunstein, Administrative Assistant

Thank you to department personnel for division reports and statistics: Deputy Chief Mike Buxton, Prevention; Captain Craig Anderson, Training Division; Captain Mike Engle, Maintenance Division; Firefighter Steve McCalmont, OHFF Association; and Firefighter Otto Haffner, Benchmarking Data.

The Oak Harbor Fire Department acknowledges the following for photographs appearing in this report: Cheryl Barth, Angela Braunstein, Mike Buxton, and department photographer Laura Titherington.

An electronic version of this publication is available at www.oakharbor.org