2018 Annual Report

Arlington Fire Department

Chief's message

2018 proved to be a very successful year for the Arlington Fire Department. Working collaboratively with staff, labor and elected officials, we accomplished a great deal and should all be proud of our efforts. Our success's continue to amaze me and are a reflection of the dedication and pride we have in the department and community that we all share. We garnered several grants in 2018 which provided funding for staffing and equipment, and we formed a close working relationship with our neighbor, North County Fire, which we will continue to develop in 2019 and beyond.

This report contains a summary of our accomplishments and the data reflecting the service levels we provide. We are proud of where we have come and look forward to the future continually striving to provide the community with the highest level of service it can reasonably afford.

Be Safe,

Respectfully

Dave
Kraski

Fire Chief

Table of Contents

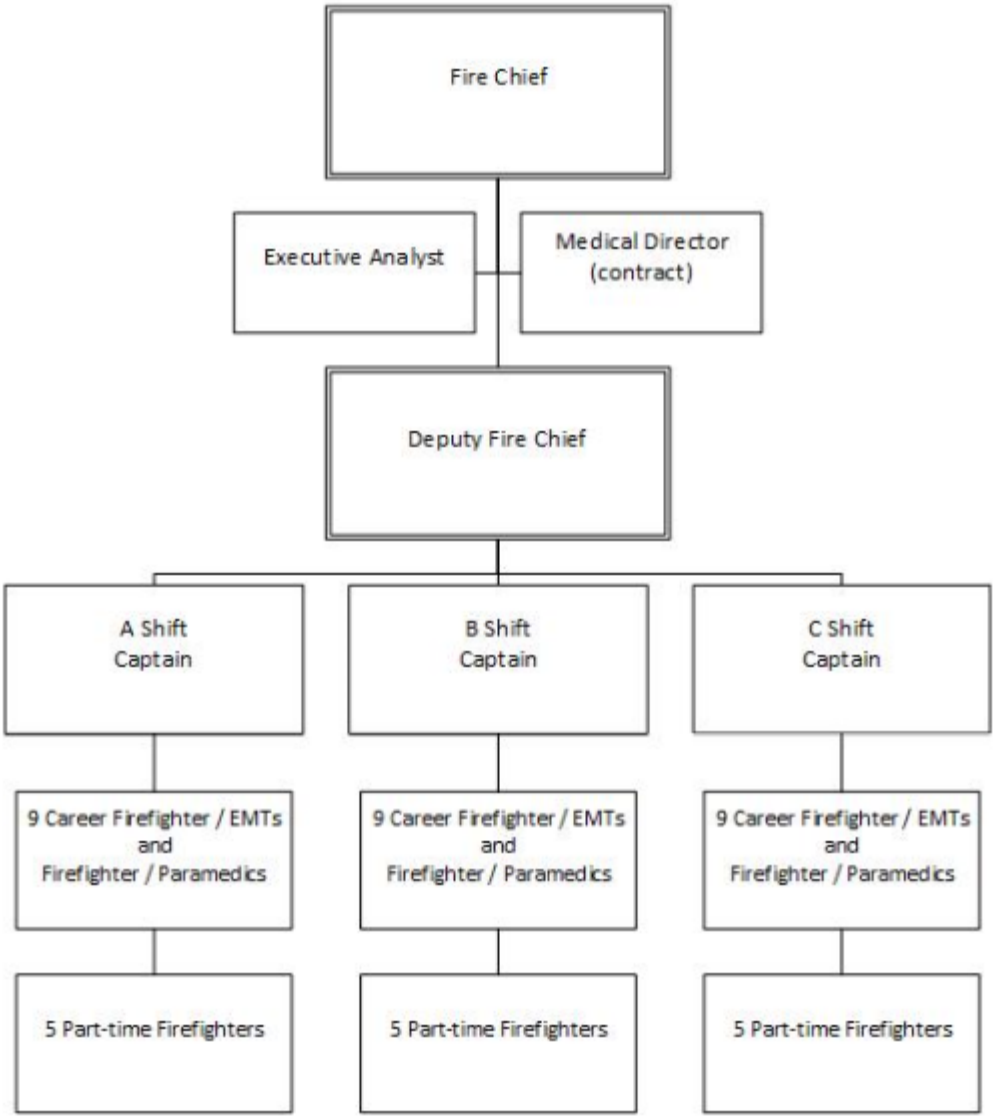
Introduction	03
Definitions	04
Policy Statement	05
Current Deployment	06
Community Expectations & Performance Goals	08
Call Types	09
Call Density	10
Unit Dispatches	12
Community Risk Assessment	12
Community Outreach	14
Year in Review	16

Picture taken February 2019

INTRODUCTION

As required by the State of Washington, I am pleased to submit this annual report of service level objectives in compliance with Chapter 52.33 RCW, also commonly known as HB 1756. This legislation, first passed in 2005, mandates that every city fire department and fire district "set standards for addressing the reporting and accountability of substantially career fire departments, and to specify performance measures applicable to response time objectives of certain major services." This legislation did not mandate what those standards should be so every agency is able to adopt those standards they feel are acceptable. The data and conclusions within this report represent our best effort at analyzing and interpreting the 2018 emergency response data for the Arlington Fire Department.

The Arlington Fire Department operates under a chain-of-command which has been established by the Mayor and City Council. The chain-of-command, or organizational chart , is currently as follows:



DEFINITIONS

The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Advanced life support" means functional provision of advanced airway management, including intubation, advanced cardiac monitoring, manual defibrillation, establishment and maintenance of intravenous access, and drug therapy.

(2) "Aircraft rescue and firefighting" means the firefighting actions taken to rescue persons and to control or extinguish fire involving or adjacent to aircraft on the ground.

(3) “Basic life support” means providing of treatment to sustain life that may include cardiopulmonary resuscitation, control of bleeding, treatment of shock, stabilization of injuries and wounds, and first aid.

(4) "Fire department" means a fire protection district, a regional fire protection service authority or a municipal fire department responsible for firefighting actions, emergency medical services, and other special operations in a specified geographic area. The department must be a substantially career fire department, and not a substantially volunteer fire department.

(5) "Fire suppression" means the activities involved in controlling and extinguishing fires.

(6) "Response time" means the time immediately following the turnout time that begins when units are enroute to the emergency incident and ends when units arrive at the scene.

(7) "Special operations" means those emergency incidents to which the fire department responds that require specific and advanced training and specialized tools and equipment.

(8) "Turnout time" means the time beginning when units receive notification of the emergency to the beginning point of response time.

POLICY STATEMENT

The Arlington Fire Department was formed in 1905 and has proudly served the community for 113 years. Today the organization is a combination of career and part-time members. From three fire stations we provide coverage to the nine square miles of the City of Arlington. Additionally we provide services to our contract partners including:

- Snohomish County Fire District #19 (Silvana) – Advanced Life Support services.
- Snohomish County Fire District #21 (Arlington Rural)– Advanced Life Support services district wide, Basic Life Support services to the south side of the district and fire suppression to the south side of the district.
- Snohomish County Fire District #24 (Darrington) - Advanced Life Support Services.
- Snohomish County Fire District #25 (Oso) – Advanced and Basic Life Support Services.

We have a diverse response area that encompasses all hazards including residential, commercial, industrial manufacturing, rural wildland areas, the Arlington Airport and the Stillaguamish River. Within the city limits we provide service to 19,300 residents, a daytime population of approximately 25,000, an estimated additional 20,000 contract area residents, and a total combined area of approximately 140 square miles.

Services provided by Arlington Fire Department include:

- Fire suppression
- Basic Life Support (BLS) Emergency Medical Services and transport
- Advanced Life Support (ALS) Emergency Medical Services and transport
- Hazardous Materials “Operations Level” all staff
- Hazardous Materials “Technician Level” three county team members
- Public education
- Fire prevention, inspections, investigation, and plan review
- Wildland Firefighting and State Mobilization Team capability
- Rescue Swimmer program

Current Deployment

The Arlington Fire Department utilizes three fixed fire station facilities to effect our response capabilities. Below is a brief overview of the fire station locations, capabilities, and staffing.

Station 46 is located at 137 North MacLeod, Arlington, WA 98223

Table: Station 46 Resources

Apparatus Identifier and Capability	Number of Personnel Assigned
Aid 46*	2
Brush 46*	2
Engine 46	3
Engine 46A*	3
Medic 46	2
Utility 46*	1

*Units are staffed when staffing allows

Station 47 is located at 6231 188th St NE, Arlington, WA 98223

Table : Station 47 Resources

Apparatus Identifier and Capability	Number of Personnel Assigned
Aid 47	2

Station 48 is located at 18824 Smokey Point Blvd. #104, Arlington, WA 98223

Table : Station 48 Resources

Apparatus Identifier and Capability	Number of Personnel Assigned
Ladder 48	3
Medic 48	Cross Staffed

MISSION, VISION AND PRIORITIES

Our Mission:

The mission of the Arlington Fire Department is to provide outstanding fire and emergency medical services to our citizens, businesses and guests with integrity, compassion and professionalism.

Our Vision:

Our citizens always come first! To continually be recognized by our community as the leader in providing world-class customer service.

Our Priorities:

Firefighter safety, incident effectiveness, and to reduce liability.

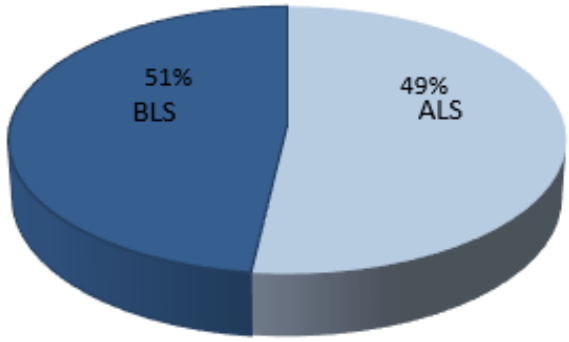
Emergency Medical Services continues to be our highest percentage of service requests averaging 70%. The remaining 30% of our call volume is comprised of fires, vehicular accidents and other emergencies. The standard for response times as adopted by the Arlington Fire Department is 4-6 minutes for the first arriving crew. We currently meet the standard just over 82% of the time. An additional 18% of our response times fall within 6 to 8 minutes. Response times will continue to rise as the community grows. Additional resources and changes in deployment will be needed in the next few years.

Measure	Average	90th Percentile
Turnout Time	0:01:42	0:02:49
Travel Time	0:04:35	0:07:26
Response Time	0:06:09	0:09:18

Turnout time is measured from when a unit is dispatched until they go enroute. Travel Time is measured from when a unit goes enroute to when they arrive on scene. Response Time is measured from when the first unit goes enroute to when the first unit arrives on scene. The Arlington Fire Department was dispatched to 5,110 calls in 2018.

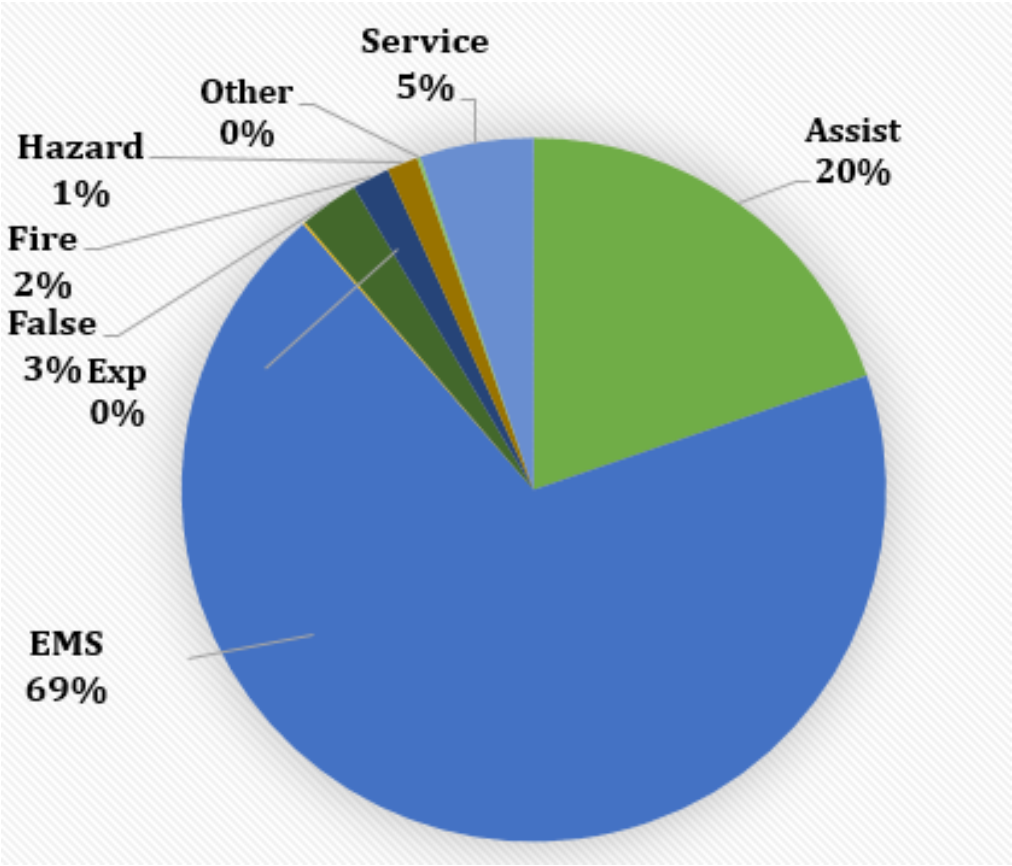
	ALS	BLS	TOTAL
Jan	136	141	277
Feb	110	109	219
Mar	125	116	241
Apr	100	125	225
May	119	117	236
Jun	93	124	217
Jul	115	117	232
Aug	112	95	207
Sep	103	88	191
Oct	97	116	213
Nov	107	134	241
Dec	102	119	221
Total	1319	1401	2720

2018 ALS/BLS TRANSPORT COMPARISON

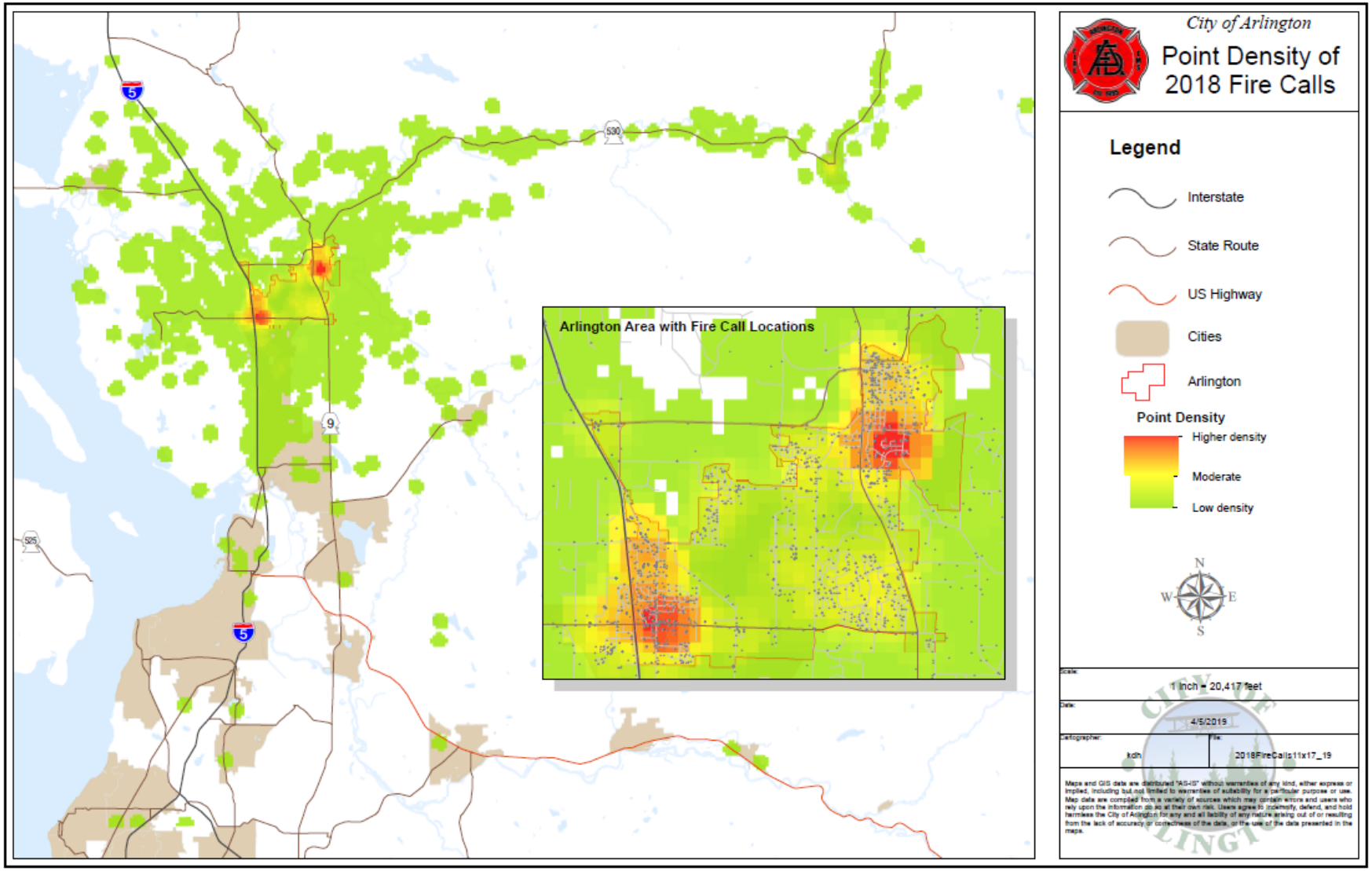


ALS BLS

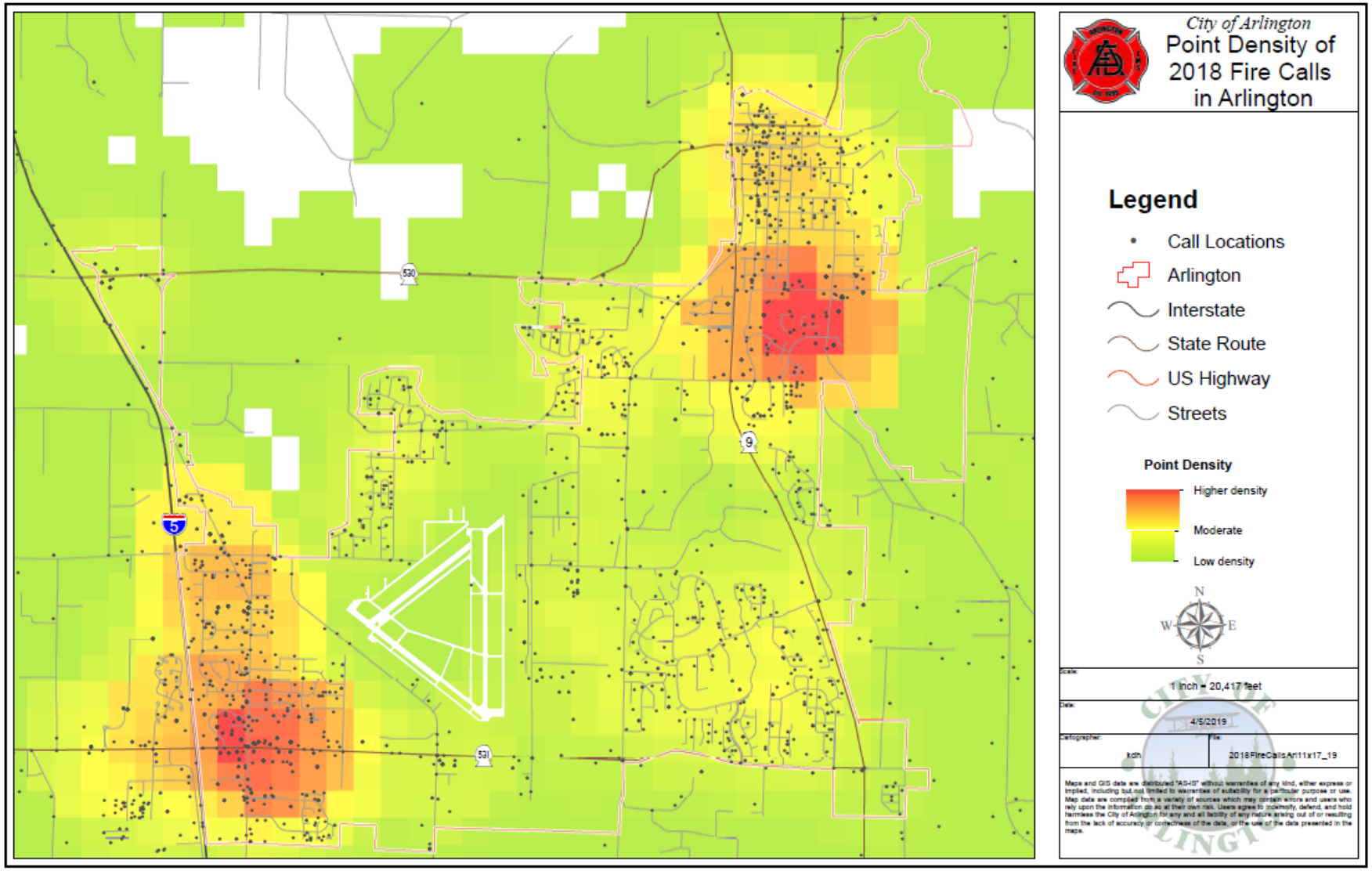
2018 Call Types



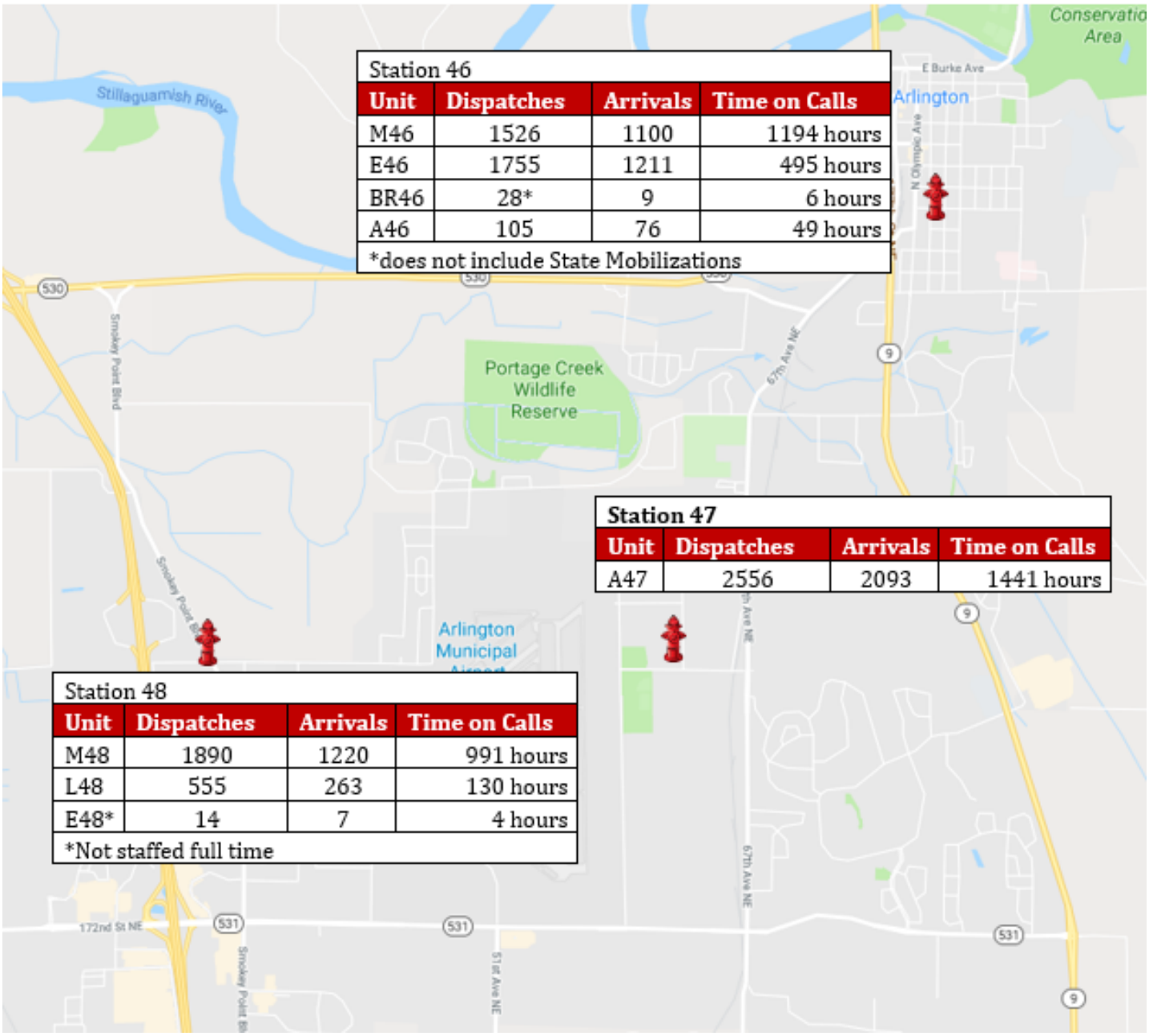
2018 incidents in our response areas



2018 incidents in Arlington



Unit Dispatches



Station 46			
Unit	**Dispatches**	**Arrivals**	**Time on Calls**
M46	1526	1100	1194 hours
E46	1755	1211	495 hours
BR46	28*	9	6 hours
A46	105	76	49 hours
*does not include State Mobilizations			

Station 47			
Unit	**Dispatches**	**Arrivals**	**Time on Calls**
A47	2556	2093	1441 hours

Station 48			
Unit	**Dispatches**	**Arrivals**	**Time on Calls**
M48	1890	1220	991 hours
L48	555	263	130 hours
E48*	14	7	4 hours
*Not staffed full time			

Community Risk Assessment

The City of Arlington's Hazard Mitigation Plan is part of the Snohomish County Hazard Mitigation Plan. It was updated in September 2015 and adopted by the City Council in Resolution No. 2016-002.

We have a diverse response area that encompasses all hazards including residential, commercial, industrial manufacturing, rural wildland areas, the railroad, the Arlington Airport and the Stillaguamish River. The hazards for the 2015 Snohomish County Hazard Mitigation Plan, Volume 2, Chapter 3, City of Arlington Annex, are ranked as follows:

Flood

Major flooding impacts Arlington directly and indirectly through inundation of property as well as transportation interruptions. Potential to impact Haller Well field.

Climate Change

Precipitation and flooding events are increasing in magnitude. Wildfire is also a threat due to increased temperatures and temporal changes to frequency of precipitation events. Threats are to human, wildlife and fish depending on Natural Resources.

Earthquake

May cause building damage, infrastructure damage to transportation, water supply and sewer systems, and physical and emotional threat to humans.

Severe Weather

Wind, rain or snow all present physical destruction and flooding hazards depending on the magnitude of the event.

Landslide

Damage can be site specific or adjacent to a location that can cause direct harm or indirect harm to municipal services such as water, sewer, and transportation.

Wildland Fire

Due to climate change, there is a potential for urban wildfires to impact structures, potentially first within the mapped low to moderate hazard zones.

Volcano/Lahar

The main threat from lahar would be impacts to the Haller Well field, Water Reclamation plant, and Island Crossing infrastructure and structures. Human life impacts should be limited due to ample notification.

Tsunami

Pending creation of County mapping (CW35) damage is unknown but may occur along river channel at Island Crossing.

Avalanche

No direct impacts anticipated to Arlington, but potential impact to Arlington's Public Safety resources or economic activity from events on Mt. Loop highway or SR 20.

Community Outreach

Public education and community involvement help to keep us connected with the residents of Arlington. Public education programs, while striving to provide accessible fire safety information to all Arlington residents, focus primarily on children, vulnerable populations, and historically underserved populations.

Fire station tours, classroom visits and community events all play a key role in public education. Through these various programs, we are able to convey safety messages in fun and meaningful ways. During Fire Prevention week in October we coordinated public education activities in all of our local preschools, elementary schools and surrounding child cares, reaching over 600 primary age children on fire safety.

Other notable events:

* Fill the boot
* Easter Egg Hunt
* National Night Out
* Touch a Truck
* School Carnivals
* 4th of July Parade
* Veterans Day Parade
* Christmas Parade
* Annual Santa Run - collected over $1,900 and 11,600 pounds of food!

Training continues to be one of the most important activities of the fire department after responding to emergencies. Each member of our department has mandatory training that is required by the state to maintain the necessary knowledge to complete their jobs. The Arlington Fire Department crews have met or exceeded the 120 hours of Fire/EMS training that is required by Washington State law.

We Remember

On March 22, 2014 at 10:37 a.m. the single deadliest landslide in United States history engulfed a community in Oso around Steelhead Haven. More than 900 local, state, tribal and federal responders worked with civilian volunteers, families and neighbors for the search and rescue operation. The mudslide covered an area over 1,500 feet long and 4,400 feel wide. It was anywhere from 30 feet to 70 feet deep. For more information see www.slidememorial.com. Arlington personnel were one of the first crews on scene and remained there for many days.

The Arlington Fire Department is one of the 18 departments in the state of Washington that has been honored to receive a World Trade Center artifact. The 13 foot, 4,300+lb. piece of steel was

brought back from New York on August 20, 2011. The steel beam is incorporated into a memorial outside of Fire Station 46 located at 137 N McLeod Avenue in downtown Arlington.

2018 Year in Review

2018 was a year of many changes.

JANUARY We entered the year with Chief Kraski alone in fire administration. He served in the "interim" role he had been in since September of 17 when Chief Stedman left the organization. Captain Brandon Asher resigned to take a position with Chelan Fire as Assistant Chief. We conducted a Captain promotional process to establish a list and backfill the vacancy created by Captain Asher. We began talks with North County Fire & EMS about the opportunities of partnerships. Those discussions continued and developed through the year.

FEBRUARY We were fortunate to recruit Theresa Ramey in February to the vacant position created by Stephanie Shook, who left to follow Chief Stedman to South County. We worked with Systems Design, our billing agency for EMS, to increase our EMS transport rates to be more in line with other agencies. We submitted a FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant for three new Power Lift Cots for our primary EMS vehicles. Council approved $125,000 for the unscheduled emergency purchase of a new Basic Life Support Transport unit.

March Conducted Active Shooter training with the Arlington and Marysville Police Departments. We participated in the City Council retreat emphasizing funding for public safety, and a multi-year plan moving forward. The Ambulance Utility Fee arose from these focused efforts. Joseph "JJ" Wakefield was sworn in as an official full-time member of our organization to backfill the spot created by Captain Asher's vacancy. Jason Brisson was promoted to Captain.

April We continued discussions with North County Fire & EMS on future partnerships and had our first "official" meeting with elected officials leadership. We launched the Arlington Fire Department Rescue Swimmer program. We continued working collaboratively with the management staff about how the Ambulance Utility Fee will be scaled and presented. Finally, we submitted a FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Safer Grant for three new Firefighter/EMT positions.

May We began preparing equipment and personnel for the wildland fire season. We met with the Washington State Survey and Rating Bureau (WSRB) regarding the city's current rating and discussed how to increase at our next evaluation in the fall of 2019. We met with several neighboring agencies to discuss the amount of mutual aid given and received. Five members of the department completed the rigorous West Pierce County Fire Rescue Swimmer Program and are now certified rescue swimmers: Congratulations Captain Kirk Normand, Thomas Jackson, Chris Peterson, Andrew Shannon and Sam Johnston.

June The month started with the Arlington IAFF Union Local #3728 conducting the annual Fill the Boot event raising thousands of dollars for Muscular Dystrophy. Staff responded to an unusual arson fire and fatality incident in the contracted area of Fire District #21. Firefighter recruit JJ Wakefield graduated from the Snohomish County Fire Training Academy.

July July was a busy month for the fire department with the 4th of July events and the Arlington Fly-In at the airport. Firefighter/EMT Brian Price graduated from paramedic school at the University of Washington Harborview Medical Center in June after 10 months of extensive training. The department's participation in the paramedic training program was made possible in part with the support of the Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians that provided the monetary funding, and the Arlington IAFF Local No. 3728 that allowed the position to be backfilled by a member of the department. The department was notified of the successful grant for our EMS Power Lift Cots, $124,000. We received notification of a successful Assistance to Firefighters Regional Grant with Camano Island Fire and North County Fire for new Self Contained Breathing Apparatus, $800,000.

August Arlington City Council approved the Ambulance Utility Fee to provide a sustainable funding source for the City's EMS service. Arlington Police and Fire hosted and participated in National Night Out events throughout the city. We participated in several state mobilizations for wildland fires in 2018. During the last state mobilization, Paramedic/Firefighter Nich Sacha was successful in completing his Strike Team Leader certification. The department was notified of the successful Assistance to Firefighters Grant SAFER award for three new firefighter/EMT's for $789,000 over three years. Department personnel assisted our neighboring agencies with the Festival of the River and Summer Meltdown public events, providing additional Advanced Life Support Services. We continued regional discussions with North County Fire & EMS and began drafting EMS contracts for all our neighboring agencies to whom we provide contract services. We replaced the department utility truck.

September We negotiated a new and final three-year lease for Fire Station #48. Haller Middle School students were hosted at Fire Station #46 for a special presentation on 9/11 and visited the City's 9/11 Memorial. A new entry-level hiring list for the SAFER grant positions was established. Participation began in the GEMT (Ground Emergency Medical Transport) program for Medicaid supplement. We picked up the new BLS unit from Braun Northwest and placed it in service. National Hose Testing tested our fire hose. We began discussions with Fire District #21 regarding the cost for fire protection on the south side of the district. We also received funding to acquire a LUCAS CPR device from the Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians.

October Target Solutions, a new software training documentation program, was implemented. We conducted our first combined EMS Run Review with North County Fire & EMS personnel. We began product presentations and trials with SCBA vendors for the regional grant received earlier in 2018. Conducted Chief's interviews for the three new SAFER grant positons. Negotiations on a successor collective bargaining agreement with IAFF Union Local #3728 began this month. The three new STRYKER EMS Power Lift Cots were placed in service. We began finalizing the agreements for the shared services of a Medical Services Administrator and a Fire Marshal with North County Fire & EMS. All four bay doors at Fire Station #47 were replaced.

November EMS Contracts for Fire Districts 19 (Silvana), 21 (Arlington Heights) and 25 (Oso) were approved by Arlington City Council. We continue to work through the process with Darrington Fire. We participated in the Nick of Time Event at Arlington High School, where approximately 500 students received a cardiac screening and learned CPR. The reserve ladder truck was surplussed and sold to the Salem, West Virginia Fire Department. We conducted Firefighter/Paramedic interviews in preparation for the shared service with North County Fire & EMS for a Medical Services Administrator.

December The annual Santa Run Food Drive was held. The 10-day food and fundraiser for the Arlington Community Food Bank collected $1,900 and 11,600 pounds of food. Thanks to Arlington IAFF Union Local #3728 and all staff for participating. Chief Kraski was officially promoted to the position of Fire Chief after serving in the acting capacity for 15 months. We ended the year with 5,110 calls for service, continuing to strive to provide the community with service.

We continue one of our department's goals, which is to develop and grow our staff in the fire service. Many of our part-time staff fulfilled their career goals by becoming full-time firefighters at Arlington or other departments in Washington State. Giani Bigelow and Jordan Misocky were hired full time by Graham Fire. Rein Frankie was hired by Seattle Fire. Shaun McGrath was hired by Shoreline Fire and Chase Milless was hired by Marysville Fire. Aaron Boede, Zach Hanson and Paul Lizarraga were all hired full-time at Arlington thanks to the SAFER grant.

Arlington Fire Department
6231 188th St NE
Arlington, WA 98223
Arlingtonwa.gov/Fire