

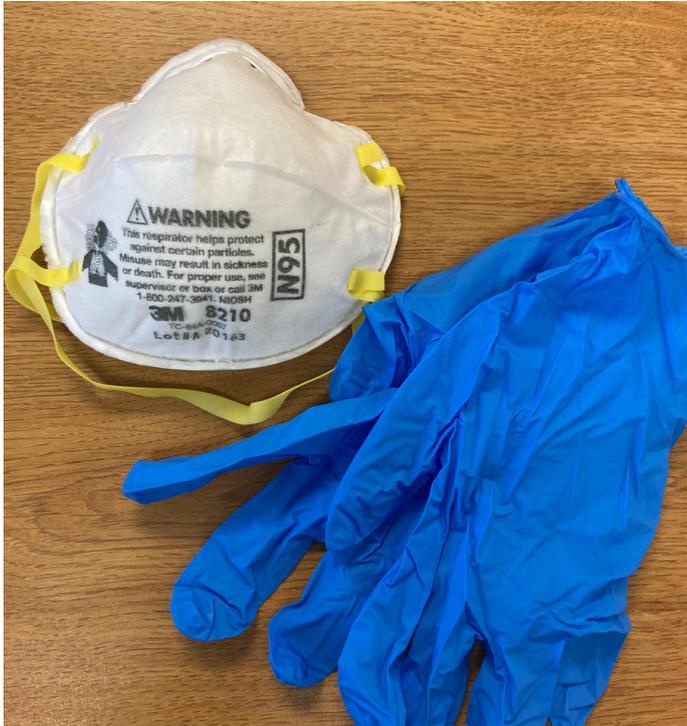
ARLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT



2020 ANNUAL REPORT



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A WORD FROM THE CHIEF

The Arlington Fire Department was formed in December of 1905. 115 years later, we may have just completed one of the most profound years in our existence. The year could be summarized in just a few words, COVID-19 and Regional Fire Authority.

In mid-February, we began to hear about a virus originating in Wuhan China which was rapidly spreading throughout the region. As the virus began to globalize, the first confirmed case in the United States was in our own county. The Snohomish Regional Fire Authority transported the first COVID positive patient to Providence Medical Center in Everett.

What occurred over the following weeks, months, and continues today, is one of the great strengths of the American fire service. Unity. Snohomish County fire departments came together, created safety response plans, collaboratively acquired personal protective equipment needed for our personnel, and faced the pandemic united, working outside our normal jurisdictional boundaries. We had not seen this level of collaborative unity since the Oso Landslide in 2014, a federally declared disaster.

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Our journey through the COVID-19/Coronavirus era continues today with a vaccination site at the Arlington Airport. In closing on this subject I need to pay the utmost respect to our men and woman who respond to 9-11 calls everyday for the community representing the Arlington Fire Department. As businesses and schools closed, people began to work distantly and in general hid in the bunkers of their homes, afraid of being near another person or public space. Our personnel continued to show up each day, don additional protective clothing and provide the great service we always have. My hats off to them, they rose to the occasion.

In the years leading up to 2020, the City of Arlington had been exploring avenues for transitioning Fire and EMS services away from the City in an effort to secure sustainable funding. During 2018 and 2019, we strengthened our relationship with our neighboring agency, North County Regional Fire Authority, in preparation. Now as the COVID-19 pandemic consumed all forms of media, conversation and attention, how could we continue? Was it the right time? Would the community support us?

A group of elected officials, city staff, and fire department staff, with representation from the labor group, met 16 times formally during the year and spent hundreds of hours of staff time exploring if annexing the Arlington Fire Department into the North County Regional Fire Authority was the right decision. We decided it was, and in November of 2020, the Arlington City Council unanimously voted to place the measure before the voters. In February of 2021, the community supported the measure with an amazing 89% approval rating!

This is a bittersweet outcome, bringing the Arlington Fire Department to an end after 115 years serving the community. Looking forward, it is the right decision for the next 100 years and I look forward to the opportunities that lie ahead. Together we will be stronger.

We welcomed some new staff to the department in 2020, Julian Gilman and Brayden Nealy joined us as entry-level firefighters having completed the Snohomish County Fire Academy, as well as many new part-time members. We broke ground on the new fire station #48. It will combine fire station #47 and the current station #48. We look forward to that project completing and transitioning to occupancy in the fall of 2021.

Community development is occurring at a rate we have never seen before. Arlington is quickly transitioning to a light industrial and manufacturing destination as millions of square feet of commercial occupancies are completed or under construction. An explosion of multi-family housing is occurring throughout the community, with several large projects completed or under construction. In 2020, we also learned that the retail giant Amazon will be constructing a 2.8 million square foot procurement center south of the airport over the coming years.

As I mentioned above, COVID consumed much of our time in 2020, but the success of the organization falls each day upon our line staff who continue to provide fire and emergency medical services to the community.

Collectively we succeed. It is an honor to lead the organization and serve the City of Arlington and its residents.

DAVE KRASKI
FIRE CHIEF



We have proudly served the community of Arlington for 115 years

POLICY STATEMENT

Today, the department is a combination of 30 career and approximately 20 part-time members. From three fire stations, we provide coverage to the ten 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 district wide. Basic Life Support and Fire Suppression to the south side of the district.
- Snohomish County Fire District #25 (Oso) Advanced and Basic Life Support Services.

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

We have a diverse response area encompassing 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 20,000 residents, an estimated 20,000 contract area residents, and a total combined area of approximately 100 square miles.

Services provided by the Arlington Fire Department include:

- Fire suppression
- Basic Life Support (BLS) Emergency Medical Services and transport
- Advance Life Support (ALS) Emergency Medical Services and transport
- Hazardous materials "Operations Level" all staff, three Technician Level members.
- Public Education
- Fire prevention, inspections, investigation, and plan review.
- Wildland Firefighting
- Rescue Swimmer
- Community Resource Paramedic



CURRENT DEPLOYMENT

The Arlington Fire Department responds from three fire station facilities to provide service to our community.

STATION 46

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

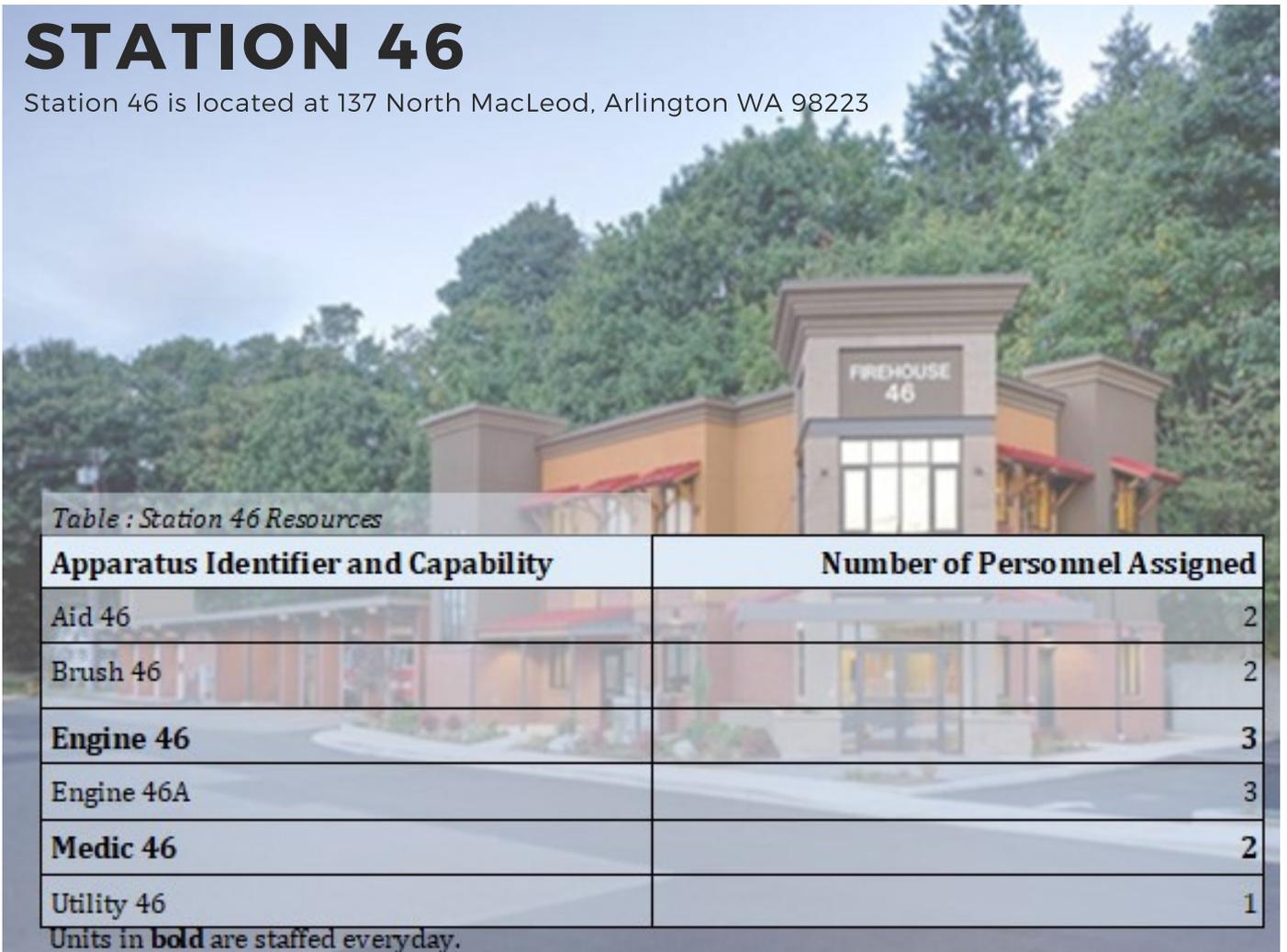


Table : Station 46 Resources

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 in **bold** are staffed everyday.

STATION 47

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

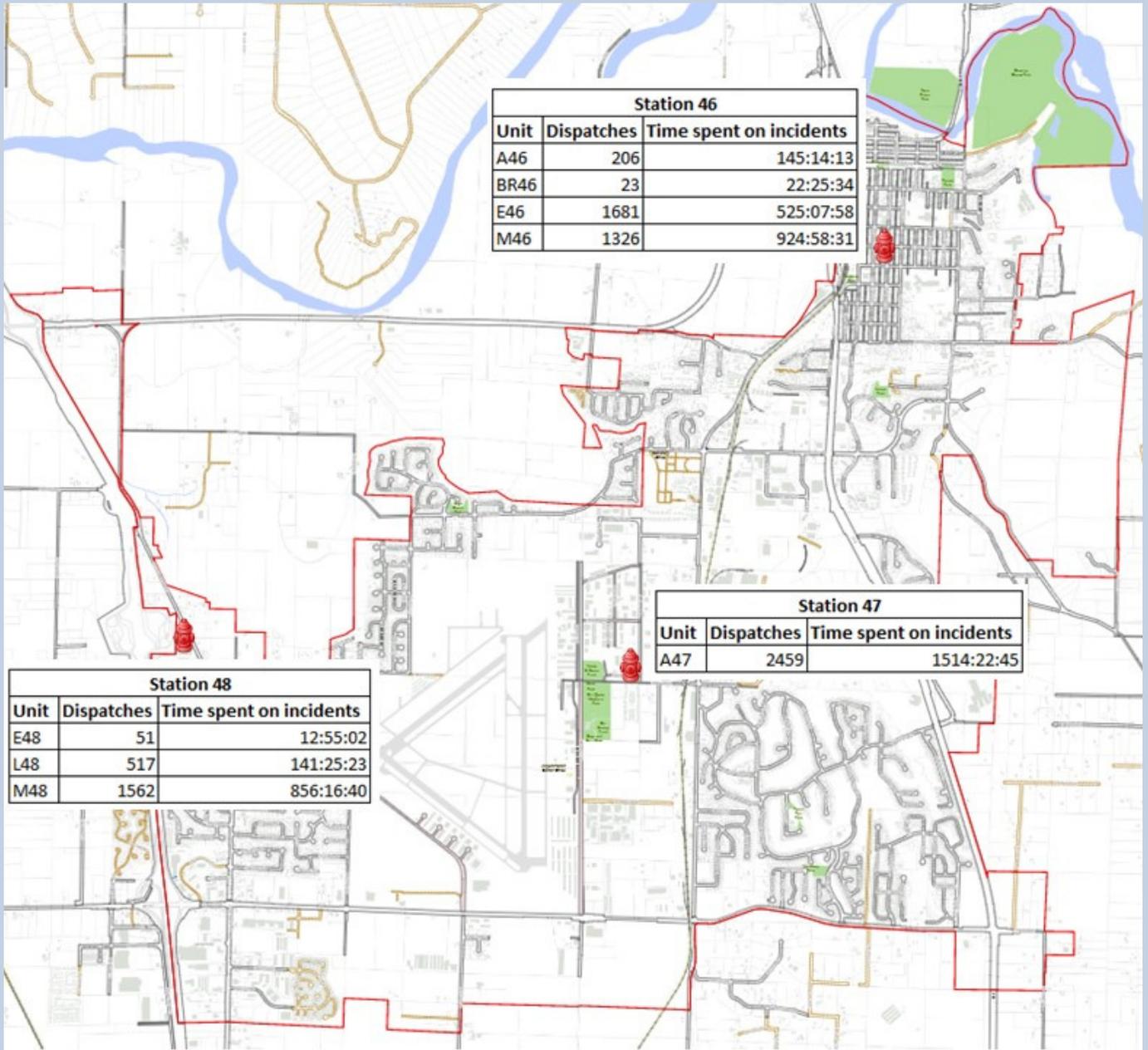


Station 48 is located at 18824 Smokey Point Boulevard #104, Arlington WA 98223

Table : Station 48 Resources

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

Unit Dispatches





COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS AND PERFORMANCE GOALS

MISSION, VISION & 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.

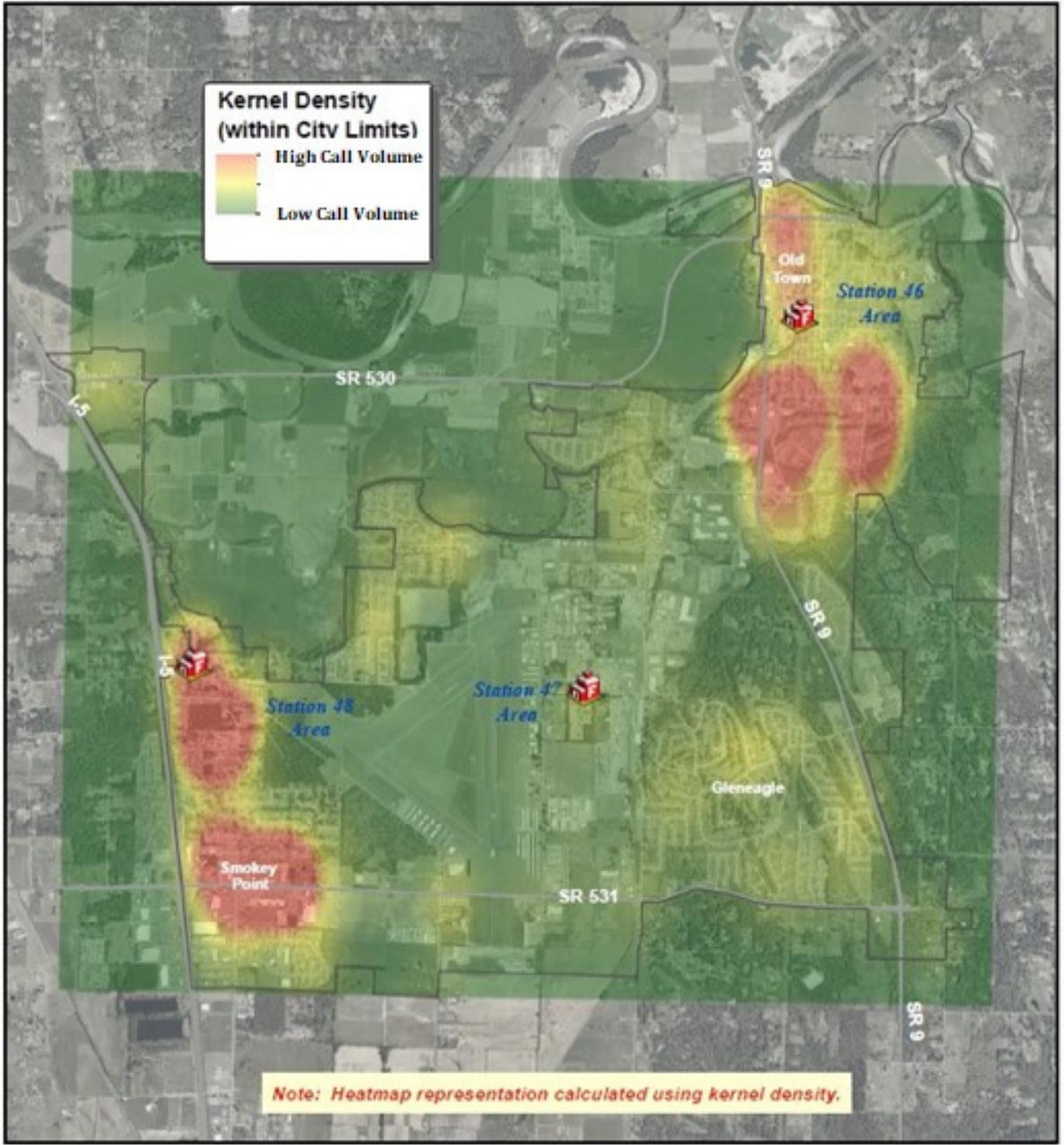
Our Priorities

Firefighter safety, including effectiveness and to reduce liability.

Emergency Medical Services continues to be our highest percentage of service requests each year. 76% of our calls in 2020 were EMS. The remaining 24% of our call volume is comprised of fires, vehicular collisions 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 that standard 76% of the time. And additional 24% of our response times fall within 6-8 minutes. The 90th percentile shows our times 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	01:44	02:52
Travel Time	04:09	06:54
Response Time	05:40	08:37

ARLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT



Note: Heatmap representation calculated using kernel density.

<p>Legend</p>   Fire Stations  City Area  N <p>Aerial 2017</p> <p><small>Maps and GIS data are distributed "AS-IS" without warranties of any kind, either express or implied, including but not limited to warranties of suitability for a particular purpose or use. Map data are compiled from a variety of sources which may contain errors and users who rely upon the information do so at their own risk. Users agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the City of Arlington for any and all liability of any nature arising out of or resulting from the lack of accuracy or correctness of the data, or the use of the data presented in the maps.</small></p>	<p>City of Arlington EMS Response Heat Map 2020</p>	
	<p>Scale: 1 inch = 3,500 feet</p>	<p>File: Station_Distr8.5x11portrait_21</p>
	<p>Date: 2/11/2021</p>	<p>Cartographer: akc</p>



CALL TYPES

- MEDX** - Upgraded Medical Response
- MEDIC**- Medic Response
- BLS** - Basic Life Support Response
- BLSN** - Basic Life Support Non-code response

TOTAL INCIDENTS
DISPATCHED: 4723

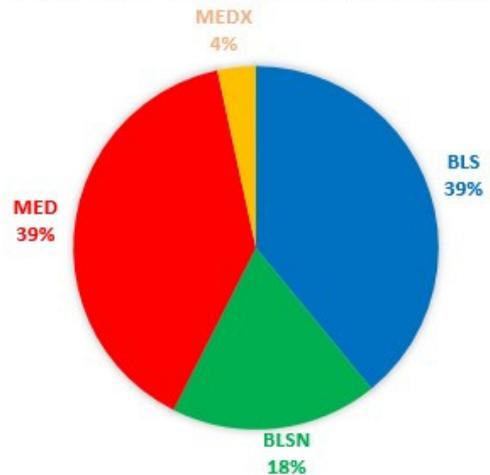
DAILY INCIDENT AVERAGE: **13**

TOTAL UNIT DISPATCHES:
8153*

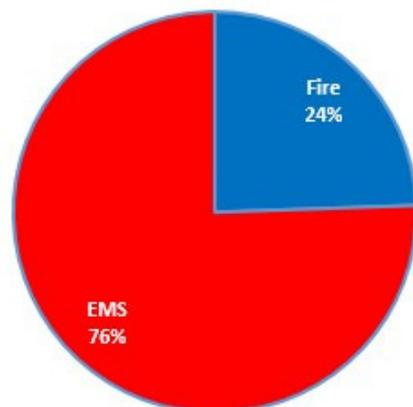
DAILY UNIT DISPATCH
 AVERAGE: **23**

*Multiple units respond to the same call

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES CALLS



AFD 2020 FIRE/EMS CALLS



By The Numbers

42%

*The percentage of calls
dispatched ALS in 2020.*

15%

*The percentage of ALS
transports in 2020.*

58%

*The percentage of calls
dispatched BLS in 2020.*

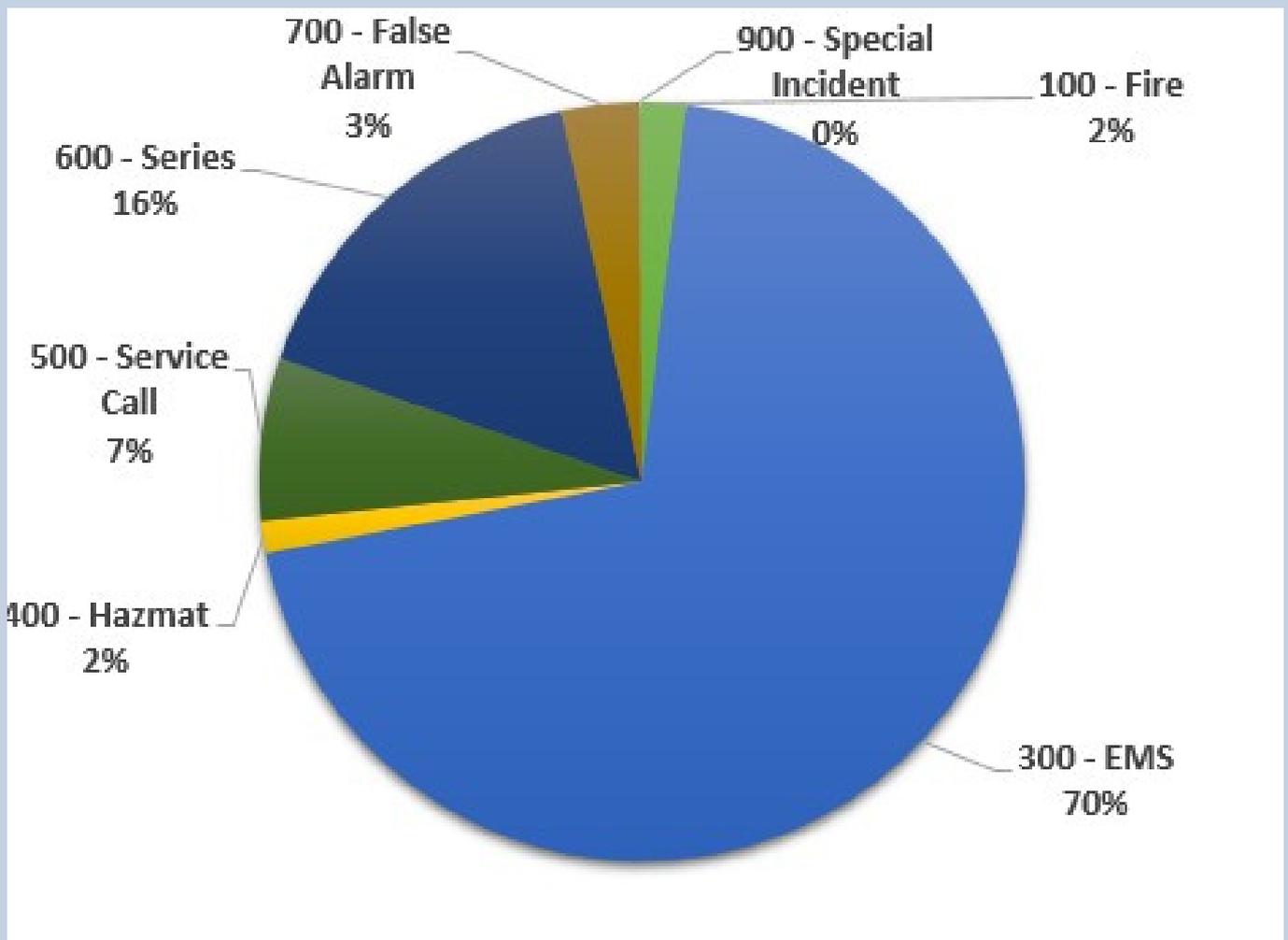
85%

*The number of BLS
transports in 2020.*

CALL VOLUME BY NFIRS INCIDENT TYPE

NFIRS = National Fire Incident Reporting System

The National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) is a reporting standard that fire departments use to uniformly report on the full range of their activities, from fire to Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to severe weather and natural disasters.



FIRE TRAINING



2020 FIRE TRAINING

Accomplishing training in 2020 proved difficult due to the Covid Pandemic, but we were still able to complete a record amount. 6,600 hours of training were completed, a 2,200 hour increase from 2019.

Crews spent a significant amount of time training on-site at the acquired structure off 172nd. This is a departure from the norm, as we usually don't have the opportunity to perform realistic training on a regular basis.

We spent the beginning of the year evaluating our skill set and looking for ways to improve. Initial attacks on a single-family residence were our focus, while incorporating VEIS (Vent, Enter, Isolate, Search), and RIC (Rapid Intervention Crew) training. During the initial company evaluation, it was apparent that we needed to improve our hand-line deployment and work on entering the structure in a quicker, more efficient manner.

"6,600 hours of training were completed, a 2,200 hour increase from 2019."

Noticeable improvements were made during the second company evaluation and VEIS was proven to be more efficient during the scenario. With hoarding conditions becoming more prevalent and the "close before you doze" campaign gaining significant momentum, we must adjust our tactics to ensure that we are searching all defensible/survivable space. We need to reevaluate what "fully involved" and "defensive fire conditions" really mean. We need to be "appropriately aggressive" and fight fires using appropriate strategy and tactics.

Having the ability to train with our neighboring departments was a high priority and we were able to accomplish that goal. Cooperative efforts between the City of Arlington, North County Regional Fire Authority and Arlington Rural Fire Department allowed crews to become familiar with each other's operations and to cost share from the administrative side. Working cooperatively allowed for a roving engine company during large scale training events with each organization incurring 1/3 of the cost.

Fire training in 2020 was a great success due to the cooperative efforts of the departments and the Stillaguamish Tribe for the use of the acquired structure.

EMS TRAINING



2020 EMS TRAINING

2020's pandemic presented EMS with great changes to response and personnel safety. Initially personal protective equipment (PPE) was in dire demand. Through the work of collaborative efforts of the Snohomish County Chief's, DEM, Public health and others, we were able to provide our first line staff with the necessary PPE in order to respond safely. At the County chief level, we met daily to discuss ways to best prepare our staff for responses. We have a county playbook that has been used since inception, which describes response, PPE, PPE conservation measures, decon, and all other personal protective measures. With this collaboration of all departments we have been able to use best case medicine, PPE and response. Our response plan is a living document that is updated using current data and science. Our crews have adjusted throughout each change and have been successful throughout. We have had NO covid positive employees within AFD. This is a testament to the hard work and sincerity of our workforce.

2021 will come with all new challenges. Vaccinating our citizens will be our number one priority. We look forward to the merger, as we have already been working together to challenge the new year. Moving forward we have been looking toward continued joint training, supply sharing/purchasing on a large scale basis to save money, and slowly cross shifting crews. I believe most members are very open to working with other members in different locations. This will be excellent for young members to be mentored by the seniors. As well, we have created a mobile EMS training unit where MSO's will be able to come to stations and do impromptu training. This unit has been stocked with all out dated medication and equipment that otherwise would have been deemed garbage. This will allow for quick, on your feet, real time training to include all drugs, equipment, rhythm generators, and a life like manikin in which all skills can be performed. This is exciting and this is what will occur soon!

*"2020's pandemic presented EMS with **great** changes..."*

Chris Dickison
Deputy Chief / Medical Services Administrator

Community Risk Reduction

Mike Makela

Assistant Chief - CRR

2020 was a unique year for the all of us. Community Risk Reduction (CRR) was no exception. We began the year training our crews on our new fire inspection software program, Streamline Inspections, as we moved to electronic fire inspections, only to be sidelined with Covid-19 and the cessation of crew-based fire inspections for all of 2020.

We continued to provide fire plan review services for the Community and Economic Development. 125 plan reviews of fire suppression systems, fire alarm systems, and fire related reviews of new construction were completed during 2020. Along with the large number of plans reviews conducted, we witnessed the acceptance testing of numerous fire suppression and alarm systems throughout the year. We continued to work closely with the Community and Economic Development department and the Arlington Building Official. The Arlington Fire Department also continues to be involved with one or more aspects of all new building construction in the City.

Seven fires in the City of Arlington required a fire investigator to respond to the scene and conduct an origin and cause investigation. Of these seven fires, one was a motorhome fire and six were structure fires. One structure fire resulted in a single fire fatality. This was the first fire fatality in more than five years in the City.



Total 2020
NWIS Calls
363

Northwest Incident Support

Arlington
City Calls
43

Arlington Fire Department's Support 46 team is comprised of both chaplains and support volunteers who serve our community and the members of our department. They maintain 24/7 coverage and provide physical, mental, emotional, and/or spiritual support during critical or traumatic incidents. Support 46 chaplains and support personnel are part of **Northwest Incident Support**, a non-profit that serves several first responder agencies in Snohomish County. In addition to general community and departmental support, some members of the NWIS team are also certified to provide resilience training and peer support services to our crews.

Mutual Aid
Calls
157

Total
Volunteer
Hours
449





Generosity is Amazing!

The Arlington Fire Department hosts an annual Santa Run Food Drive in December. For almost **30** years, off-duty fire department staff escorts Santa on a 10-night tour of Arlington neighborhoods spreading holiday cheer. This year, with Christmas music playing, a decorated fire engine and Santa on a lighted rolling sleigh, staff collected a record breaking **17,066** pounds of food and **\$3,007.00** for the Arlington Food Bank. A truly amazing event the community loves and looks forward too. Special thanks to the Arlington Fire Department staff, IAFF Local #3728 - Arlington Firefighters, the Rotary Club of Arlington and various City of Arlington staff. In a year compromised in so many ways by the Coronavirus, we ended strong with our biggest year ever.

Arlington Fire Department Personnel

Fire Chief: Dave Kraski

Deputy Chief/MSA: Chris Dickison

A Shift

Captain Kirk Normand
Actor Wayne Mitchell

B Shift

Captain Cary Stuart
Captain Jason Brisson

C Shift

Captain Jason Nyblod
Captain Phil Knepper

Thomas Jackson
Steve Daggett
Brian Price
Anna Melillo
Paul Lizzaraga
Braydon Nealey

Bob Beam
Paul Hunsaker
Matthew Urtz
Drew Shannon
Chris Peterson
Zach Hanson
Keith Johnson

Al Chamberlin
Justin Honsowetz
Gregg Haddick
Nich Sacha
Craig Monson
Willy Harper
Sam Johnston
Julian Gilman

Part Time Members

Ethan Pedersen
Zach Schumann
Nick Goubeau
Alex Bartlett
Charles Mandella
Andrew Peters
Jason Ewing

Part Time Members

Jordan Jackson-Brewer
Alisa Hendricks
Joe Oxos
Joshua Rowe

Brandon Bates

Part Time Members

Trisha Sutton
Brandon Rayner
Tyler Henrickson
Samson Nyagah
Aidan Noel
Brandon Kyles

Floating Captains

Captain Greg Koontz
Captain Jason Abrahamson

Executive Analyst: Theresa Ramey



Happy Retirement, Scott!

Scott Hillis retired from the Arlington Fire Department on May 2, 2020. Scott joined the fire service as a volunteer for Arlington Heights (Fire District 21) in 1989, and continued until 2008. He was employed at the Boeing fire department from 1990 to 1994, and with Cascade Valley Hospital from 1992 to 1999, as part of the community EMS service. Scott was hired with Arlington Fire Department in 1999.

Scott is an avid outdoorsman. He loves hunting, fishing, camping, and enjoys riding his Harley. We don't have to worry about him enjoying retirement!

“The department wishes Scott a long and happy retirement. He has dedicated 30 years of his life to serving the community in various capacities. We will miss his positive attitude and willingness to be a leader in department and community projects, always with a smile”.



Thank you for your service to AFD, Jason Ewing

We would like to recognize Jason Ewing and thank him for his many years of service as a part-time firefighter/EMT with the AFD.

Chief Kraski said, "Jason has been a dedicated volunteer and part-time member of the Arlington Fire Department for 18 years. We will miss Jason's calm and consistent demeanor and knowledge base of skills that takes years of call volume and exposure to develop."

Jason will continue in his position as Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator III in the City's Public Works Department.

The most powerful force
in the world is the individual who
has realized their power to do
good.



