



City of Auburn Hills
Fire Department
2016 Annual Report

James T. Manning, Fire Chief
Antonio Macias, Assistant Chief



AUBURN ❖ HILLS

Fire Department



≈ Auburn Hills Fire 1899 N. Squirrel Road, Auburn Hills, MI 48326 ≈

2016 Year End Report

I am pleased to present a brief review of the Fire Department's activities over 2016, another year marked with significant progress. For the first time in the history of Auburn Hills, the Fire Department promoted an initiative to restore the fire millage to the 2.5 mills allowable under the City Charter. The impetus behind this initiative is the need to increase daily staffing in order to reduce response times in the north and south end of the City. A Headlee override was approved by voters and the process of adding additional staff began. EMS operations began the second year of full operation in 2016 and reached a significant milestone by exceeding a total collection amount in excess of \$1 million. The Prevention division handled a substantial increase in plan reviews and inspection of new or modified sprinkler systems, indicating that investments in Auburn Hills properties were on the rise in 2016.

Administration

The Administration division spent much of 2016 focused on preparing for the future by restoring the fire millage rate from 1.76 mills to 2.5 mills through a vote of the residents. On August 2, 2016, the residents responded in kind and overwhelmingly approved the proposed Headlee override by a 72% affirmative vote. The new millage rate will generate just over \$1 million in additional revenue per year for the Fire Department.

Most of the additional funding will be dedicated to adding fulltime personnel with the goal of reducing response times across the City, specifically in the north and south districts. The revised staffing model recommends the staffing of all three fire stations in 2017. The substantial decrease in the number of residents willing to serve as paid on call firefighters has significantly impacted our ability to meet the increasing demands for emergency services. Personnel funding in the 2016 budget was reallocated between the paid on call and the career personnel salary line items. Without adding additional revenue to the budget, this reallocation of funds allowed us to add two fulltime firefighter/paramedic positions in early 2016.

Running simultaneously with the Headlee override planning, fire personnel submitted an application to FEMA through the Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response, SAFER, grant program. This is a two year grant program which covers all wages and benefits for additional fire personnel. We requested grant funding for seven (7) additional personnel based on a staffing study that was completed in 2015. In late August we were advised that our application was approved by FEMA for a total SAFER grant of \$1.2 million.

The SAFER grant allowed us to start hiring the seven additional personnel prior to the 2017 budget year. Five of the new positions were filled in November of 2016. The two remaining open positions are expected to be filled in January of 2017. All of the new personnel came to our Department state certified in firefighting and licensed as a paramedic. All new personnel are required to complete an internal training program to acclimate them to our operations. We anticipate the training of the new personnel will be complete by mid-February of 2017 which will allow us to staff all three fire stations.

Suppression / EMS

While there was a slight reduction of 115 incidents in the total number of calls for service in 2016, the five year trend shows calls for service up 6.3%. The Suppression/EMS division finished out the year with two significant fires. The first, a 4 alarm fire on Beacon Hill on November 8th displaced many residents. Utilizing our mutual aid partners through our MABAS 3201 association, 48 personnel from nine different departments responded to the scene. The multifamily apartment building has 16 separate units. All of the residents were able to escape without injury. One firefighter suffered a significant injury but he is expected to recover. The building suffered significant damage but is projected to be remodeled.

One month later on December 8th fire personnel responded to a large fire in a commercial building on Centre. The fire involved highly flammable and hazardous chemicals. Again, our mutual aid partners were called upon for assistance as the fire went to a 3rd alarm. The Oakland County Hazardous Materials team also responded to the scene and provided assistance. All employees were able to escape the building without injury and no firefighters were injured battling the blaze. The fire was burning through the roof by the time the first fire personnel arrived on scene. The fire spread rapidly due to the highly flammable liquids that were involved. The 9,000 square foot building was a total loss.

EMS runs accounted for 67% of all incidents in 2016. In May the EMS operations began the second year of full transport operations. The total amount of EMS fees collected in 2016 was \$590,900. Later in the year our cumulative collected EMS fees exceeded \$1 million. The annual EMS fees cover the costs of staffing a second ambulance with two part-time personnel 9 hours a day seven days a week. The fees also cover all EMS operating supplies and ambulance maintenance costs. After covering all EMS operations costs there was approximately \$160,000 in positive revenue. For reference, the former STAR partnership contract produced \$46,800 in revenue annually without the two additional part-time personnel daily.

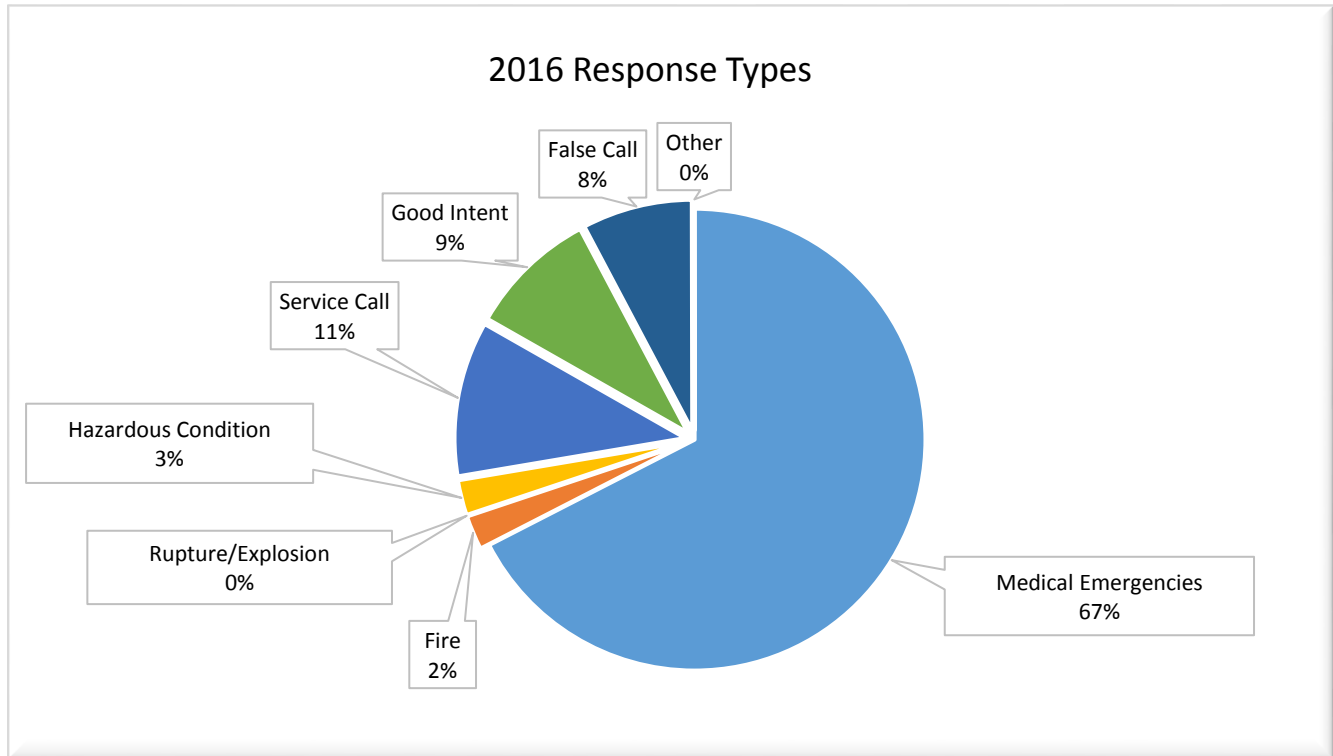
Fire and EMS operations are laden with mandatory annual training requirements. Our training curriculum exceeds the state required minimums for both fire and EMS training. The training delivery model was restructured in 2016 to allow more opportunities for all employees to attend required training while reducing the overtime associated with the training of fulltime personnel.

Prevention Division

The Prevention Division, made up of two industrious fire inspectors, managed a significant increase in demand for inspection services in 2016. Site plan reviews increased by 70% over the previous year. The inspection of new and enhanced detection / suppression systems increased by 32%. The inspectors met this increased demand for services while managing all other responsibilities. The annual hazardous materials reporting and classification of all business within the City as required by the Firefighter Right to Know Act was completed with 100% of businesses reporting. In addition, 100% of all associated hazardous materials fees were collected, totaling \$63,900.

The tables and graphs on the following pages provide a statistical view of 2016 activities.

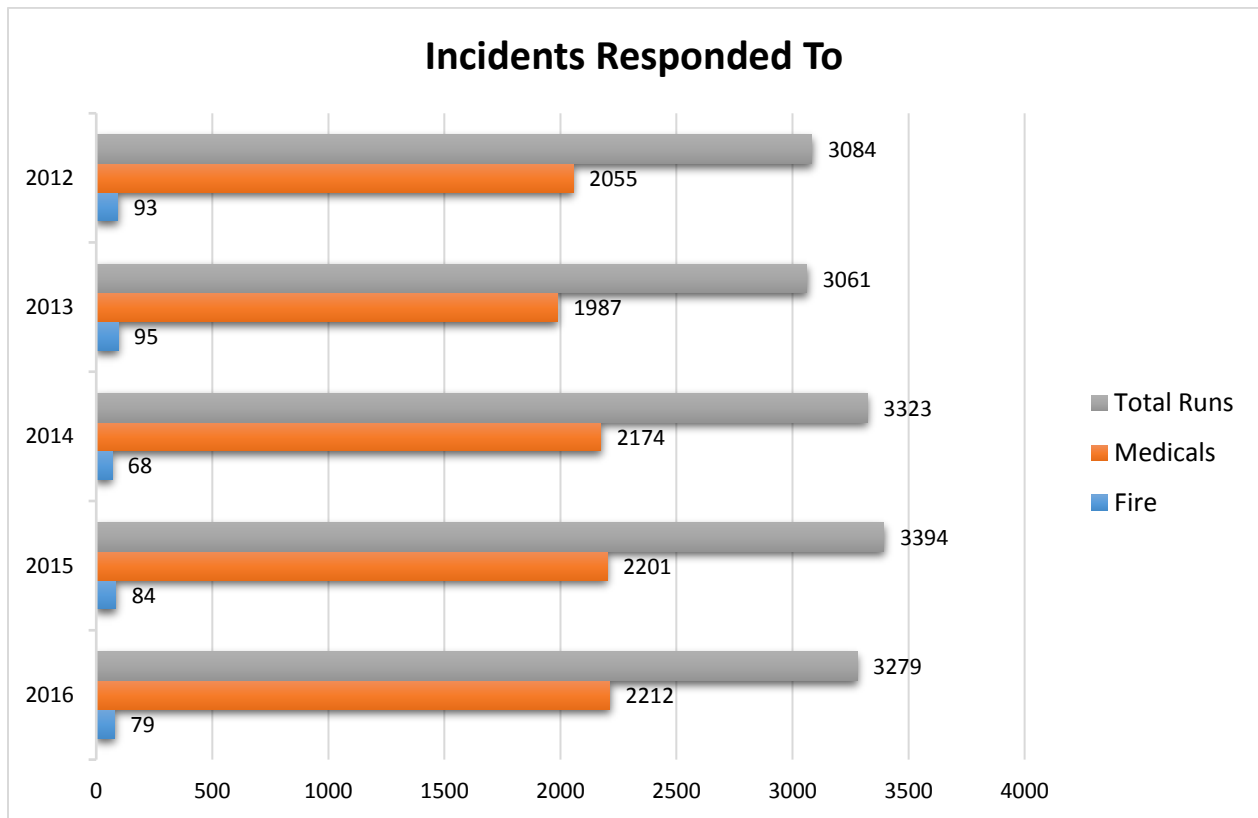
Response Types



Incident Comparison – 3 Years

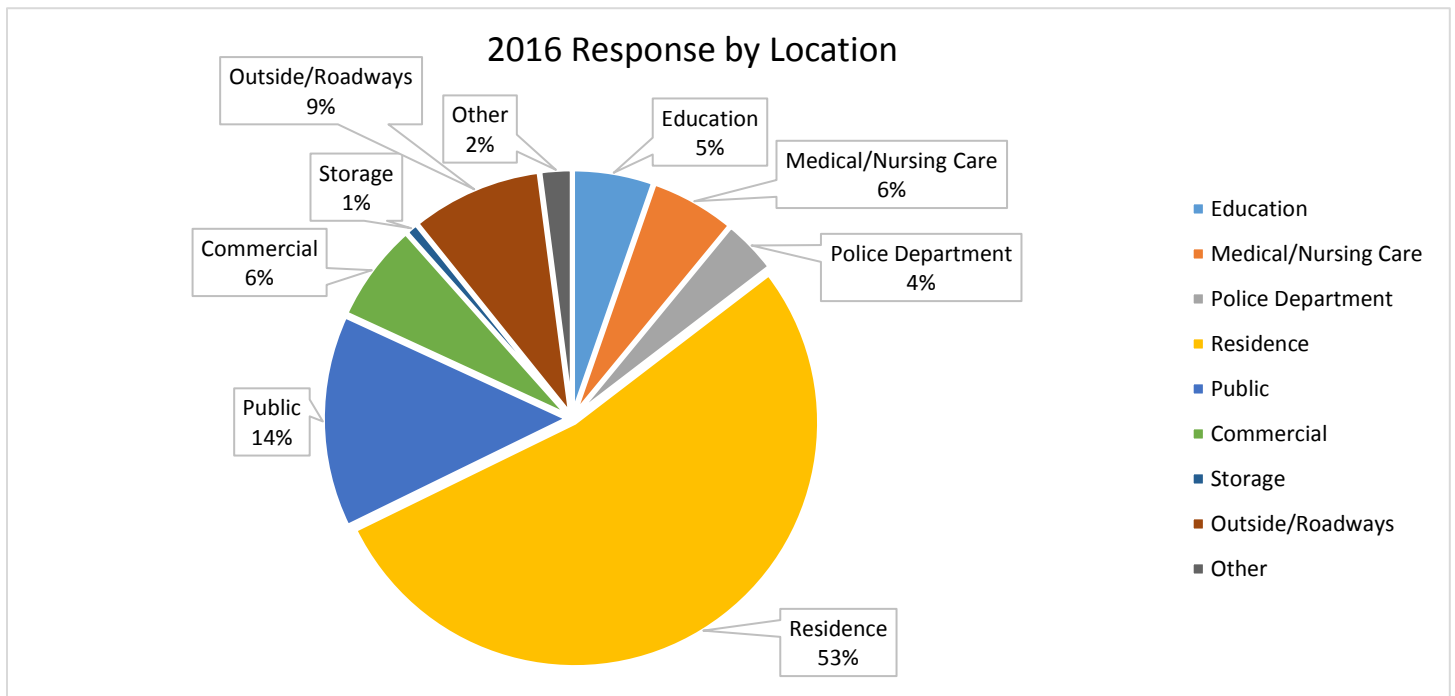
Incident Type	2016	2015	2014
Medical Emergencies	2212	2201	2174
Fire	79	84	68
Rupture/Explosion	0	2	2
Hazardous Condition	81	92	93
Service Call	357	404	312
Good Intent	296	332	351
False Call	253	272	315
Other	1	7	8
Total	3279	3394	3323

5 Year Comparison

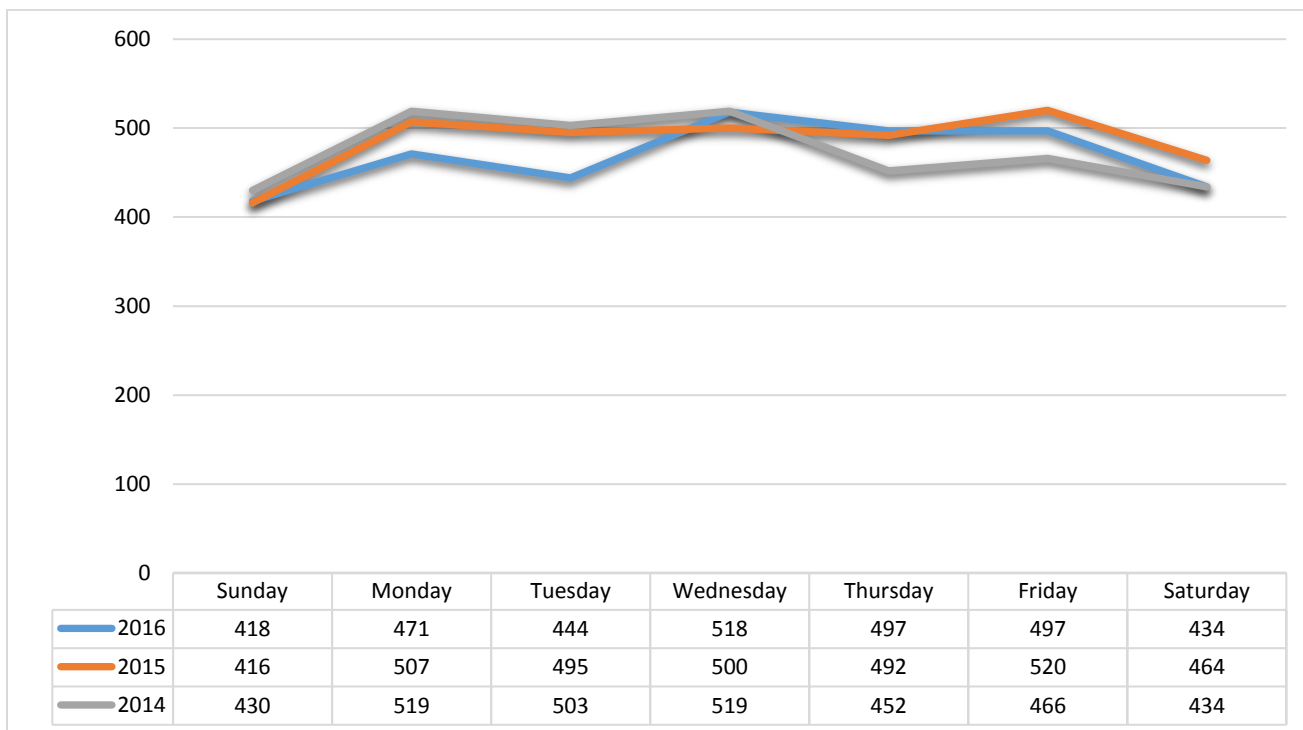


Incidents have continued to increase, up 6.3% since 2012

Response by Location Type

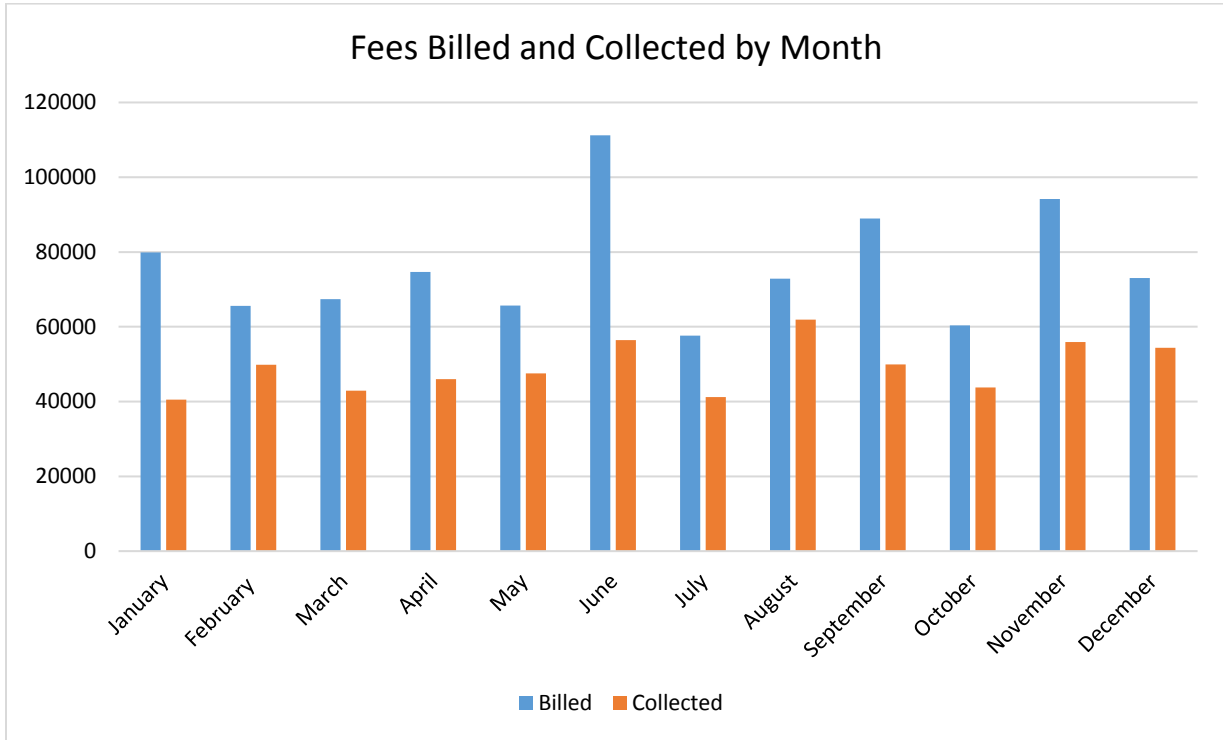


Incidents by Day of Week

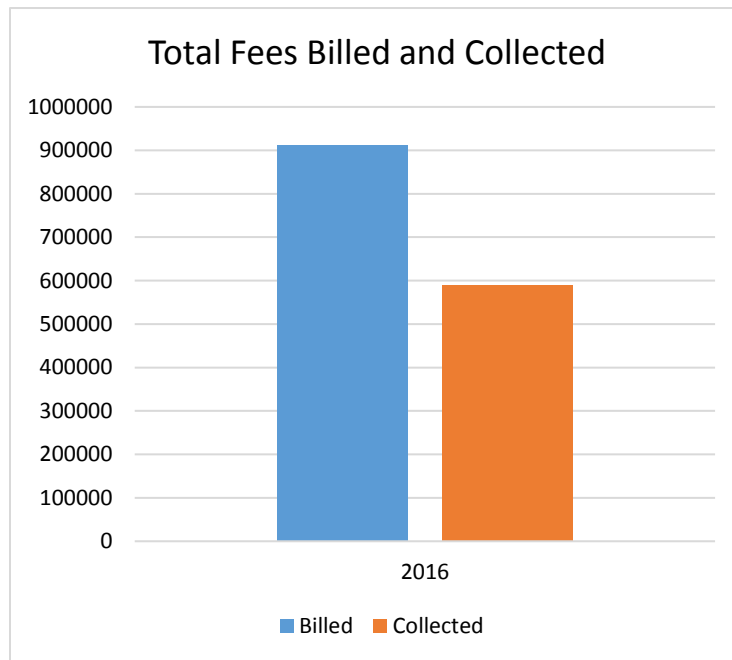


Calls for service are generally consistent throughout the week with the lowest demand on Sunday.

Emergency Medical Service

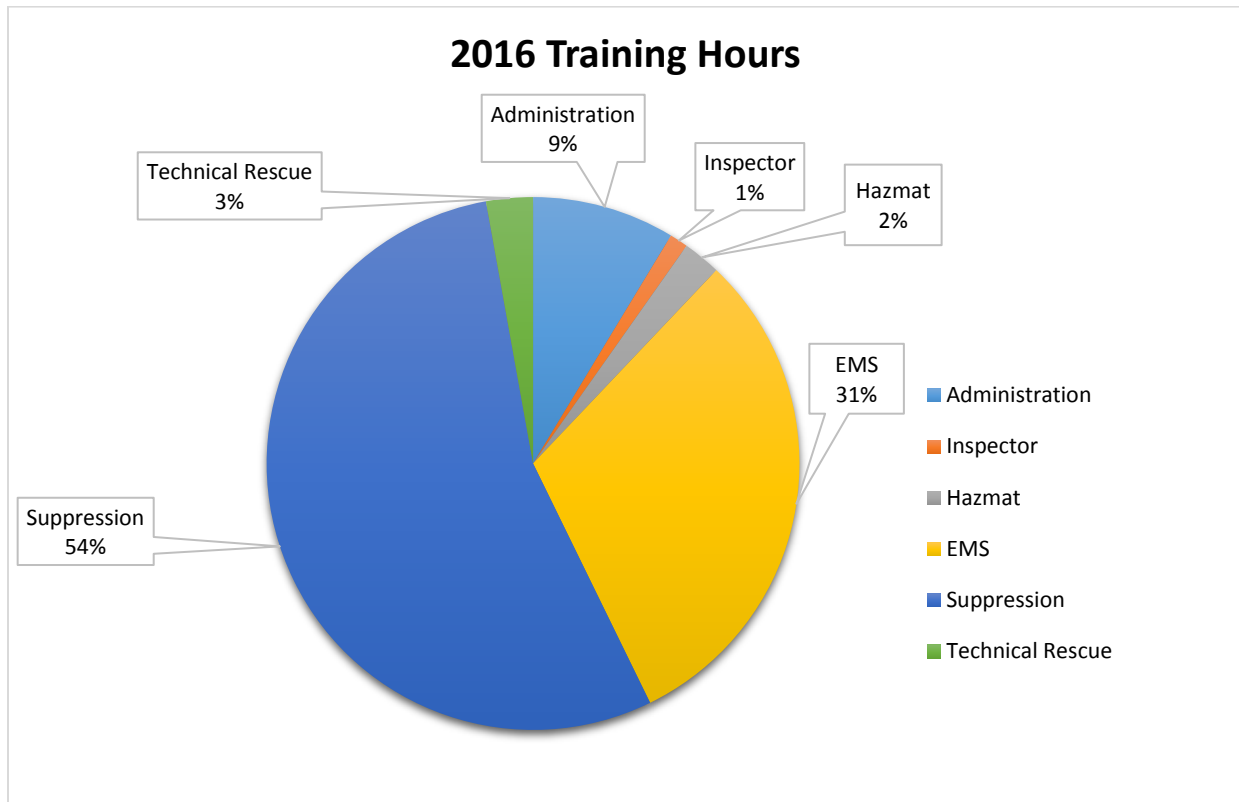


An average of \$75,967 billed and \$49,206 collected per month.



\$911,612 Billed / \$590,482 Collected

Training Hours



Training	2016	2015	2014
Administration	209.27	106.50	77.83
Inspector	27	23.25	84.50
Hazmat	55.5	67.25	90.00
EMS	741.5	917.47	689.17
Suppression	1314.72	3,802.07	4,121.96
Technical Rescue	68.5	4.00	136.25
Total	2416.49	5141.93	5,199.71

2016 Inspections & Plan Reviews

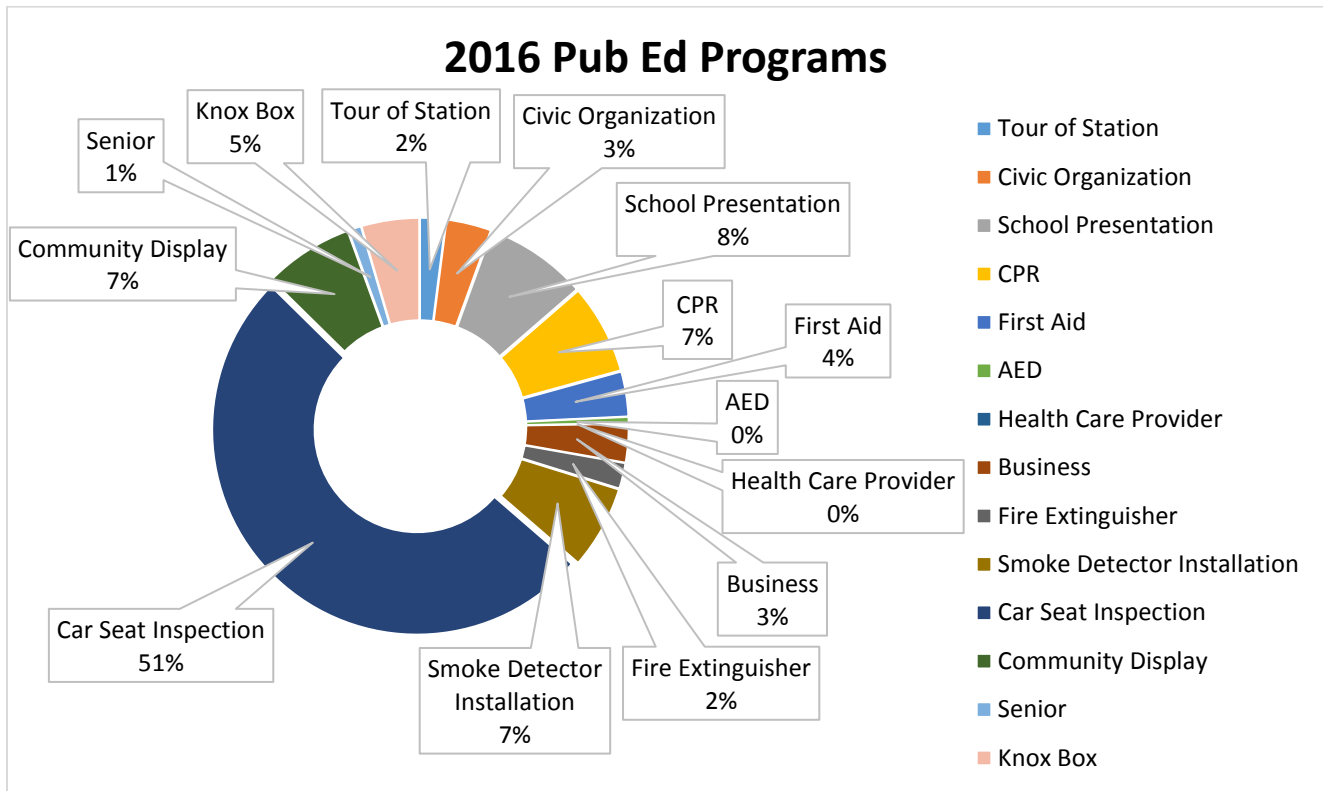
Inspections	2016	2015	2014
Annual	76	97	186
Final Building	69	76	69
Suppression/Detection	199	175	149
Follow up	110	166	357
Incident Preplanning	29	41	50
Complaint	2	10	8
Bonfire Permit Issued	20	18	20
Knox Box Updates	8	13	14
Total	513	596	853
Plan Reviews	2016	2015	2014
Site	136	80	68
Suppression	106	84	112
Detection	61	44	42
Temporary Event	19	28	16
Pyrotechnic	14	14	11
Total	343	250	249

Site plan reviews increased by 70% while suppression/detection inspections increased by 32%

Firefighter Right to Know Act – Hazardous Materials Reporting

	2016	2015	2014
Red Buildings	75	77	72
Yellow Buildings	134	130	130
Fees Collected	\$63,900.00	\$63,600.00	\$58,500.00

Public Education



Programs	2016	2015	2014
Tour of Station	4	6	12
Civic Organization	7	4	3
School Presentation	16	12	17
CPR	14	14	30
First Aid	7	11	5
AED	1	8	10
Health Care Provider	0	0	3
Business	6	6	7
Fire Extinguisher	4	11	11
Smoke Detector Installation	13	19	
Car Seat Inspection	101	112	86
Community Display	14	16	2
Knox Box Install	9	12	
Senior	2	2	5
Total	198	231	191