



RENTON REGIONAL  
FIRE AUTHORITY



# 2021

## ANNUAL REPORT

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# OUR VALUES

## OUR VISION

Working to make our community safer, healthier, and stronger.

## OUR MISSION



Responding to and recovering from emergencies.



Reducing risk for all hazards.



Building a culture of safety and support for our members.



Adapting to future challenges through strategic planning.

## OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

### PROFESSIONALISM

- We pursue every opportunity to deliver our best possible services to our community.
- We are actively committed to the success of the organization.
- We build on professional competence to achieve excellence.

### INTEGRITY

- We continually demonstrate honest and ethical behavior to build and earn trust.

### LEADERSHIP

- We proactively identify our leaders at all levels.
- Leaders positively influence the work environment and inspire others to achieve success in their responsibilities.
- We demonstrate consistent, respectful, and responsive communications with all others.
- We invest in professional development of our leaders.
- Each member has a leadership role within the department.

### ACCOUNTABILITY

- We are personally and professionally accountable for our actions, behaviors, and decisions.
- We treat all members in a consistent and equitable manner, regardless of roles and responsibilities.

### RESPECT

- We treat internal and external customers with empathy and compassion.
- We embrace the diversity of our community and our individual perspectives, experiences, and identities.



# A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



**MARCUS MORRELL**

Renton Regional Fire Authority  
Governance Board Chair, 2022

It is my honor to serve as the Renton Regional Fire Authority Governance Board Chair in 2022. As we look back on the highlights of Renton RFA in 2021, I am filled with pride at all the organization accomplished.

As a community, we welcomed a brand new fire chief in Steve Heitman. It was a great experience to be part of the decision-making process in hiring Renton RFA's next fire chief, and Chief Heitman has proven to be an exceptional choice.

COVID-19 continued to create challenges for the organization as it continued to make waves through the Renton community. However, the dedication of Renton RFA firefighters to serve their community in the greatest time of need was never more evident. It was humbling to see the coordination of effort and staff-hours dedicated to both testing facilities and vaccination events to ensure the Renton community remained as safe, healthy, and strong as possible. The organization utilized best practices to ensure the safety of both staff and patients while responding diligently to COVID-19 calls for aid. It is in those darkest hours that we see the true priorities and intent of first response organizations, and the Renton RFA team did an amazing job of continually serving the community in the best ways possible.

The efforts of Renton RFA, their partner agencies, and our amazing community helped lead to the relaxation of mandates and the reopening of local businesses. With that, came the much-anticipated reopening of the fire stations. In 2021, Renton RFA safely hosted the most highly attended open house events in the organization's history. It was so great to see the tremendous amount of community support that came flooding back into the organization.

With guidance and support from the Renton RFA Governance Board, the organization was able to move forward on the purchase of several new, state-of-the-art apparatus, replacing aging engines and aid units. The organization's purchasing approach has ensured that the Renton community gets access to the highest quality of care while ensuring maximum fiscal responsibility.

As Board Chair, I am grateful for the opportunity to represent the Renton community and contribute to one of the best fire agencies in the country. I look forward to everything we will accomplish throughout 2022.

Respectfully,

**Marcus Morrell**, 2022 Board Chair  
Renton Regional Fire Authority Governance Board

# THE GOVERNANCE BOARD

The members of the Renton Regional Fire Authority Governance Board are responsible for overseeing the organization's financial expenditures, but they also do much more than that.

The Board is comprised of individual volunteers from around the community. There are three board members from King County Fire District 25, three from Renton City Council, and one non-voting Board member from King County Fire

District 40. Together, these individuals bring their civic and business experience to Renton RFA and help steer our organization toward a path of success.

As one of the most important parts of their contribution, the Board members represent the voice of the Renton community. With their guidance, Renton RFA continually advances our vision of a safer, healthier, stronger Renton.



**Ruth Pérez**  
2021 Board Chair  
**Renton City Council**



**Marcus Morrell**  
2021 Vice Chair  
**KCFD 25**



**Randy Corman**  
2021 Board Member  
**Renton City Council**



**Kerry Abercrombie**  
2021 Board Member  
**KCFD 25**



**Myron Meikle**  
2021 Board Member  
**KCFD 25**



**Ryan McIrvin**  
2021 Board Member  
**Renton City Council**



**Linda Sartnurak**  
2021 Board Member (\*NV)  
**KCFD 40**

\*NV indicates a nonvoting board member.

# A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF



**STEVE HEITMAN**  
Renton RFA Fire Chief

The annual report provides a benchmark for our progress as an organization and makes the areas we must continue to grow in transparent to us all. It is an informative look back at what we've accomplished as a team and what we can look forward to in our future. I am pleased to have the opportunity to share this with our community.

I began my journey as your Renton RFA Fire Chief on February 1, 2021. While I knew coming into the organization that Renton RFA has an exemplary team behind them, it didn't take long to realize the impacts of that team firsthand. Our firefighters remained vigilant in the fight against COVID-19 and continued to volunteer to work overtime in order to staff testing facilities and vaccination events throughout South King County. The immense dedication and caring for our community by Renton RFA staff is one of the many reasons I felt drawn to the position of fire chief in the first place.

Based on the informed recommendations of our executive leadership and the knowledgeable guidance of the Renton RFA Governance Board, we moved forward on several new apparatus acquisitions. Standardizing our apparatus with other agencies throughout the zone, utilizing our combined purchasing power, has allowed us to not only secure state-of-the-art resources for our community, but to do so in the most fiscally responsible way possible, ensuring positive stewardship of the funds entrusted to us by the public. Several of those vehicles will be put into service as early as Spring

2022, and the vehicles they're replacing will either be transitioned to backup units or surplus for future capital expenses.

One of the most exciting developments of 2021 was our ability to open our fire stations back up to the public. The hard work of our firefighters and our amazing community to combat COVID-19 paid off, and we were able to hold the most successful open house events in our organization's history. It was an amazing feeling to safely welcome the community back into the fire stations and have that face-to-face interaction that, as your firefighters, we have missed so much over the last several years. It meant so much to our team, and we are looking forward to doing it again in 2022.

For me, however, the most exciting occurrence of the year was the passing of Proposition 1, with an approval rating of 82.13%! It is a very reassuring feeling when you are part of a community that greatly supports the work you're doing every day. But it is nearly impossible to articulate how honored we all were that our community showed such an immense outpouring of support for our team. It was humbling, to say the least, and we are extremely grateful to have the backing of the Renton community in the way that we do. Your vote quite literally makes what we do every day possible, and we do not take that for granted.

I want to take a moment to extend my gratitude to the Renton RFA Governance Board and the organization for their vote of confidence in me as fire chief of Renton RFA. Together, we accomplished great feats in 2021 that will ensure the ongoing success of our organization for years to come. As we reflect back on all that we accomplished together in 2021, let us also be excited for what lies ahead in 2022. Thank you, Renton.

**Steve Heitman**, Fire Chief  
Renton Regional Fire Authority

# THE EXECUTIVE TEAM

The Renton Regional Fire Authority Executive Team is responsible for the oversight of the organization and every division within it. Executive Team members maintain the organization's day-to-day operations and ensure that service to our community, and our members, is exemplary.



**Steve Heitman**  
Fire Chief  
Renton RFA



**Will Aho**  
Deputy Fire Chief  
Response Operations



**Chuck DeSmith**  
Deputy Fire Chief  
Emergency Medical and  
Health Services



**Mark Seaver**  
Deputy Fire Chief  
Support Services



**Samantha Babich**  
Chief Administration Officer  
Administration



**Anjela Barton**  
Fire Marshal  
Office of the Fire Marshal

# OUR STRATEGIC PLAN

Renton RFA is committed to making our community safer, healthier, and stronger. This plan was designed to set the strategic direction of our services for the next five years to meet the expectations of our community and our members. Through the annual strategic plan cycle, we will assess and report on performance metrics and establish annual implementation tactics, work plans, and resource allocations. Below is an overview of our focus areas and goals.

## OUR SERVICES

1. Establish and meet standards to provide the best possible services to our community.
2. Act to prevent fires and health emergencies.
3. Respond with expertise, professionalism, and compassion when our community needs us.
4. Be a strong partner in collaborative regional efforts.
5. Train to be the most capable and professional emergency personnel.

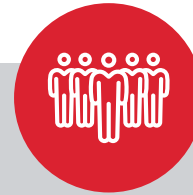
## OUR COMMUNITY



1. Cultivate community trust through ongoing communication and engagement.



2. Enhance our ability to effectively serve our increasingly diverse community.



3. Support the effectiveness of the Renton RFA Governance Board.

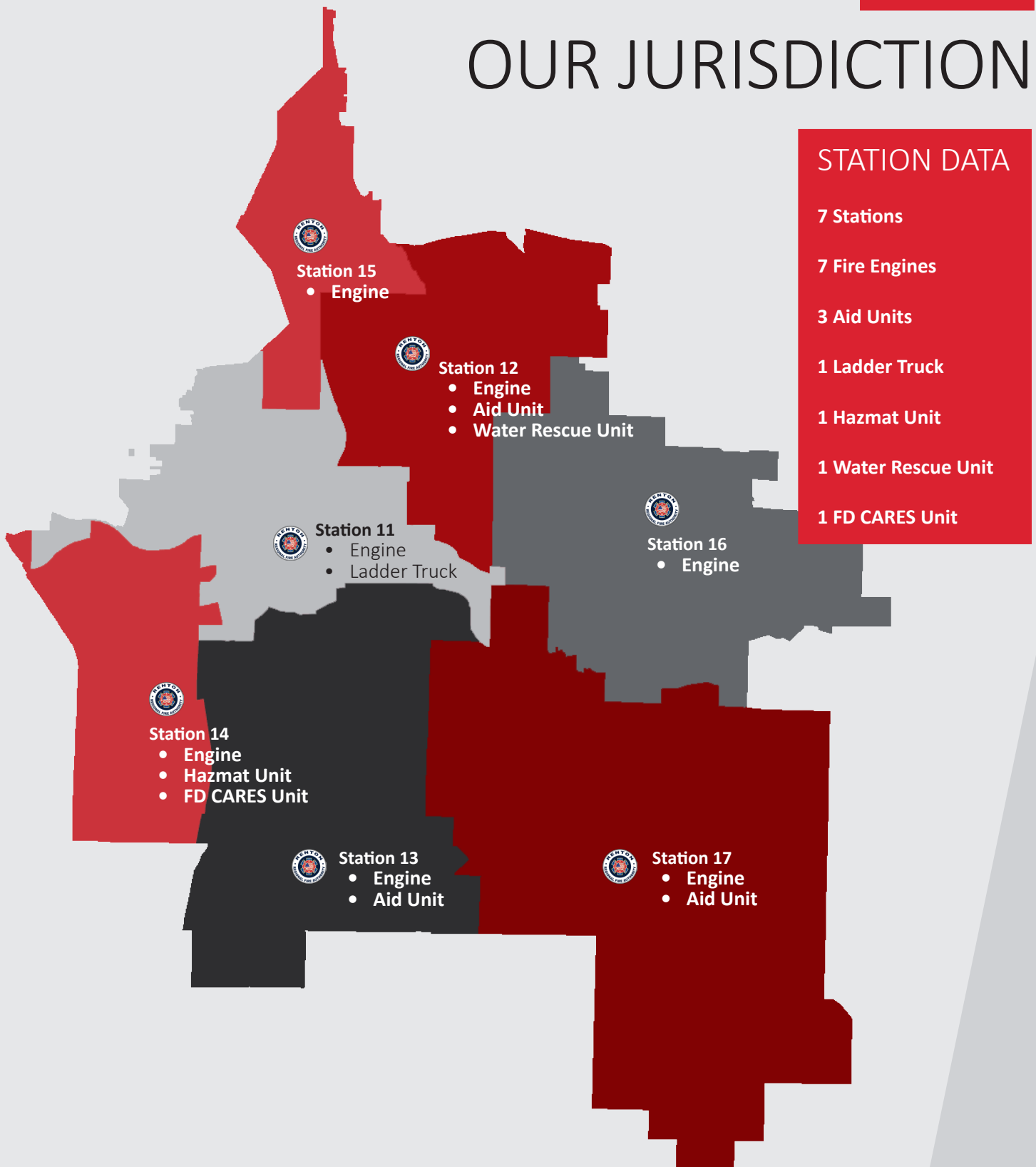
## OUR MEMBERS

1. Ensure our members are physically and mentally healthy.
2. Attract, develop, and retain the individual talent and commitment necessary to form a high-performing organization.
3. Strengthen the alignment of individual and organizational goals.

## OUR RESOURCES

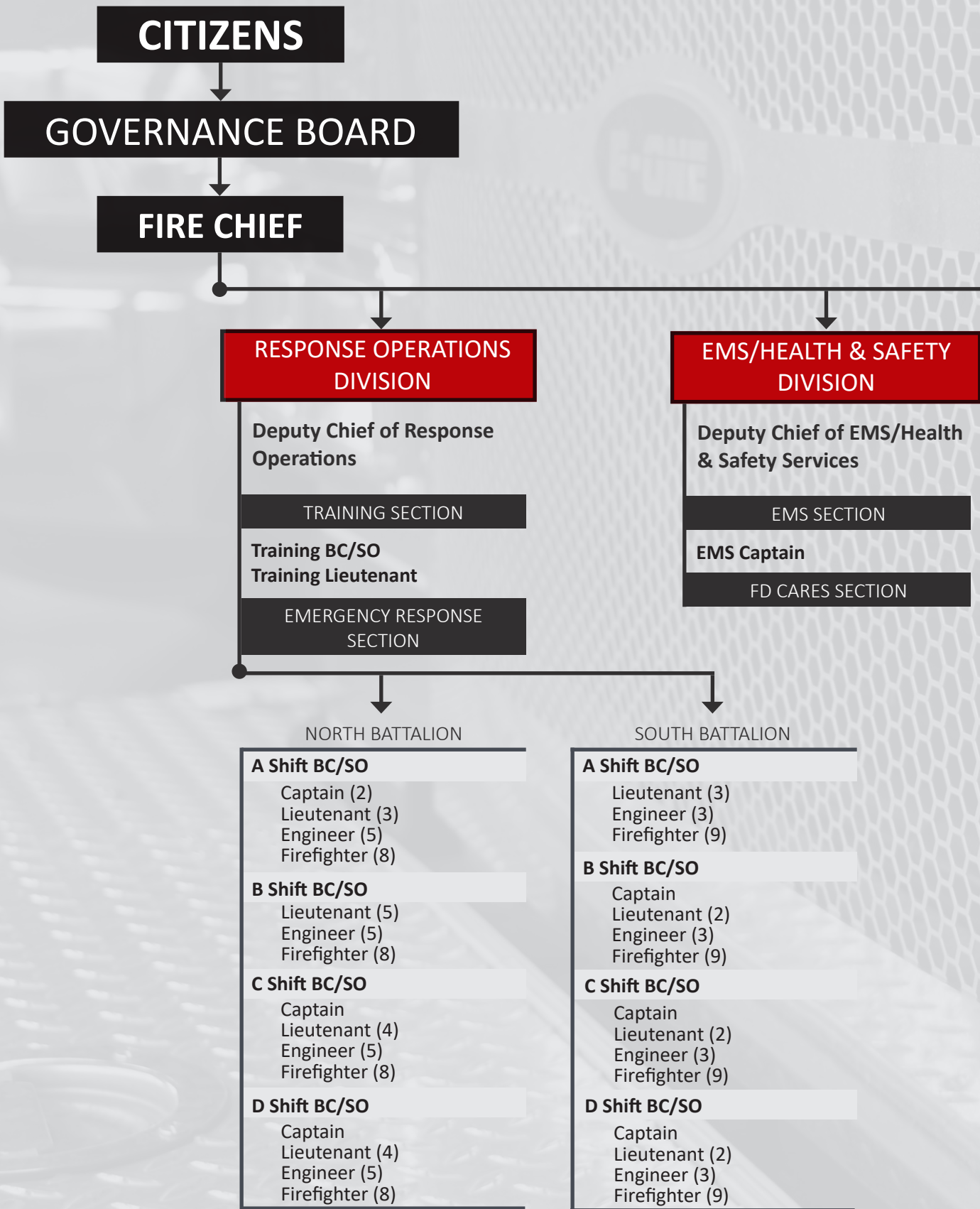
1. Ensure our organization has the tools and technology needed to be safe and successful.
2. Manage public resources wisely.

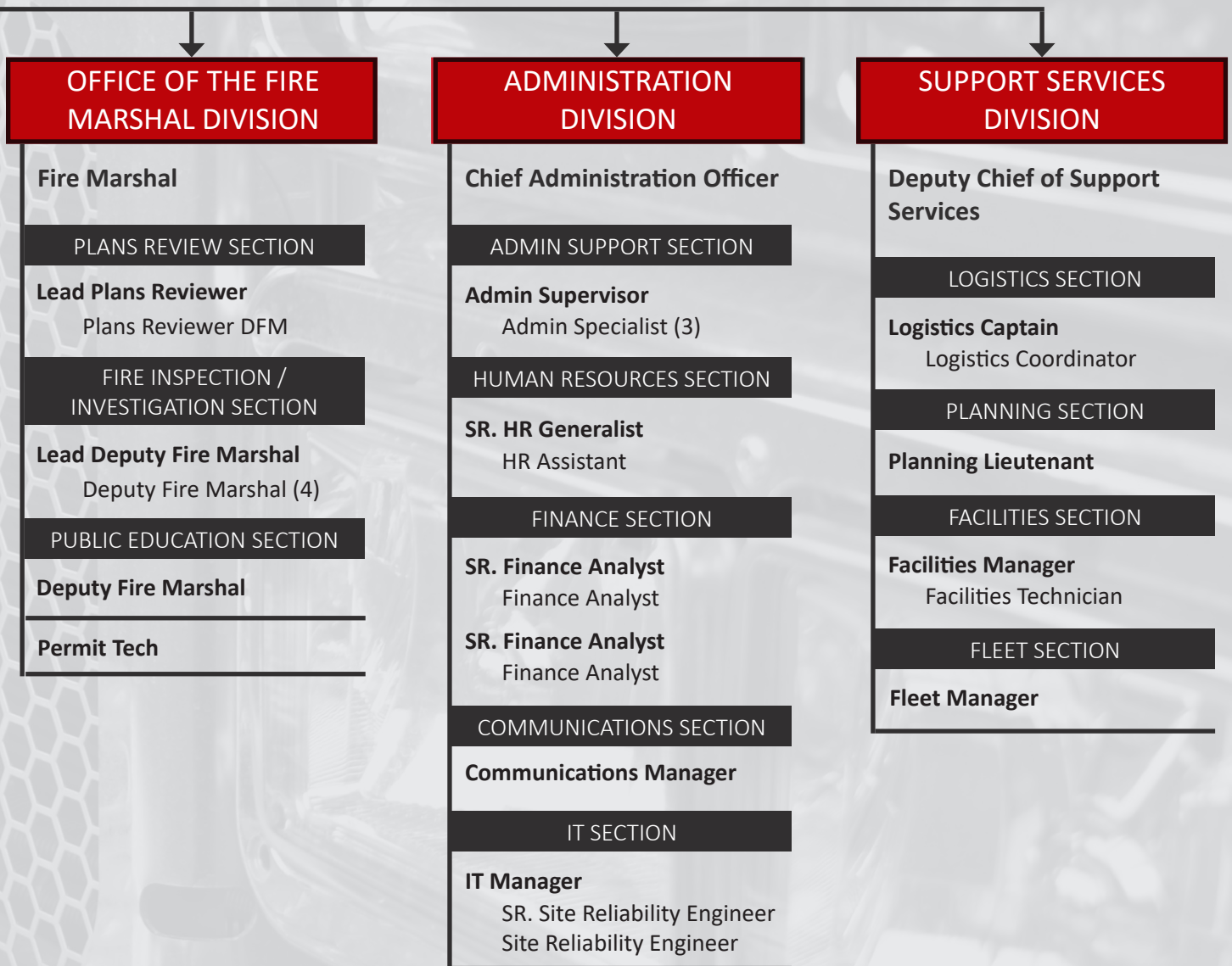
# OUR JURISDICTION



LEGAL JURISDICTION	POPULATION	AREA (SQ MILES)	ASSESSED PROPERTY VALUE
RRFA Coverage Area	135,504	38 miles	\$27.88 Billion
City of Renton	106,785	24 miles	\$22.72 Billion
Fire District #25	6,402	4 miles	\$1.44 Billion
Fire District #40	21,317	10 miles	\$3.72 Billion

# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





# FIRE STATIONS



## FIRE STATION 11

211 Mill Avenue South  
Renton, WA 98057

### APPARATUS:

Engine, Ladder Truck, and Battalion Chief Vehicle



## FIRE STATION 12

1209 Kirkland Avenue Northeast  
Renton, WA 98056

### APPARATUS:

Engine, Aid Unit, and Water Rescue Unit



## FIRE STATION 13 & RRFA HEADQUARTERS

18002 108th Avenue Southeast  
Renton, WA 98055

### APPARATUS:

Engine, Aid Unit, and Battalion Chief Vehicle



## FIRE STATION 14 & OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL

1900 Lind Avenue Southwest  
Renton, WA 98057

### APPARATUS:

Engine, Hazmat Unit, FD CARES Unit



## FIRE STATION 15

1404 North 30th Street  
Renton, WA 98056

### APPARATUS:

Engine



## FIRE STATION 16

12923 156th Avenue Southeast  
Renton, WA 98059

### APPARATUS:

Engine



## FIRE STATION 17

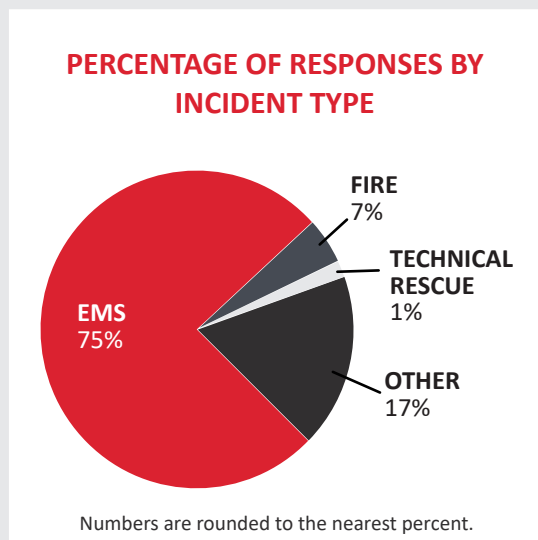
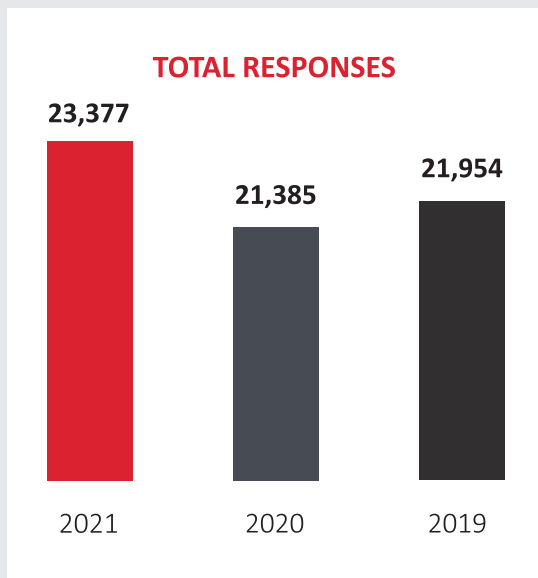
14810 Southeast Petrovsky Road  
Renton, WA 98058

### APPARATUS:

Engine, Aid Unit, and Brush Truck

# RESPONSE OPERATIONS DIVISION

## 2021 RESPONSES



The Response Operations division provides fire and life safety services throughout the City of Renton, Fire District 25, and Fire District 40. We provide response from seven strategically located fire stations, 24 hours per day, seven days a week. To meet the growing needs of the Renton community, we staff 151 uniformed personnel total.

## OUR TIERED RESPONSE SYSTEM

Renton RFA provides emergency response through two battalions: north and south, which includes all seven fire stations within our jurisdiction. Our stations are staffed 24 hours per day, seven days a week by four separate platoons. To meet the emergency response needs of our community, there are 33 members responding to emergencies across the communities we serve every day. Other members serve in training, planning, and logistics. All Renton RFA firefighters are certified emergency medical technicians. These are the individuals on the front line of our Tiered Response System.

As part of the tiered system, the severity of the incident determines the level of response, and certain types of emergencies require multiple units. For example, for basic life support incidents, a fire engine and/or aid unit will be the first to respond. For advanced life support incidents, one of the seven South King County medic units will also be dispatched to the scene to provide aid. An individual experiencing sudden cardiac arrest would have three units come to their aid. Similarly, for fires and other emergencies, the dispatcher will assign the appropriate resources to handle the emergency and protect life and property.

## PUBLIC PROTECTION CLASS RATING

Renton RFA is proud to hold a Public Protection Class Rating (PPCR) of 2 within the City of Renton. The PPCR is a representation of a fire agency's ability to provide effective fire and life safety services to its community. The best rating an agency can receive is 1. In 2016, when Renton RFA was established as a regional fire authority, the agency held a PPCR of 3 within the City of Renton. But thanks to the vote of confidence from the Renton community, we've been able to establish programs and bolster services that improve the quality of fire and life safety for our community.



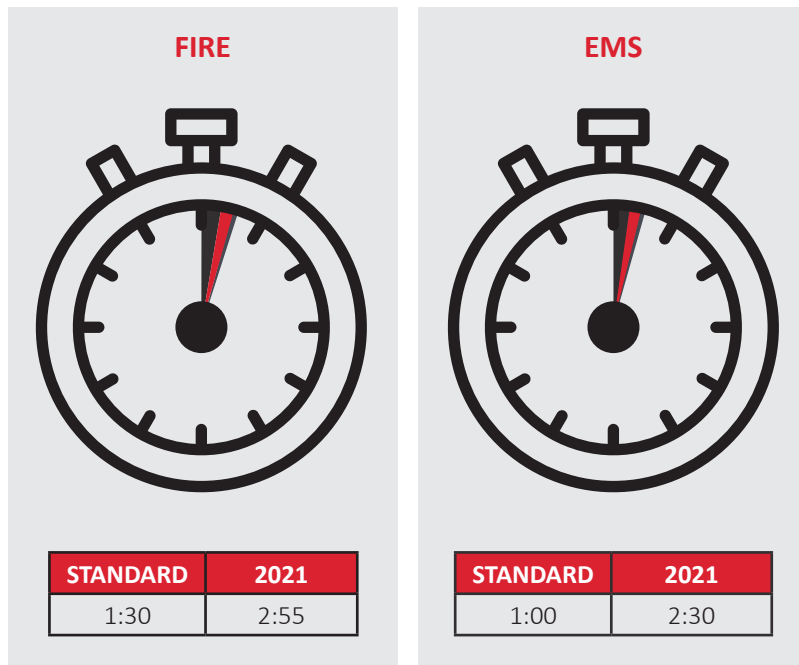
Renton RFA is in the **top 5%** of fire and life safety organizations in the nation for service quality.

## RESPONSE TIME STANDARDS

In an emergency situation, every minute matters. Renton RFA understands this and holds itself to the highest standards when it comes to response times, following strict NFPA guidelines. The goal is to meet NFPA standard 90% of the time. Below are the key metrics we track based on that 90% goal.

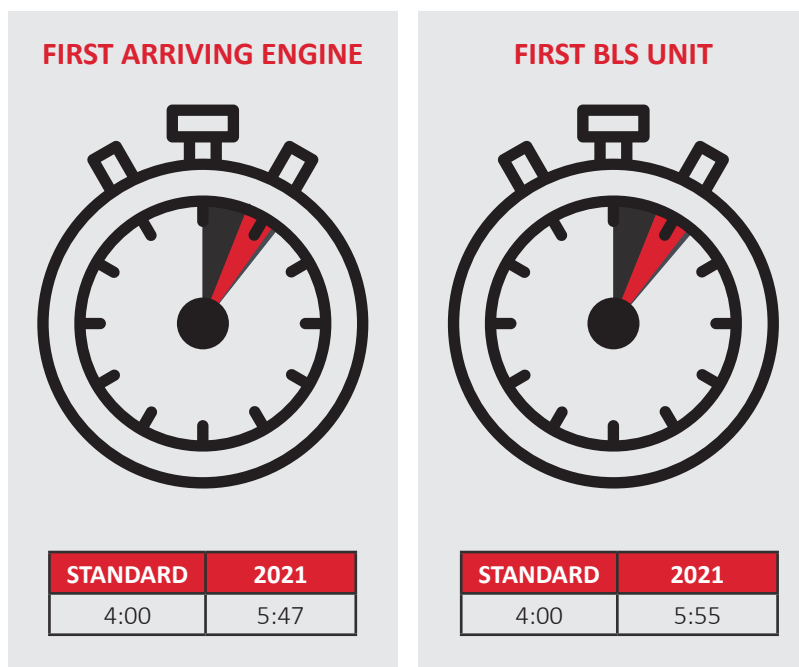
### TURN OUT TIMES

**Turn Out Time** is the time between when a unit is dispatched to when they are en route.



### TRAVEL TIMES

**Travel Time** is the time a unit spends en route, before it arrives at the scene.



## 2021 RESPONSE OPS STATS

### BUSIEST APPARATUS

#### Engine 311

3,609 Responses



#### Aid Unit 313

2,792 Responses



#### Aid Unit 312

2,211 Responses



### BUSIEST FIRE STATIONS

#### Fire Station 11

5,774 Total Responses



#### Fire Station 13

5,191 Total Responses



#### Fire Station 12

3,606 Total Responses



# 438

**SPECIAL TEAMS RESPONSES**  
FOR HAZMAT, WATER RESCUE,  
AND TECHNICAL RESCUE

## RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING

### WA FIRE CAREERS

In 2021, Renton RFA was an integral part of the formation of WA Fire Careers, a collaborative group comprised of fire agencies throughout South King County. This group was created to streamline local recruitment and make the process of joining the fire service more accessible, affordable, and inclusive. WA Fire Careers was formed under the same premise as the South King County Fire Training Consortium: that by combining our shared knowledge and resources, we can create a fiscally responsible process, based on best practices, with the best results for future members and our communities.

### SOUTH KING COUNTY FIRE TRAINING CONSORTIUM

Renton RFA continued our partnership in the South King County Fire Training Consortium (SKCFTC) in 2021. The training provided by the SKCFTC includes fire academy training for new firefighters, as well as ongoing professional training for our existing team in a variety of categories.

Fire academy is an intensive, 20-week-long training program in which firefighters-in-training receive certification in:

- IFSAC Firefighter I
- IFSAC Firefighter II
- IFSAC Hazardous Materials Awareness
- IFSAC Hazardous Materials Operations
- Emergency Vehicle Incident Prevention Certification
- Emergency Medical Technician Certification (National Registry)



**33,577** TOTAL TRAINING HOURS

## SPECIAL TEAMS

Renton RFA has established multiple special teams that can respond to specific incidents that present a higher risk environment for responders and the community. We maintain four special teams, including Hazardous Materials, Water Rescue (including dive, swift water rescue, and rescue swimmers), Technical Rescue (including rope, rescue system 1, confined space operations, and water operations), and Wildland Team (including red card certification).

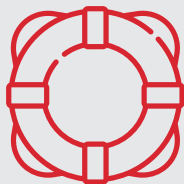
To maintain the theme of efficiency from our other collaborative groups, special team responses are delivered through a regional approach within Zone 3. This approach allows zone-wide participation, effective coverage, and more equitable distribution of resources to meet the community's emergent needs. This approach requires the support of every agency within Zone 3.

### 2021 SPECIAL TEAMS RESPONSES BREAKDOWN



**HAZMAT  
RESPONSES**

**318**



**WATER RESCUE  
RESPONSES**

**82**



**TECHNICAL RESCUE  
RESPONSES**

**38**



**WILDLAND  
RESPONSES**

**22**

*(includes two DNR deployments in Eastern WA)*

## TOP COMPANIES OF THE YEAR

Every year, we recognize the top companies within our organization, which includes the top aid company, top engine company, and top ladder company. Below are the 2021 teams recognized for their exemplary work upholding our values and serving the Renton community.



### TOP AID COMPANY

#### **Fire Station 13 - B Shift**

Firefighter Dan Beggin

Firefighter Cody Olson



### TOP ENGINE COMPANY

#### **Fire Station 12 - C Shift**

Lieutenant Dan Powell *(not pictured)*

Engineer David Nelson

Firefighter Kayla Eychner



### TOP LADDER COMPANY

#### **Fire Station 11 - D Shift**

Lieutenant Dylan Guyll

Engineer David Laha

Firefighter Hector Luevano

# EMS, HEALTH & SAFETY DIVISION

The EMS, Health, and Safety division of Renton RFA is overseen by Deputy Chief Charles DeSmith. This was a brand-new division to the organization in 2020 and is designed to focus on keeping our members and our community healthy and safe. EMS, health, and safety operations were previously overseen by the Response Operations division. However, EMS responses account for nearly 80% of our calls. By separating this division and allowing our teams to narrow their focus, we have been able to provide swift action in the face of a global pandemic and expand our service offerings to better cater to the health and safety of those who are most vulnerable throughout the Renton community.



FD CARES Team and specialized apparatus.



Peer Support and De-Escalating training.



Focused EMS training.



CPR and First Aid training.

## FD CARES

The FD CARES program bridges a gap in the traditional emergency response system for low acuity patients. We recognized that low acuity patients often rely on the 9-1-1 system for non-emergent aid. In response, we adopted a program specifically designed to meet the long-term needs of low acuity patients while relieving their reliance on the 9-1-1 system.

**Our FD CARES team had a total of 2,520 visits with patients in 2021, including 1,363 proactive visits.**

## FIREFIGHTER MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

The mental health and wellness of our firefighters is paramount to their ability to perform their role effectively. Below are a few of the challenges and successes we had regarding firefighter health and wellness in 2021:

- Washington State HB1310 had a dramatic impact on our safety with mental health 911 emergencies.
  - Police agencies were no longer available to assist fire crews in the same capacity as in the past.
- Our firefighters must evolve our medical work to help address our community's needs.
  - King County Public Health data shows that mental health emergencies increased 154% since 2015 in Renton!
  - Renton has also experienced an increase in opioid overdoses and people experiencing homelessness.
- In 2021, we focused on Peer Support and De-Escalating training for our members to meet this need internally and externally.

## FOCUSED EMS TRAINING

The emergency medical needs of our community can be serious and traumatic. In order to properly prepare our firefighters for intense, real-life EMS situations, we provide intensive training using scenarios and equipment that closely mimic real, severe calls for aid.

## CPR CONSORTIUM

We are one of three local fire agencies that have combined to support South King County residents with CPR and first aid training. The other two agencies are Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority and Valley Regional Fire Authority. While the pandemic limited the number of students we could train in 2021, we were still able to reach a number of community members to provide life-saving skills.

# 2021 QUICK RESPONSE STATS

## RESPONSES BY FIRE STATION

FIRE STATION	NUMBER OF RESPONSES	PERCENT OF RESPONSES
Fire Station 11	5,774	25%
Fire Station 12	3,606	15%
Fire Station 13	5,191	22%
Fire Station 14	3,338	14%
Fire Station 15	1,375	6%
Fire Station 16	1,597	7%
Fire Station 17	2,496	11%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>23,377</b>	<b>100%</b>

## RESPONSES BY INCIDENT TYPE

INCIDENT TYPE	NUMBER OF RESPONSES	PERCENT OF RESPONSES
EMS	17,635	75%
False Alarm	1,684	7%
Fire	1,462	6%
Good Intent	1,387	6%
Hazmat	318	2%
Public Service	725	3%
Rupture/Explosion	24	0%*
Other Hazards	142	1%*
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>23,377</b>	<b>100%</b>

## RESPONSES BY APPARATUS

APPARATUS	NUMBER OF RESPONSES	PERCENT OF RESPONSES
11 Fire Engine	3,609	15%
11 Ladder Truck	1,567	7%
11 Battalion Vehicle	598	3%
12 Aid Unit	2,211	9%
12 Dive Vehicle	54	0%*
12 Fire Engine	1,341	6%
13 Aid Unit	2,792	12%
13 Battalion Vehicle	423	2%
13 Fire Engine	1,976	8%
14 FD CARES	1,119	5%
14 Fire Engine	2,054	9%
14 Hazmat Vehicle	165	0%*
15 Fire Engine	1,375	6%
16 Fire Engine	1,597	7%
17 Aid Car	1,582	7%
17 Brush Vehicle	20	0%*
17 Fire Engine	894	4%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>23,377</b>	<b>100%</b>

## RESPONSES BY SPECIAL TEAM

TEAM	NUMBER OF RESPONSES	PERCENT OF RESPONSES
Hazmat	318	69%
Water Rescue	82	18%
Technical Rescue	38	8%
Wildland	22	5%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>100%</b>

## FIRE RESPONSES BY TYPE

FIRE TYPE	NUMBER OF RESPONSES	PERCENT OF RESPONSES
Structure Fire	829	57%
Cooking Fire	77	5%
Vehicle Fire	90	6%
Brush Fire	290	20%
Trash Fire	108	7%
Other	68	5%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,462</b>	<b>100%</b>



\*Percentage equals less than one percent when rounded.

# ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

The Administration division of Renton RFA is overseen by Chief Administration Officer Samantha Babich and includes the sections of:

- Admin Support Services
- Human Resources
- Communications
- Information Technology
- Finance

## 2021 ADMIN STATS



**475 Records Requests**  
Processed



**10 New Firefighters**  
Hired



**81,931 Newsletters**  
Mailed



**99.9% IT Site Reliability**  
Uptime



**\$43.44 MM Budget**  
Managed

## ADMIN SUPPORT SERVICES

- Welcomed a new admin specialist, Evyn Villa, in June.
- Supported the launch of hybrid (virtual + in-person) open public meetings.
- Created and helped manage the MVU tracking process for multiple agencies.
- Fulfilled 475 public records requests.
- Processed 56 contracts and agreements.
- Managed the approval process for 21 policy updates.

## HUMAN RESOURCES

- Conducted three promotional exams.
- Facilitated the process of promoting 19 members of the organization.
- Conducted hiring sessions that led to the employment of 10 new firefighters.
- Hired four civilian employees into the Administration and Fire Marshal divisions.

## COMMUNICATIONS

- Worked with the WA Fire Careers group to design the WA Fire Careers website.
- Created informative messaging and materials about Proposition 1.
- Created organizational print newsletters, reaching a total mailing of 81,931.
- Helped facilitate seven open house events to welcome the community back to the fire stations.

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)

- Rolled out Multiple Factor Authentication (MFA) across the organization, providing improved cybersecurity at all levels.
- Passed Washington State's external IT audit without any significant findings.
- Achieved 99.9388% IT site reliability uptime over the course of the year, ensuring maximum functionality of IT services across the organization.

## FINANCE

- Streamlined the invoice payable process by using a third-party payment processor to save money and time, and also to ensure timely, accurate, and quick payment processing.
- Standardized the P-Card process by aggregating receipts to allow quicker reconciliation and payment.
- Successfully managed a \$43.44 MM financial budget.
- Completed a successful audit with no findings for the third year in a row.
- Received a grant of over \$500,000 in COVID-19 Expense Reimbursement.

**How was  
Renton RFA  
funded in  
2021?**

**Property Tax \$18.07 MM**

**Fire Benefit Charge \$17.30 MM**

**District 40 Contract \$5.42 MM**

**EMS Levy \$2.1 MM**

**Other Revenue \$450.5 K**

**Permits & Fees \$276.3 K**

# SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION

The Support Services division is overseen by Deputy Chief Mark Seaver and includes the sections of Logistics, Facilities, Fleet, and Planning. This division is primarily responsible for our equipment, apparatus, and fire stations.

## LOGISTICS

- Procured and placed in service the first set of E-draulic extrication tools.
- Blowhard Fans placed on all primary apparatus.
- Equipped all first run engines with hose washers.
- Custom fit all response operations personnel with ballistic vests.
- Implemented a fully electronic inventory system for efficient supply management.
- Eliminated the Super Order Saturdays for crews with the roll out of RFID inventory and tracking.

## FACILITIES

- Completed 298 work orders on FMX.
- Replaced basement sump pump system that manages sewer and ground water for Station 11.
- Retrofitted all apparatus bay lighting at Station 11 to LED to increase visibility and lower energy costs for the RFA.
- Together with City of Renton Transportation Dept. and Renton RFA Fleet Division, installed a new GPS Opticom system for Station 16 that helps manage traffic and safer emergency responses around the intersection at 156th & 128th on the East Renton Highlands.
- Removed all carpet in Station 12 and installed new LVT flooring, facilitating more comprehensive cleaning and decon of the station from outside contaminants.

## FLEET

- Procured and updated specifications for 3 new aid units with Horton Ambulance for delivery in 2022.
- Procured and established a new specification for 3 pumpers, as we've switched manufacturers from E-One to Pierce for a 2022 delivery.
- Procured and established a specification for a new brush truck with Cascade Fire Equipment for delivery in 2022.
- Maintained preventative maintenance compliance to 96% of our standard on all response operations apparatus.
- Sent 5 vehicles to surplus in accordance with our Capital Fleet Replacement Schedule.

## PLANNING

- Progressed to Applicant Agency for Accreditation with the Center for Public Safety Excellence.
- Completed successful Fire Benefit Charge process with upgrades to the customer service system.
- Updated the Renton RFA's Capital Facilities Plan.
- Moved to First Watch for data reporting and enhanced support for the accreditation process.
- Successfully submitted for and received a FEMA Grant for \$90,000 to install a sprinkler system in the living areas of Station 11.
- Enhanced station map box run orders to a 50-deep model throughout Renton RFA that includes the freeways.



# OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL

The Office of the Fire Marshal division is managed by Fire Marshal Anjela Barton and is comprised of three sections: Fire Inspections/Investigations, Fire Plans Review, and Public Education/Public Information. The division strives to reduce the occurrence and severity of fires, and protect the public and our fire service personnel, with coordinated efforts in education, permitting, engineering, enforcement, and investigation of fire-related incidents.

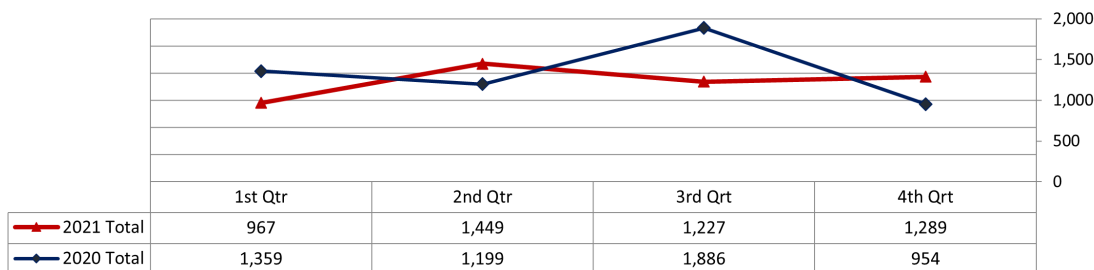
## FIRE & LIFE SAFETY INSPECTIONS

Our goal is to inspect businesses and multi-family buildings as follows:

- Annual inspections when a fire alarm and fire sprinkler are not present, or when hazardous materials are present, regardless of fire alarm and fire sprinkler status.
- Biennial inspections when a fire alarm and fire sprinkler are present.
- Triennial inspections for healthcare buildings that receive regular fire and life safety inspections from the state.

In 2021, we completed 4,932 inspections.

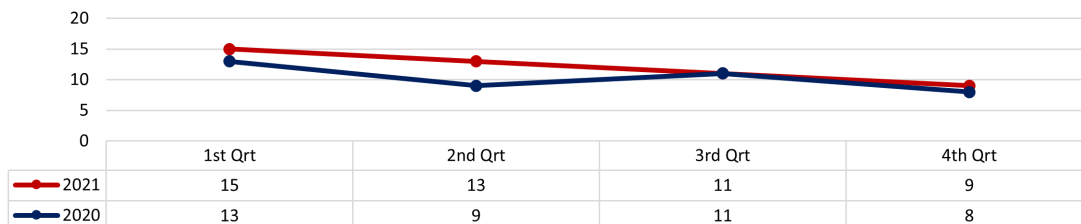
Inspections Completed by Quarter - Comparative to 2020



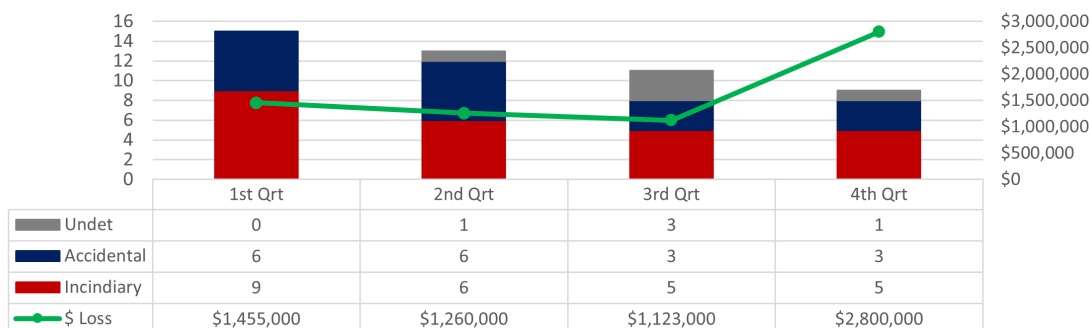
## FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

Our deputy fire marshals are responsible for determining the origin and cause of fires occurring within the City of Renton. We review this data to identify trends and areas where we can prevent future loss through changes in engineering, enforcement, and education. In 2021, we investigated 48 fires that resulted in an estimated \$6.6 million in property losses.

Fire Investigations by Quarter - Comparative to 2020



Fires by Type & Dollar Loss

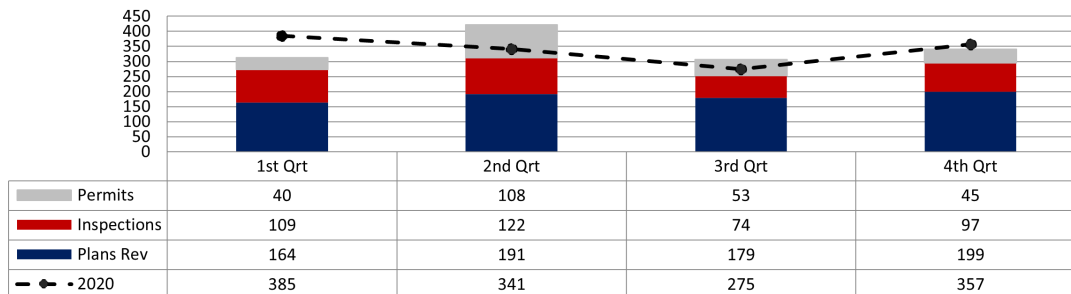


## PLANS REVIEW, CONSTRUCTION INSPECTIONS & PERMITS

Plans for new construction and renovations are reviewed for adherence to the fire code, and permits are issued for fire protection systems and other construction related activities. In 2021, we completed 733 fire plans reviews, 402 construction inspections, and issued 184 fire systems and/or fire construction permits.



Plans Review, Construction Inspections & Permits by Quarter - Comparative to 2020



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH & PUBLIC EDUCATION

This year continued to present several challenges for our educational community programs due to the limitations of COVID-19. Several training opportunities were provided through a virtual format.

In Fall 2021, our deputy fire marshal-public educator was able to begin offering our in-person Kindergarten Fire Safety Education Program in partnership with Renton Schools, and through December, met with all of our area kindergartners — reaching approximately 600 Renton students.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF 2021

- Firefighters participated in numerous holiday events and parades.
- Department members participated in the Senior Lunch program at the Renton Senior Center, providing lunches and interaction with over 40 seniors.
- We received a FEMA grant to purchase a portable Hazard House and Hazard Kitchen to use in our educational programs.
- Our fire chief and deputy fire marshal-public educator participated in National Night Out with our partners at the Renton Police Department.
- Department members participated in a total of 63 events, 23 of which were community events and 42 public education events, reaching an estimated 3,700 community members.



# 2021 IMPORTANT HEADLINES

With many incredible and challenging happenings in 2021, here are a few of the most key things that impacted our organization throughout the year.



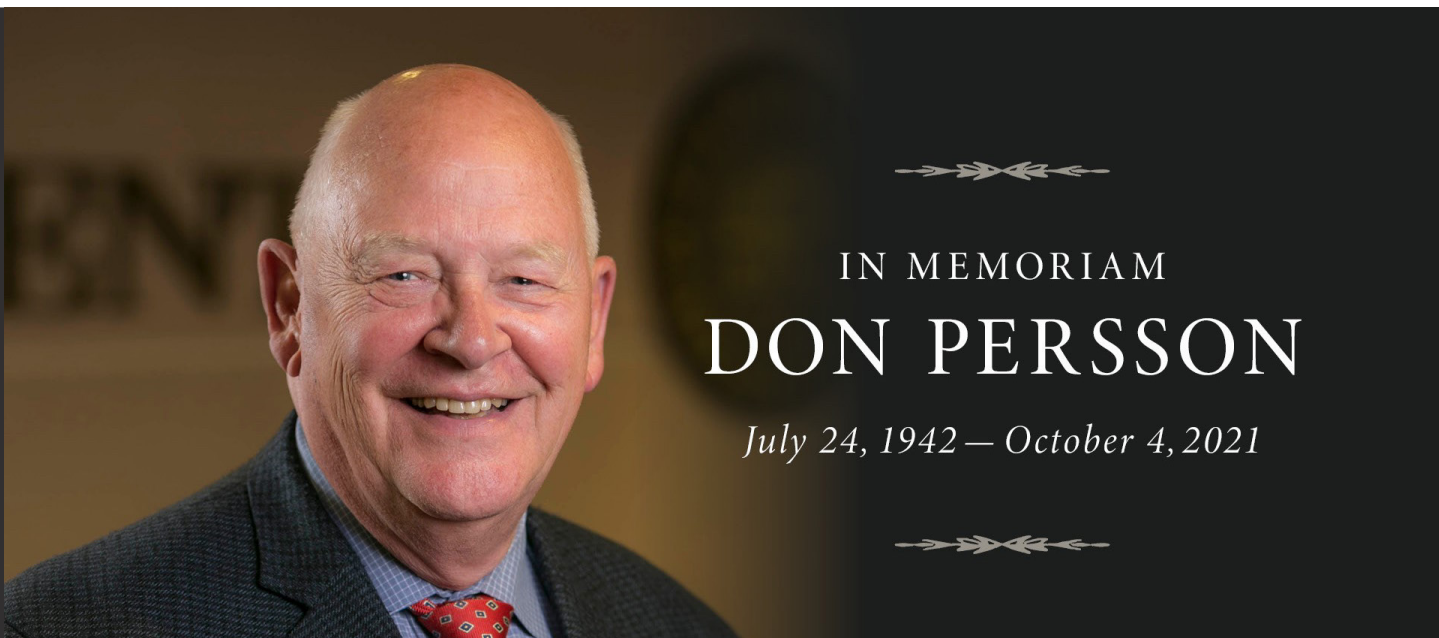
## HONORING RANDY CORMAN

As a member of the Renton RFA Governance Board, Randy Corman had a lasting impact on our organization. But his service to the Renton community runs far deeper than that.

In 2021, Randy not only retired from the Renton RFA Governance Board, he also retired from the Renton City Council after **28 consecutive years** as a council member— the longest in the city's history.

In honor of his amazing commitment to serving the Renton community, Mayor Armondo Pavone honored Randy with a proclamation that was unanimously passed by the council, designating December 13 as Randy Corman Day here in Renton.

We have so much appreciation for all of Randy's contributions to our amazing community and wish him well in his next chapter.



## REMEMBERING DON PERSSON

On October 4, 2021, the Renton community suffered a great loss with the passing of Don Persson. Don was a beloved member of the Renton RFA family, serving on our Governance Board from 2016 to 2019. He was also a member of the Renton City Council for 20 years and, before that, a member of the Renton Police Department for 33 years.

Don's unwavering support for the health and safety of the Renton community was made evident by his lifelong service to it. His support of the community impacted countless lives, and the knowledge and experience he imparted on our agency during his time as a board member made us a better organization. We will miss him deeply for his wisdom, his humor, and his unrelenting kindness.



## 20 MORE YEARS OF PARTNERSHIP WITH FIRE DISTRICT 40

We had much to look forward to by the end of 2021, as Renton RFA and Fire District 40 reached a brand-new, 20-year agreement with an effective date of January 1, 2022. This agreement continues to extend exceptional fire and life safety services to the community of Fairwood, in addition to public education services, access to Renton RFA CPR classes, and access to public outreach events held throughout Renton and Fire District 40.

Both the Fire District 40 Board of Commissioners and Fire Chief Steve Heitman shared their excitement for the new agreement and the future of the partnership between Renton RFA and Fire District 40. We are grateful for the opportunity to continue to serve the Fairwood community.

## RENTON RFA OPEN HOUSES

In the fall of 2021, Renton RFA was finally able to open its doors and welcome the community back into the fire stations! With much excitement, the organization safely held its most successful open house events to date. This is a tradition the organization hopes to continue to provide the Renton community every year.

**BELOW ARE A FEW IMAGES FROM THE EVENTS:**



# PROPOSITION 1

Proposition 1 was a Renton RFA ballot measure on the November ballot in 2021. The measure asked Renton voters to decide whether or not to renew the fire benefit charge — one of the most crucial parts of our funding system. The fire benefit charge makes up over 40% of our annual budget and plays a key role in our ability to provide the level of service our community needs and expects from their fire department.



## THE EFFECTS OF PROPOSITION 1

This ballot measure was pivotal for our organization because it continued the fire benefit charge for an additional 10 years. That was huge for our organization and our community. By passing this ballot measure, Renton voters ensured that we would not have to reduce service levels or eliminate any of our public programs. With our constituents' vote of confidence, our members could also rest assured that their role in serving the Renton community was secured.

The fire benefit charge is responsible for so many positive aspects of our organization. **In passing Proposition 1, Renton voters made certain that funding remained in place to:**

- Maintain our firefighter staffing levels and critical training programs
- Purchase and maintain our fire engines, aid units, specialty vehicles, and safety equipment
- Construct, remodel, and maintain new and existing fire stations
- Protect public programs, such as our Public Education, Fire Investigation, and FD CARES programs

Proposition 1 passed with an **82.13% approval rating** by Renton voters. We are so incredibly grateful to our amazing community for their overwhelming support. **THANK YOU, RENTON!**



PROPOSITION 1 PASSED WITH AN

**82.13%**

APPROVAL RATING

# CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION



Jim Matthew



Ray Barilleaux



Sanjeev Yonzon

## RENTON RFA CHECKS AND BALANCES

The Civil Service Commission's role in our organization is to carry out provisions of the law, assuring the continuance of the civil service system. The Commission promotes efficiency in the dispatch of public business, selecting and promoting employees on the basis of merit, and assuring fair and impartial treatment for all classified civil service employees.

# CITIZEN ADVISORY PANEL



Citizen Advisory Panel (L to R): Robert Peck, Jason Parker, Kathleen Booher. Not pictured: Helen Stanwell and David McCammon

## THE VOICE OF THE COMMUNITY

Appointed by the Renton RFA Governance Board, the Citizen Advisory Panel (CAP) provides an invaluable service to the Renton community by advising Renton RFA on a wide variety of subjects that aid the Governance Board and Fire Chief in their decision-making process. Effective citizen participation is a vital tool for our agency, and the CAP brings together viewpoints from people with wide-ranging interests and backgrounds, allowing us access to voices that might not otherwise be heard.



**RENTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY**

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