



# RENTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY



# 2022 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.



Building a culture of safety and support for our members.



Reducing risk for all hazards.



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.

### LOYALTY

- We will be mindful of how we represent our members, the organization, and the community.
- We will follow through with our commitments to ourselves, the RRFA, and the community.
- We will always be faithful to ourselves and what we believe.

### 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



**Valerie O'Halloran**  
Renton Regional Fire Authority  
Governance Board Chair, 2023

As the 2023 Chair of the Renton RFA Governance Board, I am delighted with the great success and achievements that the organization accomplished in the past year. The Renton RFA team worked tirelessly to deliver exceptional fire and life safety services to the Renton community, and I am proud to say that they continue to succeed in that effort.

One of the core responsibilities of the Renton RFA Governance Board is fiscal oversight. It is our job to review the organization's financial plans, provide guidance, and approve the proposals that meet the best interests of the communities we represent. In 2022, our Board was able to speak to projects that will have significant positive impact throughout the Renton community.

Among those projects were the beginning stages of the plan to build a new Fire Station 16 in the East Highlands area. Station 16 is Renton Regional Fire Authority's oldest fire station. As Renton continues to grow and evolve, so must the fire service that supports it. This new station will boast features and amenities that ensure the station can provide quality service to future generations for the next 50 years or longer.

I am also excited to be a part of the new FD CARES program. The Fire Department Community Access, Resources, and Education Services program takes our first responder responsibilities in a whole new direction. By utilizing a team composed of a social worker and a nurse, we are now able to proactively address low-acuity service needs that help improve the overall quality of life for our most vulnerable community members while reducing their reliance on the 9-1-1 system.

With that, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to the Renton community. I am able to serve as Chair of the Renton RFA Governance Board because of your confidence in me as a public servant. I am honored to represent the interests of the Renton community and grateful to get to do so with an organization as community focused as Renton RFA. Their commitment and dedication to their duties are a testament to the high level of professionalism and excellence that we strive to provide throughout the Renton community.

Thank you for your continued trust in both the Governance Board and the organization as a whole. We look forward to what the future has in store for our community.

Respectfully,

**Valerie O'Halloran**, 2023 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 composed 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 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.



\*Indicates a non-voting Board member.

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# A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF



**STEVE HEITMAN**  
Renton RFA Fire Chief

Renton Regional Fire Authority (Renton RFA) has had a very successful year that can be equally attributed to the hard work of our incredible team and the unyielding support of our amazing community. From earning several impactful grants that bolster our community services, to onboarding the next generation of Renton RFA firefighters, we have been able to achieve a great deal.

I am extremely proud of our team members and the effort they have made to secure grant opportunities that provide additional support to our organization and community programs, without adding cost for our taxpayers. These funds have been used to serve our community in a variety of ways, including purchasing new equipment, training our firefighters, and improving our facilities. Our team works hard to find and seize opportunities that allow us to continually improve and build on our service to the Renton community, while maintaining the utmost in fiscal responsibility.

In addition, seven new firefighters graduated from the South King County Fire Training Consortium this year and joined the Renton RFA team. These new personnel are critical in filling the gaps created by retiring personnel and ensuring our commitment to quality service remains intact. We anticipate a continuance of busy hiring seasons in the coming year and for the next few years as well. Not only am I grateful to have such a diverse and dedicated team; I am also grateful to have a supportive community that provides the resources necessary to ensure our staffing levels can continue to meet the needs of our growing jurisdiction.

We were also very proud to have held the largest KCFCA Diversity and Recruitment event in our region to date, which helped us to attract more than 100 potential applicants from all walks of life. We hosted the event at Renton Technical College and featured five classes covering the process and experience of joining the fire service. The event was designed to help those with little-to-no experience with the fire service fully understand its potential as a career choice. We were elated to partner with King County EMS to sponsor Renton-based, minority-owned catering, as well as support the college's own culinary arts program, to provide food and beverages for the event. All in all, it was a huge success, and we are looking forward to continuing to explore ways to diversify our organization while supporting our local community in the process.

Finally, we put several new apparatus into service over the course of the year, replacing aging rigs, as part of our strategic apparatus replacement schedule. Having apparatus that provide the latest in safety, fire suppression, and emergency medical technology is critical to providing the best, most efficient service to our community, as well as keeping our personnel safe. We will continue to strategically implement a replacement schedule that is timely and fiscally responsible.

All these achievements would not have been possible without the ongoing support of our community and the guidance of the Renton RFA Governance Board. The Governance Board has its finger on the pulse of the Renton community and helps to ensure we are accountable to our commitments as a public service organization. I deeply appreciate the Board members' input and expertise. Without question, we are a better organization because of their support.

I am confident that the coming year will continue to build on these amazing achievements, as we work diligently to build a Renton community that is safer, healthier, and stronger than ever.

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

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# THE EXECUTIVE TEAM

The Renton Regional Fire Authority Executive Team is responsible for 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.

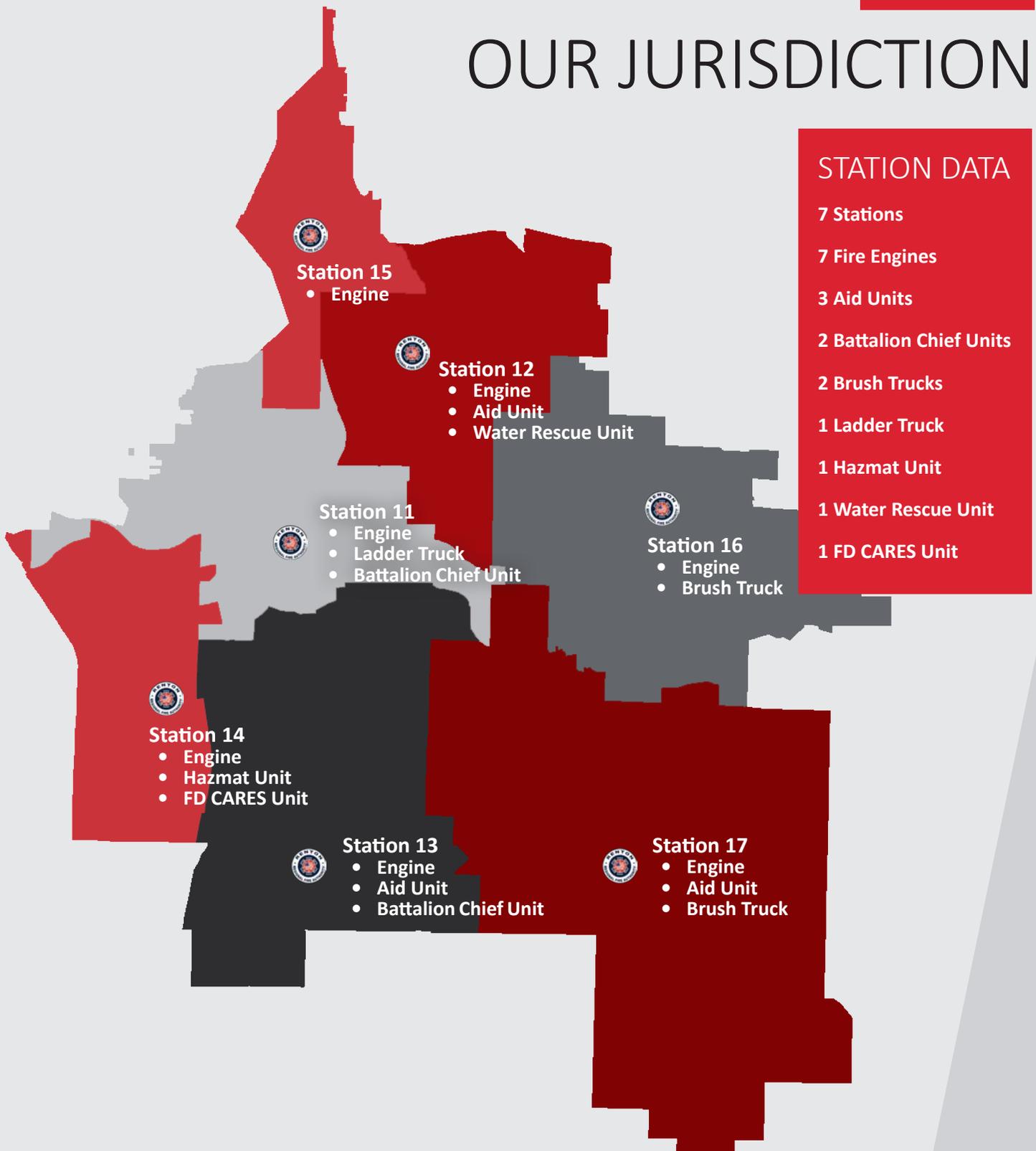
## OUR MEMBERS

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.

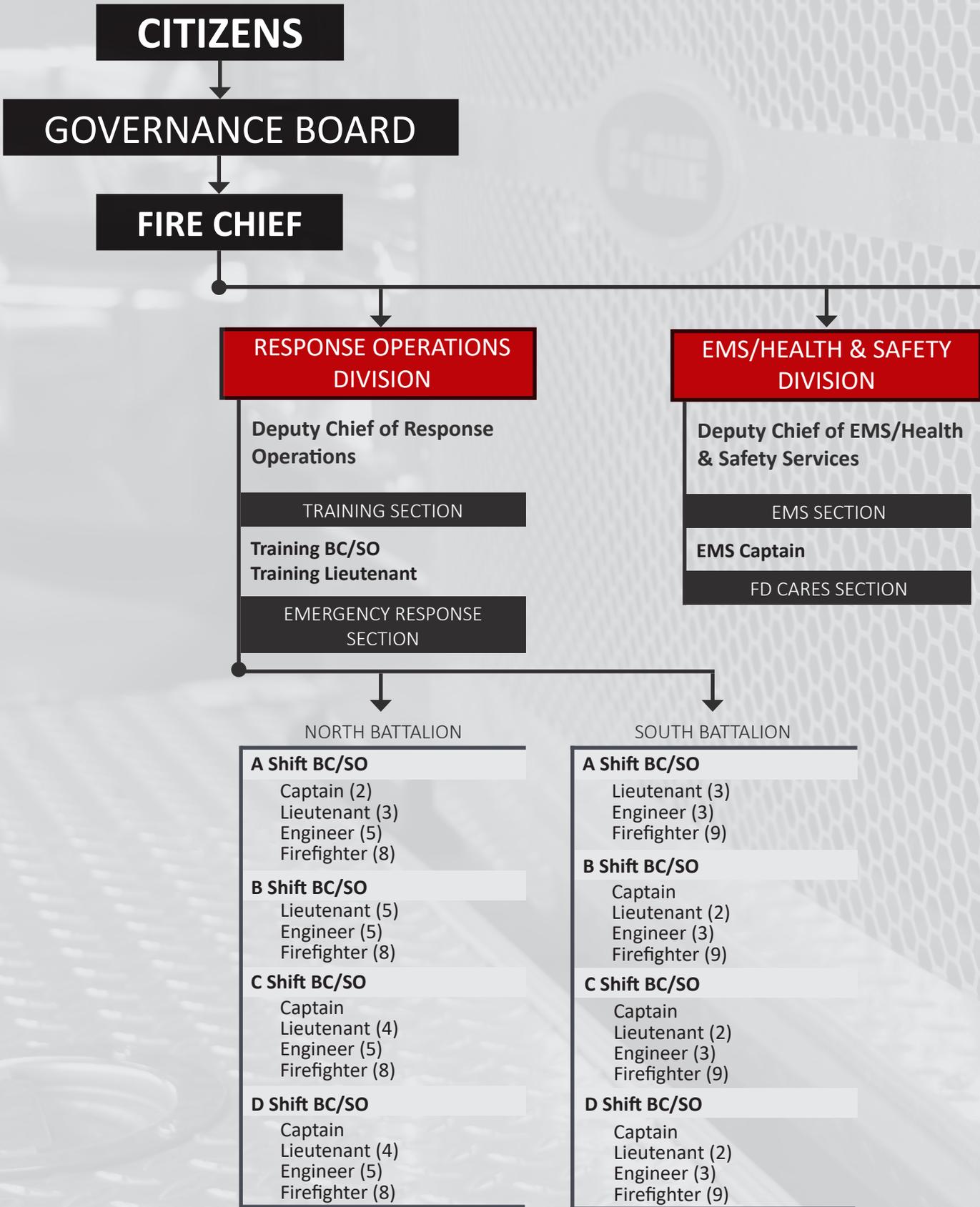
# OUR JURISDICTION

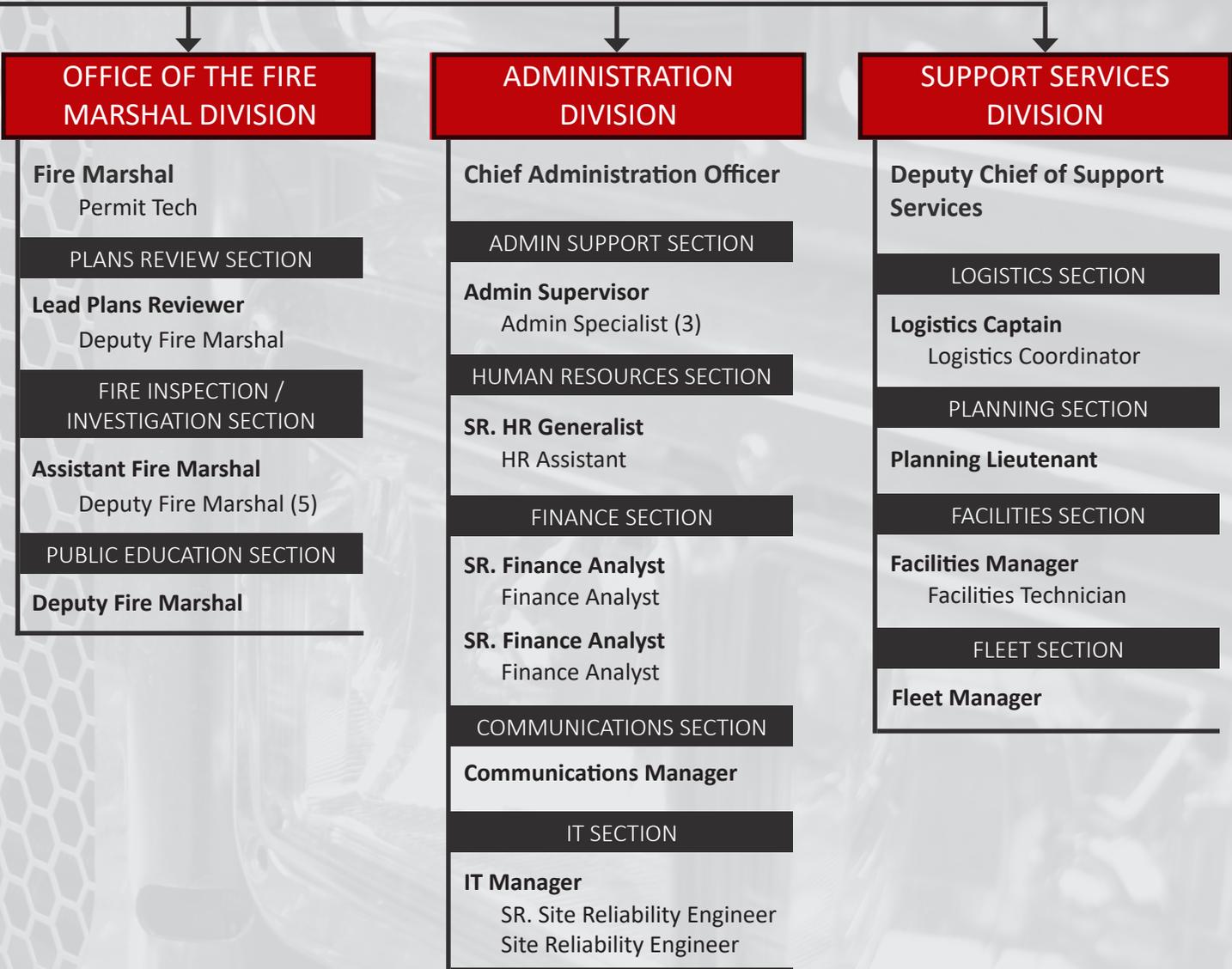


JURISDICTION	POPULATION	AREA (SQ MILES)	ASSESSED PROPERTY VALUE
RRFA Coverage Area	138,035	37	\$29.15 Billion
City of Renton & Fire District #25	115,838	27	\$25.00 Billion*
Fire District #40	22,197	10	\$4.15 Billion*

\*Source: King County GIS, ESRI, Census.

# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





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# FIRE STATIONS



## **FIRE STATION 11**

211 Mill Avenue South  
Renton, WA 98057

**APPARATUS:**

Engine, Ladder Truck, and Battalion Chief Unit



## **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 Unit



## FIRE STATION 14 & OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL

1900 Lind Avenue Southwest  
Renton, WA 98057

**APPARATUS:**

Engine, Hazmat Unit, and 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  
Brush Truck



## FIRE STATION 17

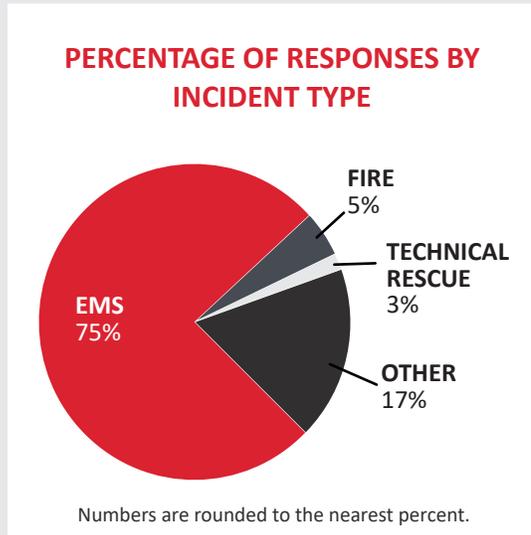
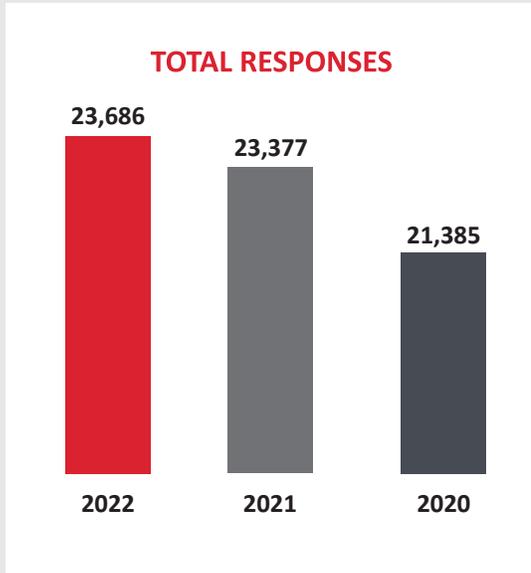
14810 Southeast Petrovisky Road  
Renton, WA 98058

**APPARATUS:**

Engine, Aid Unit, and Brush Truck

# RESPONSE OPERATIONS DIVISION

## 2022 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 by four platoons. To meet the growing needs of the Renton community, we currently staff 140 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. To meet the emergency response needs of our community, there are 32 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.

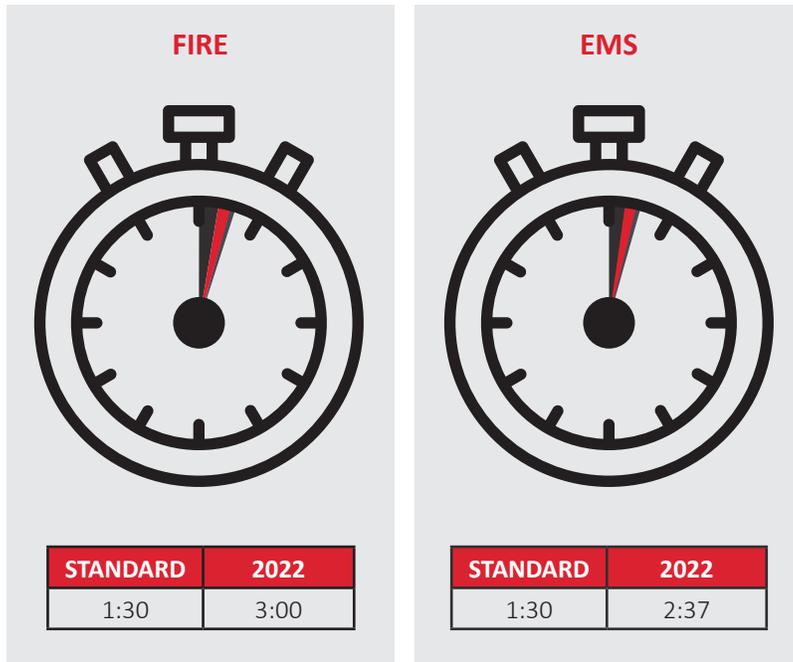
Renton RFA is in the **top 5%** of fire and life safety organizations in the nation for service quality.

## 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 National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) guidelines. The goal is to meet the NFPA standard 90% of the time. Below are the key metrics we track based on that 90% goal.

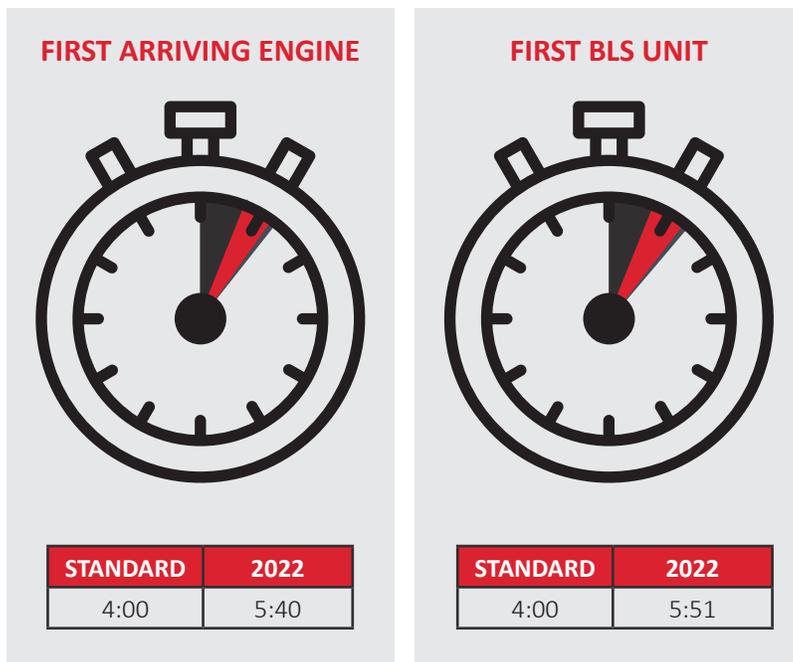
### TURN OUT TIMES

**Turn Out Time** is the time between when a unit is dispatched and when it is en route.



### TRAVEL TIMES

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



## 2022 RESPONSE OPS STATS

### BUSIEST APPARATUS

#### Engine 311

3,512 Responses



#### Aid Unit 313

2,933 Responses



#### Aid Unit 312

2,132 Responses



### BUSIEST FIRE STATIONS

#### Fire Station 11

5,822 Responses



#### Fire Station 13

5,384 Responses



#### Fire Station 12

3,584 Responses



# 630

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

## RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING

### SOUTH KING COUNTY FIRE TRAINING CONSORTIUM

Renton RFA is part of the South King County Fire Training Consortium. The consortium is made up of all the fire departments throughout South King County, as well as Eastside Fire & Rescue, and serves to provide exceptional, consistent training to firefighters throughout the region at a lower cost to taxpayers. We take training very seriously, and our team works tirelessly to ensure we stay updated on the latest techniques, technologies, and best practices to bring the highest probability of success to our community members when they need us the most. Additionally, the consortium puts on two 20-week-long Academies a year where our newest recruits are trained in firefighting and emergency medical technician certification.



**36,460** TOTAL TRAINING HOURS

### WA FIRE CAREERS

Renton RFA is an integral part of WA Fire Careers, a collaborative group comprising 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.

### SPECIAL TEAMS

Renton RFA has established multiple technical rescue teams that can respond to specific incidents that present a higher risk environment for responders and the community. We maintain four special operations teams/units, including technical rescue, water rescue, hazardous materials, and wildland. Each team is staffed with technicians trained to the specific discipline and is part of the Zone 3 regional response.

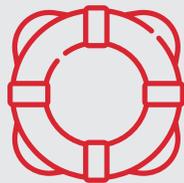
To be more efficient in staffing, training, response, equipment, and costs, resources and efforts are delivered through a regional approach with the other departments in Zone 3. This regional and collaborative approach allows zone-wide participation, effective coverage, and equitable distribution of resources to meet the community's emergent needs. This approach requires the support of every agency in Zone 3.

### 2022 SPECIAL TEAMS RESPONSES BREAKDOWN



**HAZMAT  
RESPONSES**

**491**



**WATER RESCUE  
RESPONSES**

**80**



**TECHNICAL RESCUE  
RESPONSES**

**41**



**WILDLAND  
RESPONSES**

**18**

## TOP COMPANIES OF THE YEAR

Every year, we recognize the top companies within our organization, which includes the top aid company, the top engine company, and the top ladder company. Below are the 2022 teams recognized for their exemplary work upholding our values and serving the Renton community.



Left to right: Jace Reyes, Steve Heitman, Tanner Lucas

### TOP AID COMPANY

**Fire Station 13 - A Shift**  
Firefighter Jace Reyes  
Firefighter Tanner Lucas



Left to right: Kristian Ramos, Jessica Clearman, Steve Heitman, Steven Trujillo, Daniel Johnston.

### TOP ENGINE COMPANY

**Fire Station 17 - A Shift**  
Lieutenant Steven Trujillo  
Engineer Daniel Johnston  
Firefighter Kristian Ramos  
Firefighter Jessica Clearman



Left to right: Hector Luevano, Steve Heitman, David Laha

### TOP LADDER COMPANY

**Fire Station 11 - D Shift**  
Lieutenant Dylan Guyll (*not pictured*)  
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. Our data shows that 75% of our emergency responses are related to emergency medical services (EMS). This division focuses on enhancing and continually improving EMS services to the community, as well as bolstering preventive health and safety programs such as the Fire Department Community Assistance, Referrals, and Education Services (FD CARES) program and our CPR program.

## FD CARES

The FD CARES program addresses low-acuity calls for service. Low-acuity calls are important, but non-emergent in nature, and thus do not typically require a fire engine, aid unit, or emergency response by firefighters. Instead, we have discovered that the best roles for this team are a combination of a registered nurse and a social worker.

This team responds to low-acuity calls for service in a smaller, specialized apparatus with a unique array of equipment and resources in tow. Because their calls are non-emergent, they are able to spend more time with individual patients and can also make proactive and follow-up visits to ensure successful, long-term patient outcomes.



In 2022, our FD CARES program evolved to extend services to the Renton Police Department and the City of Renton. Through this collaboration, the FD CARES team is able to co-respond with police to help vulnerable community members reach the resources they need.

## FIREFIGHTER WELL-BEING AND RESILIENCY

The problem we are trying to solve with firefighter well-being is the negative impact that the demanding and often traumatic nature of firefighting can have on the physical, mental, and emotional health of firefighters. Firefighters face a wide range of challenges, including exposure to smoke and other hazardous materials, physical injuries, long and irregular shifts, high stress levels, and traumatic incidents such as fatalities and severe injuries. Therefore, addressing firefighter well-being and resiliency is essential not only to ensure the health and safety of individual firefighters but also to maintain the overall effectiveness and sustainability of firefighting services.

## EVOLUTION OF EMS TRAINING

It is a reality that our firefighters are being exposed to an increasing number of emergency responses that include scenes of violence. As a result, Renton RFA firefighters train quarterly in realistic scenarios while using tactical gear and lifelike training manikins.



## FIREFIGHTER SAFETY

Renton RFA is working to promote firefighter health and safety at the national and state level through LNI, HIPAA, and NFPA compliance. We support health and wellness through firefighter fitness initiatives, annual medical evaluations, and nutrition education.

# 2022 QUICK RESPONSE STATS

RESPONSES BY FIRE STATION		
FIRE STATION	NUMBER OF RESPONSES	PERCENT OF RESPONSES
Fire Station 11	5,822	25%
Fire Station 12	3,584	15%
Fire Station 13	5,384	23%
Fire Station 14	2,895	12%
Fire Station 15	1,546	6%
Fire Station 16	1,713	7%
Fire Station 17	2,742	12%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>23,686</b>	<b>100%</b>

RESPONSES BY APPARATUS		
APPARATUS	NUMBER OF RESPONSES	PERCENT OF RESPONSES
11 Fire Engine	3,512	15%
11 Ladder Truck	1,741	7%
11 Battalion Vehicle	569	2%
12 Aid Unit	2,132	9%
12 Water Rescue Unit	41	0%*
12 Fire Engine	1,411	6%
13 Aid Unit	2,933	12%
13 Battalion Vehicle	381	2%
13 Fire Engine	2,070	9%
14 FD CARES	960	4%
14 Fire Engine	1,780	8%
14 Hazmat Vehicle	155	0%*
15 Fire Engine	1,546	7%
16 Fire Engine	1,713	7%
17 Aid Car	1,776	8%
17 Brush Truck	18	0%*
17 Fire Engine	948	4%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>23,686</b>	<b>100%</b>

FIRE RESPONSES BY TYPE		
FIRE TYPE	NUMBER OF RESPONSES	PERCENT OF RESPONSES
Structure Fire	458	42%
Cooking Fire	84	8%
Vehicle Fire	119	11%
Brush Fire	199	18%
Trash Fire	181	17%
Other	47	4%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,088</b>	<b>100%</b>

RESPONSES BY INCIDENT TYPE		
INCIDENT TYPE	NUMBER OF RESPONSES	PERCENT OF RESPONSES
EMS	17,923	75%
False Alarm	1,671	7%
Fire	1,088	5%
Good Intent	1,639	7%
Hazmat	491	2%
Public Service	837	4%
Rupture/Explosion	20	0%*
Other Hazards	17	0%*
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>23,686</b>	<b>100%</b>

RESPONSES BY SPECIAL TEAM		
TEAM	NUMBER OF RESPONSES	PERCENT OF RESPONSES
Hazmat	491	78%
Water Rescue	80	13%
Technical Rescue	41	6%
Wildland	18	3%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>630</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

## 2022 ADMIN STATS



**457 Records Requests**  
Processed



**7 New Firefighters**  
Graduated Academy



**105,015 Newsletters**  
Mailed



**99.9% IT Site Reliability**  
Uptime



**\$45.87 MM Budget**  
Managed

## ADMIN SUPPORT SERVICES

- Welcomed new Administrative Specialist, Samantha Vergara, in March.
- Provided interim support and process development/improvements for the Finance team.
- Managed 65 contracts and agreements.
- Processed 457 public records requests.
- Managed the review and approval process for 15 policy updates.
- Implemented efficient processes across all divisions to reduce review and approval response times.

## HUMAN RESOURCES

- Added six new civilian staff to the team.
- Seven new firefighter recruits graduated from fire academy.
- Celebrated seven member promotions.
- Successfully completed three bargaining agreements.
- Updated all Renton RFA job descriptions to reduce redundant language and present streamlined, user-friendly formatting for applicants.

## COMMUNICATIONS

- Welcomed 27,879 users to RentonRFA.com, up 265% over 2021.
- Distributed a total of 105,015 print newsletters to the Renton community.
- Added 371 new followers to our Facebook and 109 to our Instagram.
- Engaged with more than 1,000 community members at our annual open houses.

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)

- Facilitated upgrades to our staffing software, including new security standards and a streamlined approach to legacy codes, lists, and rules that overhauled and improved the shift bidding process.
- Implemented automation for hospital divert status, apparatus tracking, and improved analytics of emergency responses.
- Planned and implemented new IT infrastructure for the Station 14 renovation.

## FINANCE

- Increased the efficiency of the Finance team by automating scheduled reports.
- Enhanced the employee and vendor experience via SharePoint forms and new modules in our Finance software, ERP Pro 10.
- Implemented the new Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) on leases.
- Welcomed Eryn Villa to the Finance team as the new Finance Assistant.
- Successfully managed a \$45.87 MM financial budget.

**How was  
Renton RFA  
funded in  
2022?**

Property Tax	\$18,234,244
Fire Benefit Charge	\$17,476,059
Fire District 40 Contract	\$5,955,337
EMS Levy	\$2,266,067
Other Revenues	\$936,481
EMS Services	\$512,600
Permits & Fees	\$290,000
Investment Income	\$200,000

# 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

- Designed check sheets for monthly station safety inspections and generator checks.
- Began the 5-year implementation of universal-fit ballistic vests for all response apparatus.
- Installed the first set of Pentheon eDraulic battery-powered extrication tools on an engine.
- Transitioned to 28' extension ladders.
- Distributed APX6000 radios for familiarization and training.



## FACILITIES

- Completed 289 work orders.
- Purchased a 3+ acre lot to serve as the new home of Fire Station 16 in the Eastern Highlands.
- Completed the remodel of the Fire Station 11 dormitory and bathroom areas, which modernized the space and created individual bunk rooms and bathroom facilities for crews.
- Remodeled the Fire Marshal's office to modernize and reorganize the space for impending team growth. Also purchased ergonomic furniture for all staff.
- Purchased a snowplow, enabling the Facilities team to respond immediately for de-icing and plowing at all of the Renton RFA stations during inclement weather.



## FLEET

- Completed factory visits for quality control and acceptance of multiple new apparatus, including one brush truck, three Horton aid units, and three Pierce fire engines.



## PLANNING

- Completed the 2022 fire benefit charge process and made improvements for efficiency in the 2023 process.
- Re-evaluated 32,000 Renton parcels for exempt status per HB 1467.
- Audited parcels for correct classifications, specifically single-family vs. multi-family.
- Obtained and managed a sprinkler grant for \$90,000.
- Updated fire station orders to account for the Lind Avenue bridge being out of service.
- Welcomed a new Accreditation Manager, Lisa Sjoden, for ongoing organizational improvement.
- Established consistent monthly data reporting with the addition of our new Business Analyst, Kelvin Li.
- Established a dashboard and support for organizational data to improve reporting consistency.



# OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL

The Office of the Fire Marshal Division is managed by Fire Marshal Anjela Barton and comprises 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.

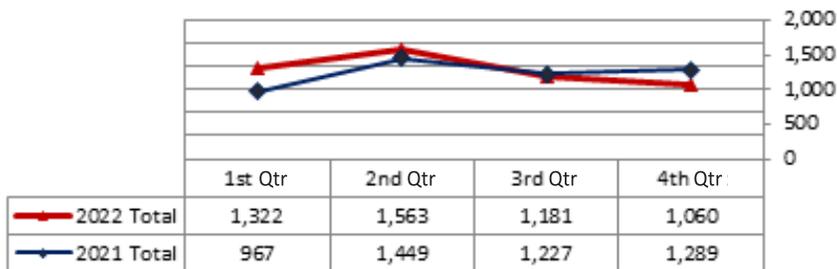
## FIRE & LIFE SAFETY INSPECTIONS

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 system are present.
- Triennial inspections for healthcare buildings that receive regular fire and life safety inspections from the state.

In 2022, we completed 5,126 inspections.

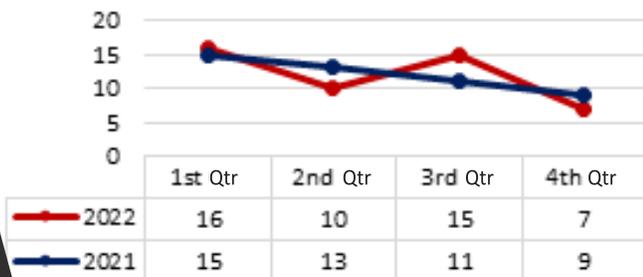
Inspections Completed by Quarter - Comparative to 2021



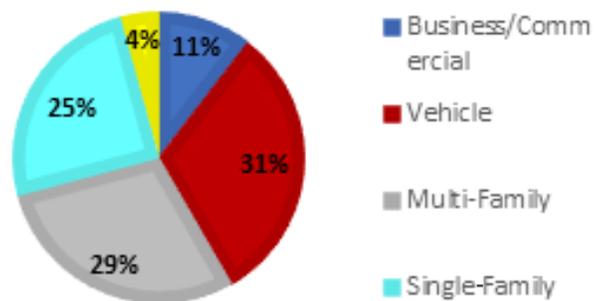
## FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

We are responsible for determining the origin and cause of fires occurring within the City of Renton. We conduct fire investigations to identify trends and areas where we can prevent future loss through changes in engineering, enforcement, and education. In 2022, we investigated 48 fires that resulted in an estimated \$6.1 million in property loss.

Fire Investigations by Quarter - Comparative to 2021



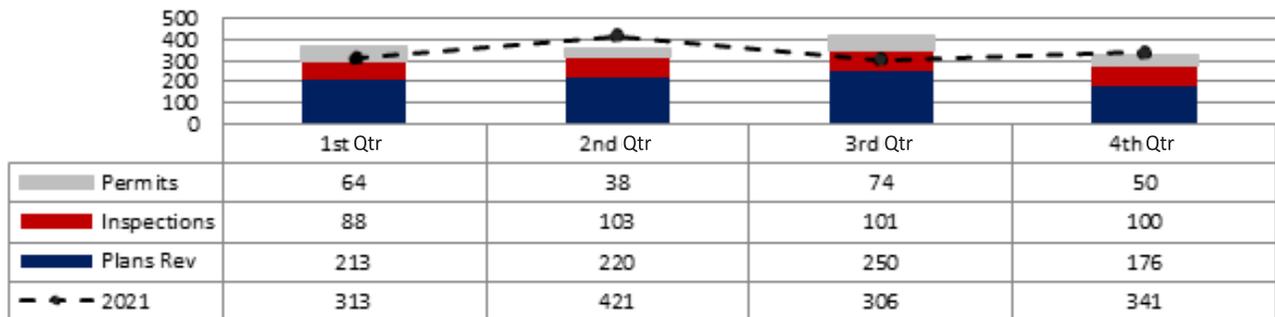
PROPERTY TYPE OF INVESTIGATED FIRES



## PLANS REVIEW, CONSTRUCTION INSPECTIONS & PERMITS

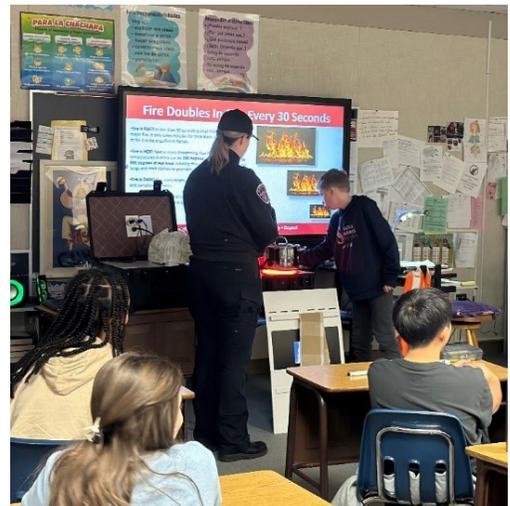
Plans for new construction and renovations are reviewed for adherence to the fire code, and permits are issued for fire protection systems and other construction-related activities. In 2022, we completed 859 fire plans reviews, 392 construction inspections, and issued 226 fire systems and/or fire construction permits.

Plans Review, Construction Inspections & Permits by Quarter - Comparative to 2021

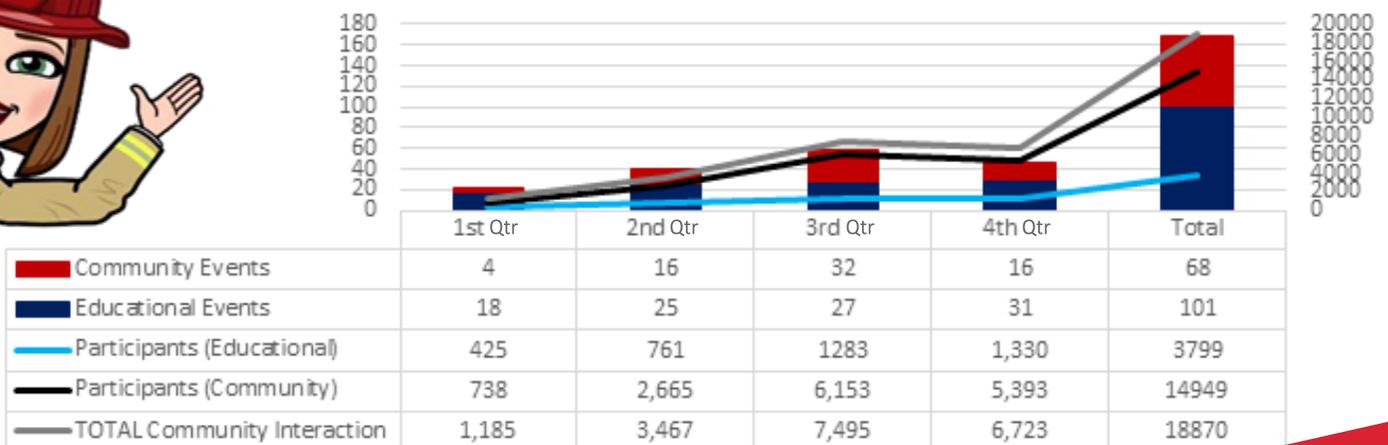


## COMMUNITY OUTREACH & PUBLIC EDUCATION

Our public educator and firefighters had in-person interactions with close to 19,000 community members through participation in public education events and community events. These included school visits, our Kindergarten fire safety program, visits to the Renton Farmers Market, Healthy Heart programs, station visits, annual Scout Night, and other activities throughout the community.



PUBLIC EDUCATION & COMMUNITY OUTREACH



# 2022 IMPORTANT HEADLINES



## REPLACING FIRE STATION 16

While 2022 marked the first, official step toward the replacement project for Fire Station 16, this project has been on our radar for quite some time. As the oldest station in our lineup, Fire Station 16 has faithfully served the Fire District 25 community for decades, but aging building systems and growing community needs have dictated that change is imminent.

Renton RFA has secured a 3+ acre property located within a mile of the existing station off of SE 128th Street in the Eastern Highlands. This property will accommodate a modern, 50-year, single-story fire station with room to grow. It will also allow the organization to build a fleet shop to serve the organization's apparatus in a timely and cost-effective manner.



## NEW, SAFER APPARATUS ARRIVE IN RENTON

In addition to receiving a new brush truck (*photo on page 20*), Renton welcomed six new state-of-the-art apparatus: three Pierce fire engines and three Horton aid units. The new apparatus boast numerous safety enhancements and features that both improve on-scene safety and efficiency as well as keep our firefighters safer while en route. These features include high-performance LED lighting inside and outside the rigs, seatbelts for rear-riding firefighters, upgraded suspension systems for safer operation while in transit and smoother transport for patients, and more. One feature of the new fire engines you may have noticed is that they also pay homage to the 343 firefighters who lost their lives in 9/11.

## 2022 OPEN HOUSE EVENTS

We welcomed the community back to the fire stations in 2022 for our annual open house events. The open houses took place over the last three Saturdays in October and featured two stations per weekend. With the exception of Fire Station 14, which is located in a primarily commercial/industrial area, each station represented their unique characteristics.

The events drew in approximately 1,000 community members total, with the largest turnout being Fire Station 17 in Fairwood on October 29th. We enlisted the help of the Zone 3 Fire Cadets to help us run the Fire Station 17 open house. Their assistance was instrumental in the success of the event, helping community members cross Petrovitsky Road safely. We estimated that Fire Station 17 saw nearly 500 community members by itself! Lucky for us, Fire District 40 also helped co-host the Fire Station 17 event, so every community member was able to walk away with excellent safety swag and information.

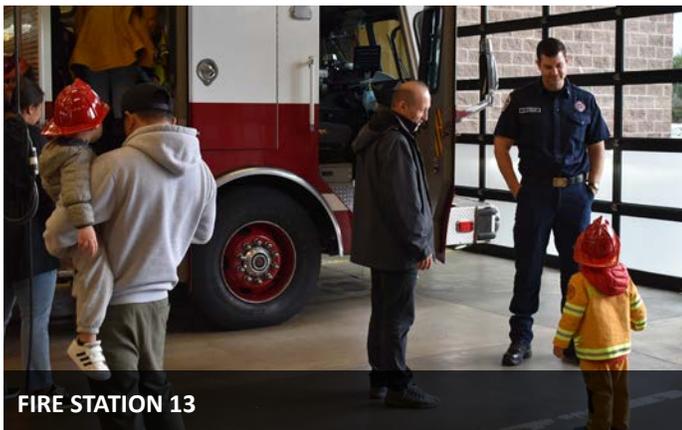
Each location showcased something that makes their station special, such as Fire Station 15's infamous lamp museum, Fire Station 16's classic fire engine, and Fire Station 12's water rescue boat. All in all, our staff and community members had an excellent time, and we look forward to seeing everyone again in 2023!



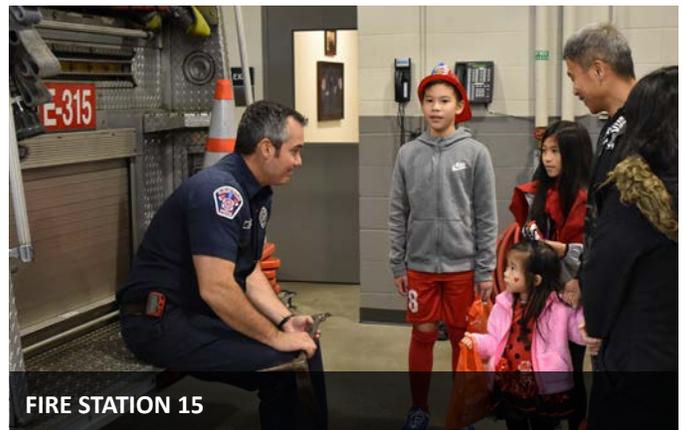
FIRE STATION 11



FIRE STATION 12



FIRE STATION 13



FIRE STATION 15



FIRE STATION 16



FIRE STATION 17

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# THE YEAR OF GRANTS

Divisions across Renton RFA worked hard in 2022 to secure and execute grant opportunities that would allow us to expand or enhance services to the community while saving public funding. Those efforts were rewarded, and we received over \$190,000 in additional funding that helped procure vital resources and equipment for our teams and our community members.

## **ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT: \$90,909**

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) promotes health and wellness for firefighters who serve the community each day. Renton RFA was awarded the grant in 2021, but executed the grant in 2022 by installing fire sprinklers in the crews' quarters as part of a larger remodel effort to increase safety, security, and modernize the space for our crews.

## **SECURING THE CITIES GRANT: \$78,500**

The Seattle Region Securing the Cities Program is a federal grant established to reduce the risk of HAZMAT threats to metropolitan regions in the US. For our part in this grant, Renton RFA was a sub-recipient in the amount of \$78,500, which went toward the purchase of critical HAZMAT equipment.

## **FIRE PREVENTION AND SAFETY GRANT: \$17,142**

The Fire Prevention and Safety Grants are part of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants through FEMA and support projects that enhance the safety of the public and firefighters from fire and related hazards. Our team was awarded this grant in 2021 and utilized it to purchase a hazard house and demonstration kitchen that was first put into use by our Public Education section in 2022.

## **FIIRE GRANT: \$3,849**

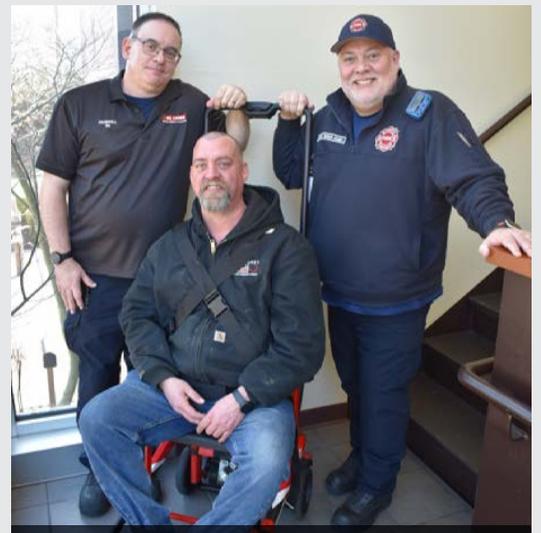
The Firefighter Injury and Illness Reduction (FIIRE) pilot program, through the WA State Department of Labor & Industries, focuses on reducing workplace injuries. This grant enabled our FD CARES section to purchase a stair chair, which improves the safety and comfort of patient transport up/down stairs for both our vulnerable community members and our team.

## **MEDIC ONE FOUNDATION GRANT: \$1,202**

The Medic One Foundation is dedicated to improving the quality of pre-hospital emergency care. This grant enabled our team to purchase infant CPR manikins to improve our public CPR training classes that are held on the first Saturday of each month.



Public Educator Sara Morris teaching home fire safety at the Renton Senior Activity Center.



FD CARES team & Facilities Tech Don Highley demonstrating the new stair chair.



CPR class using new infant manikins.

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# 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.

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# CITIZEN ADVISORY PANEL



Pictured left to right: Jason Parker, Kathleen Booher, Robert Peck, David McCammon, and Helen Stanwell.

## 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 the 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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