

CLARK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 6

8800 NE Hazel Dell Avenue
Vancouver, Washington 98665



2008 ANNUAL REPORT

MARCH 2009

INTRODUCTION

Clark County Fire District 6 was formed in 1954 to provide fire protection to the Hazel Dell, Lakeshore, Felida and Salmon Creek areas. Initially an all-volunteer department, it has grown through the years in response to increasing calls for service. Today, the department has over sixty full-time employees and nearly forty volunteers.

Fire District 6 provides fire protection and Advanced Life Support Paramedic services. The District is very active in the community, providing fire and injury prevention programs, station tours, school visits and other events.

This Annual Report provides the community with information about the District's services to the community during 2008. It includes information about the District, emergency response information, a report on the District's finances, training, volunteer program and public education program.

Please visit the District's web site at www.ccf6.org for information about your fire district and the programs provided.

CONTENTS

Mission Statement, Vision Statement and Guiding Principles	6
Areas Served	7
Department Organization	8
Board of Fire Commissioners	9
Letter from the Chair	10
Letter from the Fire Chief	13
Administration	14
2008 Master Plan	14
Summary of Recommendations	14
2008 Strategic Plan	16
Strategic Initiatives	17
Retirements	18
Recognition Banquet	19
District Finances	20
Fire Levy	20
Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Levy	20
Total Revenue	20
Budget	20
Expenditures	21
Safety	22
Operations	23
Summary of Emergency Responses	23
Fire vs. EMS: 2008	23
Fire vs. EMS: 2002 – 2008	24
Property (Fire) Loss	24
Simultaneous Emergencies	24
NFIRS Breakdown of Incident Types	25
Emergency Medical Responses	26
Responses by Station Area	27
Incidents by Time of Day 2003 – 2008	28
Incidents by Day of Week – 2008	28
Emergency Medical Services Division	29
EMS response types	29
EMS responses by station area	30
EMS responses by time of day	30
EMS response times	31
National Cardiac study	31
New cardiac resuscitation procedures	31
2008 Response Time Objective Compliance Report	33
Introduction	33
Response Time Compliance	33
Turnout Time: Combined Fire/EMS	35
Fire Suppression Incident: First Arriving Unit	35
Fire Suppression Incident: Full First Alarm	36
EMS Incident: First BLS Arriving Unit	36
EMS Incident: First ALS Arriving Unit	37

Technical Rescue: Operations and Technician Arrival	37
Technical Rescue: Sufficient Technician Arrival	38
Response Time: All Incidents	38
Geographic Areas of Concern	39
Predictable Consequences	39
Ongoing Plans for Achieving Compliance	40
Data Record Sets	41
Training Division	42
Technical Rescue Team	44
Volunteer Firefighter Program	46
Training received	47
Events attended	47
Apparatus and Maintenance	48
Community Involvement – Education and Prevention	50
Public Education and Prevention Events	52
Annual Open House	52
Clark County Fair	53
Public Safety Complex Open House	53
Fire District 6 Community Newsletter	53
Annual Fire Prevention Poster Contest	54
Fire Prevention Activities	54
Other Community Events	54
Bicycle Helmets	55
Memory Makers at the Clark County Fair	56

LIST OF CHARTS/MAPS

Areas Served	7
Organization Chart	8
Revenue – Emergency Medical and Fire Suppression	20
Expenditures – Fire and Emergency Medical Services	21
Fire vs. Emergency Medical Responses: 2008	23
Fire vs. Emergency Medical Responses: 2002 – 2008	24
Property Loss – Fire	25
National Fire Incident Reporting System Breakdown (table)	25
NFIRS Breakdown of Incident Type (chart)	26
EMS Responses as a Percentage of Total	26
Responses by Station Area: 2008	27
Responses by Station: 2002 – 2008	27
Incidents by Time of Day 2003 – 2008	28
Incidents by Day of Week – 2008	28
EMS Responses by Type	29
EMS Responses by Station Area	30
EMS Responses by Time of Day	30
EMS Response Time by Number of Incidents	31
Construction of Response time	34

Turnout Time: Fire & EMS Incidents	35
Fire: First Engine Arrival	35
Fire: Full First Alarm Assignment Arrival	36
Emergency Medical: First BLS Unit Arrival	36
Emergency Medical: First ALS Unit Arrival	37
Technical Rescue: Operations Arrival	37
Technical Rescue: Technicians Arrival	38
Response Time: All Incidents	38
Percentage of Simultaneous Emergencies	40
Training Hours Breakdown	43

MISSION, VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

In 2008, through the work of the Board of Commissioners, fire district personnel, a citizen advisory group and surveys of the community, the Board was presented with the District's first Master Plan document. Subsequent to the development of that plan, the District developed a Strategic Plan to guide the department in completing strategic initiatives and objectives during the next three to five years.

During that strategic planning process, a revised Mission Statement, Vision Statements and Guiding Principles were developed. More information on the Master Plan and Strategic Plan are covered later in this document.

MISSION STATEMENT

- Dedicated to excellence in protecting and serving our community.

VISION STATEMENTS

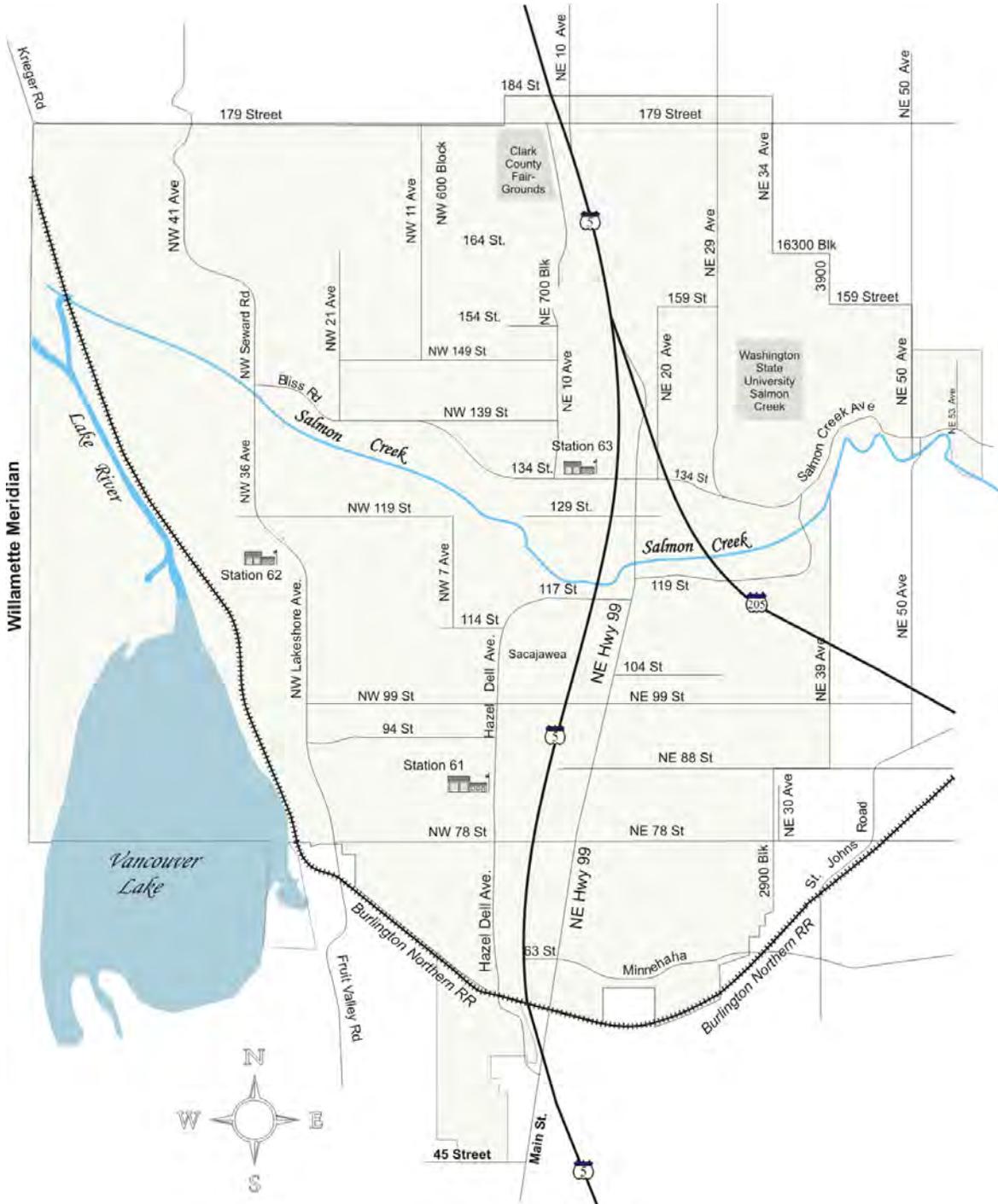
- To be an organization that continually evaluates and is committed to the well-being of our members and community.
- To have the department be recognized positively by our community and other agencies.
- To strive to continually exceed all of our customers' expectations.
- To be enthusiastically supported by our community which views us with pride, respect and confidence.
- To promote and encourage a creative, positive, and diverse environment.
- To be an organization which anticipates, embraces, and supports positive change.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

At Fire District 6, we value the following guiding principles: We will promote an atmosphere of courtesy, respect, integrity, and commitment in the pursuit of professional excellence. Therefore, we encourage innovation, teamwork, and open communication.

FIRE DISTRICT 6 - AREAS SERVED

All areas within the green-shaded region on the map below are served by Clark County Fire District 6. The jurisdiction encompasses thirty-seven square miles and includes Hazel Dell, Felida, Lakeshore, Salmon Creek, Mt. Vista and Fairgrounds areas

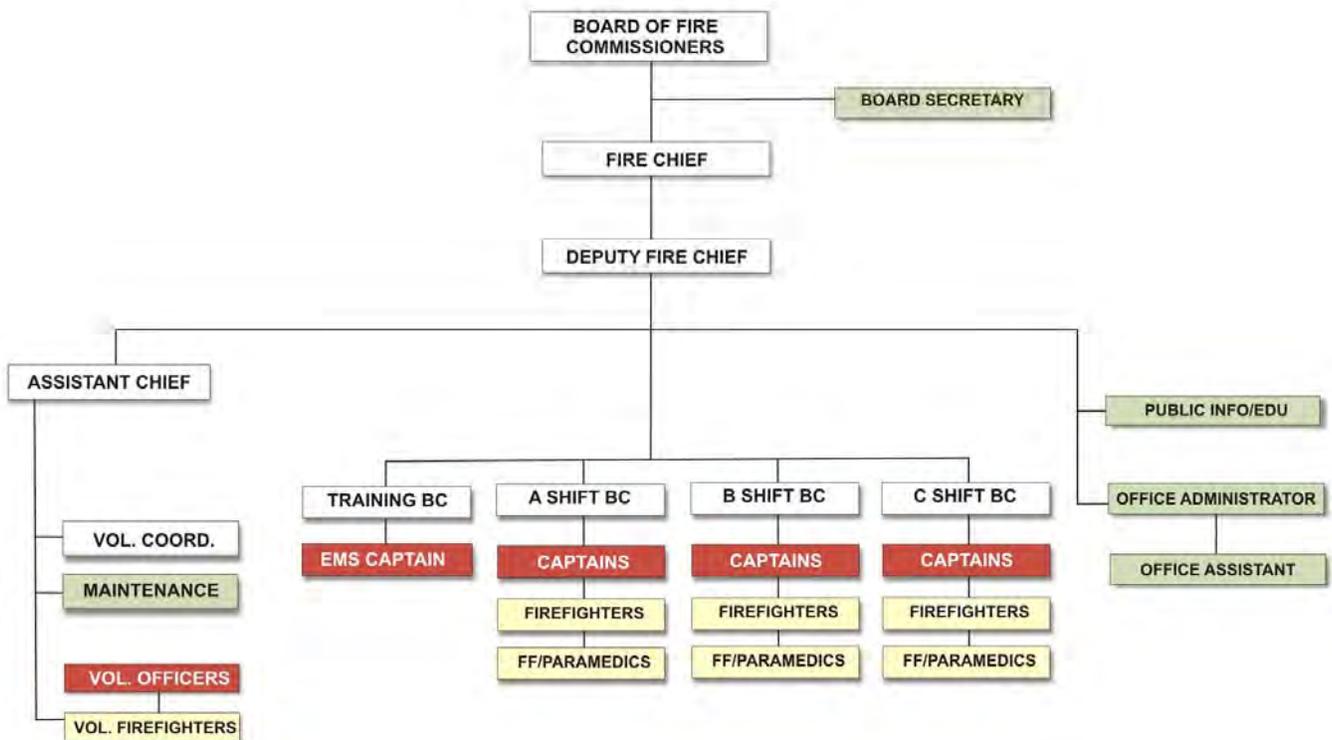


DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION - 2008

During the majority of 2008, Clark County Fire District 6 was effectively organized into five Divisions, including Operations, Administration/Support, Training, Emergency Medical Services and Fire Prevention.

The Organization Chart below represents the structure of the department during 2008.

**CLARK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 6
2008 ORGANIZATION CHART**



BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS



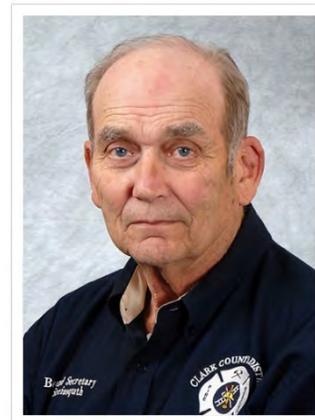
Dick Spring, Board Chair



Dean Bloemke, Vice Chair



Casey Collins



Richard Streissguth
Board Secretary

Clark County Fire District 6 is governed by the Board of Fire Commissioners.

Your Board of Fire Commissioners is comprised of three elected commissioners, each serving a six-year staggered term of office. The Board:

- Establishes the level of services provided.
- Establishes policies under which the district operates.
- Ensures the district operates within statutory requirements.
- Appoints the Fire Chief and delegates authority to manage day-to-day operations of the Fire District

The Commissioners meet on the first and third Tuesday of every month at the main fire station located at 8800 NE Hazel Dell Avenue. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. in the northwest corner of the fire station. These meetings are open to the public. Meeting Agendas are posted on the District's web site (www.ccf6.org) prior to each meeting.

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR, BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Your Clark County Fire District 6 Board of Commissioners is elected by residents to provide oversight and set policy for Fire District 6. Following is a summary of the actions taken by the Board in 2008. The year began with a tornado ripping across the southern portion of our District and concluded with record snow fall and extreme ice conditions. The members of your Fire District braved the elements and responded to these situations to meet your needs for assistance.

For a more detailed account of Board actions, please view the minutes of Board meetings by visiting our website at www.ccf6.org. We appreciate the confidence placed in us in representing you.

In January, the Board entered into an agreement with Emergency Services Consulting, Inc. (ESCI) to conduct internal and external surveys for the Strategic and Master Plans. The Board also discussed Vancouver's twenty-year annexation plan.

In February, the Board reviewed sample survey questions, proposed by ESCI. The Board indicated a desire to establish a succession plan for Fire Chief.

In March, several draft resolutions to replace the District's Travel Policy were presented to the Board. 5,000 community questionnaires were mailed by ESCI to our citizens seeking their input. Over 900 were returned.

In April, a revised Travel/Reimbursement policy was adopted by the Board. A draft of the Master Plan developed by ESCI was presented to the Board. The Board accepted and adopted the annual Response Time Objective Compliance report. We also signed Region 4 Homeland Security agreement. The Kline Bridge replacement contract was awarded by Clark County. The results of the community survey were presented to the Board by ESCI. Strategic planning sessions were held April 17-18, 2008. The Master Plan was accepted by the Board. The District was served with a Tort Claim indicating possible future litigation.

In May, Tower 61 was taken out of service for hydraulic leaks requiring extensive repairs. A draft of a Staff Vehicle Take Home Policy was presented to the Board. The Board requested several revisions.

In June, the Board was presented with estimates for cost of adding three new firefighter positions as recommended by the Master Plan to improve emergency capabilities while reducing overtime costs. The Board requested a sign-up opportunity be presented at the District's open house for citizens to receive an electronic newsletter. The 2008-2009 Battalion Chief collective bargaining agreement was approved and signed. The Board discussed the revised Staff Vehicle Take Home Policy. Truck 61 was declared surplus due to the excessive costs to repair it. Chief Taylor was directed to create a succession training plan for Chief Green to assume the position of Fire Chief. Staff recommended hiring a total of five firefighter and firefighter/paramedic positions. Three of those were to be new positions as recommended in the District's Master Plan. Two of the positions were existing vacancies. District membership participated in harassment and diversity training provided by VFIS, our insurance carrier. A Safe

Patient Lifting and Repositioning Administrative Guide was implemented. The Board requested staff create an Exposure to Traumatic Injury or Death policy.

In July, ESCi presented the draft Strategic Plan, which included the following Strategic Initiatives: Improve morale. Improve Board functions. Improve internal and external communications. Optimize the District's training function. Ensure the District remains financially stable. Enhance the emergency service delivery system. Prepare for possible annexation. The Board agreed to study the possibility of combining of the training divisions with Clark County Fire & Rescue (CCFR). The Board authorized hiring to fill five positions.



In August, the Board adopted a replacement schedule for our Lifepak 12 cardiac monitors used by paramedics in life-saving activities. A Recruit Graduation Ceremony Policy was adopted. A history of the Fire District 6 volunteer program was presented to the Board by former District Fire Chief and Board Secretary, Dick Streissguth.

In September, the Board requested a legal opinion on the Staff and Utility Vehicle Take-Home Policy. Motorola Corporation, who provides and services our emergency communications equipment, revised the date for discontinued support to 2015. The Board adopted a policy to approve the minutes from the previous meeting at the following meeting. This would reduce the lag time in getting the approved meeting minutes to the public.

In October, the revised Staff and Utility Vehicle Take-Home Policy was adopted. The Board reviewed and sent an open letter to all personnel expressing the Boards commitment to focus on the future in achieving a collective vision for a better Clark County Fire District 6. The Board announced its annual workshop would be held in the District in January 2009.

In November, the Board reported on a joint meeting with Clark County Fire and Rescue and the Vancouver Fire Department on October 30th. ESCi will conduct a study on the feasibility of combining the training divisions of all three organizations and operate the combined division from the Public Safety Complex at the Clark County Fairgrounds. The new 2008 – 2010 firefighter/officer collective bargaining agreement was approved and signed. Staff reported that the self-contained breathing apparatus bottles that were defective will be replaced at no cost by the manufacturer. The Board announced Chief Green will be appointed Fire Chief beginning January 2009.

In December, Truck 61 was sold on an eBay auction site. The District was advised that insurance coverage would not be provided when installing free smoke detectors for our citizens. The Board and staff believed this is a vital function in supporting the fire safety needs of our community and sought legal opinions and assurance of coverage from our insurance provider. Adjustment to CPR/First Aid class fees adopted.

Fire District 6 will be facing many challenges in 2009. We will also be reviewing various ways to maximize your tax dollars in providing our continued emergency services to our citizens during this economic downturn. We thank you for your continued support of Fire District 6.

We encourage citizen involvement. Please join us at one of our regularly scheduled Board of Commissioner meetings on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. Meetings are held at the Fire District 6 Headquarters station at 8800 NE Hazel Dell Avenue and begin at 7:30 p.m. If you have any questions or concerns. Please let us know.

Dick Spring
Board Chair

LETTER FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

Clark County Fire District 6 personnel strives to provide the best possible service to our community while also being prudent with our expenditures and taking the right steps to ensure we do not overspend our budget. We understand our responsibility to provide quality services while assuring citizen tax dollars are spent wisely.

During this country's difficult economic times, citizens are making modifications to their personal lifestyle. While the department is always sensible about spending, we are working to further limit expenses, ensuring that we remain financially solvent with a bright future. For example, we are pushing back purchase dates for replacement equipment, however pay particular attention to not compromise our personnel's safety or extending response times to emergency scenes.

Keeping in mind the importance of public safety to our community, most residents would be pleased to know that our investments appear to be paying off. We continue to increase public education engagements, grants received, recognition awards and low dollar loss to personal properties within the community.

Clark County Fire District 6 hired Emergency Services Consulting Inc., to assist with master and strategic planning to ensure the department moves forward and stays on track. We developed an extensive 15-year Master Plan, along with a Strategic Plan. The Master Plan outlines our future and where we want to go, while the Strategic Plan serves as our guide to meeting the objectives set forth in each initiative that was developed. Many of these initiatives have been completed while others are being worked on or will be initiated at a later date as scheduled.

As recommended by Emergency Services Consulting Inc., some changes in administrative staff occurred at the end of 2008. The Board of Commissioners hired five personnel in late 2008. Two of these personnel are replacing a retired fire captain and a firefighter who was injured while working in the line of duty. The three remaining personnel were hired as recommended in the Master Plan, to help meet the ever increasing call volumes for emergency response. These positions were approved by the Board of Commissioners in late 2008. The new hires began attending a Training Academy in February 2009. Additionally, the Public Education/Public Information Officer left the department at the end of 2008. We are currently in the process of replacing this position under the new title of Public Education Coordinator. We are also utilizing the existing positions of Administrative Chief and Fire Chief to fill the emergency incident scene needs for Public Information Officer.

Clark County Fire District 6 personnel are tremendously talented and each member is crucial to the department's success. Although I'm not surprised knowing our personnel, it has been pleasant to see everyone's willingness to step up and assist during this transitional time. One thing remains constant; our record of extraordinary service and commitment to the community we love and serve.

We the members of Clark County Fire District 6 are proud to serve our citizens and look forward to your continued support in 2009. I invite you to share feedback and suggestions.

Jerry Green
Fire Chief



Jerry Green, Fire Chief

ADMINISTRATION

2008 MASTER PLAN

The Board of Commissioners contracted with Emergency Services Consulting, Inc. (ESCi) to conduct an evaluation and analysis of the department and emergency service delivery system and guide the development of a Master Plan. The resulting Plan details the study of fire protection and emergency medical services in the District and provides a framework for the continuation and potential improvement of District services through 2027.

The document is divided into three major sections including an evaluation of the existing fire protection and emergency medical system, the forecasting of service and system demand through 2027 and the development of a short-, mid-, and, long-term delivery system models for Fire District 6.

Using organizational, operational, staffing, and geographic information system (GIS) models, the study provided recommendations for improvement in current services delivered to the community.

Five thousand Community Attitude Surveys were sent to a random sampling of citizens in the community. Over 450 surveys were returned, and ESCi compiled the data and reported to the Board on the results. In addition, all employees and volunteers were given the opportunity to complete an Member Survey. As with the Community Survey, the results were compiled and reported to the Board.

The Master Plan document included a Summary of Recommendations, which identified ten major objectives:

1. Organizational Overview
 - a. Responsibilities and lines of authority
 - b. Foundational policy
 - c. Chain of command and organizational structure
 - d. Operating budget, resources and cost recovery

2. Management Components
 - a. Mission, vision, strategic planning, goals and objectives
 - b. Adequacy of SOG, rules, regulations and policy
 - c. Financial controls
 - d. Critical issues and future challenges
 - e. Internal and external communications
 - f. Decision-making processes
 - g. Document control and facility security

3. Planning for Fire Protection and EMS
 - a. Operational planning
 - b. Master planning
 - c. Recommendations for future planning needs

- d. Emergency management planning
4. Risk Management
- a. Compliance programs for regulations and standards
 - b. Risk associated with employment termination; training practices
 - c. Job-related injury programs
 - d. Liability and property insurance programs



5. Personnel Management
- a. Personnel policies, rules, regulations, manuals and handbooks
 - b. Application and recruitment process
 - c. Testing, measuring and promotion process
6. Training Program
- a. General training competencies
 - b. Training administration and schedule
 - c. Training facilities
 - d. Training program goals and objectives
 - e. Recordkeeping and clerical support
7. Fire Prevention / Public Education Program
- a. General inspection program
 - b. Fire investigation programs
 - c. Statistical collection and analysis
8. Capital Assets and Capital Improvement Programs
- a. Facilities
 - b. Apparatus
 - c. Support and small equipment

9. Staffing
 - a. Functional or divisional staff allocation
 - b. Staff scheduling methodology
 - c. Standard of coverage and incident staffing performance
 - d. Utilization of career and volunteer companies

10. Delivery Systems: Suppression, Rescue, EMS and HazMat
 - a. Incident Control and Management
 - b. Standard Response Practices

The completed Master Plan document was presented to the Board of Commissioners in April 2008. Interested citizens may view a copy online at www.ccf6.org.

2008 STRATEGIC PLAN

Fire District 6 has developed a formal Strategic Plan on two previous occasions: in 2005 and prior to that in 2000. Following the early 2008 development of the District's first Master Plan, ESCi was again retained to work with the District to develop a Strategic Plan to guide the District over the next three to five years.

The ESCi project team conducted one evening workshop with external customers and a confidential meeting with each fire commissioner. The evening workshop included members of the community invited by CCFD6 from such backgrounds as:

- Business owners
- Members of civic organizations
- Citizens who have been actual recipients of the agency's services
- Representatives of neighborhood organizations
- Interested citizens

The District's project manager for the process facilitated a strategic planning core group that consists of a cross-section of the members of organization and conducted a two-day workshop with the CCFD6 strategic planning core group and a half day meeting with CCFD6 command staff. The following was accomplished:

- Revised the organization's Mission statement, Vision statement and Guiding principles (values)
- Core business functions
- Conducted an environmental scan that takes into account: Internal and external customer expectations
- Identified the organization's critical (strategic) issues
- Created major strategic initiatives (goals) and



accompanying objectives , critical tasks, performance measure, ownership and a timeline for completion

At the conclusion of the process, seven major Strategic Initiatives were identified:

- I. Improve Morale
- II. Improve Board Function
- III. Improve Internal and External Communication
- IV. Optimize the District's Training Function
- V. Ensure the District Remains Financially Stable
- VI. Enhance the Emergency Services Delivery System
- VII. Prepare for Possible Annexation

Each of these Initiatives has objectives, critical tasks and a timeline for completion. The entire Plan is scheduled for conclusion within three years. The plan was adopted by the Board in July 2008.



2008 Strategic Plan Development Participants

RETIREMENTS**Lieutenant Doug Smith**

In January 2008, Doug Smith retired from the District after twenty eight years of service to the community. Lt. Smith was a career officer, firefighter and trainer of exceptional integrity, skill and desire to serve his community. His strong work ethic and inspirational leadership to his firefighters will be sorely missed. At the February 2008 Recognition Banquet, Lt. Smith was honored with several presentations.

**Leah Lothspeich**

Serving as the District's Public Education and Public Information Officer for seven years, Leah Lothspeich created and administered wide-ranging and effective fire prevention, injury prevention and education programs to benefit the community. She and the work she performed remain very respected and appreciated by countless children, adults, senior citizens, teachers and business persons in the community. Leah submitted her resignation effective January 5, 2009 to pursue other educational and career avenues. Leah was also honored at the Recognition Banquet.



ANNUAL RECOGNITION BANQUET

The District held its annual Recognition Banquet in February 2008. At the Banquet the following awards and presentations were made:

Volunteer Firefighter's Association

Presentation to Dean Bloemke for 37 years service as a volunteer firefighter

Commissioner Award

A presentation was made to former Commissioner Jim Jakubiak for his eleven years service as a volunteer firefighter and fire commissioner.

Fire District 6

A presentation was made to Lieutenant Doug Smith upon his retirement, for his nearly twenty-nine years of service.

Certificates of Appreciation from Fire District 6

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to citizens in our community for their service: Bud Van Cleve, Ila Stanek and Barbara Bell.

A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Rob Wilson, an employee of a recycling company, for investigating, detecting and reporting a fire, potentially saving a life.

Certificate of Exemplary Performance

The certificate was presented to Captain Mike Hollingsworth for his service and efforts.

2008 Volunteer Firefighter of the Year:	Nicole Gibbs
2008 Career Firefighter of the Year:	Kristan Maurer
2008 Volunteer Officer of the Year:	Lt. Josh Sharkey
2008 Career Officer of the Year:	Lt. Doug Smith

FINANCIAL REPORT

Clark County Fire District 6 is funded primarily through property taxes. Two separate levies provide funds enabling the District to provide emergency and non-emergency fire suppression and emergency medical services.

FIRE LEVY

In 1995 the voters of the District approved a levy of \$1.50 per \$1,000 of Assessed Value (AV). By law, the levy may increase by just one percent each year, plus taxes on property added by Clark County to the tax rolls for the tax year. In 2009, the District is receiving \$1.03562 per \$1,000 AV.

The District also receives revenue from interest, contracts for services, CPR and first aid training, grants and other taxes which accounts for approximately six percent overall revenue received.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LEVY

In 1980 the voters of the District approved an Emergency Medical Services (paramedic) levy, which has been renewed every six years since. The current levy expires at the end of 2010. The 2004 levy rate approved by voters is \$0.45 per \$1,000 AV. The current collection rate is \$0.34030 per \$1,000 AV.

TOTAL REVENUE

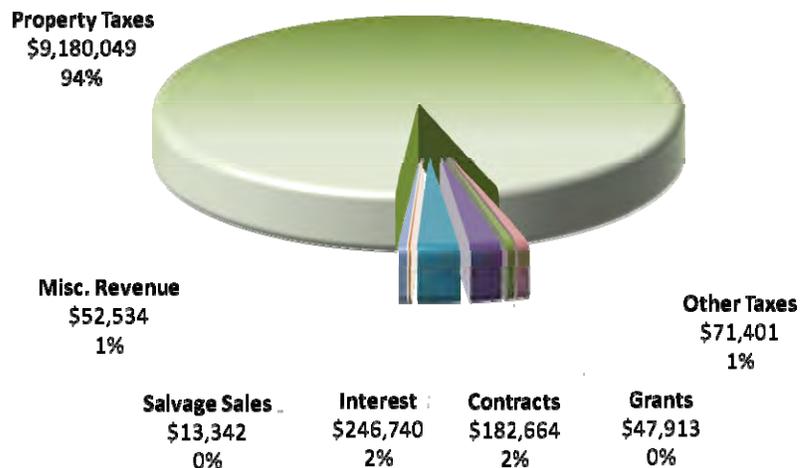
The 2008 combined revenue of Fire and EMS Budgets is shown in the chart below. The total revenue for 2008 was \$9,530,475. Of that revenue, 75.65% is from the Fire Suppression budget and 25.35% from the Emergency Medical Services budget.

BUDGET

Per Washington State law, the District’s Preliminary Budget must be delivered to Clark County no later than November 30th. The Commissioners hold a public hearing each year, usually early in November, to consider revenue sources for the following budget year. The budget is available for review on the District’s website at www.ccfid6.org.

2008 REVENUE EMERGENCY MEDICAL & FIRE SUPPRESSION

Total: \$9,530,475



EXPENDITURES

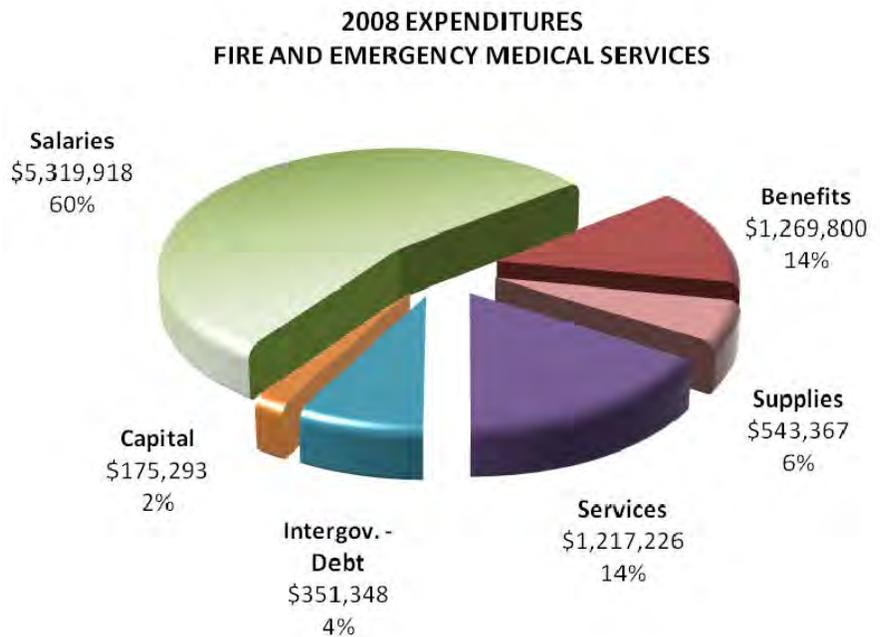
Fire District 6 budgeted expenditures are divided into six general categories: Salaries, Benefits, Supplies, Services, Intergovernmental/Debt Service and Capital Expenditures.

In 2008, the District funded sixty-one full-time and one part-time employee, including firefighters, firefighter/paramedics, officers, senior management and support/office staff.

The combined actual expenditures for Fire Suppression and Emergency Medical totaled \$8,990,510. The District has one general obligation (non-voted) bond with an outstanding balance of \$750,000 which will be paid in full in December 2009. The proceeds of this bond were used to purchase two fire engines, related equipment and a command vehicle.

Of the 2008 expenditures in the Fire and Emergency Medical Services budgets, \$6,589,718, or 74.23% was for salaries and benefits.

The breakdown of expenditures is shown in the chart below.



SAFETY

Firefighting is among the most dangerous occupations in the U.S. and the District has an aggressive safety program.

The District has an appointed Safety Officer whose responsibilities include: administering the department's Accident Prevention and Health and Safety Programs, ensuring all accidents and injuries are investigated and preventive measures developed where appropriate, identifying and recommending correction of safety and health hazards and act on all matters relating to the operation and administration of the Accident Prevention Program.

A Safety Committee, comprised of representatives of employees, volunteers and management personnel assists the Fire Chief by reviewing accidents, injuries and other incidents and recommending revisions to operations and policy. In addition, the Committee reviews safety inspections of fire stations and shift safety meetings to address specific concerns.

Health and Safety Symposium

A representative of the District attended the 2008 Health and Safety Symposium that took place at the International Association of Fire Chiefs Fire-Rescue International Conference in Florida. During that conference, the District Safety Officer passed the exam to become a nationally-certified Health and Safety Officer.

Reflective Safety Vests

After extensive research, in response to recommendations from the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), reflective safety vests were purchased and distributed to District personnel for use during incidents.

IAFC Safety Stand-down

Once again, the District participated in the annual International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) Safety Stand-down in June 2008. Workshops were held with each shift and the volunteers. This annual safety event is in response to increasing numbers of firefighter fatalities across the nation.



OPERATIONS

The department responded to 5,334 total emergency incidents during 2008. Responses increased by 221 incidents over 2007 or 4.32%. Of those incidents, in general terms, 85.75% were emergency medical responses; 14.25% fire-related. The chart below demonstrates the number of fire-related vs. emergency medical responses.

2008 FIRE VS. EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONSES



Though the rate of growth of emergency responses has slowed over recent years, the District is still experiencing a steady increase in the numbers of emergency and non-emergency incidents. Since 2002, combined responses have increased 24.71%. During that same time period, emergency medical responses increased 29.57%. Fire responses remained relatively flat, and at the end of 2008 were 1.74% above the total 2002 fire responses. The chart on the following page shows a seven-year history of fire and EMS responses.



2002 - 2008 FIRE VS. EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONSES



Simultaneous Emergencies

Over 25 percent of incidents occurred simultaneously (at least two incidents being responded to at the same time). The occurrence of simultaneous responses remains a concern as it has increased from 17.95% in 2003 to the 25.12% experienced in 2008. This will continue to stress response capabilities of the District.

Back-to-back incidents often create longer overall response times since an apparatus from another station location or station area must respond a greater distance to cover the incident in place of the original apparatus.



FIRE RESPONSES

Property Loss

The total loss of property in the District from fire is estimated at \$3,339,451. The value of the property at those fires is estimated at \$28,331,410 which results in a “saved” rate of 88.21 percent.

Fire loss for previous years is shown at right.

YEAR	EST. FIRE LOSS
2008	\$3,339,451
2007	\$3,496,281
2006	\$370,835
2005	\$482,540
2004	\$506,700
2003	\$357,860

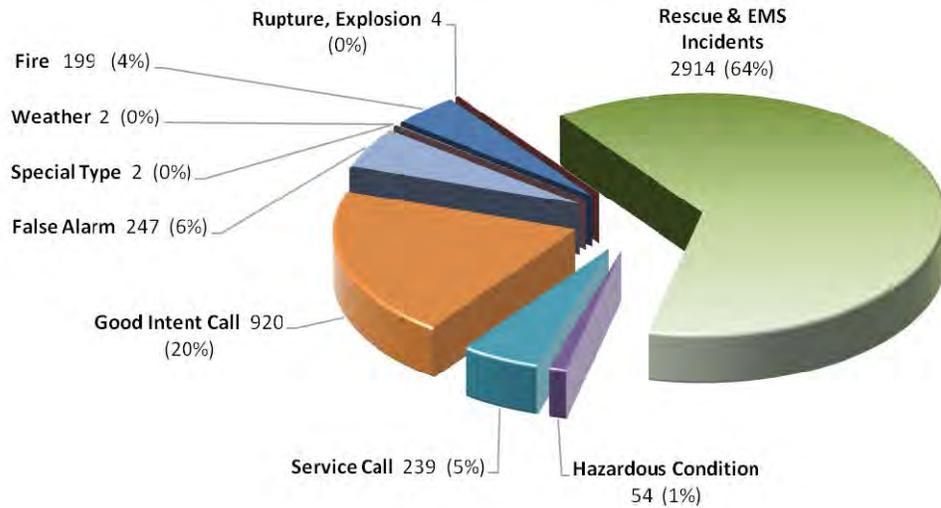
National Fire Incident Reporting System Breakdown

The following all inclusive incident types are the main categories/codes used for National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) to capture annual statistical requirements across the nation. Included with the categories/codes is the number of incident responses in 2008

TYPE	DESCRIPTION	No.
100	Fire	199
200	Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (no fire)	4
300	Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incidents	2,914
400	Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	54
500	Service Call (water evacuation, smoke or odor removal, animal problem, assist invalid, assist law enforcement, defective elevator, unauthorized burning, assist other fire agency)	239
600	Good Intent Call (dispatched & cancelled, no incident found on arrival, authorized controlled burning, steam mistaken for smoke, smoke scare)	920
700	False Alarm & False Call (smoke detector or system malfunction, malfunction of sprinkler system, sprinkler activation due to malfunction)	247
800	Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	2
900	Special Incident Type	2
	TOTAL	5,334

The data from the chart on the previous page is shown below in another format and includes the percentage of the total for each category.

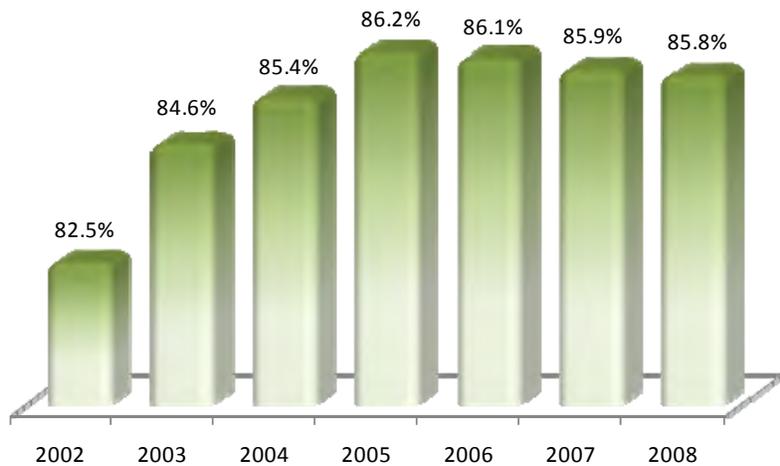
NATIONAL FIRE INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM (NFIRS)
2008 BREAKDOWN OF INCIDENT TYPES



EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONSES

Since 1981, Clark County Fire District 6 has been providing paramedic-level advanced life support services to our community. Over the years, the number of EMS responses as a percentage of all responses has grown from approximately 60% EMS in 1981 to 85.8% in 2008.

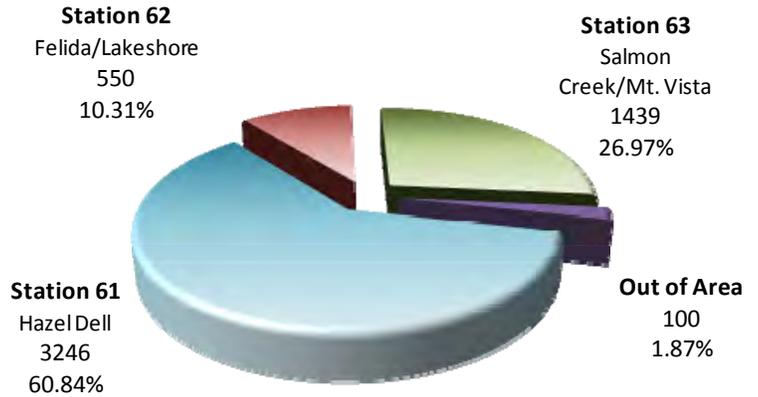
EMS RESPONSES AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL



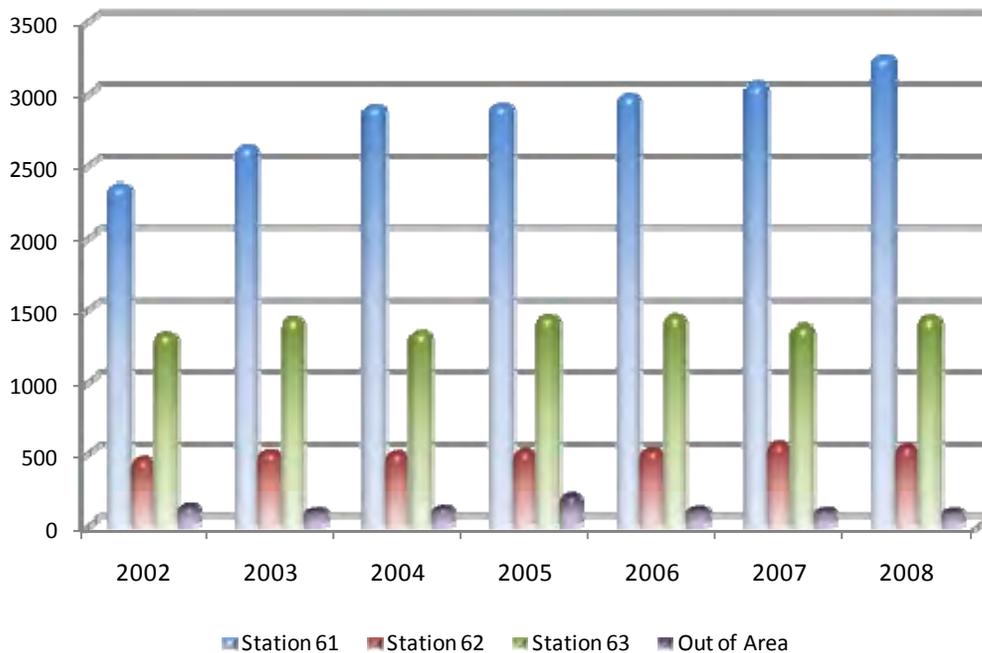
RESPONSES BY STATION AREA

Clark County Fire District 6 provides service from three fire stations.¹ These stations are located in Hazel Dell, Felida and Salmon Creek. Station 61 (or Station 1) is the busiest fire station and consistently responds to 59% to 62% of the dispatched emergencies.

2008 RESPONSES BY STATION AREA



RESPONSES BY STATION: 2002 - 2008

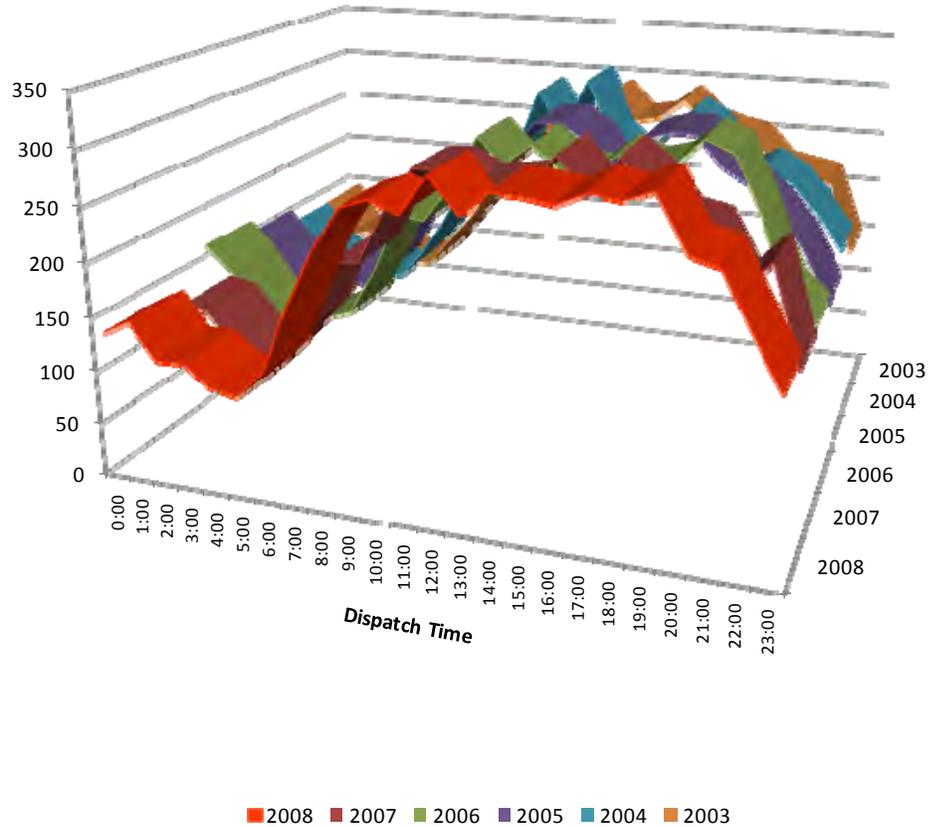


¹ Fire District 6 participates with Clark County Fire & Rescue in the joint operation of a fire station at the Clark County Fairgrounds. Staffed with resident volunteers, its response areas are included in the statistics above.

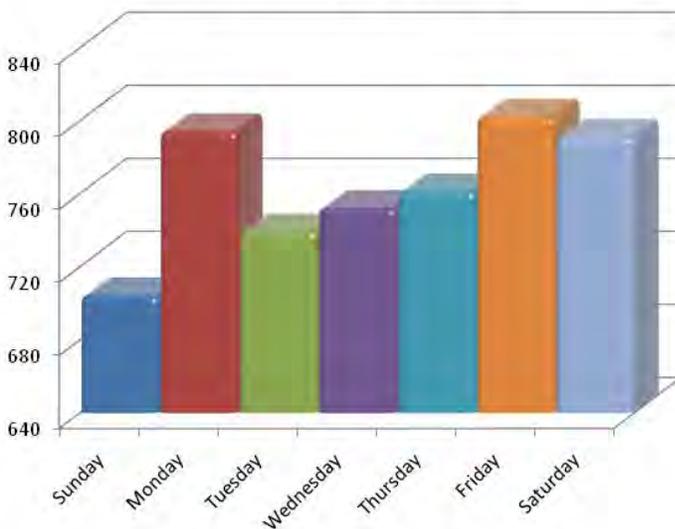
TIME OF DAY / DAY OF WEEK

As you can see in the chart below, for the six years represented the time of dispatch follows the same general curve. Incidents are fewer during nighttime hours and higher during the day. Also shown below are incidents by day of week.

INCIDENTS BY TIME OF DAY 2003 - 2008



2008 INCIDENTS BY DAY OF WEEK



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Clark County Fire District 6 has been providing Advanced Life Support Paramedic services to the community since January 1981.

Emergency Medical Response Types (Actual Patients Contacted and Seen)

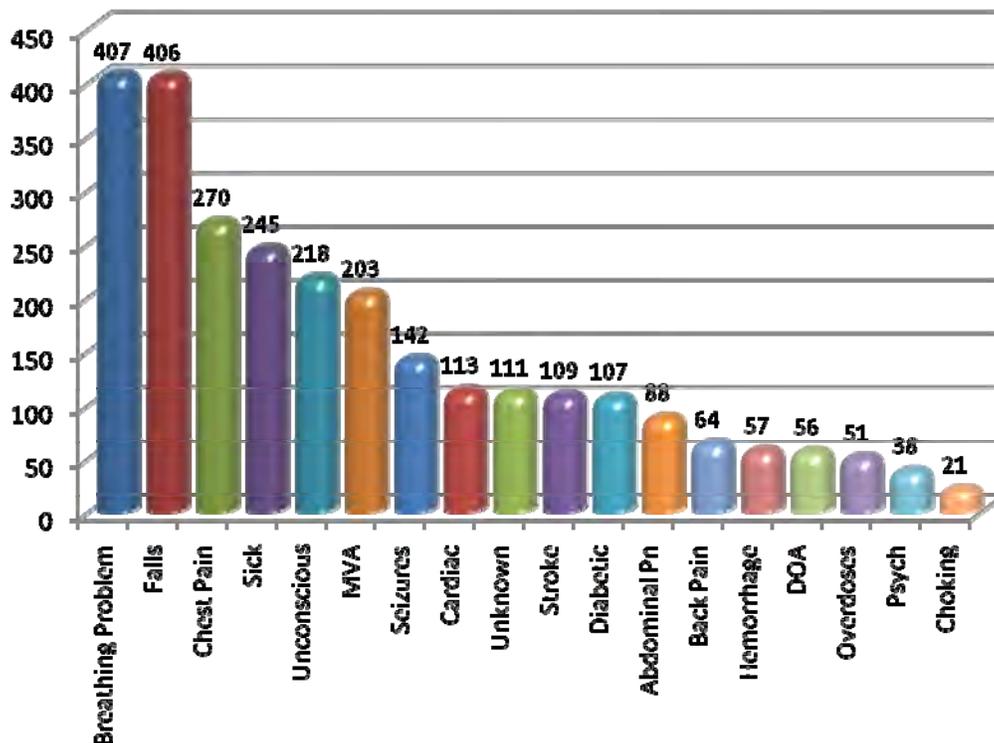
The district responded and had contact with over 3,100 actual patients in 2008. Although the total number of responses was much higher, this number reflects those calls where there was an EMS chart documented.

The type of aid requested by the district remains relatively the same for the last several years, with breathing problems leading the list. This call type has been steadily been increasing over the years, and in 2008, nudged ahead of falls for the first time. Falls, followed by cardiac chest pain complaints are the #2 and #3 respectfully. Below is a partial list of the emergency medical incident types to which the district responds.



Mike Hollingsworth
Emergency Medical Services Captain

EMS RESPONSES BY TYPE (PARTIAL LIST)



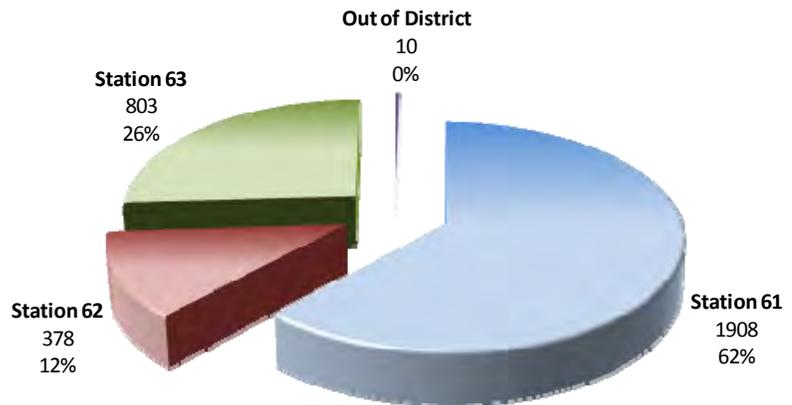
It is interesting to note that even though we have two major freeways traveling through our district, motor vehicle accidents are only the 6th most common call types, the same location this call type placed in 2007.

Station Area Response Volumes (Actual Patients Contacted)

Station 1, located at 8800 NE Hazel Dell Ave, has the largest call volume of the three stations.

Station 1 had just over 61% of the response volume at 1,908 medical calls. This divided over the year equates to a little over 5.2 medical related calls per shift. Station 3 (Salmon Creek area) had 803 medical related calls for a yearly average of 2.2 medical calls per shift, while Station 2 (Felida) came in with 378 calls, averaging one medical-related call per shift. Out-of-district calls were documented as ten, which reflect response into mutual aid areas to our north or south boundaries.

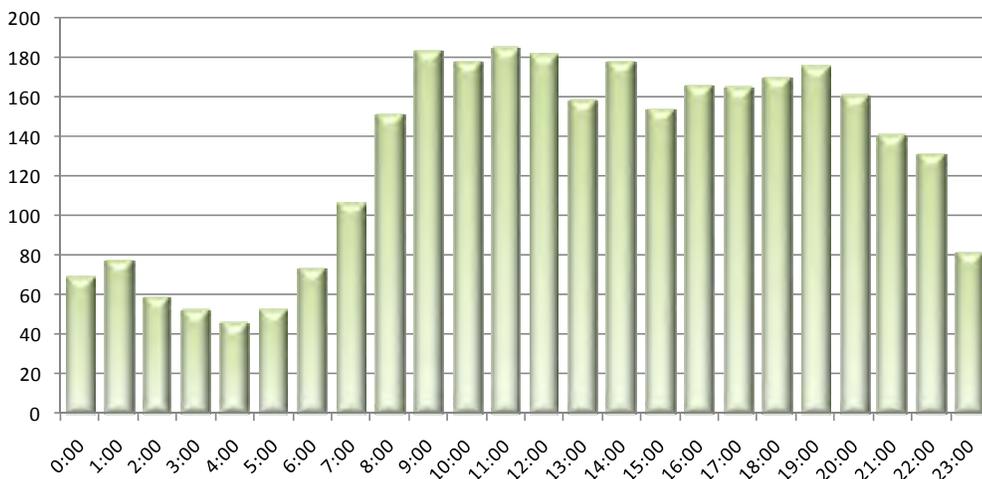
EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONSES BY STATION AREA



Time of Day (Actual Patients Contacted)

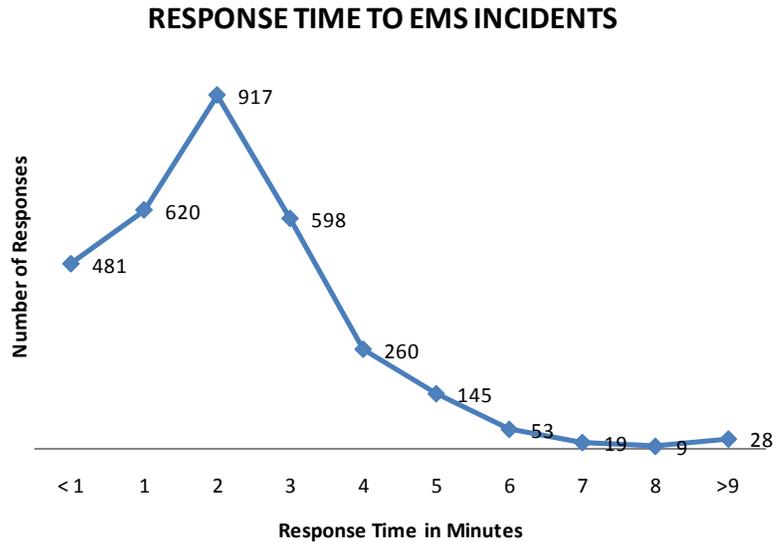
When the over 3,100 medical calls are plotted on a twenty-four hour basis, the busiest time of the shift for receiving a medical call was between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m., recording a percentage between 5.7% (178) and 5.9% (185). Not surprisingly, the quietest time of the shift is the early morning hours of 4:00 a.m., where only 46 calls were responded to where a patient was contacted and evaluated. The average age of patients that were evaluated was 55.

2008 EMERGENCY MEDICAL INCIDENTS BY TIME OF DAY



EMS Response Times

It is the department’s goal to place an ALS crew next to the patient’s side within 5 minutes of the call placed to the 911 alarm center. This was achieved 96.48% of the time where we actually saw and had contact with an actual patient.



National Cardiac Study

The Portland metropolitan area, including Clark County and its EMS services have been participating in a nationally-sponsored cardiac study. The study looks at two procedures being performed on every cardiac arrest incident.

The first is “analyze early” or “analyze late”, which relates to when a patients presenting cardiac rhythm is looked at and interpreted. During the analyze early component, at least 30 seconds of CPR is performed before a cardiac monitor is analyzed for a shockable rhythm. With the analyze late component, 3 minutes of CPR is conducted before analyzing. We know as a medical community that CPR is effective and prudent, we just do not know how much should be administered prior to shocking a fibrillating heart.

The second component is a device that reduces the amount of intra-thoracic pressure. The manufacturer of the device claims that there could be an increase of 50% in survival if the device is used during cardiac resuscitation efforts. The study is a blind study where “shams” are used with unique identifiers to obtain data on the devices effectiveness, if any.

New Cardiac Resuscitation Practices

The American Heart Association introduced the new 2005 guidelines for cardiac resuscitation in late 2005 and these new guidelines were put into place in early 2006. So far these guidelines have seemed to produce exciting “save” rates for out of hospital cardiac arrests (OOHCA). The emphasis is placed on delivering high quality CPR, no longer delivering “stacked” defibrillation shocks and doing CPR prior to delivering any shocks.

Early results in this study are very impressive. Prior to these new protocols for cardiac resuscitation, Clark County had an OOHCA survival rate of 7%. Today that number is closer to 16%! Data is being collected every day, and those numbers are improving as better techniques and training is being implemented.

This report compiled by Mike Hollingsworth, EMS Captain, using data collected from Firehouse reporting system software.

RESPONSE TIME OBJECTIVES COMPLIANCE – FISCAL YEAR 2008

INTRODUCTION

On May 10, 2005, the Washington State Governor signed HB 1756 into law and required cities and fire protection districts to establish service-delivery and response-time objectives. Fire districts are required to evaluate their level of service, deployment delivery and response time objectives on an annual basis.

Beginning in 2007, fire districts were required to issue an annual written report based on the annual evaluations. The annual report is to contain the predictable consequences of any deficiencies and address the steps necessary to achieve compliance with the District's established objectives.

On February 21, 2006, the Fire District 6 Board of Fire Commissioners adopted Resolution 2006-03 which established certain policy statements and response time performance objectives as official policy for compliance with Washington State Law and for determining emergency medical, fire and rescue resource deployment.

This is the third report of this type produced by Clark County Fire District 6. The previous reports (Fiscal year 2006 & 2007) are available on the District's web site at www.ccf6.org.

RESPONSE-TIME COMPLIANCE

Based on the performance policy and objectives outlined in House Bill 1756 as signed by the Governor of Washington State and identified elements deemed appropriate in the Department's emergency services deliver, a statistical data analysis was conducted. This staff report has been prepared to meet the requirements of Board Resolution 2006-03 adopted on February 21, 2006.

The report is divided into eight areas and details the District's compliance with its established response objectives.

1. Turnout Time (Fire and Emergency Medical)
2. Fire Suppression Incident – First Arriving Unit
3. Fire Suppression Incident – Full First Alarm Compliment
4. Emergency Medical – Basic Lift Support – First Arriving Unit
5. Emergency Medical – Advanced Lift Support Arriving
6. Technical Rescue – Operations and Technician Personnel Arrival
7. Technical Rescue – Technician-Level Personnel Arrival

Also included, for information only as it is not a specific objective:

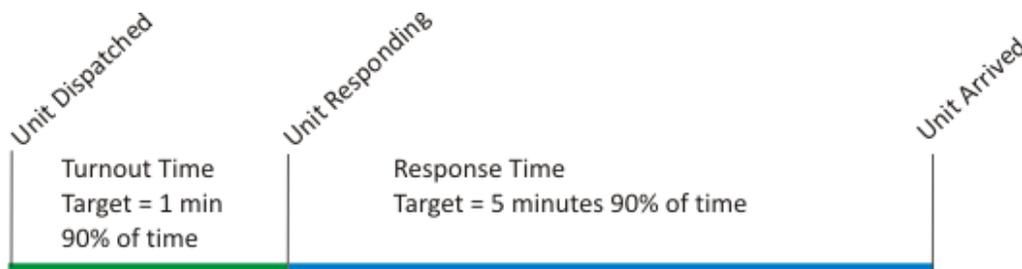
8. Response Time – All Units

DIFFERENCES FROM PREVIOUS YEARS REPORTING

As stated above, this is the third such report issued by Clark County Fire District 6 regarding the status of achieving response-time objectives.

The two most critical measurements in the statistical analysis of response data are the Turnout Time and the Response Time. The *Turnout Time* is a measurement of the elapsed time from dispatch to an incident and apparatus responding to the incident. The *Response Time* is a measurement of the elapsed time beginning with when the apparatus responds to the incident and ends upon the arrival on scene of the incident.

The graphic below demonstrates how the total response time is constructed: Turnout Time + Response Time.



TURNOUT TIME + RESPONSE TIME = TOTAL RESPONSE TIME

In the 2006 and 2007 reports, due to the method the data was structured and the tools available at the time, the District was unable to perform a precise statistical analysis of data to calculate the elapsed time from Response Time to Arrival Time. Therefore, the response data included in the 2006 and 2007 reports was calculated using the elapsed time between Dispatch and Arrival. That method of calculation included the turnout time, resulting in an overall target response time of six minutes.

For 2008, staff was able to use new tools to calculate the precise Response Time to Arrival Time numbers to compare precisely with the target response objective. Therefore, to avoid comparing apples with oranges, in this report only the 2008 data is included and compared to the objectives. When this report is completed for the 2009 year, both 2008 and 2009 data will be shown in the charts for comparative purposes.

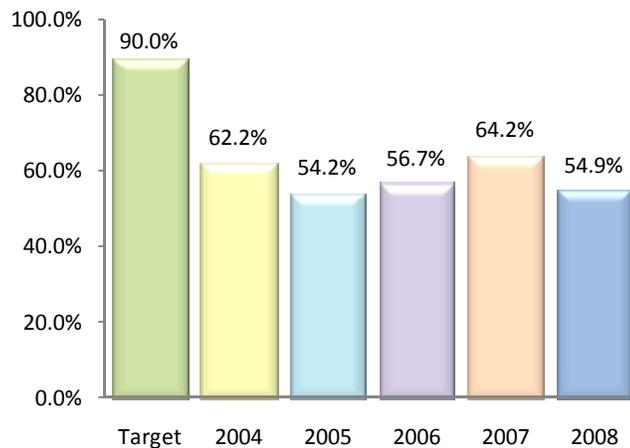
Both the 2006 and 2007 reports are available on the District’s web site at www.ccf6.org.

1. TURNOUT TIME – COMBINED FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL

Fire District 6 adopted a Turnout Time objective of sixty (60) seconds, which the department should meet ninety percent (90%) of the time.

The objective of sixty (60) seconds was achieved fifty-four percent (54.9%) of the time (2,335 out of 4,253 incidents). The incidents where turnout time objectives were met, decreased by 14.5% from 2007. The average Turnout Time in 2008 was 1:27 (one minute, twenty-seven seconds).

TURNOUT TIME: FIRE & EMS INCIDENTS



Target: 60 seconds 90 percent of the time

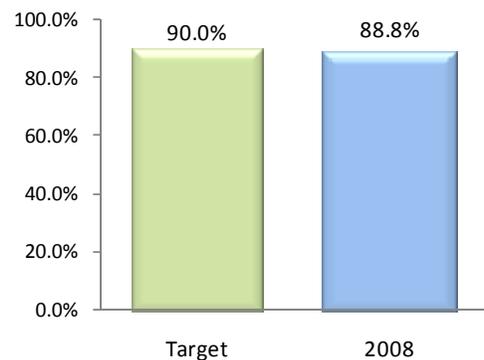
2. RESPONSE TIME – FIRE SUPPRESSION INCIDENT: FIRST ARRIVING UNIT

Fire District 6 adopted a response/travel time objective of five (5) minutes for the arrival of the first unit to a fire suppression incident, which the department should meet ninety (90%) of the time.

The objective of five (5) minutes was achieved 88.83 percent of the time (159 of 179 incidents).

A response/travel time of five minutes twenty-six seconds (5:26) was required to achieve the ninety percent (90%) objective.

FIRE: FIRST ENGINE ARRIVAL



Target: 1st engine response time less than 5 minutes 90% of the time

3. RESPONSE TIME – FIRE SUPPRESSION INCIDENT: FULL COMPLEMENT FIRST ALARM

Fire District 6 adopted a response/travel time objective of eight (8) minutes for the arrival of the full complement of a 1st alarm response to a fire suppression incident, which the department should meet ninety percent (90%) of the time.

Response requirements include automatic responses from neighboring jurisdictions, often responding from greater distances.

The data selected for this analysis includes only those fire incidents coded by the 911 Center (CRESA) as FISB (Structure Fire – Big) or FISS (Structure Fire – Small).

The objective of 8 minutes was achieved 71.9% of the time (77 out of 107 incidents). A response/ travel time of twelve minutes, twenty-seven seconds (12:27) was required to achieve the ninety percent (90%) objective.

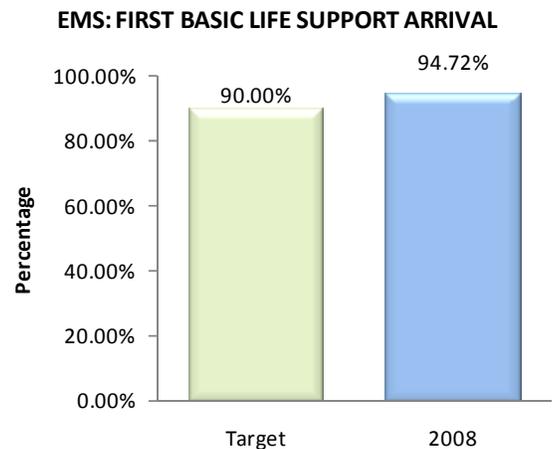


Target: Full 1st Alarm compliment response time less than 8 minutes 90% of the time

4. RESPONSE TIME - EMS INCIDENT: BASIC LIFE SUPPORT 1ST ARRIVING UNIT

Fire District 6 adopted a response/travel time objective of 5 minutes for the arrival of the first emergency medical unit with appropriately trained personnel on board to an emergency medical incident ninety (90%) of the time.

The objective of five (5) minutes was achieved 94.72 percent of the time (2,854 out of 3,013 incidents).

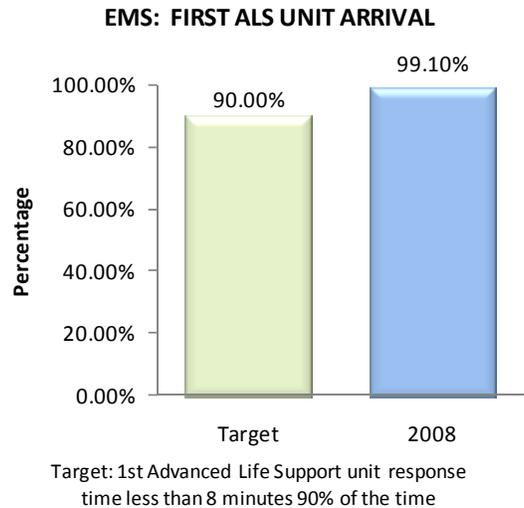


Target: 1st Basic Life Support unit response time less than 5 minutes 90% of the time

5. RESPONSE TIME – EMERGENCY MEDICAL INCIDENT: ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT ARRIVING

Fire District 6 adopted a response/travel time objective of eight (8) minutes for the arrival of an advanced life support unit with appropriately trained personnel (paramedics) on board to an ALS emergency medical incident ninety percent (90%) of the time.

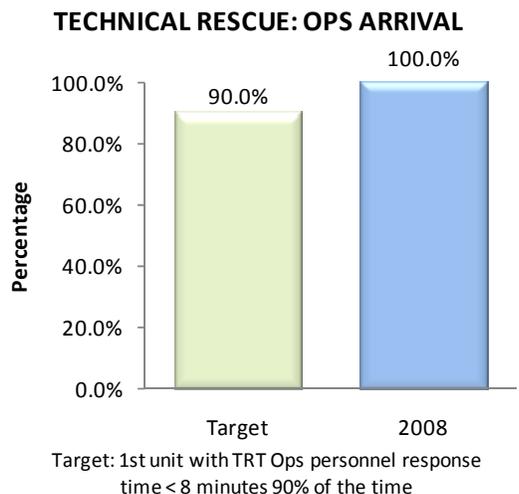
The objective of eight (8) minutes was achieved 99.1% of the time (2,984 out of 3,011 incidents).



6. RESPONSE TIME – TECHNICAL RESCUE: OPERATIONS AND TECHNICIAN ARRIVAL

Fire District 6 adopted a response/travel time objective of eight (8) minutes for the arrival of the first unit with personnel trained at the Technical Rescue Operations level to a technical rescue incident ninety percent (90%) of the time. The Fire District also adopted a thirty minute arrival time for sufficient numbers of appropriately trained Technical Rescue Technicians to perform operations at a technical rescue incident ninety percent (90%) of the time.

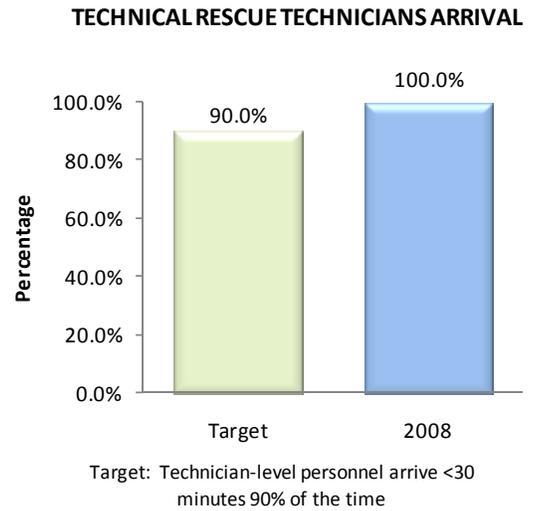
There were five responses made by the Technical Rescue Team in 2008. Three were within the jurisdiction of FD6 and are the statistical data base used for this report.



7. RESPONSE TIME – TECHNICAL RESCUE: TECHNICIAN-LEVEL PERSONNEL ARRIVAL

Fire District 6 adopted a response/travel time objective of thirty (30) minutes for the arrival of a sufficient number of appropriately trained and equipped Technical Rescue Technicians to perform operations at a technical rescue incident ninety percent (90%) of the time.

The objective of thirty (30) minutes was achieved one hundred percent (100%) of the time.

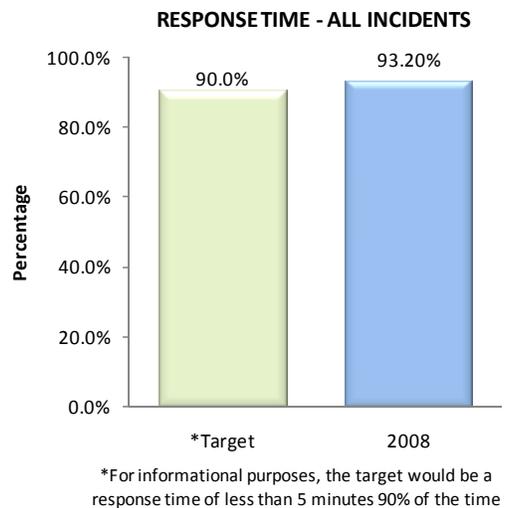


8. RESPONSE TIME – ALL INCIDENTS

A response time for all incidents is not an objective or response standard, however it is included in this report as it is a valuable measurement tool for the overall response within Fire District 6. It can reflect a more complete picture for the level of service provided by Fire District 6 to its citizens, but too many factors can affect its viability and usefulness as an actual objective. The District, therefore, has not adopted an objective for overall response time.

The following data is provided for information purposes only, as though Fire District 6 had adopted a response/travel time objective of five (5) minutes for all incidents 90% of the time.

The objective of five (5) minutes would have been achieved 93.2% of the time



GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS OF CONCERN**RESPONSE TIME – FIRE SUPPRESSION INCIDENT: FULL COMPLEMENT FIRST ALARM.**

All three station response areas are subject to deficiencies due to travel distance to the furthest reaches of the station's response area. Beginning in 2007, a Vancouver Fire Department truck and engine are included in certain fire call types. Due to the distance of Vancouver's fire stations, it is unlikely this objective can be met 90% of the time until those units are no longer needed to respond on a first-out basis.

RESPONSE TIME – EMS INCIDENT: BASIC LIFE SUPPORT 1ST ARRIVING UNIT.

Since the rebuilding of the Kline Bridge across Salmon Creek on Highway 99 was completed in September, a contributor to the increase in response times has been eliminated. Station 3 in Salmon Creek now has direct access to certain areas of its response boundaries. While it is difficult to capture a definitive number of incidents that have been affected by a longer response time, that increase required to gain access to those areas immediately south of Salmon Creek contributed to not meeting the threshold for the first eight months of 2008.

RESPONSE TIME – EMS INCIDENT: ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT ARRIVING.

This objective was met 99.1% of the time. Typically, the most significant area of deficiencies is located within the extreme northeast section of the District. This requires the longest travel distance for Station 63 crews within in their response area. With only a single career unit staffed at Station 63, simultaneous incidents can dramatically affect the objective being met as response would be required from Station 61.

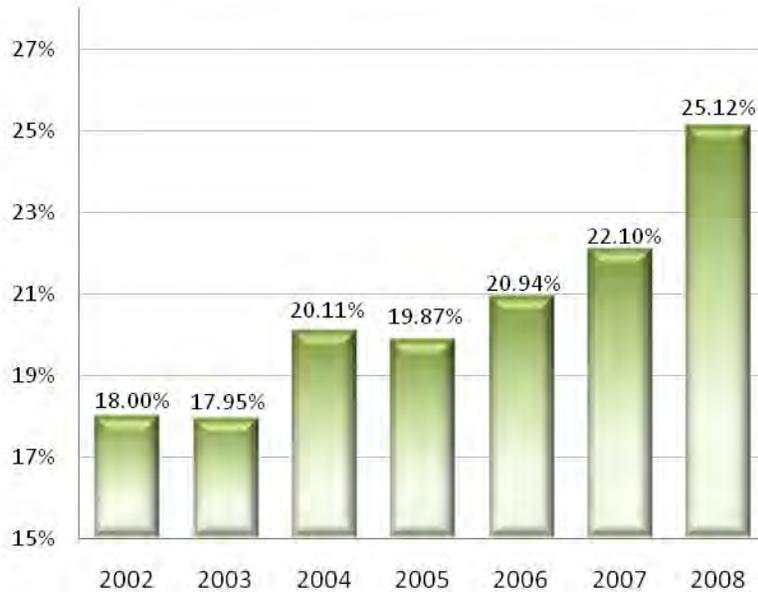
PREDICTABLE CONSEQUENCES

Areas of the District will continue to see deficiencies in response times at locations farthest from stations. Transportation routes to the most rural areas often do not allow for quick access due to absence of a direct route, narrow lanes and other factors. Address identification signs are often nonexistent which can delay the arrival of units.

As the District continues to grow, more incidents will be dispatched increasing the number of simultaneous (back to back) emergencies, as evidenced by the chart on the next page.

The percentage of simultaneous emergencies has been steadily increasing over the past six years, from 18% in 2002 to 22.1% in 2007 and in 2008, 25.12%. This means the District is dispatched to a second (or third or more) emergency 25.12% of the time when the District is already on or responding to another emergency. As the population and housing units in the Station 2 (Lakeshore, Felida) and Station 3 (Salmon Creek, Mt. Vista) grows and ages, the District can anticipate a corresponding increase in emergency responses which will stress the response capabilities of the units in service.

PERCENTAGE OF SIMULTANEOUS EMERGENCIES
(Two or more responses occurring simultaneously)



Simultaneous incidents stress response capabilities of the District. Back-to-back incidents typically create longer overall response times since an apparatus from another station location or station area must respond a longer distance to cover the incident for the apparatus which is on another emergency.

ONGOING PLANS FOR COMPLIANCE

The District will consider the following steps to improve or maintain compliance:

- **New/Updated Computer Aided Dispatching (CAD) System.** The 911 Center is in the process of purchasing a new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system which is expected to be placed into service the summer of 2009. The new system will have more functionality at Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency (CRESA, the 911 Dispatch Center) for dispatching, providing detailed information and assurance in capturing time stamps with a higher accuracy percentage than the current system.
- **Software Enhancements/Improvements to our Incident Reporting System.** The District will continue to make improvements in our Incident Reporting / Records Management System fields for “automatic requirements” of needed information to ensure necessary data is captured.
- **Track Specific Areas of Deficiency.** The District will continue monitoring turnout and response times sorted by shift and station to determine where deficiencies exist and those will be addressed to ensure improvements when possible.

- **Monitor the Level of Back to Back (Simultaneous) Incidents.** Continued monitoring of simultaneous (back-to-back incidents) for historical trends. As discussed in this report, the number of simultaneous or back-to-back incidents is steadily increasing. Staffing of additional apparatus at other stations to reduce deficiencies may ultimately be necessary as the percentage of simultaneous incidents increases along with the overall increase in emergency incidents.
- **Monitor Environmental (Weather-Related) Issues Impacting Responses.** Capturing data and monitoring environmental issues affecting response times, such as snow, ice, etc through the use of the department's emergency reporting program.
- **Unit Staffing.** The District will continue to examine the levels of available staffed units to determine if any solutions or enhancements need consideration for the future. The District's 2008 Master Plan and Strategic Plan stated the need to increase staffing levels.

At Station 15-1 (the fairgrounds area fire station jointly operated by Fire District 6, and Clark County Fire & Rescue) studies are currently underway for consolidation of training divisions of three fire agencies. How this may impact the staffing at the station has not been determined.

During 2008 this station was staffed from 1900 – 0700 daily by resident volunteer firefighters, though maintaining that staffing level is becoming increasingly challenging.

DATA RECORD SETS

Data collected for the purpose of this analysis included only incidents that occurred within Fire District 6's jurisdictional boundaries and were determined to need a Code 3 (lights/siren) emergency response by the department's personnel as dispatched by CRESA (911 Emergency Center).

Non-emergency responses are not included in the calculation of the reported turnout/response times. The report excludes cancelled responses.

Raw support data is on file explaining the process used from within Firehouse (record management system) to complete this report.

TRAINING DIVISION

The Training Division is overseen by Battalion Chief Scott Reamer. The Division's primary focus is to develop and provide quality training and education to the members of Clark County Fire District 6 and the public they serve.

The Training division is responsible for the initial and on-going training of all volunteer and career staff members. With the numerous requirements placed upon the fire service today by the many regulatory agencies, (NFPA, ISO, OSHA and Regional EMS), the Training Division coordinates the training needed to comply with established regulations.

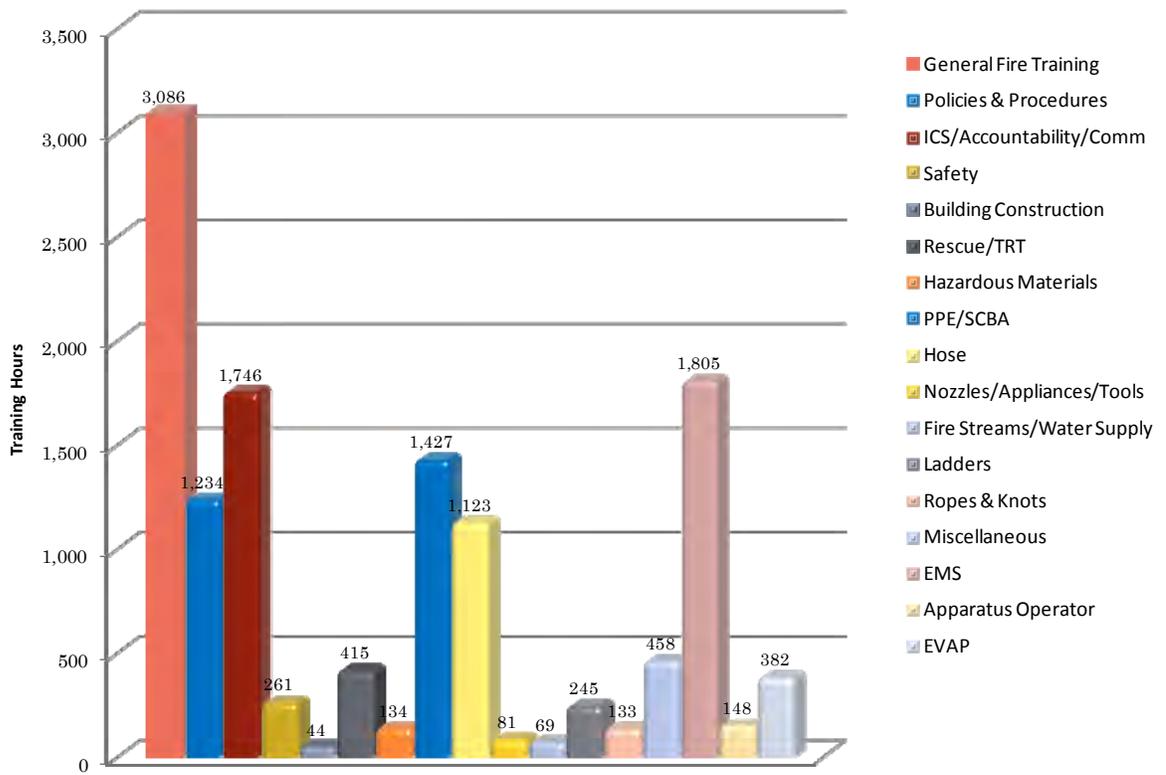


It is the mission of the Training Division to provide the highest quality training, Instruction and evaluation to our members. This is intended to prepare our department to serve our community in the most efficient and effective means possible, and to ensure personal safety as we deliver this service. This is accomplished by:

- Encouraging individual and company training.
- Keeping abreast of all training requirements.
- Maintaining comprehensive training records.
- Delivering the most meaningful and realistic training possible while ensuring personal safety.



TRAINING HOURS



TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAM

The Technical Rescue Team is comprised of members of both Clark County Fire District 6 and the Vancouver Fire Department. The Team responds to specialized rescue situations, such as confined space, high angle rescue and water rescue. The Team is headed by Firefighter/Paramedic Bryan Baum, serving as its Team Leader.



Bryan Baum, TRT Team Leader

Personnel

Three members resigned from the Team in 2008 and three new members were added to the ranks. Members are drawn from existing firefighters, firefighter/ paramedics and officer.

Equipment

Leather USAR boots were purchased for the team this year.

The department purchased a Rescue 42 Stabilization Strut set, and team members trained the department on their use. Now there is an engine set on E61 and a full truck set on TRT 61

In February we started the Region 4 TRT web site. It has helped with communication between our department and VFD with training issues, drill times and also gives information to other departments about a resource that is available for use within region 4.

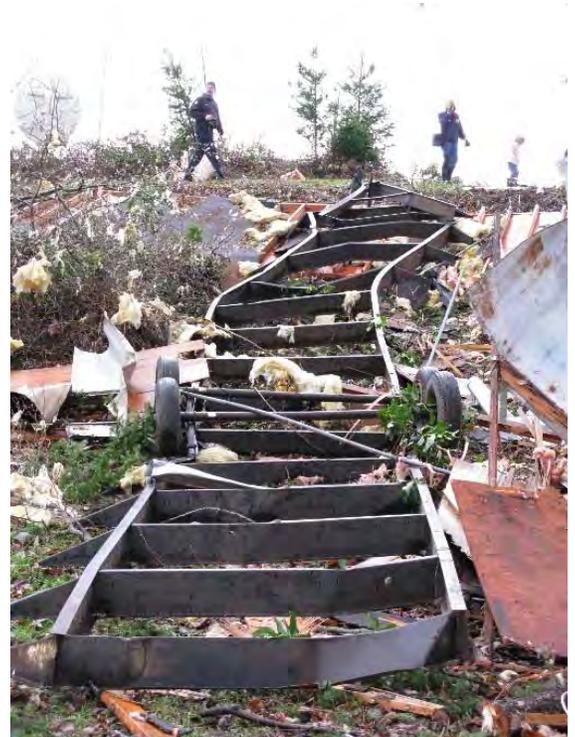
Training

This year five members of the team were sent to College Station, Texas for the *Urban Search and Rescue Structural Collapse Technician 2* class. This is a week-long intensive training course with each member receiving approximately 80 hours of training. This training was financed by a grant from Homeland Security, Region 4.

Fire District 6 sponsored a week-long rope-rescue/ Confined Space Technician class attended by four of our personnel and two from the Vancouver Fire Department.

Four members of the Team presented a Swift Water Rescue Technician class which was attended by several members of Vancouver Fire Department, fourteen Air Force Para-Rescue personnel and two Coast Guard rescue swimmers. The class was held over a three-day period and was very successful.

Four members attended a two day class in Clackamas Oregon, which was presented by Zodiac. The course extensively covered boat rescue techniques and boat maintenance.



Tornado, Hazel Dell 2008

Responses

- 1/10/2008 – Tornado, South Hazel Dell**
The Technical Rescue Team (TRT) was activated to assist in building assessment and possible extrications. District TRT equipment and multiple on- and off-duty TRT members responded to the incident. Several buildings were assessed; no injuries or extrications were performed.
- 2/28/2008 Vehicle over the embankment, 12000 NE Highway 99**
The TRT was called to assist in reaching a patient whose vehicle went off the road and over the sixty-foot deep embankment into Salmon creek. TRT members stabilized the vehicle, extricated and packaged the patient. A system was set up to raise the patient from the creek.
- 6/26/08 – Rope Rescue from a Cliff, SR 14 @ MP 25 Skamania County**
TRT was called to remove a patient who had fallen approximately 600 feet down a cliff and had fractured an ankle. TRT members arrived and sent a rescuer down to assist Skamania County in packaging the patient. Patient was placed on a raising system and was removed.
- 9/13/2008 – Drowning, Vancouver Lake Flushing Channel**
TRT was called to assist with attempting to locate a drowning victim. TRT61 with Boat 61, HR81 and several TRT members set up a grid search and assisted multiple agencies in attempting to find the victim. Attempts were unsuccessful, and victim was found two days later in the Columbia River just outside the flushing channel.
- 11/22/2008 – Vehicle Over the Embankment, 5600 NE Hazel Dell Ave.**
TRT members on duty and a Vancouver Fire heavy-rescue unit responded to a vehicle over the embankment. TRT members repelled down to the vehicle, extricated and packaged the patient. A raising system was constructed and patient was removed and transferred to an ambulance.



Vehicle over the embankment, 2008

There were many other calls for technical advice that are not listed.

Public Contact and Events

The Technical Rescue Team participated in the following events:

- CRESA (911 Center) Open House
- Vancouver Fire Department Open House
- Clark County Fire District 6 Open House
- Public Safety Complex Open House and Safety Fair

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER PROGRAM

Introduction

Clark County Fire District 6 was formed in 1954 with 65 volunteers and two used fire engines. While we don't buy used fire engines anymore, the volunteer firefighter program is still an integral part of our daily fire operations.

Fire District 6 is a combination fire department meaning both career and volunteer personnel work to provide emergency services to the community. Our volunteers wear pagers alerting them when the District has been dispatched to an incident.

Depending on the size and type of incident, the volunteers are asked to respond back to their assigned station for coverage or dispatch to the scene. This system ensures uninterrupted station coverage, provides maximum manpower availability for incidents and contributes to our remarkable Class 3 rating with the Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau. Only one other fire district in the state has a higher rating.

In addition to responding back to stations for emergencies, our volunteers provide a number of other services equally important to the safety and awareness of our citizens. Throughout the year, volunteers teach public safety classes, attend public relations events and participate in extra-curricular activities related to the Fire District. Examples are teaching CPR classes, attending parades, hosting open houses and providing fire engine stand-by coverage for local high school sports events.

The volunteer firefighter program has been a long-standing tradition at Fire District 6. Our citizens have always had the opportunity to volunteer their services and help their community. Sometimes the goal is to become a career firefighter and sometimes the goal is to be mentally or physically challenged while helping people. Whatever the goal, our program meets or exceeds these expectations and provides exceptional emergency services.



Training Received by Volunteers in 2008

- Air Management
- Apparatus orientation
- Driver training
- Compressor/bottle filling operations – Air Unit
- Operating fire pumps
- Online medical training
- CPR recertification
- Spinal immobilization skills
- Emergency vehicle accident prevention – classroom and practical
- Self-contained breathing apparatus
- Engine company drill
- Multi-company drill
- Radio equipment
- Streets, jurisdictional boundaries
- High-rise building drill
- Hazardous materials training
- Incident Command for railroad incidents
- Technical rescue awareness

Types of Events Attended by Volunteer Firefighters

- Read with Kids Night
- Health / Fun Night events
- CPR Classes
- Smoke detector installation program
- Fire Extinguisher Classes
- EMS standby coverage at various community events
- EMS standby at high school sporting events
- Antique fire engine rides
- EMS standby coverage at graduation ceremonies
- Fire District 6 Annual Open House
- Annual Hazel Dell Parade of Bands
- Special “Safety Day” events
- EMS coverage at Clark County Amphitheater events
- Felida children’s parade
- Fire / EMS Coverage during the Clark County Fair
- Fire Extinguisher Classes
- Bike Helmet / Fire Safety events
- School visits
- Santa’s Posse Gift / Food Delivery

APPARATUS AND MAINTENANCE

The District currently has 13 apparatus available for response (excluding staff and command units). These apparatus, their make and year are listed in the table below. In addition, the District has ten administrative or maintenance vehicles.

Much of the maintenance is performed in-house by an Equipment and Facilities Maintenance Specialist who was hired late in 2007. Those maintenance or repairs which cannot be completed at the District are outsourced to other facilities or companies. In 2008, the District expended \$106,499 for the maintenance and repair of apparatus, excluding parts and tires.

Apparatus	Make/Model	Year	Current Status
Engine 61	Pierce/Dash	2006	Station 61 – first out
Engine 611	Pierce/Saber	2001	Station 61 – second out
Engine 612	Pierce/Lance	1992	Station 61 – reserve
Engine 62	Pierce/Dash	2006	Station 62 – first out
Engine 621	Pierce/Saber	1996	Station 62 – second out
Engine 622	Mack CF	1997	Station 62 – reserve
Engine 63	Pierce/Dash	2006	Station 63 – first out
Engine 631	Pierce/Saber	2001	Station 63 – second out
Engine 632	Mack	1984	Station 63 – reserve
Squad 61	Ford/Pierce	2007	Station 61 – rescue squad/mini-pumper
Air 61	Pierce/Dash	2006	Station 61 – staffed by volunteer/off-duty
Rehab 61	GMC/RTS	1982	Station 61 – staffed only during major incidents
Brush 62	Ford/Pierce	2000	Station 62 – staffed during brush fire incidents



Truck/Tower 61

This apparatus was sold in December 2008 after providing the department nearly twenty-eight years of service. Originally purchased by the Mack Company, this truck had a 75 foot elevating platform with a waterway to the platform capable of providing a stream of water at 1,000 gallons per minute.

The truck was refurbished in the 1990s by Pierce, and had new cabinets installed and a second rear axle added.



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT - EDUCATION AND PREVENTION

Senior Falls Prevention

Fire District 6 provides an assessment of senior citizens homes and education at their request to determine action that can be taken to prevent falls. Risk reduction devices are then installed to prevent falls.

Senior Fire Prevention

Groups may request a fire prevention presentation focusing on the special needs associated with senior citizens. Nostalgic trivia keeps the groups involved.

First Aid/CPR Classes

The District provides classes to the public as individuals in our monthly class or as groups at specific requested locations. Classes range from basic CPR to Healthcare Provider level training. First Aid and CPR classes are also taught at the four middle schools within our boundaries to 7th and 8th graders.

Fire Extinguisher Training

Basic fire extinguisher use is taught to groups by a qualified firefighter. Class location is at group's request.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

CERT training teaches neighbors how to prepare for a disaster and what to do in the event a disaster occurs. Initial instruction takes place one evening per week for six weeks, plus a Saturday disaster simulation. Once certified, team members participate in monthly training sessions.



Disaster Preparedness Presentations

For those who feel more comfortable preparing just for their own family, disaster preparedness presentations are available to neighborhood or faith-based groups upon request.

Junior Fire-Setter Intervention

A trained individual provides education and support to children and their families in the effort to halt a child's dangerous behavior of playing with fire.

Home Safety Evaluations – Firefighters visit homes, and using a checklist, evaluate the resident's home fire escape plan (or help develop a plan) and provide suggestions for making their home a safer place.

Classroom Fire Prevention/First Aid Instruction

Fire District 6 provides classroom fire prevention and basic first aid presentations to a wide variety of age groups - from preschool to senior citizens. We provide these services on a year-round basis.



PUBLIC EDUCATION AND PREVENTION EVENTS

During 2008, the District had contact with thousands of citizens in our community. The chart below provides a summary of contacts.

Activity	Children	Adults	Seniors
Home Safety Evaluations		3	1
Smoke Detector Campaign	1	47	102
Public Education	43	13	
Puppet Shows	50	10	
Station Tours	458	223	2
Public Relations, Misc	86	10,046	10001
Blood Pressure Check		27	12
Fire Engine Visit	1,717	363	52
Community Event	2,271	1,829	436
Junior Fire Setter Intervention	3	2	
Presentation – Middle School	20	5	
Presentation - Adults		2	
Disaster Preparedness Education	61	1	1
Presentation – Elementary School	205	35	6
Total Citizens Contacted:	4,914	12,606	10,613

Annual Open House

The Open House features fire and injury prevention information and education as well as demonstrations by firefighters and Sheriff's deputies. A variety of agencies join FD6 in providing over 3,000 people with a fun, educational day. The agencies included the following:

- Clark County Sheriff's Office K-9, Marine Patrol and Public Outreach
- Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency
- American Red Cross Disaster Services
- Legacy Hospital Poison Prevention
- Southwest Washington Hospital Trauma Services
- Clark Public Utilities (electrical safety)
- Clark PUD water services
- Clark Regional Wastewater District
- Community Cycling Center (bicycle safety)
- Fire District 6 volunteer recruitment
- Fire District 6 Emergency Medical Services
- EDITH – Vancouver Fire Department's fire safety house
- Fire District 6 Technical Rescue display
- Fire District 6 – Junior Firefighter Challenge
- Fire District 6 – Extrication demonstration
- Fire District 6 – fire extinguisher demonstration
- Life Flight Helicopter

- American Medical Response (car seat safety)
- Applebee's
- Cold Stone Creamery
- People's Credit Union
- Fire District 6 cadets
- Fire District 6 Volunteer Firefighters Association
- Hazel Dell/Salmon Creek Business Association
- Streissguth Family - antique fire apparatus
- Fire District 6 antique fire engine – fire engine rides
- Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Clark County Fair

During the ten-day event, firefighter/paramedics and volunteer firefighters staff a fairgrounds fire station 24/7 to respond to emergencies on site for the 300,000 people who visit the fair annually. Firefighters talk to fair attendees and Freddy the fire engine and Sparky the Fire Dog provide children with safety messages.



Public Safety Complex Open House

The new Public Safety Complex held a grand opening / open house in September 2001 and has continued these events each year. This multi-agency facility provided the local community with information from many county agencies. There were demonstrations being presented all afternoon and free hot dogs, popcorn, pop, and snow cones for those who attend.

Fire District 6 Community Newsletter

The Fire District's community newsletter began production in September 2001. The newsletter has been successfully published and distributed semi-annually ever since. The community

newsletter is distributed to approximately 23,000 households and businesses within Fire District 6. The purpose of the newsletter is to provide information about Fire District 6, its services, and safety information to our community.

Annual Fire Prevention Poster Contest

In partnership with the Hazel Dell/Salmon Creek Business Association, the annual Fire Prevention Poster Contest took place in October 2008. Local third through fifth grade students are invited to participate. Entries are brought to the station and judged by Business Association members.

Winning entries from each grade level are picked up at their school by fire engines and awards are presented at a luncheon at the fire station attended by family members, school officials, fire district personnel and elected officials. The grand prize at the last awards luncheon included a portable DVD player and a donation awarded to the student's school art program. The grand prizewinner also enjoys the distinction of having his or her poster framed and displayed at the fire station. This program continues to be a very successful public education program that reaches a large number of students in our area.



Fire Prevention Activities

Our Fire Prevention Program activities focus on providing fire safety information to preschool and K-2 graders year-round, and especially during the month of October. Engine crews take fire engines to the schools and provide fire safety messages in a fun environment. We also schedule a large number of station tours during that month. Teacher curriculum focuses on fire prevention education during the month of October and we concentrate our efforts in providing fun, informative and life-saving information. We feel these efforts keep our incidents involving juvenile fire setters extremely low.

Other Community Events

We take pride in our commitment to our community. We have requests on a regular basis to attend community events in our area. School carnivals, neighborhood association events, Easter egg hunts, parades, Santa visits, and Christmas tree lighting ceremonies are just a small sampling

of events in which we participate. There is always an opportunity to provide information to those with whom we come in contact.



Bicycle Helmets.

The District partnered with Wal-Mart to provide free bicycle helmets to hundreds of children. The helmets are distributed at safety fairs, at our open house and on an as-requested basis. District personnel conduct bicycle rodeos on a regular basis to teach safe bicycle operation to children.



Memory Makers at the Clark County Fair

Fire District 6 partners with the International Association of Firefighters, Local 1805, the Clark County Fair, People's Community Credit Union, and the Providence Child Center to provide a fun family outing to the Clark County Fair for medically fragile children and their families. With firefighter/paramedics as escorts, these families are able to enjoy and outing normally not possible because of their child's medical condition. 2009 will mark the sixth year with this program.