

A photograph of a residential fire scene. Thick white smoke billows from a two-story house with a dark roof. Bright orange flames are visible on the roofline. Five firefighters in full protective gear, including helmets and air tanks, are positioned around the house. One firefighter on the right is using a long-handled tool to reach the roof. The scene is hazy due to the smoke.

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

CLARK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 6

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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 and part-time employees and twenty-nine volunteers.

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

Washington State law requires cities and fire protection districts to establish service-delivery and response-time objectives and evaluate their level of service, deployment delivery and response time objectives on an annual basis. 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.

In 2006 the Fire District 6 Board of Fire Commissioners adopted a Resolution establishing 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. The objectives have been revised twice in an effort to ensure the objectives are reasonable.

Please visit the District's web site at www.ccf6.org for more information about your fire district, the programs we provide and the latest news.



LETTER FROM FIRE CHIEF KRISTAN MAURER



Dear Residents of Clark County Fire District 6,

Serving those who live, work and visit our community is an extremely rewarding experience. Community service is the essence of what brings us as individuals together and connects us to something greater than ourselves. That connection is why we're here. Our culture is focused on that connection and community service. We are dedicated to excellence in protecting and serving our community.

This community has graciously supported us through the years, and we could not provide the level of professional services we do without that support. We constantly see the gifts given to us from the community in our facilities, apparatus, equipment and most of all our

personnel.

I am honored to work with the incredible men and women of Clark County Fire District 6. Every day they respond to calls for service and make a positive difference in the lives of so many.

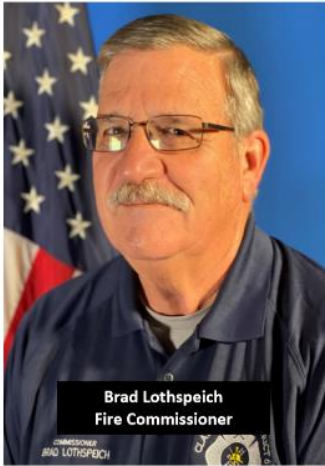
It is this administrations goal to ensure that we have a healthy firefighting force physically and mentally. If we ensure the health and safety of our firefighters, then we ensure the health and safety of our community.

I remain committed to the success of this fire district. Thank you for your continued support. We will continue to think of innovative ways to provide the best service to the community we serve.

Be well and be safe,

Kristan Maurer

LETTER FROM COMMISSIONER CHAIR BRAD LOTHSPETCH



It is my honor to represent the Board of Fire Commissioners for Clark County Fire District 6 as the Board Chair.

I have been associated with Fire District 6 for over 40 years, both on the line and now as a Fire Commissioner. In all those years, I don't believe I have ever seen more transformation in one year than occurred during 2019 with the Fire District.

The Fire District experienced an unprecedented change in personnel in the last year. Our Fire Chief, an Assistant Chief, and several line personnel retired as well as one of our Fire Commissioners.

The Fire Chief position was filled internally with a candidate that both met and exceeded our requirements and expectations. Assistant Chief Kristan Maurer was promoted to Fire Chief after moving up the ranks from Firefighter/Paramedic to her current title. Chief Maurer will be a great asset to both the organization and to the community we serve.

The District conducted an extensive process to fill both the Assistant Chief and line positions. We were able to hire excellent people to replace those that retired. Our long-serving Fire Commissioner Dean Bloemke chose not to seek office for an additional term, completing a 40 plus year involvement with the District. A new Fire Commissioner will help shape the department as 2020 progresses.

Two of our fire stations, one a remodel and one a new build, were under way during the year. A training tower is also being constructed that will allow us to provide additional education on site for all of our personnel which will reduce training costs usually incurred from outside sources. With the support of our community through the continuation of approved levies, we were able to make those projects happen without voter approved bonds.

Improvements were made in safety equipment, as well as the level of training provided for our Firefighters. These improvements, along with the hard work of our personnel at Fire District 6, reduced the Washington Survey and Rating Bureau rating from a Class 4 to a Class 3. This rating improvement will save businesses and some homeowners on their insurance costs.

I am extremely proud of the men and women that serve our citizens. They are dedicated to providing outstanding fire and EMS service to our community with compassion and integrity.

Again, a big thank you to our community for your continued support! It's an honor to serve you.

Brad Lothspeich

ADMINISTRATION REPORT



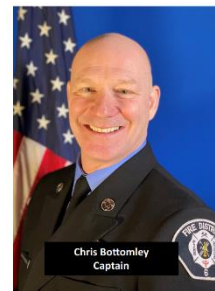
RETIREMENTS This past year has been one of transition. We have seen the arrival and departure of many key members of the department. Fire Chief Jerry Green retired after 15 years of service to District 6. Assistant Chief Kristan Maurer was promoted from within the organization to assume the Fire Chief role. Assistant Chief Dave Taylor also retired after a 38 year career. Two new members were hired to fill these



voids, Assistant Chief of Operations Dave Russell and Assistant Chief of Administration David Schmitt.

Also retiring this year were Firefighter Paramedic Mike Swanson after 27 years of service, Volunteer Fire Captain Craig White after 36 years, Volunteer Coordinator and Captain, Merrill Thompson after 22 years and Commissioner and Volunteer Dean Bloemke retired after 48 years of combined service to the District. We congratulate and thank all of these members for their contributions and dedicated service to the community!

PROMOTIONS District 6 added a new Training Captain position to the department and Captain Clint Greeley was promoted to this position. The Training Captain promotion created a shift Captain opening. Chris Bottomley was promoted to fill this vacancy. We congratulate these members and look forward to great things from both of them.



NEW HIRES With all of these retirements and promotions, the District needed to hire some new Firefighters and Paramedics. We conducted extensive testing and were successful in hiring four outstanding new members: FF Zach Hougan, FF/PM Dennis Schafer, FF/PM Josh Weston and FF/PM Brian Legato. Two of these members will be attending Fire Academy training in North Bend and two will attend an abbreviated training class in-house in early 2020.

OPERATIONS REPORT



OPERATIONS

2019 has been a year of preparation for exciting new changes coming to Fire District 6. Operationally we continue to see call volume increases and new construction growth in all areas of the district. The operations division hopes to meet this growth with proactive decision making and strategic planning.

In early 2020 the Fire District will begin to meet with partners in our skilled care facilities and adjust our responses to better meet their needs as well as maintain operational reliability. The District will also begin the



strategic planning process to analyze our needs for 2020 and beyond.



LOGISTICS REPORT



CONSTRUCTION

2019 was a busy construction year, seeing three planned and one unplanned project for the fire district.

- Sewer system improvements and a remodel at Station 62 in Felida were completed. This fire station is now built to essential facility standards.
- Construction on new Station 63 at the end of 2019 was about 90% complete. Crews were still stationed in the old facility, anticipating a move to the new building in Q1 2020.
- The project was a few months behind schedule which also delayed building the training tower, pushing that project into 2020.
- Station 61 also received some sewer system improvements to bring us in line with current county requirements. The driveway in front of the apparatus bays experienced a small sink hole due to undermining caused by a failed storm drain.

The overall project expenditures ongoing and are still being calculated. We estimate that the actual cost for 63 is approximately 5% over budget secondary to the addition of a DOAZ system to the HVAC mandated by a new energy code, changes to the water treatment systems on the property, additional engineering related to the foundation and other changes discovered during the project. Station 62's budget was exceeded by approximately 49% due to the discovery of mold, the addition of a fire sprinkler system and the addition of new windows. Station 61's budget was exceeded by approximately 23% due to a design change required mid-project and some unanticipated concrete removal and replacement.

The projects were funded through a general obligation bond approved by the Board of Commissioners and through reserves the fire district has set aside. We expect all of these projects to be complete by the end of summer, 2020.



PUBLIC INFORMATION AND EDUCATION REPORT



MEDIA COVERAGE (PIO)

During 2019 we had a total of 26 separate subjects that garnered media coverage. Ranging from emergency events such as fires and MVAs to earned media coverage like fireworks safety and BBQ grill safety. We attracted media from all four Portland TV stations, two radio networks, and several print organizations.

1. TRT CHIT Rescue	5/1/2019	KGW			
2. Window Locks	5/1/2019	KATU			
3. Window Locks	5/6/2019	The Columbian			
4. Window Locks	5/9/2019	KATU			
5. EARLY FIRE CONDITIONS	5/9/2019	KGW			
6. Window Locks	5/10/2019	Telemundo			
7. Window Locks	5/9/2019	KOMO			
8. House Fire	5/9/2019	Columbian			
9. Window Locks	5/10/2019	KATU			
10. "Those Left Behind"	5/17/2019	kptv, Columbian, Daily Dispatch			
11. Car Into Building	5/21/2019	KOIN, The Oregonian, KATU, KGW, Columbian			
12. Burn Ban	5/21/2019	KATU			
13. NW 21st Ave Fire	6/17/2019	KATU, KGW, KOIN, KPTV, Columbian			KXL radio
14. Burn Ban	6/17/2019	KATU			
15. Pre-Fireworks Fire Danger	7/3/2019	KATU			
16. Fairgrounds Brush Fire	7/9/2019	KATU, KOIN, The Columbian			
17. MVA's	7/12/2019	The Columbian			
18. Recognition Ceremony	7/14/2019	KATU, KOIN, KPTV, Columbian, Clark County Today			
19. Body Recovery (TRT)	7/23/2019	KGW, KATU, The Columbian			
20. RV/Shop Fire	7/24/2019	The Columbian			
21. Monster Truck Crash/CC Fair	8/12/2019	The Columbian			
22. Apollo	8/17/2019	The Columbian			
23. Maurer to Chief	8/22/2019	The Columbian			
24. Salmon Creek MVA	8/22/2019	The Columbian			
25. Fire Danger	8/23/2019	KATU			
26. Fire Danger	8/24/2019	KATU			
27. Women Crush Wednesday	11/7/2019	KOIN			



PUBLIC EDUCATION

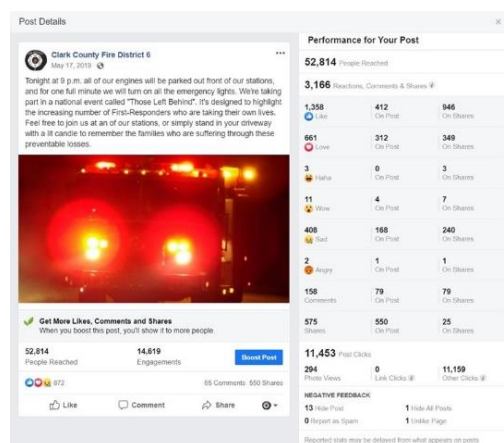
2019 was the first year of our re-tooled Public Education campaign. Instead of bringing our message of fire prevention and safety to both kindergarten and first grade, we switched to providing kindergarten visits in the fall and then fourth grade visits the following winter/spring. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 Pandemic derailed our fourth grade visits, but the curriculum is set and ready for 2020-21.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Social Media: Big gains in social media in 2019. In this year we finally eclipsed over 5,000 followers on our Facebook page. Several posts scored views in the tens of thousands, and a number of notable posts achieved views and engagement rates in the tens of thousands. This post from May 17 reached more than 52,000 people with 14,619 engagements.

Significant strides were made in Instagram and Twitter posts/tweets, but room for improvement exists with these platforms.

Video: The level of video production continues to rise. We've now produced well over 150 videos on YouTube and Facebook. Video content ranges from training to education and human-interest stories, sharing our positive messages of community engagement.



RESPONSE TIME COMPLIANCE

Based on the performance policy and objectives outlined in State law and identified elements deemed appropriate in the Department's emergency services delivery, a statistical data analysis was conducted. This report has been prepared to meet the requirements of Board Resolution 2006-03. 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 Life Support – First Arriving Unit
5. Emergency Medical – Advanced Life Support Arriving
6. Technical Rescue – Operations-Level Personnel Arrival
7. Technical Rescue – Technician-Level Personnel Arrival

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

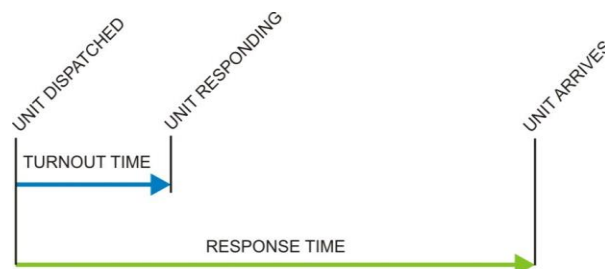
8. Response Time – All Units (a global look at response time)
9. Total Call Volume

REPORTING OF RESPONSE TIME

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 between the 911 Center dispatch to an incident and the apparatus responding to the incident.

The *Response Time* is a measurement of the elapsed time beginning with when the apparatus is dispatched to the incident and ends upon the arrival on scene of the incident.



FILTERING APPLIED TO INCIDENT ANALYSIS

Prior to analysis, filters are applied to the studied incidents. First, only Priority 1 and 2 responses are included.

Next, mutual aid (out of District), cancelled responses and non-emergency incidents are removed from calculations. Only the first-out engines and Squad 61 were included, and only Code-3 responses in-District were included.

Out of 8,243 incident reports completed for 2019, the filtering resulted in 2,823 reports used for the compliance calculations.

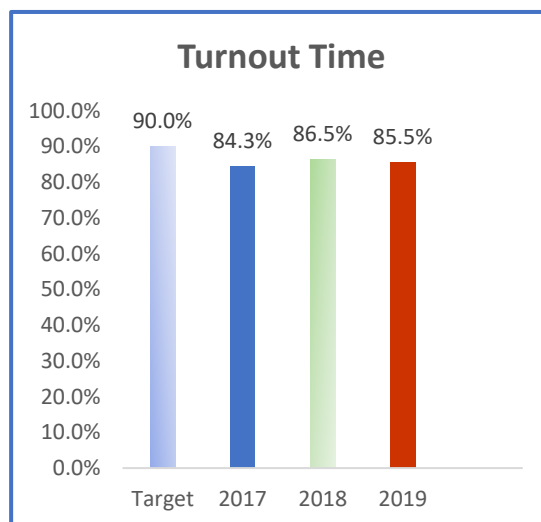
COMPLIANCE REPORT

1. TURNOUT TIME: COMBINED FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL

In 2019, Fire District 6 had a Turnout Time objective of two minutes (120 seconds), which the department should meet ninety percent (90%) of the time.

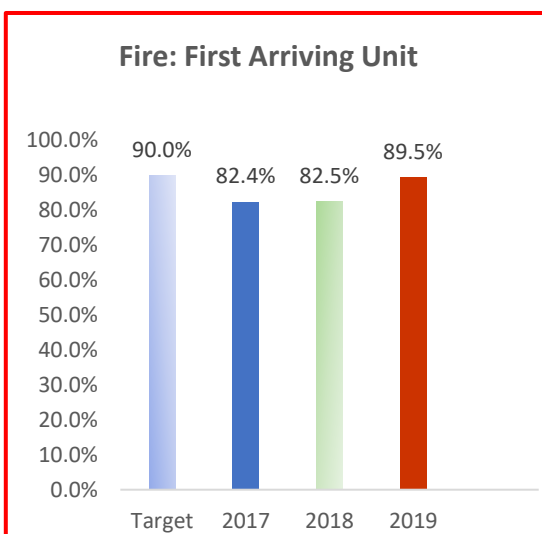
In years past, the responses used to determine turnout time compliance were filtered to exclude low priority, mutual aid, out of district responses, non-code 3 responses and cancelled responses. This report includes all Priority 1 and 2 responses.

In 2019 the objective was achieved 85.48% of the time.



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

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



A *Fire Suppression Incident* includes all activities performed at the scene of a fire incident that expose personnel to the dangers of heat, flame, smoke, by-products of combustion, explosion or structural collapse and are coded in the NFIRS system in the 100, 200 and 400 categories. Responses from other jurisdictions (mutual aid) are not included in the calculation of the District's compliance with response time objectives.

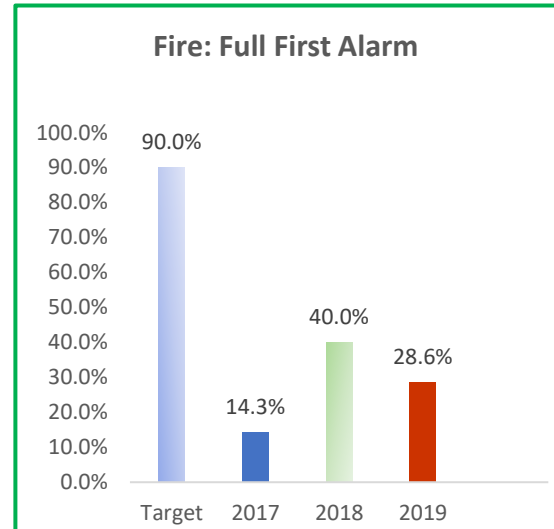
In 2019, FD6 apparatus had a response time of 6 minutes or less 89.54%.

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

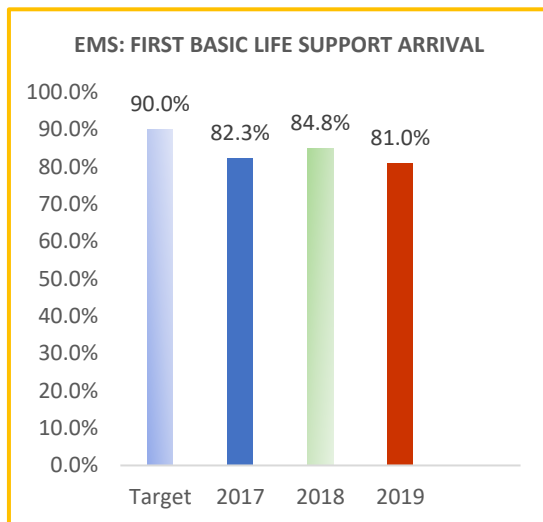
Fire District 6 adopted a response/travel time objective of nine (9) minutes from the arrival of the full complement of a 1st alarm response to a fire suppression incident, which the department should meet ninety percent (90%) of the time.

A Fire Suppression Incident includes all activities performed at the scene of a fire incident that expose personnel to the dangers of heat, flame, smoke, other products of combustion, explosion or structural collapse. In previous years, responses from other jurisdictions (mutual aid) were not included in the calculation of the District's compliance with response time objectives. For 2017-19 the full first alarm numbers included mutual aid companies necessary to complete the assignment.

In 2019, of the incidents which met the criteria for calculation, an objective of nine (9) minutes was achieved 28.57% of the time.



4. RESPONSE TIME: EMS INCIDENT – FIRST BASIC LIFE SUPPORT (BLS) ARRIVING UNIT



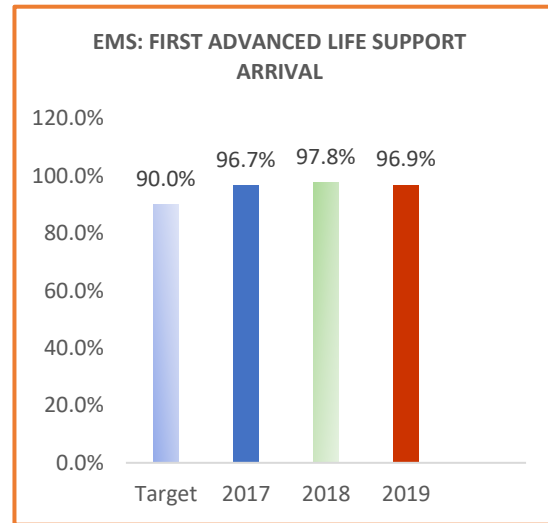
Fire District 6 adopted a response/travel time objective of six (6) minutes for the arrival of the first EMS unit with appropriately trained personnel on board to an emergency medical incident ninety percent (90%) of the time.

In 2019, FD6 apparatus had a response time of 6 minutes or less 81% of the time.

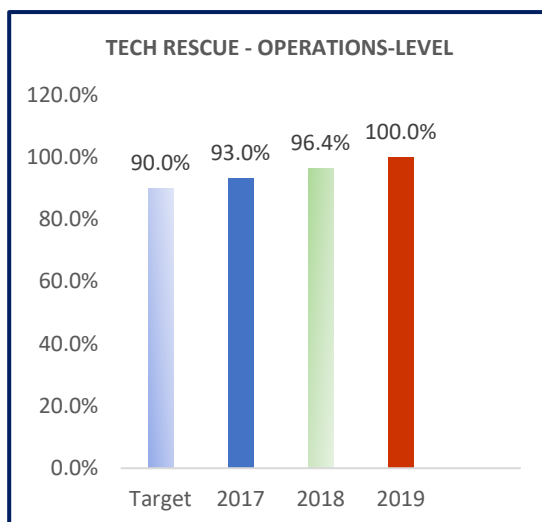
5. RESPONSE TIME: EMS INCIDENT – FIRST ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT (ALS) ARRIVING UNIT

Fire District 6 adopted a response/travel time objective of nine (9) minutes for the arrival of an advanced life support unit with appropriately ALS emergency medical incident ninety percent (90%) of the time.

In 2019, District apparatus had a response time of nine (9) minutes or less 96.93% of the time.



6. RESPONSE TIME: TECHNICAL RESCUE – OPERATIONS-LEVEL PERSONNEL ARRIVAL



Fire District 6 adopted a response/travel time objective of nine (9) 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.

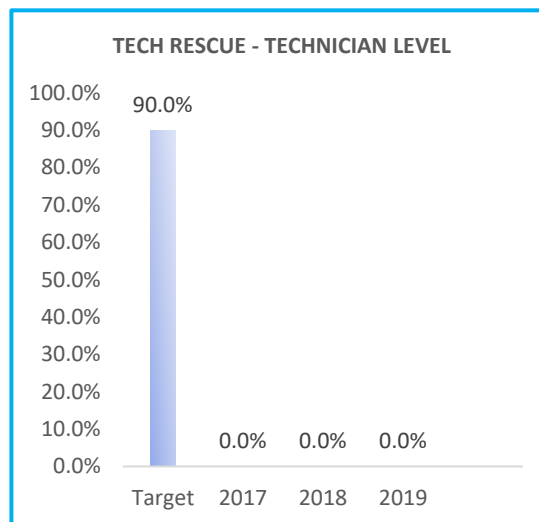
In 2019, for all responses made by Technical Rescue Team personnel within Fire District 6, the objective of nine (9) minutes was achieved on all for a compliance rate of 100%.

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

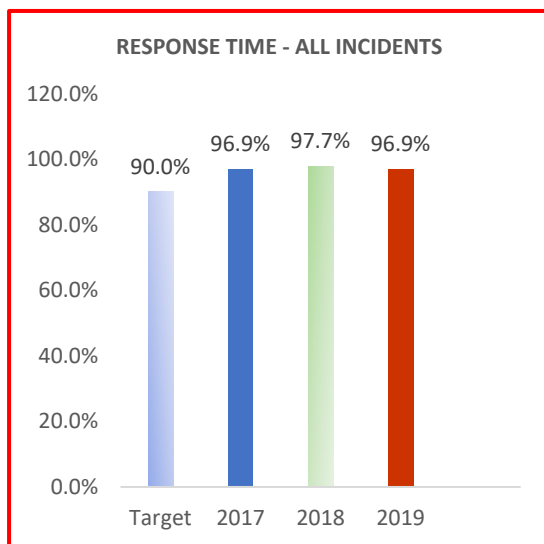
Fire District 6 adopted a response/travel time objective of thirty (30) minutes for the arrival of a sufficient number of appropriately trained and equipped Technical Rescue Technicians to perform operations at a technical rescue incident ninety percent (90%) of the time.

This data set is incomplete due to the structure of TRT callouts, responses and resource tracking.

For 2017-19, complete data for FD6 was unavailable for this report.



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 following data is provided for information purposes only.

In 2019, of the incidents which met the criteria for calculation, an objective of six

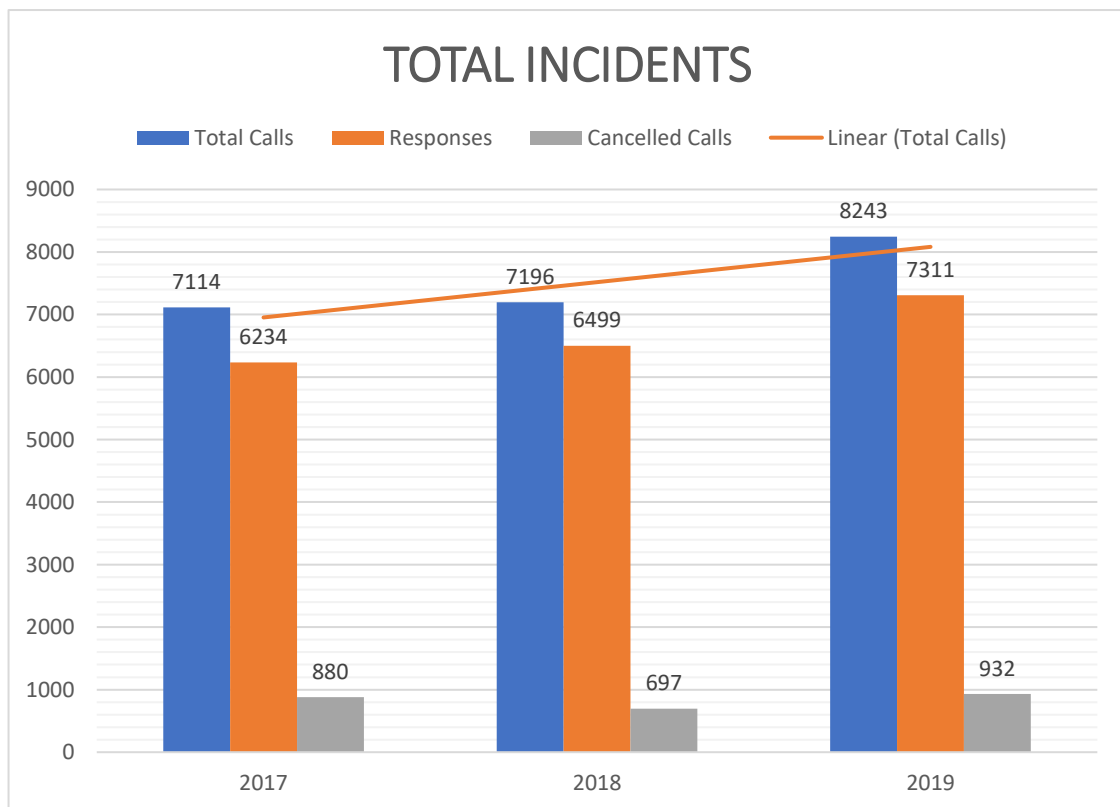
(6) minutes was achieved 96.92% of the time.

TOTAL INCIDENTS

Calls for emergency services within District 6 continue to increase annually. The charts below show the three year comparison for calls and the breakdown for calls used for this survey.

Cancelled calls (Cxl) are calls that are dispatched to one of the fire stations, the dispatched crew responds, or prepares to respond, but is cancelled prior to arrival on scene. This can happen for a number of reasons and these response times can bias the data. Therefore, these cancelled calls are removed for this report.

Report Year	Total Incidents	FD6 Cxl	Total Incidents (No Cxl)	Cxl %
2017	7,114	880	6,234	12.37%
2018	7,196	697	6,499	9.69%
2019	8,243	932	7,311	11.31%



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 each station's response area. The District depends on an engine and a ladder truck response from neighboring fire agencies on certain fire call types. Due to the distance of neighboring 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: ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT ARRIVING.

Historically, the most significant area of deficiencies is located within the extreme northeast and northwest sections of the District. This requires the longest travel distance for Station 63/Salmon Creek and Station 62/Felida crews within their response areas.

Additionally, 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 or Station 62.

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. Though offered by the District free of charge, address identification signs are often nonexistent which can delay the arrival of units.

As the District grows, it is likely more incidents will be dispatched with a corresponding increase in the number of simultaneous (back to back) emergencies, when the District is dispatched to a second (or third) emergency while already actively dealing with or responding to another emergency. Station 61 receives the greatest number of incidents and simultaneous emergencies are common.

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:

Computer Aided Dispatching (CAD) System. Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency (CRESA, the 911 Center) implemented a new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system in mid-2010. One of the concerns was the new system's inability to send "pre-alerts." Pre-alerts tell crews a call is about to be dispatched and include the location. This provides up to ninety seconds to prepare to respond to the incident prior to the actual dispatch taking place. Instead, the new system was expected to be able to receive notifications and dispatch units quicker than the old system.

Software Enhancements/Improvements to our Incident Reporting System. The District will continue to make improvements as needed 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 incidents for historical trends. Revising the staffing and deployment of apparatus 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 revisions need consideration for the future.

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 and out-of- jurisdiction responses.

A number of data sets were unavailable from 2018 due to major changes to both the reporting system and tracking software. A full data set was available for 2019.