

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Adam Massingill, Fire Chief

Trevin Robinson, Assistant Chief

Owen Milks, Administrative Officer

Mission Statement

Our Mission is to Serve, Support, and Protect Life and Property in our Community

Vision Statement

To be a cohesive team that can anticipate and meet the needs of the community by building a great culture that delivers excellent service to our community. We will focus on our personnel and provide them with the support and resources needed to deliver excellent service in our community.











Auburn Hills Fire Dept. 3410 E. Seyburn Road, Auburn Hills, MI 48326

2024 Year-End Report

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FIRE CHIEF'S COMMUNICATION

On behalf of the men and women sworn to serve, support, and protect our community, it is my pleasure to present the 2024 Annual Report for the Auburn Hills Fire Department. The following pages contain detailed information on service delivery, apparatus, stations, and equipment.

The number of calls for service surged to 4,621, which was an increase of 280 from the previous year. The surging call volume has followed the post-COVID trend in which the departments calls have increased by twenty-three percent since 2020. The 3,480 emergency medical calls represent seventy-five percent of the total call volume for the department, making it once again the most prevalent request for aid. The department responded to twenty-three building fires in 2024 and assisted neighboring communities with another sixteen fires as part of our mutual aid compact.

The department focus on growth and improvement continued in 2024 as our dedicated firefighters logged 12,147 hours of training. This has been a continuation of concentrated efforts to be prepared for any type of emergency in our community with training hours surpassing 12,000 for the fourth consecutive year.

Fire inspectors assigned to the fire prevention division worked diligently throughout the year to proactively keep the community safe. The three inspectors increased overall prevention activities by 36% since adding a third fire inspector in 2022. In addition, the fire prevention division closely tracks hazardous materials use and storage in the community which allows our fire suppression personnel the advantage of knowing what chemicals they may encounter when responding to emergencies.

The combined work of the fire prevention division and our well-prepared fire suppression division have continuously reduced risk in our community and led to our strong ISO rating which directly impacts insurance rates for our businesses and residents. We continue working hard to make sure the community's investment in the fire department is utilized responsibly and the benefits can be easily recognized through information contained in this report.

On behalf of the Auburn Hills Fire Department, I would again like to thank City Manager Tanghe, City Council, and our Public Safety Advisory Committee for their support in allowing us to carry out our most important mission; protecting the lives and property of those who live, work, and play in Auburn Hills. I would also like to thank our residents and business owners for their









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continued support and encouragement throughout the year. It is through this support that we proudly serve our community.

Adam Massingill

Fire Chief City of Auburn Hills Fire Department







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FIRE STATION LOCATIONS

The Department consists of three (3) fire stations strategically placed within the upside down "L" shaped city to cover its unique 17.4 square miles and 26,544 citizens.

Station 1: 3483 Auburn RD



Station 1 protects downtown Auburn Hills and the southern end of the city. This station is also where large Public Education events are held such as the department's annual Fire Prevention Open House.

Station 2: 1899 N Squirrel RD



Station 2 is located directly across from Oakland University's (OU) campus and protects the central area of the city. This station hosts suppression personnel in the city's Public Safety Building.

Station 3: 3253 Joslyn RD



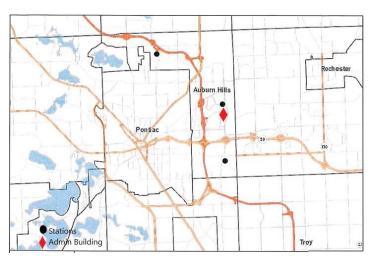
Station 3 is responsible for protecting the northern side of the city which includes the Great Lakes Crossing Outlet mall. Many industrial buildings and shopping centers reside in the northern portion of the city as well.

Administration Building: 3410 E Seyburn



The Administration Building hosts all administrative personnel, as well as the Fire Prevention Division.

Overview of Auburn Hills with Fire Station Locations









Fire Department

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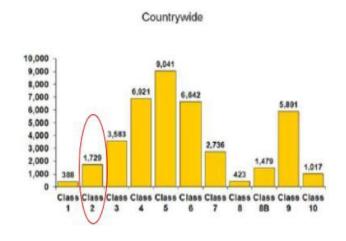
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DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

Public Protection Classification

The Insurance Service Office ISO assigns PPC grades on a scale of one (1) to ten (10) based on the fire protection capabilities of a department where a class one (1) rating represents an exemplary fire

suppression program, and a class ten (10) rating indicates the department's current fire suppression program does not meet ISO's minimum standards. AHFD has been awarded an improved Public Protection Classification (PPC) 2 rating from the ISO. AHFD's above-average fire protection classification aids in reducing insurance premiums and provides financial savings for property insurance in Auburn Hills. AHFD's ISO rating went into effect April 1st, 2023.



ISO representatives completed a

comprehensive analysis of our department's structural fire suppression delivery system which included evaluating fire department effectiveness, community risk reduction, water supply, and communications systems. Current ISO data shows only 2% of Michigan fire departments and 6% of fire departments across the nation have achieved the Class 2 rating or better. The improved rating reflects professional excellence by Auburn Hills Firefighters and Command Staff to make our community a safer place to live and work.

With the commencement of 2024, the Auburn Hills Fire Department (AHFD) employed a total of forty-two (42) employees. Of these employees, there are twenty-six (26) full-time suppression division personnel, six (6) part-time employees, and two (2) paid-on-call employees, five (5) administrative personnel, and three (3) prevention division fire inspectors. Apart from five EMTs, all full-time employees are licensed paramedics. We have a total of twenty-five (25) paramedics on staff at AHFD along with five current members attending paramedic courses to become more knowledgeable and experienced emergency medical responders.





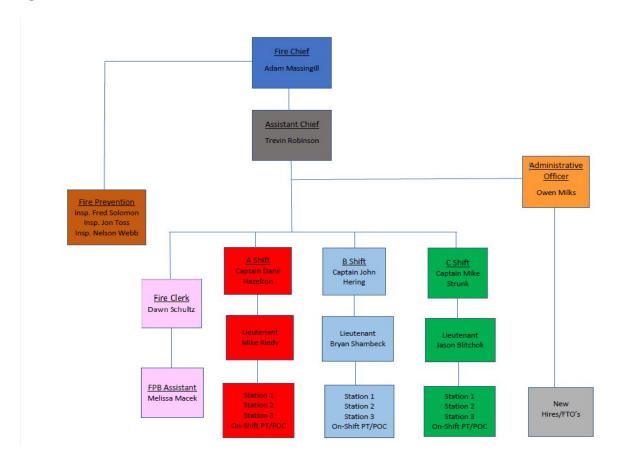




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Organizational Chart



AHFD uses 3 shifts to provide protection 24 hour/7 days a week/365 days a year to the community. Each of the three shifts have eight (8) assigned full-time firefighters. AHFD relies on part-time and paid-on-call employees to compliment the full-time personnel. Above is AHFD's organizational chart that represents the structure of the department. Below is the list of personnel and rank.







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AUBURN HILLS FIRE DEPARTMENT

ADMINISTRATION

Chief Adam Massingill	
Assistant Chief Trevin Robinson	
Adminstrative Officer Owen Milks	
Fire Clerk Dawn Schultz	
Admin. Asst. Melissa Macek	

FIRE PREVENTION

Maddox Zurawski

Inspector Fred Solomon
Inspector Jon Toss
Inspector Nelson Webb

Full Time Suppression

	7-00	Full Time Suppression	100	
	Captain	Lieutenant	Paramedic/EMT	
	Captain Dane Hazelton	Lt. Jason Blitchok	Steven Andary	
	Capt. John Hering	Lt. Michael Riedy	Gary Chapman-EMT	
	Capt. Michael Strunk	Lt. Bryan Shambeck	Zachary Dill -EMT	
	2 -77	7	Brittany Ebersole	
			Jake Fortenberry	
	PART TIME	Dianne Knapp		
POC	PT Staffing		Andrew Lajoie	
Sumi Dinda	Dave Ghesquiere		Kat Lajoie	
Jonathon Goss	5 Z		Alan Lee	
	80		Josef Lewandowski	
	Part Time Trainee		Michael McNamara	
	Seth Purcilly		Edwin Prado	
	Ryan Toss		Zachary Puckett -EMT	
	3.00		Tony Randolph	
			Brian Rowley	
			Anne Slaughter	







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New Hires and Swear Ins.

In 2024, the department was fortunate to swear-in three (3) full-time firefighters, Katherine Lajoie, Jacob Fortenberry and Anne Slaughter after completing their probationary time and necessary training, before the City Council, city staff, members of the department, family members and residents. AHFD proudly added four (4) full-time firefighters, who will be sworn in after their probabtionary period, and two (2) part-time firefighters in 2024.







Strategic Planning

Effective strategic planning is crucial for fire departments to maintain rediness, improve service delivery, and adapt to an evolving community. In 2024, AHFD held a series of Strategic Planning Workshops to gather input from both command staff and line personnel, the purpose of which is to build a more cohesive, effective department. Constructive conversations resulted in the following:

Mission: To Serve, Support, and Protect Life and Property in our Community.

Vision Statement: To be a cohesive team that can anticipate and meet the needs of the community by building a great culture that delivers excellent service to our community. We will focus on our personnel and provide them with the support and resources needed to deliver excellent service in our community.







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Values: * Safety * Integrity * Professionalism * Emotional Intelligence.

Personnel also identified four goals and multiple objectives for each. The goals are:

- Improve Service Delivery
- Build a Better Culture
- Enhance Training Programs
- Stabilize Staffing

By embracing these statements and values, AHFD firmly believes the department will continue to be a trusted and resilient fire department that the community can rely on today and in the future.

SUPPRESSION DIVISION

AHFD's suppression division is responsible for mitigating any fire, environmental, rescue, vehicle, or other emergencies including medical services. The department continues to work on improving emergency services, through better departmental structure, advanced training, equipment/vehicle procurement, and constant strategy improvement.

Fire Suppression Call Volume Statistics

Incident Calls by Year

In 2024, AHFD responded to a total of 4,641 calls for service with emergency medical service calls accounting for 75% of all calls. From 2023 to 2024, there was an increase in calls by 280, or 6.4%.

Calls for Service by Type (3-Year)				
Service Call Type	2022	2023	2024	
EMS	3083	3255	3480	
False Alarms	343	318	371	
Good Intent	308	329	340	
Service Calls	255	171	183	
Hazardous	111	164	125	
Fire	76	70	71	
Special	28	53	70	
Overpressure	1	1	1	
Total	4205	4361	4641	







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Incident by Property Type

Every structure or area in Auburn Hills obtains a property classification divided into ten (10) categories including assembly, educational, health care, residental, mercantile/business, industrial, manufacturing, storage, outside property, and other. Of the 4,641 emergency incidents that AHFD responded to in 2024, the top three (3) property types were incidents occuring at residental structures at 48.4% or 2246 incidents; health care facilities such as nursing homes, hospitals, clinics, and doctors offices at 13.1% or 606 incidents; and, outside properties such as roadways or parking lots which accounted for 12.5% or 578 incidents.



Incidents by Day of Week

Calls for service are usually quite consistent throughout the entire week; in 2024, AHFD had the highest amount of calls on Tuesday at 723 incidents and the fewest amount of calls on Sundays where 570 incidents occurred throughout the year. In the past three (3) years, AHFD maintained the same pattern of the least number of calls occurring on Sundays and the greatest number of calls occurring during the middle portion of the week.



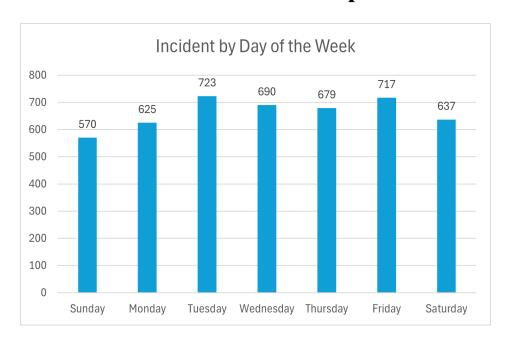




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The graph below shows the time of day that the incidents occurred. The call volume is evenly split during the daytime hours and a decrease is noted during the overnight hours.









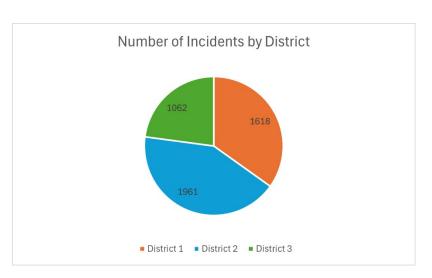


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Incident Volume by District

Every call for service is classified by which district the incident originated. To the right is a pie chart with each station's incidents throughout the year. In 2024, the majority of calls occurred in the central portion of the city, District 2, with a total of 1961 calls for service. The next busiest area was District 1, located in the southern part of the city which had 1618 calls for service. District 3, located in the north-west area of the city, had 1062 calls for service.



The table to the right includes both the service call classification and the response district. District 2 had the highest number of total calls, leading with a total of 1435 EMS calls and 39 fire calls. District 1 had 1232 EMS calls and 22 fire calls, while District 3 had 814 EMS calls and 10 fire calls.

Calls for Service by District and Type					
Service Call Type	District 1	District 2	District 3		
EMS	1232	1435	814		
False Alarms	110	167	94		
Service Calls	87	62	33		
Good Intent	111	151	78		
Hazardous	38	71	16		
Fire	22	39	10		
Special	18	36	16		
Overpressure	0	0	1		
Total	1618	1961	1062		

Fire Incident Response Time

In 2023 the department started evaluating response data utilizing percentile response times in lieu of average response times. This provides a better understanding of the department's response by explaining the frequency of crews arriving on scene of an emergency in a specific timeframe. Response time percentiles more accurately measure system performance as they indicate response metrics as a slice of a curve instead of averaging the data.







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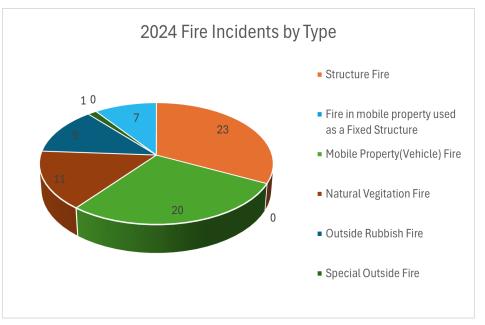
Department Suppression Response Times in Minutes			
	70 %	80%	90%
Department Response Time 2023	8:03	9:10	10:59
Department Response Time 2024	9:41	9:16	9:44

The 2024 data above shows that the department responds to suppression calls 70% of the time in approximately nine (9) minutes. 80% of the time, the department will arrive in approximately nine and a half (9.5) minutes and 90% of the time firefighters arrive on scene in under ten (10) minutes.

Fire Incident Breakdown

Whenever suppression crews are needed for fire or fire-related incidents, these events are separated and sorted by National Fire Incident Reporting System classifications. Many fire incident types are

related to the specific area where the fire occurred or what exactly was burned. Of the seventy-one (71) fire-related incidents in 2024, the largest number of incidents were structure fires which accounted for twenty-three (23) incidents. The second largest number of calls were related to vehicle fires accounting for twenty (20) incidents, followed by natural vegetation fires which accounted for eleven (11) incidents.









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The estimated value of property affected by fire in 2024 was \$6,804,500. Over eighty-four and a half percent (84.5%) of property affected by fire was saved.



Outdoor Burning Complaints

[Captain John Hering]

Each year, Auburn Hills allows open burning during two (2) separate timeframes pursuant to the City's Fire Prevention Ordinance. During the Spring and Fall season, residents are allowed to burn small amounts of leaves or brush. The City also allows residents to obtain a bonfire permit which allows for controlled burning of seasoned firewood with specific regulations for the time, day, spacing, and size. If a person calls 911 to report complaints about potential violations of these guidelines, AHFD is called out to the scene and these incidents are classified as outdoor burning complaints. In

Burning Complaint Types by Year							
Run 2021 2022 2023 2024							
Burning Complaint	42	45	28	21			
Smoke Investigation	21	22	9	0			
Outdoor Fire - Other	5	6	51	19			
Total	110	118	88	40			

2024, AHFD responded to a total of 40 incidents related to outdoor burning, which is approximately 55.5% lower than the number of incidents recorded in 2023. Of the 40 complaints, twenty-one (21) incidents were related to burning leaves.

There were two (2) recorded complaints of leaf burning during the Spring season. During the Fall season, a total of seven (7) leaf burning calls occurred. The other twelve (12) incidents in 2024 were considered "out of season". Five (5) calls were in accordance with the ordinance and no violations were issued. Residents have been cooperative and understanding when asked to extinguish their fires.





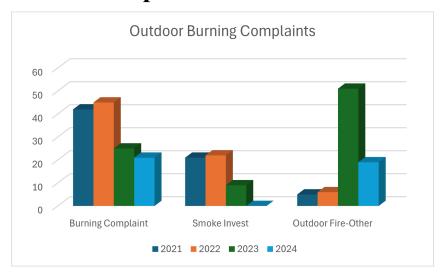


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In the period from 2021 to 2024, the total number of burning complaints has significantly decreased; with the number of burning complaints decreasing by twenty-one (21).



EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE

[Administrative Officer Owen Milks]

Emergency medical services (EMS) are needed for a variety of incidents. EMS is a complex system of professionals working together to mitigate medical emergencies, transport patients to the hospital, and save lives. EMS incidents can range anywhere from heart attacks and strokes to back pain and headaches. In 2024, EMS had a total of 3480 calls for service, which accounts for 75% of the call volume for the department.

Most Common Medical Complaint Types

Of the 3480 medical incidents during 2024, the most common dispatch reason was the chief complaint of a sick person at 33%, followed by falls at 10%, and then by traffic/transportation incidents at 6%. Rounding out the top 10 medical run dispositions are breathing problems, chest pain, psychiatric issues, unconscious/fainting persons, convulsions/seizures, abdominal pain, and traumatic injuries.

Top 10 Medical Run Dispositions				
Call Complaint	# Of Calls	Percentage		
Sick Person	1150	33%		
Falls	346	10%		
Traffic/Transportation Incidents	222	6%		
Breathing Problem	189	5%		
Chest Pain (Non-Traumatic)	185	5%		
Psychiatric Problem/Suicide				
Attempt	173	5%		
Unconscious/Fainting	155	4.5%		
Convulsions/Seizures	122	3.5%		
Abd Pain/ Problems	106	3%		
Traumatic Injury	94	3%		









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Priority 1 Transports

Priority-1 transport is an emergency call that requires immediate response, coupled with a reason to believe an immediate threat to life exists. Such calls demand immediate transportation to emergency rooms, coupled with lights and sirens. There are several factors to consider when deciding to transport

a patient as a Priority 1 transport. Some of the most notable are unstable or deteriorating vital signs; compromised airway; severe respiratory distress; cardiac resuscitation; and signs or symptoms of stroke. The chart to the right shows the number of priority-1 transports the department performed in 2024.

Top 5 Priority 1 Transports			
Sick Person	35		
Traffic/Transportation			
Incidents	26		
Breathing Problems	20		
Falls	18		
Chest Pain/Chest Discomfort	17		

Emergency Medical Incident Response Times

In 2023 the department started evaluating response data utilizing percentile response times in lieu of average response times. This provides a better understanding of the department's response by explaining the frequency of emergency services reaching victims of medical emergencies in a specific time frame. Response time percentiles more accurately measure system performance as they indicate response metrics as a slice of a curve instead of averaging the data.

EMS Response Times				
EMS Response Time	70 %	80%	90%	
2023 Response Time	8:15	10:07	11:00	
2024 Response Time	9:01	10:05	11:57	

The 2024 data above reflects the fact that the department responds to EMS calls 70% of the time in approximately nine (9) minutes. 80% of the time, the department will arrive in approximately 10 minutes and 90% of the time firefighters arrive on scene in under 12 minutes.







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Simultaneous Incident Data

Simultaneous Calls by Amount			
Number of Instances	# Of Calls		
Year	2022	2023	2024
Instances of 2 Concurrent Incidents	997	965	972
Instances of 3 Concurrent Incidents	313	325	294
Instances of 4 Concurrent Incidents	97	93	74
Instances of 5 Concurrent Incidents	24	31	10
Instances of 6 Concurrent Incidents	6	7	4
Instances of 7 or More Concurrent Incidents	4	13	1
Total	1441	1434	1355

The fire department is frequently faced with simultaneous calls for service. Multiple calls occurring at the same time may overwhelm AHFD resources, and the model can become stressed. When this occurs, AHFD relies on mutual aid partnerships to assist with the high call volume. In 2024, there were a total of 1,355 concurrent incidents which decreased by 5.8% from 2023.

Mutual Aid Assistance

Mutual Aid partnerships are an important component of AHFD's response model. AHFD is a member of the Michigan Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) 3201 Division. Through MABAS agreements, AHFD receives mutual aid assistance for all structure fires in Auburn Hills. In addition, AHFD reciprocates assistance to neighboring mutual aid partners for structure fires in their jurisdictions.

2024 Mutual Aid Requests			
Type of Mutual Aid	# of Instances		
EMS MA Received	87		
EMS MA Given	37		
Fire MA Received	29		
Fire MA Given	16		







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AHFD also utilizes mutual aid partners for emergency medical calls or car accidents when no AHFD ambulances are available due to response model stress. The department closely tracks EMS mutual aid requests. In 2024, AHFD was forced to rely on EMS mutual aid for 87 of the medical calls in the city.

Rochester Hills Fire Department remains AHFD's closest mutual aid partner with 48% of the combined mutual aid, both given and received, followed by Orion Township Fire Department with 30% of the combined mutual aid. Bloomfield Township Fire Department rounded out our top three mutual aid partnerships with 7% of the combined mutual aid responses.

Mutual Aid by Department			
Agency	Mutual Aid Given	Mutual Aid Received	
RHFD – Rochester Hills Fire Department	26	55	
Star EMS – Privatized EMS	1	7	
ROC – Rochester City Fire Department	2	4	
ORION – Lake Orion Fire Department	17	34	
WRFD – Waterford Regional Fire	3	3	
BTF – Bloomfield Township	2	10	
INDF – Independence	2	1	
OAT – Oakland Township Fire	0	2	
Total	53	116	







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TRAINING DIVISION



The Auburn Hills Fire Department is committed to providing the highest level of service to the citizens, businesses, and visitors of Auburn Hills. To accomplish this, AHFD's training division provides the most current and comprehensive fire and EMS training to the members of the department, ensuring that AHFD's firefighters are skilled to perform their duties effectively and efficiently on every call for service throughout the city. Fire and EMS operations require significant annual training to ensure all federal and state regulations are completed.

AHFD's training committee is tasked with coordinating, planning, and collecting data for AHFD's training division as well as ensuring that all departmental members receive the necessary amount of training to stay proficient in their skills and compliant with MIOSHA requirements. To improve the collection and tracking of data, the committee explored different learning management software platforms available. The department continues to utilize an on-line training management platform (Target Solutions).



Departmental Training

In 2024 the department participated in 12,147.50 hours of training across the different training disciplines. These disciplines include hazardous materials, technical rescue, driving, EMS, suppression,







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officer development, and fire prevention education. This was a decrease of 354.8 hours from 2023. In 2024, the department averaged 1,012 training hours per month.

Between the seven (7) training categories that department staff attend, suppression training accounts for the most training with 5769.5 hours; EMS training is second with a total of 3196.25 hours. EMS and suppression calls for service account for the majority of the department's call volume. This makes it essential to continually work towards improving personnel's knowledge in these areas and ensuring the most up-to-date information is learned.

Training Hours			
Training Type	2023 Hours	2024 Hours	
Driver's Training	655.00	207.50	
EMS	5365.00	3196.25	
HazMat	576.00	424.00	
Technical Rescue	293.25	670.50	
Officer	1007.05	1602.75	
Suppression	4250.00	5769.50	
Prevention	356.00	277.00	
Total	12,502.30	12,147.50	

First Due Units Exercise

The Auburn Hills Fire Department invested a lot of time this year to streamline and standardize our structure fire response model. The focus of this project was to improve the standardization, efficiency, and safety of how we respond to and fight structure fires. Command staff and suppression personnel were tasked with developing the "Auburn Hills Way" of addressing these dangerous and complicated incidents. The department was able to create a system that maximized our ability to operate the same way across all stations and shifts and leveraged the unique staffing model we operate under. Personnel trained on this new system all year to gain



proficiency and in November we conducted three exercises to evaluate the new system at the **Oakland Community**



College CREST Training Center. Post exercise evaluations showed a significant improvement in the coordination, efficiency, and safety of our



<u>Auburn</u>





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personnel and we feel this process will improve our initial operations and response to structure fire incidents.

Fire Suppression Field Training

In addition to the AHFD's regularly scheduled annual training requirements, firefighters also participated in high quality realistic training at acquired structures within the city. Acquired structures are typically vacant buildings that are scheduled to be demolished or significantly renovated and can be used for aerial operations, ladder placement operations, search and rescue, Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) training, pump operations, active assailant training, hose deployment, and fire attack.

Incident Command Training

The department continues to focus on incident command training for all personnel. Upon completing their field training program, all full-time personnel must complete 50 hours of on-line Blue Card Hazard Zone Management system. This program teaches all members to properly "size up" a building and manage the initial stages of a structure fire, by initiating command, performing a risk assessment, developing tactical objectives, and assigning resources. In August the department purchased the computer equipment needed to conduct the three-day practical simulation lab required for full Blue Card certification of our personnel in-house. The department can now certify all our suppression personnel internally. Previously, the financial cost of the three-day certification lab was restricted to command staff personnel. The purchase of this equipment now removes the financial barrier of certification for all our personnel and aids in succession planning by giving our personnel much more comprehensive incident command training. The department has two certified Blue Card Hazard Zone Instructors that allow us to provide continuing education credits to our personnel and assist them in maintaining their certification and proficiency with the system.

FIRE PREVENTION

The Fire Prevention Bureau (FPB) consists of three (3) fire inspectors who manage all plan reviews, building inspections, permitting, and occupancy data for the entire city. The fire inspectors are responsible for inspecting all businesses within city limits, from small occupancies such as gas stations to larger occupancies such as Stellantis and Great Lakes Crossing. The Fire Prevention Bureau is also responsible for handling hazardous material classification and pre-incident plans for 281 occupancies that use, handle, or store hazardous chemicals.







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Plan Reviews and Inspections

[Fire Inspector Fred Solomon]

Fire inspectors are tasked with varying types of inspections, permit issuance, and pre-plan operations. In 2024, the number of inspections increased by a total of one hundred and fortysix (146) inspections or 14.40% as compared to 2023. The number of annual inspections increased by forty-nine (49) or 18.28% and follow-up inspections increased by sixty (60) inspections or 14.85% compared to 2023.

Inspections (Yearly Totals)			
Inspection Type	2022	2023	2024
Annual	164	268	317
Final Building	67	53	58
Suppression/Detections	103	118	164
Follow-Up	200	404	464
Incident Preplanning	4	8	14
Complaint	31	20	13
Bonfire Permit Issued	38	31	21
Knox Box Updates	45	112	109
Total	652	1014	1160

The Fire inspectors are responsible for all plan reviews in the city. Plan reviews are required for all new fire suppression or detection systems, modifications to those systems, building additions, temporary event plans, pyrotechnic events, prescribed burns, and any site plans for new occupancies or buildings. In 2024, the total number of plan reviews decreased by fifty-nine (59) or 24.79% as compared to 2023. While there

Plan Review (Yearly Totals)			
Plan Review Type	2022	2023	2024
Site	86	115	44
Suppression	59	57	69
Detection	51	54	47
Temporary Event	14	12	19
Total	210	238	179

was a decrease in plan reviews, this was balanced out by an increase in inspections, resulting in a 6.5% increase in overall prevention activities during 2024 compared to 2023.

Additionally, the Inspection Division has been involved in a number of large projects such as the completion of the Underwriters Laboratories electric vehicle battery testing facility on New Energy Way, the new Fanuc Robotics facility on Featherstone and the Magna Seating facility on Brown Road, as well as a number of projects that are under construction including:

- The Webster apartments on Auburn Road
- The City Parking Garage expansion on Primary Street
- The Clover senior apartments on Taylor Road
- The General Motors plant at the old Palace site on Lapeer Road

Our highly trained inspectors are continually seeking to develop their skills and knowledge pursuing







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training and certification opportunities.

Hazardous Material Disclosures/Firefighter Right to Know

[Admin. Asst. Melissa Macek]

On April 7th, 1986, the State of Michigan enacted a three (3) bill public health and safety package into law; the three (3) laws included Michigan's Right to Know Law, Firefighter Right to Know Law, and Community Right to Know Law to protect employees, first responders, and communities.

These laws were created in coordination with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) hazard communication standard. Every year, any business storing or using substances that are deemed hazardous in Auburn Hills must submit a hazardous material disclosure survey to AHFD to be compliant with Federal Firefighter Right to Know (FFRTK) laws. In the instance of an emergency, these disclosures are necessary to protect all responding agencies and departments to mitigate any hazardous substance



releases/spills or potential hazardous explosions as quickly as possible. The department continues to assure that all known hazardous material sites have been updated and incorporated into a mobile GIS application where our first responders have easy access to this pertinent information to help respond more safely to these dangerous sites.

Hazardous Material Site Permitting

Once AHFD requests this information, businesses complete their hazardous material disclosure. After they complete and return their disclosure, the Fire Prevention Bureau classifies the facility as a "Red", "Yellow" or "Green" site, depending on the types/quantities of the hazardous substances on site and whether they surpass thresholds set by the State of Michigan. After classification, each "Red" and "Yellow" business site is charged an annual permit fee. Those occupancies classified as "Green" do not require a hazmat permit because their materials stored are considered nonhazardous such as common cleaning supplies.







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There were one hundred and thirty-six (136) "Red" businesses and one hundred and forty-three (143)

"Yellow" businesses totaling to two hundred and seventy-nine (279) businesses that reported storing or utilizing hazardous materials in 2024.

By continuously working on this program, the department also creates and maintains better relationships with businesses in the

Hazardous Material Reporting				
Business Classification	2021	2022	2023	2024
Red	106	114	152	136
Yellow	127	123	132	143
Total	233	237	284	279

city. The hazardous material program continues to grow and allows the department knowledge of hazardous material sites within the city.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS PARTICIPATION

AHFD personnel participate in various regional specialty teams. Specialty teams provide expanded training opportunities and valuable experience that are critical in successfully mitigating highly technical incidents such as hazardous materials incidents, technical rescue incidents, hostile tactical events, or large-scale disasters. Participation in regional specialty teams is voluntary, though encouraged for interested personnel as it increases knowledge, skills, and abilities for high risk/low frequency emergencies and increases AHFD's ability to protect Auburn Hills residents. AHFD currently has one (1) member on the MABAS 3201 Hazmat Team and four (4) members on the Technical Rescue specialty teams.

Hazardous Material Team

[Firefighter Sumi Dinda]

Established in 2002, the Oakland County Hazardous Materials (Hazmat) team, known as OCHMRT, was created with the primary goal of offering expertise and guidance in managing and eliminating hazardous substances. Comprising members from MABAS-3201 fire departments, the team is tasked with responding to various hazmat incidents in Oakland County, including industrial hazardous material events, hazardous materials complaints, suspected terrorist incidents, clandestine drug lab sites, tanker truck rollovers, train derailments, MSP Bomb Squad support, and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) terrorism incidents. In addition to their response duties, the OCHMRT conducts air







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monitoring during incidents to ensure the safety of both fire personnel and community residents. The

team, staffed 24/7, is made up of highly trained Hazardous Materials Technicians and Specialists.

Among the dedicated team members is firefighter/paramedic Sumi Dinda from AHFD. FF Dinda holds certification as a Hazmat Specialist and is authorized by the Fire Training Council of the state of Michigan to instruct Hazmat awareness and operations, a role he has consistently fulfilled since 2008 at the North Oakland County Fire Authority. AHFD hosts the Hazmat segment for the North Oakland Fire Academy, a two-week course sanctioned by the Fire Training Council of the state of Michigan, every year since 2008.





Maintaining active status within the team necessitates the completion of a minimum of 100 hours of hazmat training, encompassing both inhouse sessions and external programs, in addition to regular fire and EMS training. Team members undergo comprehensive training focused on identifying and mitigating hazardous materials, particularly those associated with Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE) substances. The OCHMRT's training regimen extends to handling hazmat incidents related to Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs)

and clandestine

drug laboratories. OCHMRT additionally organized specialized training sessions addressing Lithium-ion batteries, vehicles powered by compressed natural gases (CNG), and emergency incidents involving propane cylinders. These sessions were prompted by the heightened utilization of these chemicals within the transportation industries, which underscored the team's commitment to staying abreast of evolving hazards and ensuring preparedness to handle emergent situations.









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In the year 2024, OCHMRT was called into action for a total of 15 incidents, with 9 requiring the entire team's activation, while the remainder involved consultations with team leaders. Two needed full Level-2 activations. In September 2024, OCHMRT was alerted to a mercury incident at Cranbook Middle School. A child brought a vintage "Mercury Maze" toy to school. The toy broke inside the school. The classroom was evacuated outside via a direct access exterior door. BHDPS arrived at the scene secured the area of concern and notified OCHMRT to respond. Additional requests were made for Oakland County Health Department personnel and the Environmental Protection Agency personnel. In November of 2024, a vehicle struck two propane vessels and caused damage to the







tanks. One tank (tan in color) was rolled over. The 2nd tank (white in color) was pushed off the concrete pad and may have sustained damaged to bottom. Failure or a leak from the vessel could result in another uncontrolled release of flammable propane gas that spreads off-site or to a nearby ignition source, resulting in a fire. During these incidents, OCHMRT played a pivotal role in air monitoring, identifying and mitigating hazardous chemicals, demonstrating their expertise in ensuring the safety of the affected areas.



Technical Rescue Team

[Firefighter Gary Chapman]

The Auburn Hills Fire Department has personnel that are trained and certified in technical rescue response. Personnel with this specialized training and certification belong to a county wide team called the North Oakland County Technical Rescue Team that responds to trench rescue, high and low angle rope rescues, confined space rescues, ice and water rescues, structural collapse rescues and heavy machine rescues, not just in our city, but throughout Oakland County.







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AHFD currently has four (4) members on the MABAS 3201 Technical Rescue Team. Each member is

required to train at least five (5) times annually in addition to their yearly required fire and EMS training. The department has yearly scheduled training for many specialized response events including swift water rescue where personnel use cold-water suits and special rope operations to save victims trapped in freezing waters.



OakTac

In 2022 AHFD became an associate member of the Oakland County Tactical Response Consortium. The consortium was

formed in 2009 to prepare Oakland County in the event of a major incident requiring a mutual-agency response. OakTac provides training and shared resources to strengthen overall preparedness for large scale events and support member agencies. The OakTac associate membership has improved interagency relationships and increased response capabilities.

Oakland County Incident Management Team

AHFD Command Staff also fill important roles as members of the Oakland County Incident Management Team (OCIMT). The OCIMT was formed in 2006 and includes representatives from fire departments, law enforcement, public health, public works, and emergency management. The purpose of OCIMT is to provide support for incidents that overwhelm local communities. In 2023, the OCIMT transitioned from a local entity with oversight from various Oakland County mutual aid partners to a county resource with oversight provided by Oakland County Emergency Management. The change increased the team's capability and allowed for improved service delivery throughout Oakland County as well as the entire state. OCIMT assisted with multiple planned events in 2024 which included the North American Active Assailant Conference in Troy, the Rochester Christmas Parade, and the 2024 NFL Draft.



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Public Education/Community Risk Reduction/Community Outreach

The department had many opportunities to provide public education to the neighboring businesses and schools in the city in 2024. Fire Inspectors spend an extensive amount of their time educating the community on various fire safety and prevention aspects. Fire extinguisher classes were numerous, with companies requesting their employees be given the training and education to properly use a fire extinguisher, should the need ever arise. Many community schools took advantage of the educational experiences the fire department provides with visits to classrooms, fire truck visits, fire safety discussions and station tours. Students were challenged with knocking traffic cones over with fire hoses, and learned to Stop, Drop, and Roll in the event of a fire. They were able to see all the components of a fire truck and learned about air packs. CPR/First Aid/AED training was provided to 375 students in 2024.









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Senior Citizens were also included in educational opportunities. The File of Life program was presented to a group of seniors who were shown how this helps inform emergency personnel of a patient's health status and prescribed medications upon arrival. There is one (1) certified child safety seat technician in the department. This technician was able to inspect sixteen (16) car seats for safety and proper installation in 2024. The department also participated in the Oakland University Fire Truck Pull event that benefits OU's Golden Grizzlies Pantry, providing students with food assistance.













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Holiday Meals on Wheels

For the 13th consecutive year at Christmas, senior citizens of Auburn Hills who are homebound, received meals prepared and distributed by the fire department. Firefighters cooked, packaged, and helped deliver 60 meals on Christmas Day to seniors in need of assistance. Thirty (30) people were given 2 meals each consisting of prime rib, ham, mashed potatoes, green beans, corn, pecan-crusted sweet potatoes, rolls and pie. AHFD assists the Auburn Hills Community Center in this generous and helpful venture.





Helping Hands

AHFD's Helping Hands program is a non-profit program managed by several firefighters in the department. This program donates both time and money to in-need citizens in the community. The Helping Hands program is essential in building community relationships between the department and the community by giving aid to those needing it most. After a fire, residents in need are offered hotel stays and gift cards to buy essential needs that were destroyed by fire. Several city residents donated to this organization in 2024 with hopes that the organization will continue to benefit burnout victims after fires occur.



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Spooktacular Participation

Through participation in the City's annual Spooktacular event, two of the department Fire Inspectors were able to hand out candy to over 450 children. AHFD would also like to thank the Helping Hands organization for donating twelve (12) large bags of candy for this event. The event was a success, especially due to the beautiful weather, and allowed for a safe and fun way to enjoy Halloween for children, teens, and adults alike.







SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS

During 2024, there were several significant incidents that required specialized response or noteworthy mutual aid from AHFD. Below are incidents that made a lasting impression on the department and community.



AUBURN HILLS





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Residential Fire-1/25/2024

AHFD was called to a residential fire on January 25th, just as the shift change was occurring. The caller stated that an attached garage was on fire. When the captain arrived, he noticed light smoke coming from the garage and fire under the garage door. Entry was forced into the home where it appeared no one was home, and no smoke was showing. Engine 1 crew stretched a line to the garage door and Rescue 2 crew forced the door open. The fire was quickly controlled and knocked down. Engine 3 crew searched the home for residents and fire extension before giving the all clear.



Structure Fire-4/30/2024

Firefighters were dispatched to a residential structure fire on the evening of April 30th. Smoke and fire



were visible as firefighters arrived. The resident confirmed everyone was out of the home and stated the fire was in the kitchen. AHFD was assisted in battling the fire by Rochester Hills and Bloomfield Township Fire Departments. Once the fire was out, crews checked for extension on the second floor and the attic, then began to ventilate the house. Although smoke damage permeated the entire house, flame damage was restricted to the kitchen and back deck. No injuries were reported.







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Vehicle Fire-7/5/2024

C Shift firefighters were called to a vehicle fire in the early morning following the 4th of July. Upon arrival, they found a pickup truck in a driveway on fire. The fire was primarily in the truck bed and spread to the passenger compartment. Ladder 2 arrived, and the crew successfully extinguished the fire with tank water from ladder 2. The driver of the pickup stated that discarded fireworks were placed in the bed of the truck. The fireworks had been watered down several hours earlier.



Residential Fire-8/30/2024

Firefighters on A shift were called to a residential fire with a victim trapped. Heavy smoke conditions were noted upon arrival. The victim was instructed to go to his room and open the window. Ladder 2 personnel were able to rescue the victim using a ladder to his bedroom window. The victim stated he

woke up and smelled smoke, opened his bedroom door and saw flames. He immediately called 911. The fire occurred in a second-floor apartment where the living room suffered heat damage and there was smoke damage located throughout the rest of the apartment. The kitchen was the origin of the fire, as determined by Inspectors Solomon and Toss. The cause of the fire remains undetermined. Several surrounding apartments had smoke and water damage. Two family pets were rescued, but one cat was found deceased.





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Lake Orion Explosion-10/19/2024









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AHFD spent over 4 hours assisting Orion Township when an explosion occurred on the evening of November 19. First responders from more than a dozen neighboring communities responded to the blaze that sent two (2) people to the hospital, destroyed one building, and damaged other buildings. While firefighters worked to control and extinguish the blaze, Consumers Energy ensured the gas was shut off.



Commercial Fire-12/06/2024

The Auburn Hills Fire Department was dispatched to a commercial structure fire at a hotel. B shift responded to a 5-story hotel with significant smoke on two floors. Rescue 2 used a portable fire extinguisher filled with water to fight the blaze, until the engine arrived. Engine 3 was directed to the source of the fire, the laundry area, where the fire was extinguished with a hose from the truck. There appeared to be no extension. Several neighboring fire departments arrived to assist with ventilation, search rooms for occupants, and help a disabled resident down to the lobby. Two Auburn Hills Police Officers were treated at a local hospital for smoke inhalation. No other injuries were reported.

DEPARTMENT FLEET

[Firefighter/Paramedic Tony Randolph]

AHFD's vehicle fleet includes a variety of vehicles used in the protection of the City of Auburn Hills to mitigate both small and large medical and fire emergencies. At the end of 2024, AHFD owns and operates a total of seventeen (17) vehicles which include three (3) aerial ladder trucks (quints), two (2) fire engines, four (4) rescue ambulances with one of the four rescues as a reserve, three (3) fire







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prevention vehicles, three (3) administrative vehicles, one (1) command vehicle, and one (1) utility vehicle.

Station 1 houses Rescue 1, Engine 1, and Ladder 1

Station 2 houses Rescue 2, Ladder 2, Rescue 4 (reserve) and Captain 1.

Station 3 houses Rescue 3, Engine 3 and Ladder 3.

EMS

All AHFD's four (4) State licensed ambulances are equipped to handle Advanced Life Support (ALS) emergency medical services and transportation. The captain's vehicle is also a BLS non-transport vehicle.

Suppression



In 2023, AHFD formed a Fire Apparatus Committee. This committee has the responsibility to gather information and develop specifications for new fire apparatus for the fire department.

The fire apparatus committee was tasked with the gathering of ideas and information to spec out a new 80-foot quint/ladder for purchase. The committee evaluated many quint manufacturers to develop the best functional apparatus for the department. The committee recommended the purchase of a new 80-foot Rosenbauer aerial quint/ladder. After Public Safety Advisory Committee and City Council approval, the order was placed with Rosenbauer with an intended delivery date of early 2026.







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Station 1 Apparatus

Rescue 1	Fleet #2327

Make Ford Model F450 4x4 Year 2023 276,072.00 Cost Useful Life 6 years Current Life 1 year Idle Hrs 1,131 Engine Hrs 2,009 Mileage 28,490

Year Approximate Maintenance 2023 \$ 3,243.99 2024 \$ 1,459.33



Ladder 1 Fleet #230

Make E-One Model Cyclone II Year 1997 Useful Life 25 years Current Life 28 years Pump Hrs 1,278 **Engine Hrs** 2,003 Mileage 51,708

Year	Approximate Maintenance	
2022	\$ 2,994.50	
2023	\$ 8,388.84	
2024	\$ 4,543.78	





<u>Auburn</u>





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Engine i ricet #.	Engine	1	Fleet	#2106
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Make Rosenbauer Model Commander Year 2020 15 years Useful Life Current Life 5 years Pump Hrs 323 1,536 Engine Hrs Mileage 19,644



 Year
 Approximate Maintenance

 2022
 \$ 3,788.88

 2023
 \$ 0.00

 2024
 \$ 3,965.55

Station 2 Apparatus

Captain 1 Fleet #2329

Make Dodge Model Durango Year 2023 Useful Life 7 years Current Life 5 years Idle Hrs 324 **Engine Hrs** 630 Mileage 10,325

Year	Appı	Approximate	
i cai	Mair	ntenance	
2023	\$	0.00	
2024	\$	53.58	









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Rescue 2 Fleet #2103

Ford Make Model F450 4x4 Year 2020 Useful Life 6 years Current Life 5 years 3,004 Idle Hrs Engine Hrs 5,170 70,384 Mileage

 Year
 Approximate Maintenance

 2022
 \$ 3,798.73

 2023
 \$ 897.27

 2024
 \$ 5,412.63



Rescue 4 Fleet #225

Make Chevy (chassis)

Model G4500 chassis

Box - Life Line Chassis 2015 Box 2007

Useful Life 6 years
Current Life 10 years

Idle Hrs Engine Hrs

Year

Mileage 126,174

 Year
 Approximate Maintenance

 2022
 \$ 901.03

 2023
 \$ 1,544.15

 2024
 \$ 4,096.82



Ladder 2

75 ft Quint Fleet #2211

Make Rosenbauer





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Model Commander

Year 2021
Useful Life 15 years
Current Life 4 years
Pump Hrs 227
Engine Hrs 1,537
Mileage 20,837

Year	Approximate Maintenance	
2022	\$ 0.00	
2023	\$ 1,825.50	
2024	\$ 5,220.51	

Station 3 Apparatus

Make Ford Model F450 4x4 Year 2020 Useful Life 6 years Current Life 10 years Idle Hrs 3,062 Engine Hrs 5,415 Mileage 76,297

Year	-	Approximate Maintenance	
2022	\$	0.00	
2023	\$	2,368.36	
2024	\$	3,316.15	









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Ladder 3	Fleet #1809
100 ft Quint	Fieet #1009

Rosenbauer Make Model Commander Year 2018 Useful Life 15 years 8 years Current Life Pump Hrs 323 **Engine Hrs** 1,349 16,812 Mileage

Year Approximate Maintenance 2022 \$ 15,259.81 2023 \$ 1,641.66 2024 \$ 3,980.51



Engine 3 Fleet #1512

Make Rosenbauer

Model Commander
Year 2015
Useful Life 15 years
Current Life 10 years
Pump Hrs 707
Engine Hrs 6,468

79,910

 Year
 Approximate Maintenance

 2022
 \$ 29,614.81

 2023
 \$ 11,705.69

 2024
 \$ 25,656.76

Mileage









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BUDGET

The 2024 budget saw a decrease in revenues and a slight increase in expenditures compared to 2023. Costs in the Administration Division decreased, but the Fire Suppression Division and Fire Prevention Division saw an increase in 2024 compared to 2023. The increase in Suppression was largely due to the overtime costs to meet adequate staffing requirements.

Budget Line-Item Description	2023 Budget Results
Fire Total Revenue	\$5,905,114.66
Fire Total Expenditures	\$5,715,351.88
Administration Division	\$793,005.64
Suppression Division	\$4,401,734.63
Fire Prevention Division	\$520,611.61
Revenue/Expenditure Difference	\$189,762.78

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

AHFD's administrative personnel have been working tirelessly to support our strategic goals. Employee surveys were created and submitted to identify key areas that our personnel identified as important items to focus on in the coming year. Areas of attention that were identified focused on employee retention and recruitment, succession planning, and training. The department continues to focus on the strategic goals of a new reporting and inspection software platform, station alerting systems, and station renovations. The department focused on succession planning by enrolling several of our personnel in Fire Instructor classes, Incident Safety Officer, National Incident Management (NIMS) 300 & 400, and Fire Officer 1, 2, & 3 classes to prepare our personnel for leadership opportunities within the department.

Important areas that the department concentrated on this past year include:

- Strategic Planning
- Revamped FTO Program
- New Annual Training Program
- Continue Incident Communication Improvement







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- BlueCard ICS Training
- o NIMS 300 Training
- Cultural Excellence Training
- Mental Health/Emotional Wellness Training
- Disaster Response Training
- Suppression Tablets for Emergency Responder Access to Fire Fighter Right To Know (FFRTK)
- New Incident Reporting Software Implementation
- Documentation Training and Quality Improvement Program
- Policy Updates and Review
- Grant applications and alternative funding opportunities
- Providing community CPR & First Aid Training

With each improvement and administrative item being addressed, the Auburn Hills Fire Department is better able to effectively support the city, its citizens, and Oakland County.

Fleet Replacement Program

[Firefighter/Paramedic Tony Randolph]

In September 2023, the department took delivery of a new Wheeled Coach F450 four-wheel drive ambulance from Emergency Vehicles Plus (EVP) located in Holland Michigan. With the delivery of this new ambulance the department was able to replace an ageing ambulance.

This is the first time in the fire department's history that it has three (3) identical ambulances. This is useful in that all the equipment and location of the equipment is uniform, allowing firefighters to perform their duties more efficiently.



The department is expecting delivery of an 80-foot Rosenbauer aerial quint/ladder in early 2026.



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Grant Funding

[Administrative Officer Owen Milks]

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) EMS Workforce Grant – The Auburn



Hills Fire Department was awarded two (MDHHS) EMS Workforce grants to fund emergency medical education programs for our staff. This grant will fund the cost of tuition, books, and wages for personnel to attend EMT-Paramedic initial education programs to help alleviate the national shortage of EMS providers. Paramedic students must complete over 1,100 hours of education to attain their license. The total (MDHHS) funding awarded for this program is \$334,840. To date, similar grants have funded Paramedic Initial education, wages and training supplies for eighteen students.

Michigan Fire Equipment Grant – The Auburn Hills Fire Department was awarded a Firefighter Turnout Gear Grant to fund the purchase of 25 sets of firefighter turn out gear for our staff. Turn out gear is one of the most critical pieces of equipment issued to our personnel to keep them safe in the dangerous environments they must work in such as car accidents, car fires, and structure fires. Each set of turn out gear is custom made for each person based on their personal measurements and costs approximately \$3,500 per set. The award of this grant will allow the department to provide our responders with new safety equipment that meet all the newest State and Federal requirements. The grant award of \$87,500 will purchase 25 sets of new turnout gear.











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Medical Service Revenue

The total amount of EMS fees billed in 2024 was \$614,840 whereas the total revenue/amount collected was \$911,128. The total amount collected increased by \$9,753 as compared to 2023, representing a 1.08% increase.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Billed</u>	Collected
2021	\$1,228,581	\$739,219
2022	\$1,478,471	\$881,984
2023	\$1,272,008	\$901,375
2024	\$614,840	\$911,128

Compared to last year's medical revenue, the department billed \$657,168 less and collected \$9,753 more in revenue in 2024. In the final quarter of 2024, AHFD transitioned to new reporting software, resulting in a delay in the billing cycle.

PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) serves as an advisory board providing input from citizens to the public safety administration and City Council. The committee is comprised of five (5) Auburn Hills residents, one of whom is appointed by Council, one recommended by each of the Fire and Police Departments and two recommended by the Mayor. Committee members review budget proposals, policies, and receive monthly and annual reports. All meetings are open to the public and are held on the fourth Tuesday during the months of February, May, and August.







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POSITIVE FEEDBACK

The Department appreciates hearing from the residents and visitors to the city when there has been any interaction. Below are some comments from people who have taken the time to let us know how we are doing.

On Wednesday night, 10/2/34, approximately 10:30 pm two EMS praviders responded to an energery call regarding my Varsbard. While of don't have their names, of need to take this apportunity to Connerd their behavior. My hape is you can do this for us,

After a taking the information, monitoring him it was evident be needed hospital ane. He was gut in the rig & kept there for about 10 minutes. One of the EMT's cume out, told me that " he was picker & they got more, orders," They would take him to may Beaumont with "lights sciens" but for my safety, I was not to they keeping up. He was received by ER, + they made sine I had what I needed pria to leaving, These men were both fechnically competent & humanely competent of an Stateful, flease give them are gratitude



