



2025 ANNUAL REPORT



Trevin Robinson, Fire Chief

Mike Strunk, Deputy 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 Department

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

2025 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 honor to present the 2025 Annual Report for the Auburn Hills Fire Department. This report reflects not only the data and accomplishments of the past year, but also the dedication, professionalism, and resilience of our firefighters and staff who serve our community every day.

In 2025, the department responded to 4,628 calls for service, continuing a sustained demand for emergency response. Emergency medical services once again represented approximately 75% of our total call volume, with 3,456 EMS-related incidents. This trend reflects the evolving role of the modern fire service, where our personnel are increasingly called upon to provide advanced medical care to residents and visitors alike. From life-threatening emergencies to more routine medical assistance, our firefighters and paramedics consistently deliver compassionate, high-quality care when it matters most.

Fire suppression remains a critical component of our mission. During 2025, crews responded to 66 fire-related incidents, including vehicle fires, structure fires, and outdoor fires. Our firefighters also provided mutual aid assistance to neighboring communities while continuing to receive support from our regional partners when call volume or incident complexity exceeded local resources.

Training continues to be a cornerstone of our success. In 2025, department members logged over 11,400 hours of training across a wide range of disciplines, including fire suppression, EMS, hazardous materials, technical rescue, and officer development. These hours represent a significant investment in professional development and operational readiness. Our updated firefighter and paramedic field training programs have strengthened recruit development and improved consistency in training delivery. Additionally, the department's paramedic field training program received recognition from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services as one of the most comprehensive programs in the state—an accomplishment that reflects our commitment to excellence.

Fire prevention efforts remain critical to reducing community risk. Our Fire Prevention Bureau conducted more than 1,000 inspections and continued oversight of nearly 280 hazardous material sites within the city. Through inspections, plan reviews, and community education, our inspectors proactively work to identify hazards before emergencies occur. This work directly supports our department's ISO Class 2 rating, placing Auburn Hills among the top-performing fire departments statewide and nationally. This rating not only reflects operational excellence but also helps lower insurance costs for residents and businesses.



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The year 2025 also marked a period of transition and growth. We welcomed new leadership and personnel while honoring the retirement of long-serving members who made lasting contributions to the department. Our department continues to focus on strategic goals centered on service delivery, culture, training, and staffing stability. These priorities guide our decision-making and ensure we remain adaptable to the changing needs of our community.

None of our successes would be possible without the continued support of the City Council, the Public Safety Advisory Committee, and our community partners. Their commitment allows us to invest in training, equipment, and personnel to meet the growing demands placed on the fire service. I would also like to thank the residents and business owners of Auburn Hills for their continued trust and encouragement.

As you review this annual report, I hope you gain a deeper appreciation for the dedication and skill of the Auburn Hills Fire Department. We remain committed to providing the highest level of service and to protecting the lives and property of those who live, work, and visit our city. It is truly an honor to serve this community.

Respectfully,

Trevin Robinson
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.

Station 3: 3253 Joslyn RD



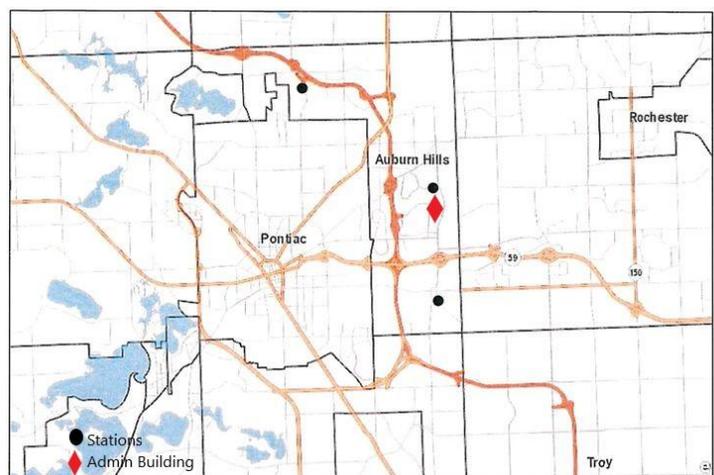
Station 3 is responsible for protecting the northern side of the city which includes the Great Lakes Crossing Outlet mall. Many industrial buildings and shopping centers reside in the northern portion of the city as well.

Administration Building: 3410 E Seyburn

Overview of Auburn Hills with Fire Station Locations



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





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Fire Department

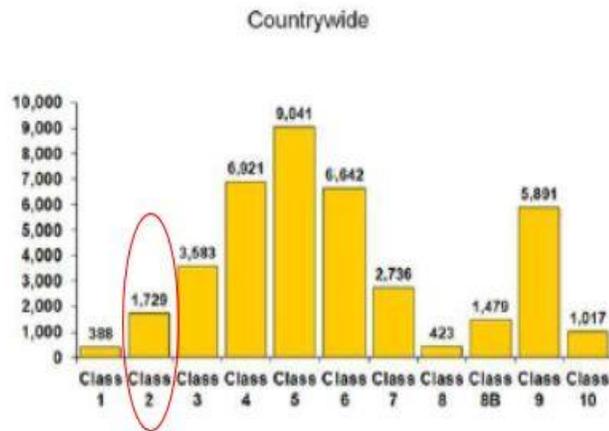
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DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

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 a 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 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 2025, the Auburn Hills Fire Department (AHFD) employed a total of thirty-eight (38) employees. Of these employees, there are twenty-four (24) full-time suppression division personnel, four (4) 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-six (26) 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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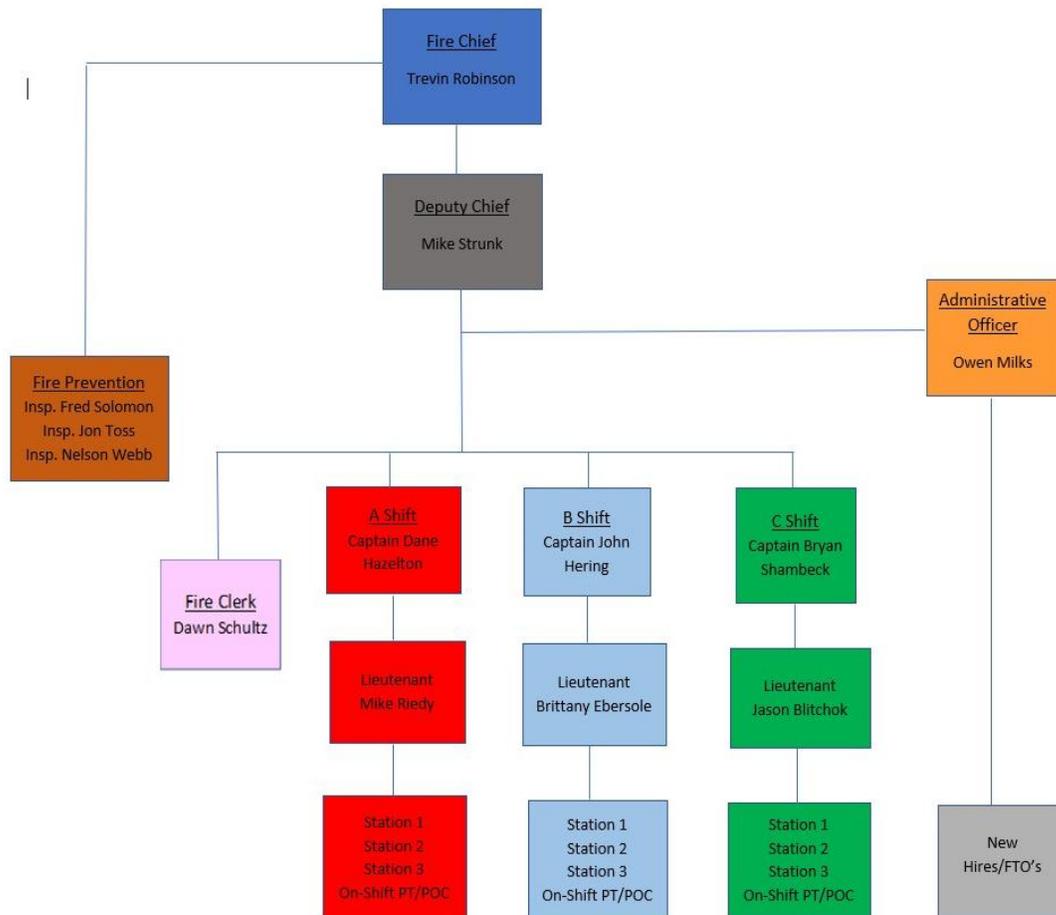


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Organizational Chart



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 has 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.



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New Hires, Swear Ins and Retirements

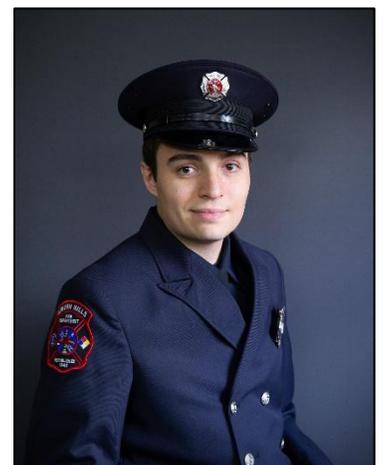
In 2025, AHFD proudly added a new fire chief, a new deputy chief, a new lieutenant, one full-time firefighter, one part-time firefighter, and one part-time medic. The department was also fortunate to see the appointment of two (2) firefighters in front of City Council, city staff, members of the department, family members and residents. Firefighters Alexander Liogas and Andrew Lajoie were sworn in after one year of service with the department. Brittany Ebersole was appointed lieutenant after 4 years with the department. She holds a bachelor's degree from Oakland University and is a licensed paramedic. She began working for the Auburn Hills Fire Department in 2021 and currently serves as an Instructor Coordinator, licensed to teach EMS, TECC, and PHTLS courses throughout the state. Lt. Ebersole also possesses Fire Officer I, II, and III certifications and oversees the department's CPR and First Aid training programs.

Mike Strunk was promoted to Deputy Chief after almost 30 years with the department. He completed paramedic training in 2003, was promoted to Lieutenant in 2013, and advanced to the rank of Captain in 2020. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Administration from Central Michigan University and completed his fire academy, EMT Basic, and general studies at Oakland Community College. Deputy Chief Strunk has completed extensive training, including Incident Command System (ICS) courses, State of Michigan Fire Officer certifications, Blue Card Incident Command certification, and also maintains his paramedic certification.

Trevin Robinson has been appointed as the new Fire Chief. He brings over two decades of experience, having started his career as a paid-on-call firefighter in 2004. Chief Robinson holds a Bachelor's Degree in Public Administration of Policy and a Master's Degree in Public Administration. He is a graduate of Eastern Michigan University's Staff and Command Program and is certified by the State as a paramedic and as a fire inspector. These newly appointed



FF Alex Liogas



FF Andrew Lajoie



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personnel have shown strong leadership skills and will carry the department forward in the years ahead.



Chief Trevin Robinson



Deputy Chief Mike Strunk



Lt. Brittany Ebersole

Chief Adam Massingill retired after a long and distinguished career. Although he had only been with our department for 3 ½ years, he saw AHFD through the purchase of a aerial truck, station toning system, station software system, a quint, a UTV, a rescue vehicle, gear extractor and dryer, LifePak 15 cardiac monitor/defibrillator, SCBA fill station and regional fire suppression nozzles. He was also instrumental in the modernization project of all three stations and the most recent 5 year strategic plan. He also shared his interest and experience in Incident Management Training with the department, teaching Incident Command, Tactical Emergency Casualty Care, and Prehospital Trauma Life Support courses. Chief Massingill has left an indelible mark on AHFD and we wish him the best in his retirement.



Ret. Chief Adam Massingill

After an incredible 45 years with the Auburn Hills Fire Department, we're celebrating the retirement of Firefighter Gary Chapman — a true legend in the firefighting world. Known for his dedication, skill, and passion for training, Gary has made a lasting impact on our department and beyond. Gary was named Firefighter of the Year three times, including top honors in 2013 as Michigan's American Legion Firefighter of the Year. He's always been the go-to guy for training, mentoring



Ret. FF Gary Chapman



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countless firefighters here and at the Oakland Community College Fire Academy. Thanks to him, generations of firefighters are stronger, smarter, and better prepared. His impact will be felt for years to come. We wish him a long, happy, and well-deserved retirement.

Strategic Planning

Effective strategic planning is crucial for fire departments to maintain readiness, 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.

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 emergency medical services. The department continues to work on improving emergency services, through better department structure, advanced training, equipment/vehicle procurement, and constant strategy improvement.



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Fire Suppression Call Volume Statistics

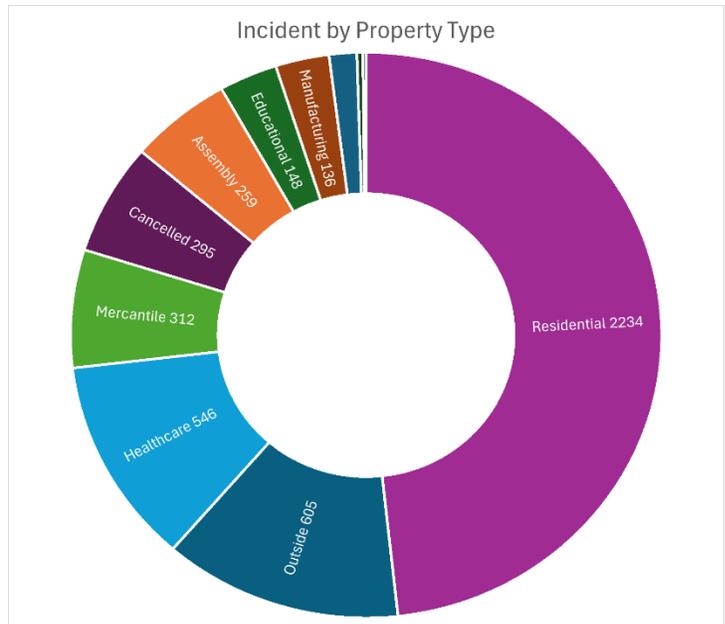
Incident Calls by Year

In 2025, AHFD responded to a total of 4,628 calls for service with emergency medical service calls accounting for 75% of all calls.

Calls for Service by Type (3-Year)			
Service Call Type	2023	2024	2025
EMS	3255	3480	3456
False Alarms	318	371	333
Good Intent	329	340	449
Service Calls	171	183	173
Hazardous	164	125	80
Fire	70	71	66
Special	53	70	68
Overpressure	1	1	3
Total	4361	4641	4628

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, residential, mercantile/business, industrial, manufacturing, storage, outside property, and other. Of the 4,628 emergency incidents that AHFD responded to in 2025, the top three (3) property types were incidents occurring at residential structures at 48.3% or 2,234 incidents; outside properties such as roadways or parking lots which accounted for 605 incidents, or 13%; and health care facilities such as nursing homes, hospitals, clinics, and doctors offices at 11.8% or 546 incidents.



Incidents by Day of Week

Calls for service are usually quite consistent throughout the entire week; in 2025, AHFD had the highest amount of calls on Thursday at 707 incidents and the fewest amount of calls on Sundays where 550 incidents occurred throughout the year. In the past three (3) years, AHFD maintained the same pattern



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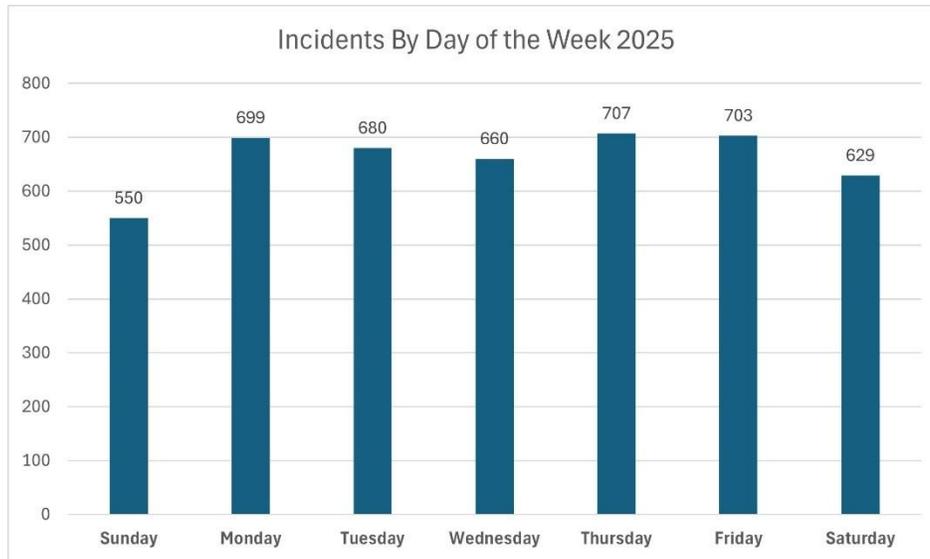


Fire Department

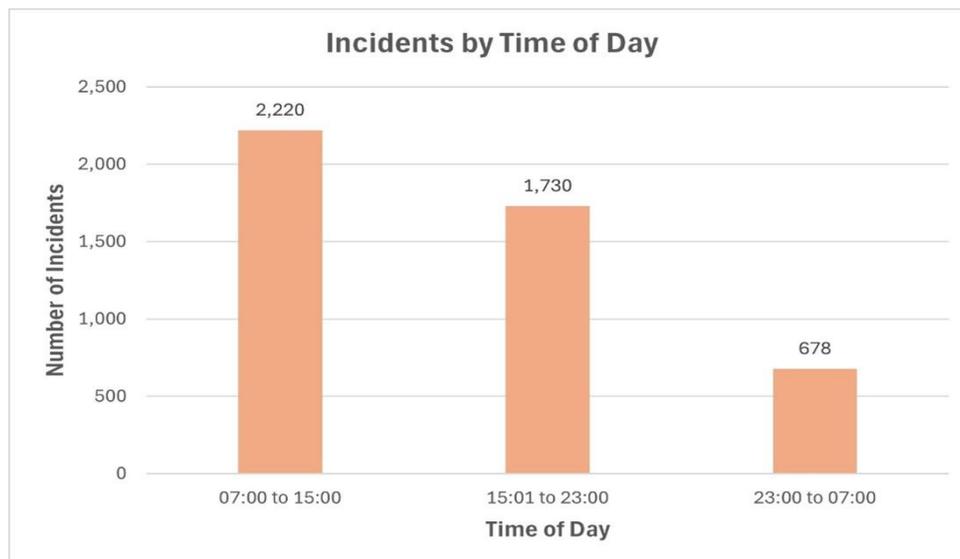
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of the least number of calls occurring on Sundays and the greatest number of calls occurring during the middle portion of the week.



The graph below shows the time of day that the incidents occurred. The call volume peaks in the morning and early afternoon, and a decrease is noted during the late afternoon and overnight hours.





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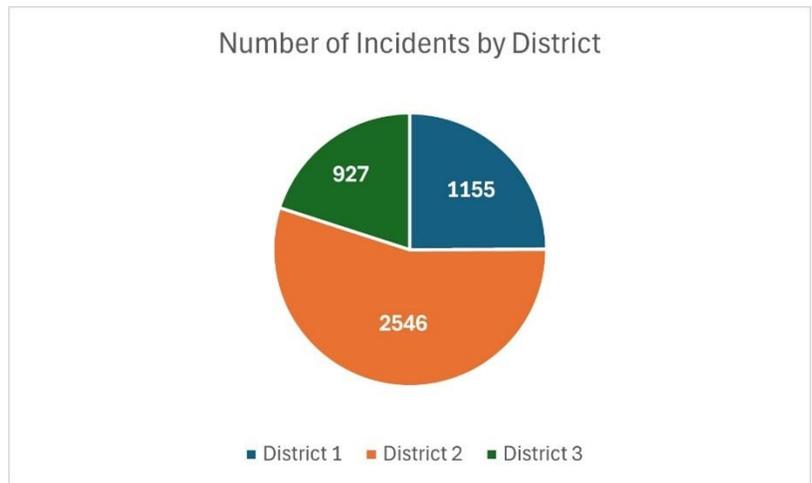
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Incident Volume by District

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 2025, the majority of calls occurred in the central portion of the city, District 2, with a total of 2,546 calls for service. The next busiest area was District 1, located in the southern part of the city which had 1,155 calls for service. District 3, located in the north-west area of the city, had 927 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 1,949 EMS calls and 28 fire calls. District 1 had 833 EMS calls and 21 fire calls, while District 3 had 674 EMS calls and 17 fire calls.

Calls for Service by District and Type			
Service Call Type	District 1	District 2	District 3
EMS	833	1949	674
False Alarms	81	177	75
Service Calls	44	112	17
Good Intent	121	212	116
Hazardous	36	29	15
Fire	21	28	17
Special	18	38	12
Overpressure	1	1	1
Total	1155	2546	927

Fire Incident Response Time

In 2023, the department transitioned to using percentile response times to better reflect real-world emergency response performance. This method looks at response times across all incidents to show how quickly crews usually arrive, rather than relying on a single average number. A 70th percentile response time simply shows a point in the data that reflects where most responses fall, while recognizing that some calls will naturally take longer or be faster. This approach provides a clearer picture of what residents typically experience and helps measure the consistency and reliability of our



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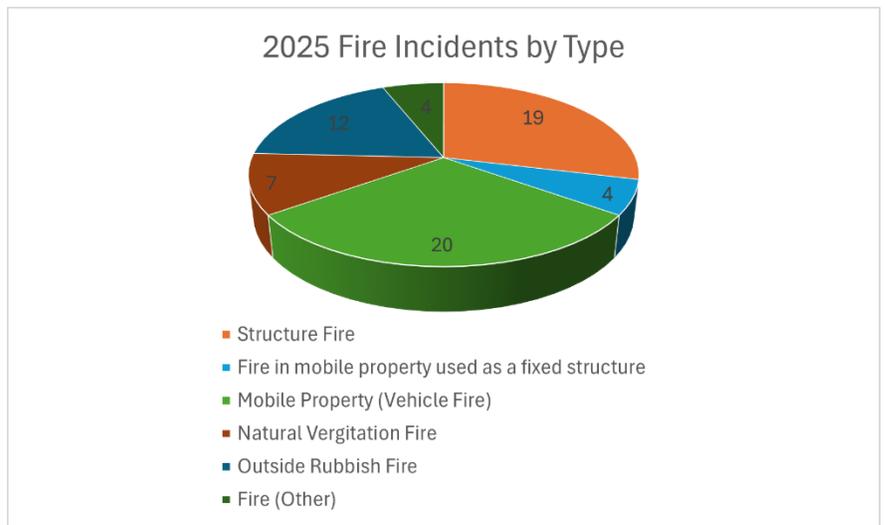
emergency response. The times noted reflect all response types, including both lights-and-sirens and normal traffic responses.

Department Suppression Response Times in Minutes			
	70%	80%	90%
Department Response Time	10:28	11:56	13:26

The 2025 data above shows that the department responds to suppression calls 70% of the time in approximately ten and a half (10.5) minutes. 80% of the time, the department will arrive in just under twelve (12) minutes and 90% of the time firefighters arrive on scene in approximately thirteen and a half (13.5) 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 (NFIRS) classifications. Many fire incident types are related to the specific area where the fire occurred or what exactly was burned. Of the sixty-six (66) fire-related incidents in 2025, the largest number of incidents were vehicle fires which accounted for twenty (20) incidents. The second largest number of calls were related to structure fires accounting for nineteen (19) incidents, followed by outdoor rubbish fires which accounted for twelve (12) incidents.





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The estimated value of property affected by fire in 2025 was \$10,550,000. Over eighty-seven percent (87.3%) of property affected by fire was saved.



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 from heart attacks and strokes to back pain and headaches. In 2025, EMS had a total of 3,456 calls for service, which accounts for 75% of the call volume for the department.



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Most Common Medical Complaint Types

Of the 3,456 medical incidents during 2025, 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 9%. Rounding out the top 10 medical run dispositions are breathing problems, chest pain, psychiatric issues, unconscious/fainting persons, convulsions/seizures, assist invalid, and other issues.

Top 10 Medical Run Dispositions		
Call Complaint	# Of Calls	Percentage
Sick Person	1154	33%
Falls	332	10%
Traffic/Transportation Incidents	306	9%
Breathing Problem	193	5.5%
Chest Pain (Non-Traumatic)	168	5%
No Other Appropriate Choice	149	4%
Psychiatric Problem/Suicide Attempt	140	4%
Unconscious/Fainting	126	4%
Convulsions/Seizures	121	3.5%
Assist Invalid	93	3%

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 2025.

Top 5 Priority 1 Transports	
Sick Person	51
Traffic Accident	48
Breathing Problem	30
Falls	21
Stroke/CVA	20

Emergency Medical Incident Response Times

In 2023, the department transitioned to using percentile response times to better reflect real-world emergency response performance. This method looks at response times across all incidents to show how quickly crews usually arrive, rather than relying on a single average number. A 70th percentile response time simply shows a point in the data that reflects where most responses fall, while



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recognizing that some calls will naturally take longer or be faster. This approach provides a clearer picture of what residents typically experience and helps measure the consistency and reliability of our emergency response. The times noted reflect all response types, including both lights-and-sirens and normal traffic responses.

EMS Response Times			
EMS Response Time	70%	80%	90%
2025 Response Time	8:32	9:26	10:57

The 2025 data above reflects the fact that the department responds to EMS calls 70% of the time in approximately eight and a half (8.5) minutes. 80% of the time, the department will arrive in approximately nine (9) minutes and 90% of the time firefighters arrive on scene in under 11 minutes.

Simultaneous Incident Data

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 2025, there were a total of 1,875 concurrent incidents which increased by 38% from 2024.

Simultaneous Calls by Amount			
Number of Instances	Number Of Calls		
	2023	2024	2025
Year			
Instances of 2 Concurrent Incidents	965	972	1389
Instances of 3 Concurrent Incidents	325	294	403
Instances of 4 Concurrent Incidents	93	74	72
Instances of 5 Concurrent Incidents	31	10	9
Instances of 6 Concurrent Incidents	7	4	2
Instances of 7 or More Concurrent Incidents	13	1	0
Total	1434	1355	1875



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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.

2025 Mutual Aid Requests	
Type of Mutual Aid	# of Instances
EMS MA Received	94
EMS MA Given	20
Fire MA Received	29
Fire MA Given	17

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 2025, AHFD was forced to rely on EMS mutual aid for 94 of the medical calls in the city.

Rochester Hills Fire Department remains AHFD’s closest mutual aid partner with 39% of the combined mutual aid, both given and received, followed by Star EMS with 28% of the combined mutual aid. Orion Township Fire Department rounded out our top three mutual aid partnerships with 17% of the combined mutual aid responses.

Mutual Aid by Department		
Agency	Mutual Aid Given	Mutual Aid Received
RHFD – Rochester Hills Fire Department	16	46
Star EMS – Privatized EMS	2	43
ORION – Orion Township Fire Department	12	15
ROC-Rochester City Fire Department	0	7
WRFD – Waterford Regional Fire	0	2
BTF – Bloomfield Township	3	7
INDF – Independence	3	3
Michigan State Police	1	0
Total	37	123



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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 department 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 (Vector Solutions).

Department Training

In 2025 the department participated in 11,453 hours of training across multiple training disciplines, including hazardous materials, technical rescue, driving, emergency medical services (EMS), fire suppression, officer development, and fire prevention education. This equated to an average of 954 training hours per month.





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Among the department’s training categories, suppression training accounted for the greatest share at 5,067 hours, followed by EMS training with 4,246 hours. Because EMS and suppression responses represent the majority of the department’s call volume, maintaining a strong focus on these disciplines is essential. Ongoing training in these areas ensures personnel continually improve their knowledge, skills, and abilities while remaining current with best practices and evolving standards.

Training Hours	
Training Type	2025 Hours
Suppression Training	5,067
EMS Training	4,246
Hazardous Materials	413
Technical Rescue	674
Officer Training	1,053
Total Hours	11,453

Field Training Program

The Auburn Hills Fire Department has implemented new firefighter and paramedic field training programs designed to strengthen recruit development and improve overall operational readiness. These programs address identified gaps in the previous training model by establishing clear, concise, and measurable objectives based on department policy and procedures and focus on industry standard knowledge, skills, and abilities. By emphasizing consistency, accountability, and objective performance benchmarks, the updated programs ensure the success of new recruits



while allowing the department to train personnel more efficiently. This structured approach accelerates the transition from hire to full qualification, enabling recruits to safely and effectively contribute to fully staffed operations.

The department’s paramedic field training program has also received recent recognition from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services as one of the most comprehensive paramedic field training programs in the State of Michigan, further validating the program’s quality, structure, and alignment with statewide best practices.



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Succession Planning and Officer Development

In 2025, the Auburn Hills Fire Department placed a strong emphasis on succession planning and professional development to ensure long-term organizational stability and leadership continuity. The department focused its training efforts on four primary areas: incident command and all-hazards response, officer and leadership development, fire inspector educational requirements, and specialized operational capabilities such as technical rescue and hazardous materials technician. These investments strengthened command readiness, supervisory effectiveness, and technical proficiency across all ranks. In support of this focus, the department also conducted a comprehensive promotional process for the positions of Lieutenant, Captain, Administrative Officer, and Fire Inspector, reinforcing succession planning priorities and ensuring qualified, prepared personnel are positioned to lead the organization into the future.

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 280 occupancies that use, handle, or store hazardous chemicals. This division also provides education and community outreach to both residents and businesses in the city.

Plan Reviews and Inspections

[Fire Inspector Fred Solomon]

Fire inspectors are tasked with varying types of inspections, permit issuance, and pre-plan operations. In 2025, the number of inspections decreased by a total of one hundred eighteen (118) inspections or minus 10.17% as compared to 2024. The number of annual inspections increased by ninety-six (96) or 30.28%. The division concentrated on inspecting larger and more hazardous buildings that take more time to inspect, which is reflected in the reduced number of overall inspections and the increase

Inspections (Yearly Totals)			
Inspection Type	2023	2024	2025
Annual	268	317	413
Final Building	53	58	66
Suppression/Detections	118	164	110
Follow-Up	404	464	358
Incident Preplanning	8	14	3
Complaint	20	13	20
Bonfire Permit Issued	31	21	6
Knox Box Updates	112	109	66
Total	1014	1160	1042



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in annual inspections. Additionally, the reduction in plan reviews as noted below is reflected in the reduced number of suppression and detection inspections.

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 2025, the total number of plan reviews decreased by thirty-nine (39) or minus 21.79% as compared to 2024. Our highly trained inspectors are continually seeking to develop their skills and knowledge pursuing training and certification opportunities.

Plan Review (Yearly Totals)			
Plan Review Type	2023	2024	2025
Site	115	44	49
Suppression	57	69	52
Detection	54	47	31
Temporary Event	12	19	8
Total	238	179	140

Hazardous Material Disclosures/Firefighter Right to Know

[Admin. Asst. Dawn Schultz]

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.



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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.

Hazardous Material Reporting				
Business Classification	2022	2023	2024	2025
Red	114	152	136	142
Yellow	123	132	143	138
Total	237	284	279	280

There were one hundred and forty-two (142) “Red” businesses and one hundred and thirty-eight (138) “Yellow” businesses totaling to two hundred and eighty (280) businesses that reported storing or utilizing hazardous materials in 2025.

By continuously working on this program, the department also creates and maintains better relationships with businesses in the 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 two (2) members on the Technical Rescue specialty teams.



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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 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.



Maintaining active status within the team necessitates the completion of a minimum of 100 hours of hazmat training, encompassing both in-house 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



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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.

In the year 2025, OCHMRT was called into action for a total of 10 incidents, with 3 requiring Level 1 activation, while the remainder involved consultations with team leaders.

On December 29, 2025, OCHRMT was requested to the scene by Bloomfield Hills DPS to identify unknown materials found during a routine call for service. Homeowner on site when BHDPS called for service and found a room in the basement of the residence. The room was utilized for photo development in the late 1950s-1960s. The room had wall-mounted storage shelves containing various products, some of which were described as having reacted. BHDPS contacted OCHMRT for consultation. Both agencies met with the homeowner, who provided information on the property's history and stated that his deceased father was a hobby photographer and had developed a darkroom for film processing. The current homeowner stated the room had been used as storage for the last 40 years and was largely unaware of the products in the room. Photography products remained in the room, including unprocessed film, bins, containers, and a workbench. Consultation with MSP OCHRMT found no explosive products, but mostly corrosive, oxidizer, and toxic products. Research officer Dinda found that NaOH reacted over time with the basement's moisture, forming a salt residue and dislodging the container lid. Other containers revealed that the products were stable in class jars with sealed lids. Corrosive materials were segregated from other materials in the collection to prevent inadvertent contamination and/or mixing. Best practices indicate the homeowner must have products disposed of by a licensed and insured cleanup contractor.



Technical Rescue Team

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



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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.

AHFD currently has two (2) 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 2025 which included the North American Active Assailant Conference in Troy and the Rochester Christmas Parade.



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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 2025. 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 310 students in 2025.





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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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Helping Hands

AHFD's Helping Hands 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. Helping Hands 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 2025 with hopes that the organization will continue to benefit burnout victims after fires occur.

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 800 children. AHFD would also like to thank the Helping Hands organization for donating thirteen (13) 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.





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SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS

During 2025, 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.

Vehicle Fire-2/27/2025

C-shift was toned for a vehicle fire on Baldwin Road near I75. The vehicle started smoking, then the brakes went out, according to the driver. The driver was able to pull over and noticed the car had caught fire. Firefighters quickly worked to extinguish the flames with tank water and foam from Engine 3. There were no reported injuries.



Structure Fire-7/22/2025

C-Shift responded to a call for a residential



structure on fire. Crews arrived to find the attached deck and rear of home on fire. The homeowner was safely out of the house. Engine 3 crew stretched handlines to begin the fire attack. Once the fire was knocked down, firefighters forced their way through the rear door to fight the fire inside the kitchen. AHFD completed extensive overhaul on the kitchen, removing roofing, siding, soffits and fascia in order to completely extinguish the fire. The investigation revealed the fire started on the deck outside the residence and spread before firefighters arrived. AHPD's fire investigator handled the investigation.



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Residential Fire-9/21/2025

Auburn Hills Fire Department's A-shift responded to a call for a structure fire. Upon arrival, crews found a working fire in the garage of a multi-family condo that had extended into the second floor of the home. Ladder 2 started the fire attack, then entered the condo to continue battling the blaze on the second floor. Engine 3, Rochester Hills and Rochester City Fire Departments arrived to assist with the fire attack. Rescue 1 arrived to assist with salvage and overhaul of the garage. Rescue 3 began ventilating and Inspector Toss arrived to investigate the origin and cause, which, at the time, remains undetermined.



Baby Boy Safely Delivered-10/24/2025

B-shift was dispatched to WB M-59 for a childbirth in progress on the shoulder of the road. AHFD crews successfully delivered a healthy baby boy in the back of an ambulance before heading to the hospital. The first responders provided expert care throughout the delivery. The crew assisted the father in cutting the umbilical cord. Both mother and baby were safely transported and are reported to be doing well.

Commercial Fire-11/11/2025





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B-Shift was dispatched for mutual aid to a commercial fire at a storage unit in Rochester Hills. They joined over 50 other firefighters from neighboring departments to battle the enormous blaze. Crews fought for 8 hours before finally extinguishing the inferno. The fire caused significant damage to the storage facility, but no injuries were reported. The cause of the fire is under investigation.



Residential Fire-11/19/2025

C-Shift responded to a reported structure fire. It was a suspected grease fire in the kitchen of a 2-story apartment building. Upon arrival, firefighters found a working fire with heavy smoke coming from an open door. Firefighters were able to contain the fire to the kitchen. Ladder 2 crew were able to enter the unit once water had knocked down the fire. Significant smoke damage was noted throughout. One patient was transported with minor injuries.



Residential Fire-11/21/2025

B-shift responded to reports of a residential fire. Crews arrived to find black smoke coming from the front door and a fire in the kitchen of the townhome. Engine 3 firefighters stretched a cross-lay through the home, into the kitchen and knocked down the fire. During ventilation and overhaul, a second fire was discovered in the basement. Engine 3 personnel carried the hose down the stairs and



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extinguished that fire. The resident was treated and transported for smoke inhalation. There were no other injuries reported. Investigators from Oakland County and Auburn Hills Fire Department, along with a detective from Auburn Hills Police department were called to determine the cause and origin of the fires. It was determined that an electric bike lithium-ion battery exploded in the kitchen and the fragments caught clothing in a laundry basket on fire in the basement. This serves as a reminder that residents should be mindful of lithium-ion battery dangers and the importance of proper storage.

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 fire and medical emergencies. At the end of 2025, 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 as a reserve, three (3) fire prevention vehicles, three (3) administrative vehicles, one (1) command vehicle, and one (1) utility vehicle.

Station 1: Rescue 1, Engine 1, Ladder 1 and the Kubota UTV.

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

Station 3: 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.





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Suppression

Station 1 Apparatus

Rescue 1 Fleet #2327

Make	Ford
Model	F450 4x4
Year	2022
Cost	276,072.00
Useful Life	6 years
Current Life	4 years
Engine Hrs.	3,812
Mileage	56,050



Ladder 1 Fleet #2211

Make	Rosenbauer
Model	Commander
Year	2021
Useful Life	15 years
Current Life	5 years
Engine Hrs.	1,835
Mileage	24,809



Engine 1 Fleet #2106

Make	Rosenbauer
Model	Commander
Year	2020
Useful Life	15 years
Current Life	6 years
Engine Hrs.	1,962
Mileage	8,876





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Station 3 Apparatus

Rescue 3 Fleet #2017

Make	Ford
Model	F450 4x4
Year	2020
Useful Life	6 years
Current Life	6 years
Engine Hrs	6,175
Mileage	86,583



Ladder 3 Fleet #1809

Make	Rosenbauer
Model	Commander
Year	2018
Useful Life	15 years
Current Life	9 years
Engine Hrs	1,382
Mileage	17,194



Engine 3 Fleet #1512

Make	Rosenbauer
Model	Commander
Year	2015
Useful Life	15 years
Current Life	11 years
Engine Hrs	7,009
Mileage	86,900



ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

AHFD's administrative personnel have been working 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



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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
- New Annual Training Program
- Active Shooter Training Programs (TECC)
- Incident Management training (IMT)
- Promotional Testing
- Promotions-captain and lieutenant-successful implantation of succession planning
- Continue Incident Communication Improvement
 - BlueCard ICS Training
 - NIMS 300 Training
- Mental Health/Emotional Wellness Training
- Disaster Response Training
- Completed first year of the new field training program with marked success
- Documentation Training and Quality Improvement Program
- Policy Updates and Review
- Promoted 3 part-time personnel to full-time.
- 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 August 2025, the department took delivery of a new 80' Rosenbauer ladder truck. Each station now has an updated ladder equipped with the latest safety and technologies features. This new ladder replaced a 25-year-old ladder.



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The fire department added a Kubota UTV to the fleet this year. The Kubota is outfitted with a brush fire pump and water tank as well as a specialized stokes basket for transporting patients from off road locations. The Kubota UTV is housed at station 1 and often used for public events downtown where larger vehicles have difficulty with access due to crowds.



Grant Funding

[Administrative Officer Owen Milks]

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) EMS Workforce Grant – The Auburn Hills Fire Department continues to work with the State of Michigan on EMS education and in 2025 it was awarded another (MDHHS) EMS



Workforce grants to fund emergency medical education programs for our staff and community. The grant funds 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 \$397,800. To date, similar grants have funded paramedic initial education, wages and training supplies for thirty-nine EMS students. The department is in the final stages of accepting an

additional EMS Workforce grant in the amount of \$525,000 dollars to support the current EMS students placed in paramedic education programs as well as fund an additional 8 students.



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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.

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.

