

# Camas-Washougal Fire Department Level of Service Presentation April 16, 2018







## **CWFD** Funding Sources

- General Fund fire levy equivalent rate of \$1.20/\$1000 w/debt and \$.90/\$1000 w/o debt
- EMS Levy Re-authorized at \$.46/\$1000
- Ambulance Transport Billing
- East County Fire & Rescue EMS Levy Proceeds
- Total Operating Budget 2018: \$9.5 million

# Level of Service: The number of personnel and equipment we can get to an emergency scene

- There are no federal or state laws that specify minimum staffing levels on engines. There are state L&I codes that reference minimum levels of staffing to perform certain tasks at an emergency scene. Ambulance staffing has different requirements.
- There are provisions in labor contract language that mandates a minimum staffing level of 11 per shift, but it does not address numbers of personnel on each unit.
- Current front line staffing level: 48 FTEs

### **Tracking our Performance**

- Turnout Times Time to get out the door after receiving call
- Response Times Time it takes to get an engine on scene at a fire event and time to get a medical aid vehicle on scene to an emergency call
- Outcomes EMS outcomes can be difficult to track
- Fire loss data Can show trends but can also be inaccurate as one fire can skew data (Sierra in 2013 and ADS in 2017)



#### How are we evaluated?

- WSRB In 2013, CWFD's fire rating increased from 4 to 5, primarily due to staffing levels and deficiencies in the fire marshal's office. Increased ratings can result in higher fire insurance rates. However, few insurance companies use WSRB ratings.
- Standard of Cover Updated every year. Are we staying within the standards we set?
- L&I May come in to the picture if we have deficiencies that result in safety findings.

## **Standard of Cover**



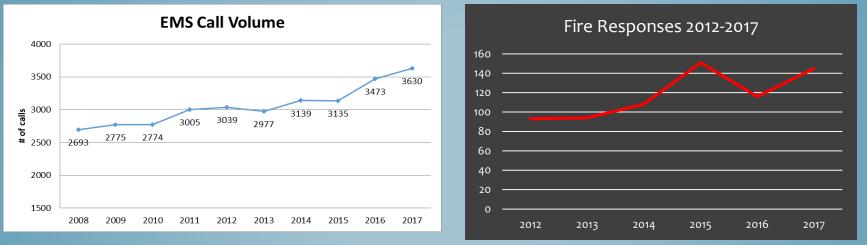


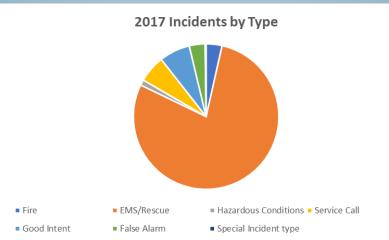
**First Medical Aid Vehicle 2017** 



### **Current Staffing Level Needs**

 Since 2008, EMS call volume has increased by 35% with no increase in front line FTEs. Fire call volume relatively stable.





- We do not currently meet NFPA standards on 4-person engine companies – Typically only seen in large metro departments like Portland. Vancouver employs 3 person engine staffing.
- All Camas engines currently operate with 2 personnel most of the time. With concurrent 2-person medic units responding to the same fire, this often suffices. However, if medic unit is already on another call the first arriving engine may only have 2 personnel. This is not illegal, but may limit initial activities of crews until more support units arrive. Total additional staffing needed to add a 3<sup>rd</sup> person to each engine would be 12-15, for a cost of ~\$1.3 million.

- Cross-staffing of Station 42 has presented one of the largest challenges since it was built in 2001. Since this station responds on medical calls over 80% of the time, their engine remains unstaffed for the duration of those calls. This may cause increased response times as the next unit has to come from downtown Camas, Washougal, or Vancouver.
- Total additional staffing to maintain a 3-person engine at Station 42 would be approximately 4-5, for an added cost of ~\$450,000. The station would still be cross-staffed.
- Total additional personnel to eliminate cross-staffing at Station
  42 would be 8-9 personnel, for an added cost of ~\$850,000.

## **Summary of Staffing Options**

- Ensure 3-person engine company at Station 42: Requires 4-5
  FTEs at an approximate cost of \$450,000
- Eliminate cross-staffing of Station 42: Requires 8-9 FTEs at an approximate cost of \$850,000
- Ensure 3-person engine company staffing at all 3 stations: Requires 12-15 FTEs at an approximate cost of \$1.3 million.
   Station 42 would still be cross-staffed.
- Ensure 3-person engine company staffing at all 3 stations and eliminate cross-staffing of Station 42: Requires 17-20 FTEs at an approximate cost of \$1.8 million
- <u>Note:</u> Any staffing level increase would require the approval of Washougal as they would be responsible for 40% of such costs.