



GOLDEN GATE

Fire Department

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Kyle Koceimba-Benson, Fire Chief
CC: Membership
DATE: Sept 18, 2023
SUBJECT: September 2023 Chief's Report

Regional/County

Chief Benson continues to work with Ember Alliance on our portion of the county CWPP. We are currently working on a GIS project with Jefferson County that will lead to the creation of new planning and evacuation units within the fire district.

Administration

Station 83 Community clean up, clean out and touch a truck was a great success! A big thank you to the firefighters, auxiliary members and community members that helped make all our station clean out events successful this summer!

Our Mission, vision and values meeting was also a fantastic success. We had an inspiring amount of participation from our volunteer staff during the exercise and believe we have captured the epitome of what it means to be The Golden Gate Fire Protection District. The re-cast vision is shared as an agenda item in the board meeting.

Chief Benson has attended several informational sessions with joint chiefs regarding prop HH and 303. Despite all the information available to us, it remains difficult to assess what the impact to the district will be if the measure passes in November. Should the measure pass, budget filing deadlines will be adjusted to allow for special districts to file 2024 budgets after receiving their final adjusted taxable valuation from the county assessor. We expect to know more about the potential impact after we receive a report from the county treasurer regarding estimates of reduction in revenue that were produced on September 15th.

Operations

Summer is beginning to draw down, with weather cooling and parks remaining active and interesting. Relatively warmer and clearer days have increased traffic and usage of roads

and parks, and this has corresponded with an increase in calls relative to the summer so far. The trend this year of notably fewer wildland fires (either lightning or human-caused) as well as fewer heat-caused incidents is holding, as we have had no fires since the Bear Fire. As of September 18, we have run 70 calls (five not included in attached statistics as reports are not yet complete). In the past month we have had one notable park rescue at Centennial Cone requiring helicopter evacuation of a mountain biker who was injured in the middle to center of the park.

We are proud to announce Rescue 82 is in service after work by a number of firefighters and has already run a half dozen or so calls. This apparatus is a unique and optimized tool for responding to incidents in the GGFPD, as it runs with a short wheelbase, crew cab, and enclosed storage space for equipment. Its loadout emphasizes backcountry and rope rescue activities and is fully outfitted to perform response and management of these incidents at a class-leading level. Our thanks to the Golden Gate Auxiliary for funding the nearly \$12,000 in equipment that makes this such a valuable asset for our district in providing a high-quality response to users of our parks or those in more remote locations.

We have a resident now at Station 82 (FF McDaniel) and having this resident at a station has helped drastically reduce turnout time and response times, particularly in the north portions of our District. We anticipate the benefits of this residency agreement growing stronger particularly into the winter season and look forward to making this as successful as possible.

Concerns of paramedic coverage continue, with several shifts in recent weeks being down a medic (only two ALS ambulances for several 12+ hour time periods). Operations staff continues to monitor and track resource availability, although no circumstances have arisen, yet which require using contingency plans or mutual aid to cover. Staff additionally remains in communication with Golden Fire, Fairmount Fire, and Pleasant View fire as resource management discussions continue.

Personnel

21 operational members and 5 support services members currently on the roster - We have welcomed 4 new members into the operational ranks and lost one member due to a move out of state.

Residency- FF McDaniel has moved into station 81.

Congratulations to FFs Nick Meyer and Peter Whiteneck who successfully graduated from the Golden Fire Academy in the end of August!

Training

The interagency FFII academy preparation is under way. The academy will be starting on OCT 28th and will be going through December 2nd.

The GGFPD FFI academy preparation is also under way, we are very excited to be working with DFPC as the test site for the new hybrid fire academy curriculum that will be rolled out statewide next year.

Probationary FF Drew Kenyon is currently attending EMT school at Redrocks. She is progressing well through her studies there, and we look forward to having her new skills within the district.

The new recruits are quickly becoming assimilated within the department and are working their way through their onboarding material.

Impact Fee Study

The impact fee study group is meeting on September 20th for a kickoff meeting with BBC research and consulting.

Likely Future Actions/Events

3 Month horizon

- 2024 budget
- Updated fee schedule
- Joint FF-I academy
- Joint FF-II academy

6 Month Horizon

- Station updates
- Apparatus replacement plan.
- Financial diversity plan.
- Mid range strategic plan update
- CWPP update

Strategic Concepts and Visions

- Community responder program/special teams- Medical/Wildland/Backcountry
- Defensible space home assessment program
- Community slash chipping event
- Community Wildfire Mitigation & Education initiative

Attachments:

1. Incident Statistics (2023)
2. Minor Incident Types by Month (2023)
3. Incident Type Count per Station for Date Range (2023)
4. Personnel Count per Incident for Date Range (2023)