

Carol Stream Fire Protection District Annual Report 2025



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From the Chief

To: Fire District and Board of Trustees,

I am proud to present the Carol Stream Fire District 2025 annual report. The fire district again met the goals set forth in the beginning of 2025 and had a very productive year.

2025 included several capital improvements including the replacement of our 2 fire inspector vehicles. The fire district purchased 2 Ford Mavericks which are used by the fire inspectors to drive to and from inspections. Fire Station 28 had 2 HVAC units replaced. These units were over 20 years old and part of the original construction of the station.

The fire district continues to be a part of the West Suburban Fire Alliance which is comprised of 8 fire departments (Carol Stream, Glenside, Wheaton, Bloomingdale, Hanover Park, West Chicago, Winfield, and Roselle). As the Alliance, we train together each month and operate under the same standard operating guidelines. In addition, we have the same responses for fire incidents, which gives us the resources needed immediately with all personnel being trained and operating the same on an emergency scene. This equates to a safer and more efficient fire ground or emergency scene.

The fire district considers training to be one of the highest priorities. All of our stations train each day both together and as individual stations to be the best that they can be. These trainings include firefighting, EMS, technical rescue, hazardous materials and company officer development, just to name a few.

In 2025, the fire district issued 2 life-saving EMS citations for 2 different patients who were pulseless and not breathing in the field. Both of these patients made a full recovery and were present for the awarding of the EMS citations to fire district personnel.



Fire Inspector Tim Ryan retired from the fire district after 22-years of service. Our new fire inspector, Chris Crawford, started in April. In addition, the fire district hired 4 firefighter/paramedics. Candidate FF/PM's Bella Volpe, Josh Beaman, Brady Finn, Jaseeri King all started employment in 2025.

The fire district was awarded an \$18,000 grant by DuPage County to replace our aging SCBA fit testing machine which tests our firefighting masks for a proper fit and seal. In addition, the fire district placed in service new portable radios which all firefighters use to communicate with each other. These radios were purchased by the DuPage County ETSB.

Operationally, the fire district responded to a total 6,145 calls from our 3 fire stations.

I would like to thank you for taking the time to read our 2025 annual report. Our fire district prides itself on the excellent staff who work here. We are thankful and appreciative of the community's support of the fire district. We will continue to provide the best service to our residents and visitors who call upon us.

Respectfully,

Robert M. Schultz

Fire Chief

Board of Trustees

William Natick
President



Karl Langhammer
Treasurer



Richard Fisher
Secretary



James Panopoulos
Trustee

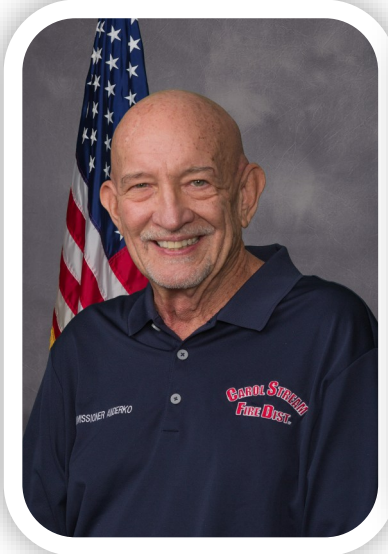


Joseph Pauling
Trustee



Fire Commissioners

Kenneth Anderko
Chairperson



Erik Crawford
Secretary



Robert Hoff
Commissioner



District Personnel

Administrative Staff

Robert Schultz
Fire Chief

Jason Day
Deputy Fire Chief

Jason Kanzia
Deputy Fire Chief

Angela Kneisel
Administrative Manager

Sara Moist
Administrative Assistant

Terri Flores
Administrative Assistant

Chris Crawford
Fire Inspector

Scot Neil
Fire Inspector

Vick Maxon & Butch Smith
MSW – IT Consultants

Sara Moist
Recorder – Board of Trustees

Shift Battalion Chiefs

Jeff Blaksley

Chad Grandgeorge

Danny Stelter

Lieutenants

Michael Bratta

Kevin Hencinski

Steve Netzel

Tim Cicero

Rick Kozak

Tyler Poffenbarger

Patrick Coulter

Eric Larson

Domiano Shurba

Kevin Gay

Ben McClarey

Eric Wieringa

Firefighters & Paramedics

Lucero Avina

Nathan Grant

Adam Mullendore

Joshua Beaman

Joseph Hanson

James Mulligan

Mark Bjorklund

Cassandra Hauserman

Scott Naylor

Josh Conlon

Max Hively

Dan Nelson

Tony Davenport

Derek Killey

Frank Palermo

Frank Defino

Jaseeri King

Jesus Pineda

Lauren Fairfield

Kasia Koscielniak

Nick Potthoff

Mike Fairfield

Mike Kucia

Drew Schultz

Patrick Felde

Jason Larson

Dylan Schultz

Brady Finn

Joe Lauria

Steve Sievers

Chris Fischer

Jake Mapalo

Landon Starkey

Tom Flannery

Ethan McReynolds

Josh Stein

Levi Franklin

Joe Melone

Tim Stratton

Michael Foss

Chris Molsen

Gilberto Villa

Nate Gianpetro

Zach Morel

Isabella Volpe

Financial Summary 2025

The Carol Stream Fire Protection District utilizes a conservative budgeting process that stresses financial responsibility to its taxpayers while providing the highest level of protection and education possible.

For the fiscal year 2025, the Carol Stream Fire Protection District once again received a clean, unqualified audit from its outside CPA firm. Revenues exceeded expenses by a moderate amount, demonstrating strong management in maintaining and controlling expenses. Below is a recap of the District's revenues and expenses.

Revenues

For the fiscal year ended May 31, 2025

Property Tax	\$13,046,714
Replacement Tax	\$ 224,113
Foreign Fire insurance Tax	\$ 109,846
Charges for Services	\$ 2,537,098
Intergovernmental	\$ 4,014
Investment Income	\$ 599,716
Insurance Reimbursement	\$ 29,876
Miscellaneous	\$ 260,448
Sale of Assets	<u>\$ 54,401</u>
Total	\$ 16,866,226

Expenditures

For the fiscal year ended May 31, 2025

Fire Protection	\$ 8,516,119
Ambulance	\$ 5,854,964
Insurance	\$ 353,754
Social Security	\$ 131,484
Audit	\$ 15,835
Foreign Fire	\$ 97,268
Capital Outlay	<u>\$ 285,982</u>
Total	\$ 15,255,406

Division and Staff Reports

Information Technology Vicki Maxon and Butch Smith

Accomplishments

- Continued to closely monitor all of the Fire Districts hardware & software for cyber threats
- Replaced & updated numerous apparatus & office computers
- Switched over to a new fire reporting system called NERIS (National Emergency Response Information System)



Preplan Program Lieutenant Steve Netzel

Pre-plans contain drawings and building information for commercial and multi-tenant buildings which the fire district protects. This information is uploaded to our vehicle computers, enabling firefighters to reference locations of equipment such as sprinkler connections, hydrants, hazards inside, roof access, gas shut off, electric shut off and much more in case of emergencies.

Accomplishments

- Created new preplan drawings for new construction in the fire district
- Scheduled companies to update commercial/multifamily buildings every month
- Oversaw and created CAD drawings for all updated pre-plans
- Worked with Fire Prevention Bureau to update fire district hazards and key box keys
- Updated Preplans based on Fire Prevention Bureau inspections to better capture data for the next ISO Review

Safety Committee Lieutenant Steve Netzel

Year End Review

- Discussed and Updated Safety Program Policies
- Maintained a supply of safety equipment at all fire stations
- Updated all stations SDS Sheets
- Reviewed monthly station inspection reports
- Reviewed safety concerns at the firehouses
- Reviewed accident/injury reports and discussed recommendations to improve safety

Safety Committee Members

Chief Schultz
Deputy Chief Kanzia
Deputy Chief Day
Lieutenant Netzel (Committee Chair)
Firefighter/Paramedic Mapalo
Firefighter/Paramedic McReynolds
Firefighter/Paramedic Franklin (Local 3192 Safety Steward)



Public Education Lieutenant Tim Cicero

The importance of Public Education in the Fire Service cannot be overstated. Fire Safety Education provides the following benefits:

- Preventing injury/death for our residents
- Preventing injury/death for our firefighters
- Saving hundreds of thousands of dollars for our residents
- Saving hundreds of thousands of dollars for our fire district
- Promote positive public relations and experiences to our residents

It is the mission of the Public Education Department to provide excellent educational programs to the residents of our community and reduce/eliminate both civilian and firefighter deaths and injuries from home accidents and fires, while also creating positive experiences to the residents of our community.

Lieutenant Tim Cicero is the Public Education Coordinator. The 70 firefighters/medics along with every fire district employee participates in some form of education/public relations during the year, and everyone does an outstanding job.

2025 Highlights/Statistics

- 65 live events
- Over 6,000 Children educated
- Open house October 4, 2025

Social Media Statistics

The fire district's Facebook webpage is continuing to gain followers and likes. This is a great way to inform our social media community.

- 13 Facebook posts in 2025
- 155,000 people reached virtually
- 17,700 Page Visits and 3,374 followers



Public Education Month We successfully visited 15 educational facilities in October. Instructing over 3,000 children in person at their schools. Off duty members and on duty crews were the instructors for the children. Every student went home with activity books to complete.

Open House We successfully hosted Open House this year at Station 28 on Saturday October 4, 2025 from 10am-2pm. We had over 1500 guests visit that day, and had multiple new presentations throughout the day of our hands on equipment. We tried a new layout this year and it was a hit!

Senior Events 4 events - 12 hours

Community Events 12 Events – 16 Hours

Church Events 2 Events – 5 Hours

Fire Extinguisher and First aid 16 Classes – 40 Hours – 515 Students

School Visits 15 visits for 26 Hours (excluding October)

Other Highlights

- 5 Block parties
- 7 Station tours
- On duty crews handed out Glow Sticks in the neighborhoods on Halloween
- Handed out candy and stickers at 3 Trick Or Treat events prior to Halloween



CPR Firefighter/Paramedic Michael Fairfield

The importance of teaching CPR to the public cannot be overstated. CPR has proven to save lives for those in cardiac arrest. The Carol Stream Fire District provides limited CPR and first aid instruction to the public and businesses in the community. We continue to grow into more businesses within our district, teaching them both on-site at Station 28 and off-site at the business locations.

American Heart Association Statistics

In one year alone, 436,000 Americans die from a cardiac arrest. Globally, cardiac arrest claims more lives than colorectal cancer, breast cancer, prostate cancer, influenza, pneumonia, auto accidents, HIV, firearms, and house fires combined. The location of Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrests (OHCA) most often occurs in homes/residences (73.4%), followed by public settings (16.3%), and nursing homes (10.3%). If performed immediately, CPR can double or triple the chance of survival from an out of hospital cardiac arrest. There are among 2,000 employees in corporate offices, hospitality, education and industry/labor who suffer from cardiac arrest. 55% can't get first aid or CPR and AED training from their employer. If training is available, it's often either CPR or first aid, not both. Half of all US workers cannot locate an AED at work. In the hospitality industry, 66% of employees cannot locate an AED.

Costs

The CPR program is generally self-efficient in that we charge the public to cover costs of teachers and equipment/books needed. The feedback from students taking the class has been very positive in response to the new manikins and equipment we bought in 2023. We have begun to form a lot of good relationships with businesses in the district that have used our CPR services for multiple years now. This year we had to buy new training videos and instructor manuals due to a guideline change that took place in October, keeping us up-to-date with the newest science to teach our classes.

Classes Taught in 2025

CSFD instructors taught 21 Classes to 117 participants. Of those classes there were 6 companies who are repeat clients, some needing 3 days of classes to train all of their employees



EMS Operations

Firefighter/Paramedic Lauren Fairfield (EMS Coordinator)

- Attended quarterly Chief/EMS Coordinator meetings with CDH
- Attended monthly EMS Coordinator meetings with CDH
- Oversaw the IDPH and CDH annual inspections for the 4 medic units
- Completed the IDPH and CDH self-inspections for the 3 fire suppression vehicles
- Completed the annual maintenance on the cardiac monitors
- Completed the annual maintenance of the ambulance cots, stair chairs, and power load systems
- Ordered and maintained the EMS supplies and equipment for all 3 stations
- Replaced our end of life AED's with new AED's located within the fire stations and fire district vehicles
- Facilitated large update to CDH EMS SMO's and CDH EMS Policies

EMS CE

Firefighter/Paramedic Nate Gianpetro

Each month all of the fire districts EMT's & paramedics attend monthly continuing education to maintain their respective license. This continuing education is taught by our paramedics who are EMS CE facilitators. Central DuPage Hospital is our resource hospital. They oversee the paramedics for Carol Stream and are responsible for what the paramedics do in the field. CDH reports to the Illinois Department of Public Health who is the overall oversight of paramedics working in Illinois.

Personal Protective Equipment

Lieutenant Rick Kozak

The Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Division is in charge of making sure all of our Firefighters have the proper gear to protect them while performing their duties. This includes purchasing new gear for new firefighters, replacing outdated/worn gear for current Firefighters, and getting gear repaired as needed to keep it in service. This year the PPE division purchased 13 new sets of gear for new firefighters and to replace gear that was outdated for other firefighters. There were also several sets of gear that were in need of repair and were sent out for these repairs and returned to service. The PPE division also provides and maintains the Firefighters helmets, gloves, boots, Nomex hoods, etc. We keep a constant supply of these items so they are always ready when needed.

Station 27,28,29 Small Tools

Lieutenant Dom Shurba, Firefighter/Paramedic Tony Davenport, & Firefighter/Paramedic Derek Killey

Accomplishments

- Purchased and placed into service a new Mustang ice rescue suit
- Purchased and placed into service new MSA 5 Gas monitor
- Purchased and placed into service new rescue ropes and bags
- Annual service, inspection, and maintenance completed for hydraulic and e-draulic extrication tools for all apparatus
- Maintained all tools and equipment for the frontline and reserve tower ladders, medic unit, and chief officer vehicles
- Maintained all consumables including batteries, saw fuel, oil dry, and saw blades and chains for all apparatus
- Annual service and inspection on all fire extinguishers
- Annual service, inspections, and maintenance completed on all ground ladders
- Maintained monitor calibration equipment
- Placed pump can in service

Vehicle Maintenance

Firefighter/Paramedic Michael Foss

Accomplishments

- Maintained fleet by completing minor repairs
- Facilitated and oversaw more complicated repairs
- Semi Annual/Annual service performed on all vehicles
- All fire apparatus received annual pump test
- Frontline and reserve Tower Ladder received annual aerial certifications
- Reserve Engine received in chassis engine rebuild
- Committee created for the ordering of a new Squad 27 and 27A
- Warranty corrosion repair to Tower 28
- Warranty corrosion repair to Squad 27
- New 2025 Ford Mavericks placed into service as Inspector vehicles
- Sold two 2013 Ford Focus's previously used by Inspectors
- All vehicles were updated to Cradle Point internet system
- Replaced tires on several vehicles

Fitness Program Firefighter/Paramedic Josh Stein

Accomplishments

- Preventive maintenance performed on all fire district fitness equipment.
- Purchased ancillary exercise equipment for workout rooms at all stations, including resistance bands, medicine balls, and cleansing wipes.
- Conducted fitness incentive program for district employees.
- Purchased lockers and tables to update a locker room at Station 27.

Fire Investigation Firefighter/Paramedic Eric Wieringa

The Carol Stream Fire Investigation Unit (FIU) investigated 30 fires during 2025. These fires ranged anywhere from vehicle fires, structure fires, cooking fires, and multiple miscellaneous fires.

The FIU moved to a new streamlined reporting system through our current ImageTrend platform. This new reporting system will work seamlessly with our current NERIS and EMS reporting systems. We are also able to tailor the reports to the needs of Carol Stream and not be burdened with a National Government “standard” form for our reports. The team is excited as we move to this new platform.

Each investigator completed various tasks to remain certified as a fire investigator. This can be done through life experience, classes, or online training through CFITrainer.net. These are online training videos that test the student at the end of the program. When the test is then passed, each student gains a certain number of tested hours to use towards recertification every 4 years. Two members attended a Junior Firestarter’s program and are now certified in that allowing for us to work with the Police Department if we run into any juveniles that are starting fires. Two new members were added to the team in 2025 with the intention of adding 1 or 2 more members in 2026.

Lt. Eric Wieringa	Lt. Domiano Shurba
FF Joe Hanson	FF Frank Palermo
FF Dan Nelson	FF Chris Fischer
FF Lucy Avina	FF Jesus Pineda
FF Tim Stratton	FF Kasia Koscielniak
FF Pat Felde	FF Zach Morel

Hose and Appliances Lieutenant Michael Bratta

Accomplishments

- Completed Annual Hose Testing for all District Fire Houses per NFPA 1962
- Removed all failed hose & hose prior to 2006
- Purchased numerous lengths of hose to replace hose that failed during testing & hose which was outdated
- Purchased numerous nozzles & appliances for all apparatus

Communications Lieutenant Dom Shurba

Accomplishments

- Took delivery and placed in service the District's new portable radios from the ETSB – Received Motorola APX Next radios to replace all the old outdated Motorola 8000XE
- New communications cabinet was placed in the mezzanine at Station 28 to house spare radios, batteries, pagers, and headsets
- Maintained all the portable radios for the district through the ETSB of DuPage County
- Replaced and repaired all small parts for pagers and radios including antennas, knobs, mic cables and batteries
- Maintained the District installed portions of the Purvis system including monitors



SCBA Division Lieutenant Kevin Gay

Accomplishments

- Completed Annual Flow Testing
- Completed Annual Fit Testing
- Placed new Fit Test Machine in service, which was purchase through a DuPage County grant
- Outfit New Hires with Equipment
- Performed Hydrostatic Testing on all SCBA bottles

Training Lieutenant Patrick Coulter

Accomplishments

- Worked with the other members of the Alliance Training Committee to provide quick drills, company officer drills, and mandatory training for Carol Stream and the other Alliance towns
- Provided and instructed multi-company training and live-fire training at our training tower
- Worked with the chief officers to develop a direction for our training
- Worked with Target Solutions to better capture and track our training



Training Tower Lieutenant Eric Larson

The training tower continues to provide some of the best and most realistic training every year. Multiple agencies and departments have benefited from the burn tower facility. Most importantly, the burn tower provides a great training and working opportunity for all members of the Carol Stream Fire District on a daily basis.

Accomplishments

- Had Burn tower evaluated by Structural Engineer which resulted in tower being in good condition
- Had 2nd and 3rd floor balconies resealed to prevent water and structural damage
- Had all interior heat caulk refinished to further prevent water and weather damage
- General preventative maintenance done on the telehandler
- Had small section of 3rd floor roof repaired to prevent water and weather damage
- Cut and stocked multiple materials for force entry, VEIS, and Vertical Ventilation Props
- Cleaned and reorganized training tower storage room and outside storage units
- Assembled SCBA Maze for January and February Training
- Rebuilt 1st, 2nd and 3rd floor interior walls for live burns
- Hosted Firemanship Class for Search in July of 2025
- Hosted multiple Alliance Live Fire Trainings including Single Family, Multiple Family and R.I.T.
- Hosted multiple Alliance Special Ops Drills including Collapse and Rope Operations
- Hosted multiple fire academy/department live fire trainings
- General maintenance to burn pans on each floor of training
- General maintenance & repairs to training props
- Purchase of numerous training supplies/materials such as hay, wood, burn drums & dry-wall
- Replaced a 10'x12' section of concrete on 1st floor burn room



Technical Rescue Lieutenant/Paramedic Kevin Hencinski

The Technical Rescue Team was busy sending members to Technical Rescue Classes, upgrading/replacing equipment and coordinating drills.

Accomplishments

- Upgrade of high-speed/lightweight rope rescue equipment (Captos)
- Replacement of equipment that has reached the service life (Ropes, anchor straps, webbing, etc.)
- Purchased Paratech Strut Extensions and hoses
- Replaced lumber cache on 27A
- Members obtained 10 technical rescue state certifications
- Created monthly technical rescue roll call drills for Target Solutions
- Prepared, coordinated and instructed two Technical Rescue Team Drills
- Prepared, coordinated and instructed five Alliance Special Operations Drills
- Continued sending members to classes with the intention of technician level of all members



Station 27,28,29 Building Maintenance Firefighter/Paramedics Mike Kucia, Chris Molsen & Joe Hanson

Accomplishments

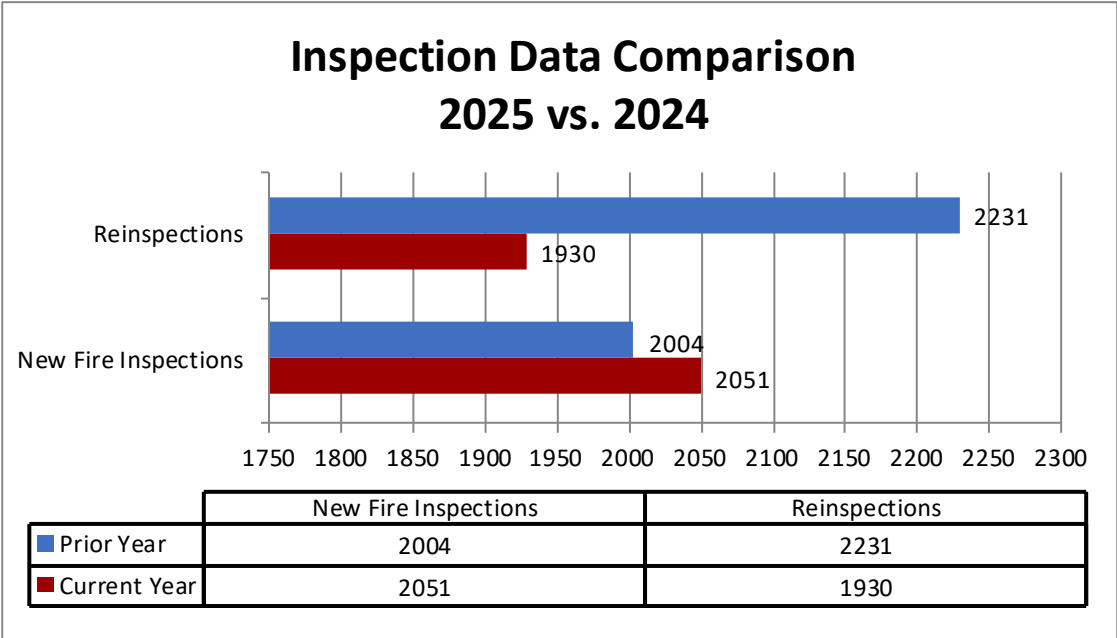
- Completed annual sprinkler testing and maintenance at all fire stations
- Completed annual generator maintenance at all fire stations
- Completed annual landscape maintenance at all fire stations
- Completed annual floor drain and basin cleaning at all fire stations
- Completed annual backflow preventer testing at all fire stations
- Completed annual crane inspection at Station 28
- Completed annual garage door maintenance at all fire stations
- Completed annual carpet and tile cleaning at all fire stations
- Made repairs to sewer system going from bay floor to main sewer at Station 28
- New grass on North side of property line at Station 28
- New timer installed for outdoor pole lights at Station 28
- Installed 2 new furnace units at Station 28
- Multiple cracks/ joints repaired in the sidewalks and concrete at Station 28
- Tore out grass and soil on east side of building and replaced with river rock at Station 27
- Removed dead tree on east side of the property at Station 27
- New kitchen faucet installed at Station 27
- Replaced the apparatus bay utility sink at Station 27
- Replaced ceiling tiles in the workout room at Station 27
- Rear Bay Door painted at Station 29
- Replaced clothes washer at Station 29
- Roof patched to repair leaks at Station 29
- New kitchen table and chairs purchased
- Patio resurfaced at all fire stations



Fire Prevention—Inspections

Inspector Chris Crawford and Inspector Scot Neil

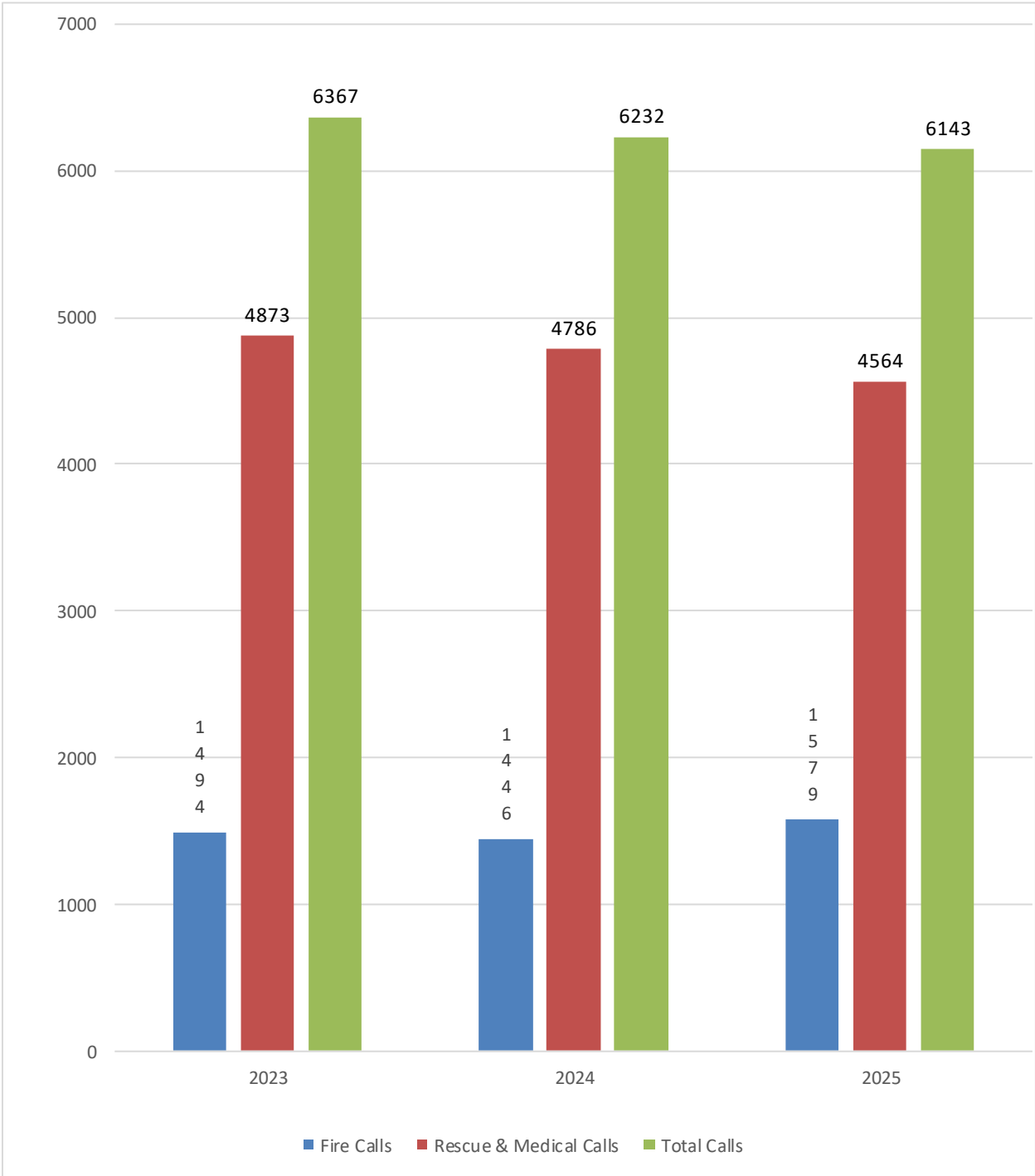
The Fire Prevention Bureau is responsible for conducting life safety and code compliance inspections of all businesses, commercial and industrial occupancies along with all schools and multi-family occupancies within the fire district. The Fire Prevention Bureau is staffed with 2 full-time fire inspectors who strive to meet the demands of an increasingly diverse occupancy inventory and maintain knowledge of everchanging technology and code enforcement practices. The approximate 1,567 buildings are inspected at the minimum annually and depending on the occupancy type they may be inspected on a semi-annual basis. The Fire Prevention Bureau works closely with the Village of Carol Stream Community Development, DuPage County & other towns and villages within our fire districts boundary to provide a safe place to work and live by reducing the risk of fire and life safety hazards. The Deputy Fire Chief is responsible for the management and daily operation of the Fire Prevention Bureau.



The Fire Prevention Bureau inspection duties include:

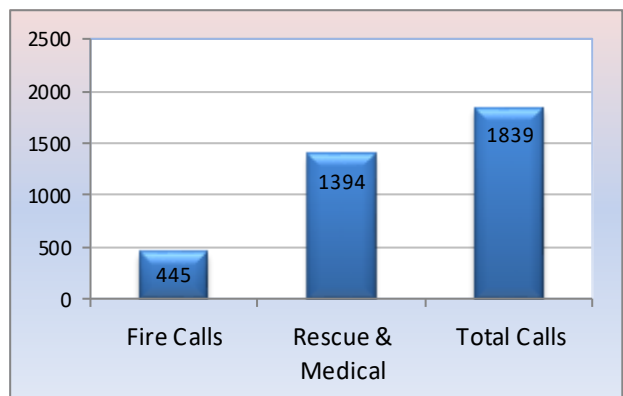
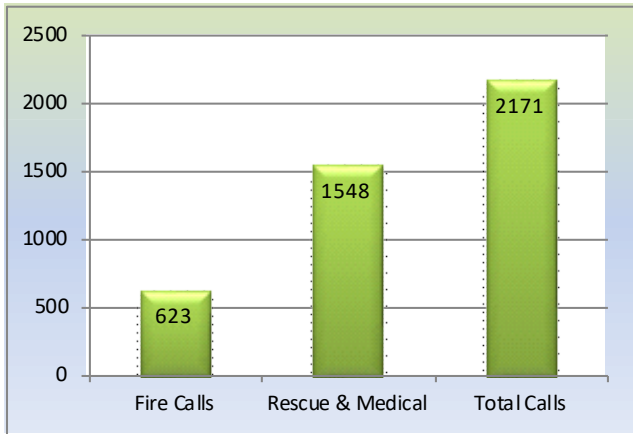
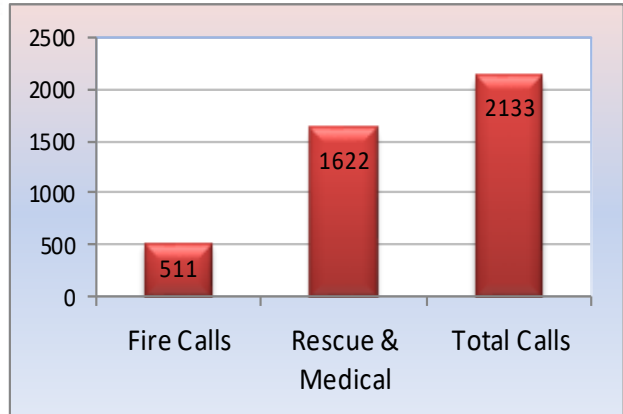
- Review fire alarm and sprinkler plans for both new construction and renovations.
- Re-inspections for code violations to ensure code compliance
- On-going construction permit inspection
- Final Installation inspections of Solar Panels on all types of occupancies.
- Final Occupancy inspections on renovated commercial structures and new structures.

2023~ 2025 Three Year Comparison of Fire, Rescue & Medical Calls



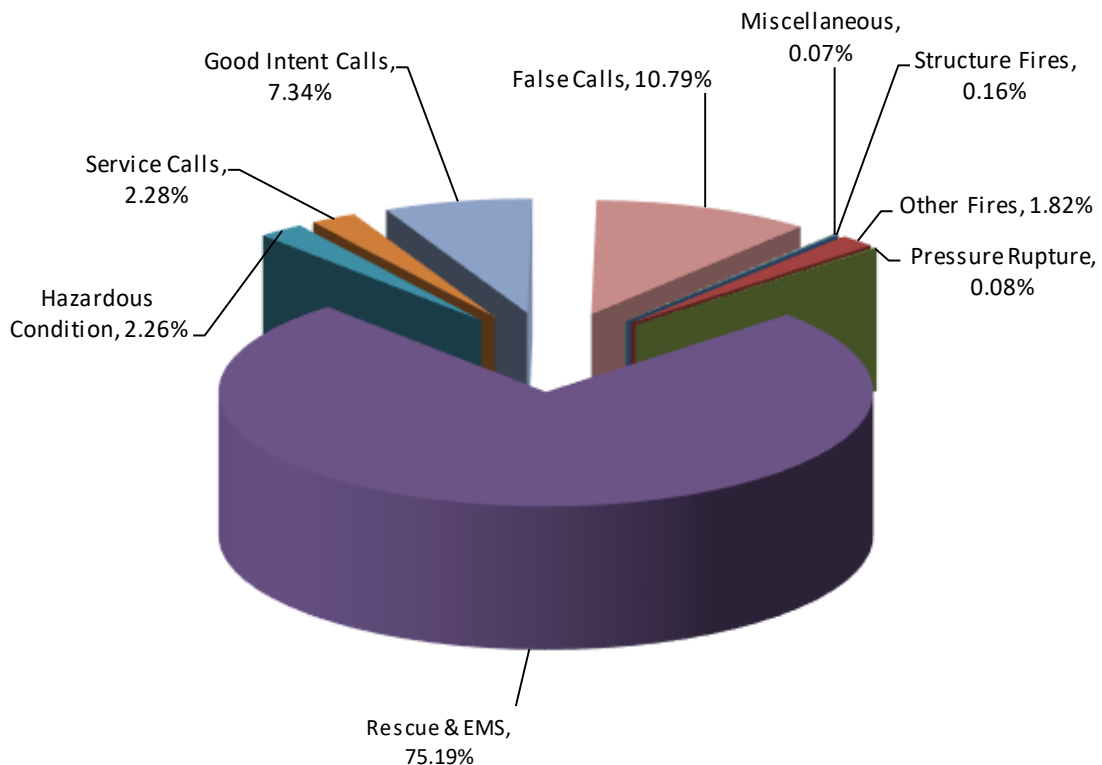


2025 Calls Handled by Station



2025 Fire District Responses By Incident Type

Incident Type	# of Incidents	% of Total Incidents	Incident Type	# of Incidents	% of Total Incidents
Structure Fires	10	0.74%	Service Calls	140	2.26%
Other Fires	112	1.27%	Good Intent Calls	451	7.19%
Pressure Rupture	5	0.03%	False Calls	663	9.42%
Rescue & EMS	4619	76.80%	Miscellaneous	4	0.37%
Hazardous Condition	139	1.93%			



2025 Rescue & EMS Responses Statistical Breakdown

Type of Call	# of Patients	% of Total Patients	Type of Call	# of Patients	% of Total Patients
Medical Emergencies	1885	41.30%	Psychiatric	302	6.62%
Traumatic Injuries	1201	26.31%	Overdose / Poisonings	72	1.58%
Vehicle Accidents	283	6.20%	Miscellaneous	85	1.86%
Breathing Related	379	8.30%	Obstetrical	15	.33%
Cardiac Related	342	7.49%			

