

# 2021

## ANNUAL REPORT



*“Effectively respond, continuously improve,  
compassionately serve”*

[www.centralpiercefire.org](http://www.centralpiercefire.org)



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PO Box 940  
Spanaway, WA 98387



## GOVERNANCE

### Elected Officials/Governing Body

Voters elect Fire Commissioners to represent the fire district. The Board of Fire Commissioners is responsible for providing administrative oversight, defining the district's long-term vision, and setting budgets.

**MATT HOLM**, Board Chair  
2018—2023

**STEVE STRINGFELLOW**, Board Vice Chair  
2020—2025

**RICH COLEMAN**, Board Member  
2018—2023

**BOB WILLIS**, Board Member  
2020—2025

**BILL ECKROTH**, Board Member  
2016—2021

**JULIE DOOR**, Ex-Officio/City of Puyallup  
Appointed

*Regular Board Meetings  
2nd & 4th Mondays—5:00 pm*

**Meetings are OPEN to the public**  
(Due to the ongoing COVID pandemic, all  
2021 meetings were held virtually)

[www.centralpiercefirer.org](http://www.centralpiercefirer.org)  
*About Your Department/  
Board of Commissioners*

*Board Agendas and Meeting Minutes  
are available on our website*

### ISO Fire Protection Class 3 Rating

An ISO rating is a statistical rating assigned to cities and fire districts. Many insurance companies refer to this rating to define fire risk factors within a community. A fire department's ISO rating may affect insurance premium costs to property owners within their boundaries. On a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being the best score, we are proud to have earned an ISO Rating of 3.



## FIRE CHIEF'S MESSAGE



**DUSTIN MORROW**  
**FIRE CHIEF**

First, let me take this opportunity to share my gratitude for being selected as the next Fire Chief for Central Pierce Fire & Rescue. I am humbled by the level of support offered by the community, the organization, and its members. I see positive pathways forward for

the organization, our people, and the communities we serve.

2021 was a very challenging year. COVID-19 continued to have its grip on the organization in many ways, including limiting our ability to connect directly with you in ways we have in years past. We are so excited that it appears relief is coming, and we will be able to reengage with the community in the manner you expect from us and the way we have missed over the last 12-24 months.

2022 will be filled with new opportunities for Central Pierce. We will be focusing on three primary initiatives:

- We will connect with the community to ensure they are informed and engaged around the renewal of our EMS Levy and our Fire Benefit Charge, as both items will be on the August Ballot.
- We will be intentional about our organizational culture. We will do this by focusing on our mission, modeling our values, managing our individual portion of the business, taking care of our people, and being sure to care for ourselves.

- In partnership with our Board of Fire Commissioners, IAFF Local 726, OPEIU Local 8, and staff, we will work towards the various solutions needed to responsibly grow the organization to provide an increased level of service to the community.

While celebrating the District's 25th anniversary, it is easy to look back and see the fantastic progress the organization has made. I am so pleased that we are taking the time to recognize and honor our past and commit to moving forward as your trusted emergency services provider.

Again, thank you for letting me serve as your Fire Chief. I welcome feedback from the community at any time. I can be reached via email at [dmorrow@centralpiercefirerescue.org](mailto:dmorrow@centralpiercefirerescue.org) or by phone at (253) 538-6475.

### **MISSION**

*Effectively respond, continuously improve, compassionately serve*

### **VISION**

- ◆ *Dedicated to internal and external customer service*
- ◆ *Committed to professional development*
- ◆ *Innovative and adaptable*
- ◆ *Determined to meet or exceed industry best practices*
- ◆ *Supporting of a culture of health, wellness, and safety*
- ◆ *Committed to systems and processes that are consistent and provide accountability*
- ◆ *Financially sustainable*

### **VALUES**

- ◆ *Commitment to excellence*
- ◆ *Respect*
- ◆ *Trust(worthiness)*
- ◆ *Integrity*
- ◆ *Competence and professionalism*
- ◆ *Compassion and selflessness*

## 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

### Lead Agency in Pediatric Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest Study

Our Emergency Medical Services Division partnered with Mary Bridge Children's Hospital to create a study that standardizes the care platform for pediatric cardiac arrests.

As the lead agency, we worked with local partners to develop a response plan that also established a pediatric medicine guide. This represents a significant modernization and science-based approach to pediatric care.

The program rolled out in June 2021 as a multi-year study to be evaluated annually. It will most likely take three years to acquire sufficient data to assess the true benefits and value of the plan.

We are proud to be at the forefront of this vital program.

### New Fire Station Coming to Puyallup National Guard Armory Location

Final negotiations took place to purchase the Armory in 2022, and move St. 73 from a shared building with the Puyallup Police Department to this location.

### Largest Dollar Loss Fire in History

In August, crews responded to the Washington Cold Storage Fire. Multiple organizations assisted in the fire response effort due to the massive size of the structure.

Deputy Fire Marshals and ATF Canine Officer Hansel worked with the Dept. of Ecology and the Federal ATF Bureau on safety and the investigation. Estimated losses, including inventory, were in the millions of dollars.

### "Push-in" Ceremony

Thanks to the community's continued support, we are grateful to have welcomed several new apparatus to the fleet.

The push-in ceremony honors a longstanding fire service tradition dating back to the 1800s when fire departments used hand-drawn pumpers and horse-drawn equipment. After a fire call, the horses could not easily back the equipment into the station after returning to the station.

Horses were disconnected from the fire equipment and firefighters would push the equipment back into the bays themselves. Today, the ceremony signifies retiring an old engine and putting a new engine into service.





## HISTORY

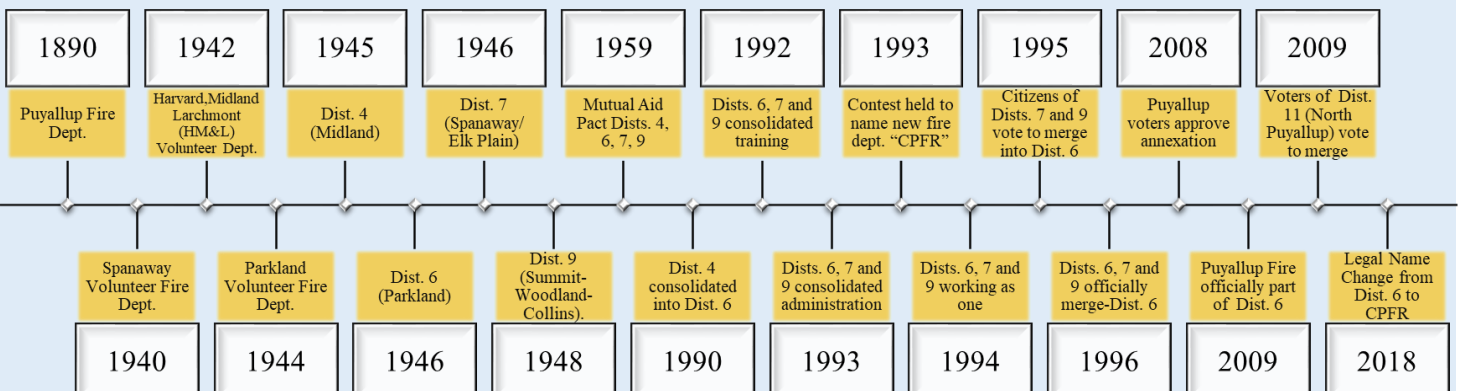
CPFR, also recognized as Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 6, was created in 1996 through the merging of Parkland, Midland, Spanaway/Elk Plain, and Summit/South Hill fire districts.

In 2009, Puyallup Fire Department annexed into our service area. In that same year, Fire District #11 (commonly referred to as North Puyallup Fire Department) merged with CPFR. Once the merger took place, District #11 was dissolved.

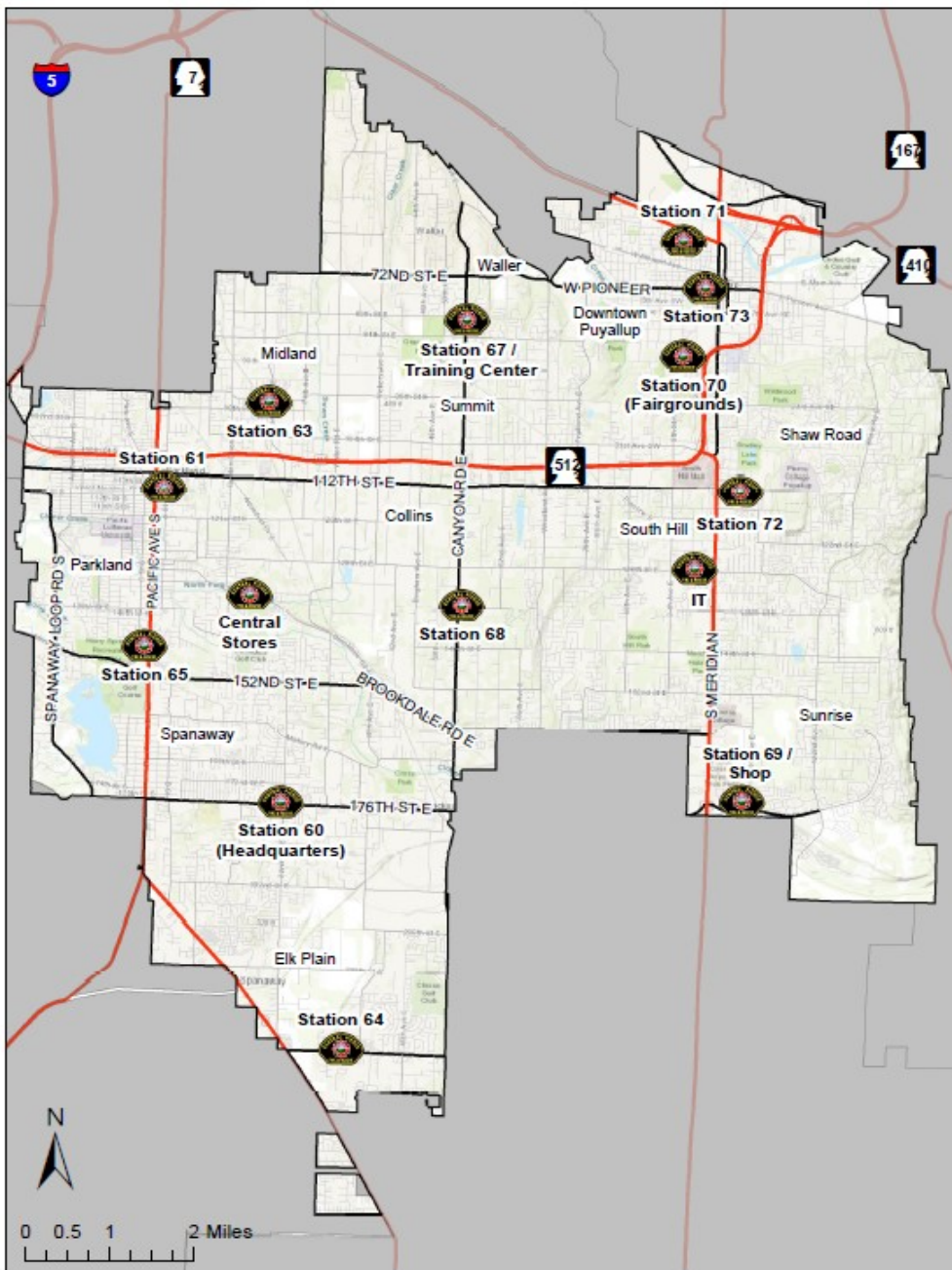
In December 2018, Pierce County Council approved a legal name change from Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 6 to Central Pierce Fire & Rescue.



Districts 4, 6, 7, and 9 shown in a 1959 Mutual Aid Pack agreement



## STATIONS AND APPARATUS



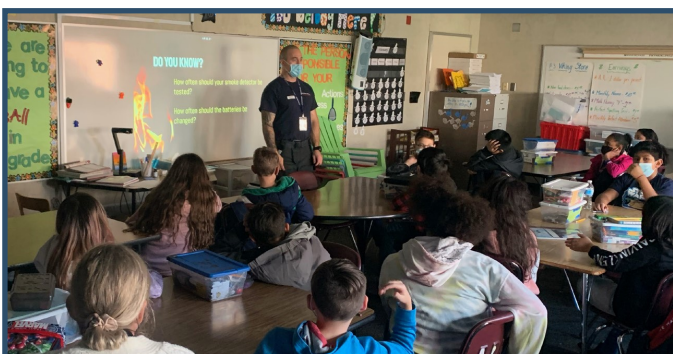
*Serving :*

**230,000**

Population

**84**

Square miles





## WORKFORCE

**Administration**—An Executive Staff that manages district business and provides support to all divisions.

**Finance**—Provides comprehensive management of all aspects of the district's finances and financial reporting.

**Human Resources**—Provides a wide-variety of support including hiring, salary and benefits, and bargaining unit negotiations.

**Prevention & Education**—Protects life and property through education, building design review, fire and life safety code enforcement, fire investigations, and community risk reduction programs.

**Operations**—Oversees and supports line personnel who respond to a wide variety of fire, rescue and medical emergencies.

**Emergency Medical Services**—Oversees and supports delivery of high-quality emergency medical services by emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and paramedics.

**Training**— Ensures that personnel at all levels have the knowledge, skills and abilities to safely and effectively respond to emergency calls for service.

**Health & Safety**—Goals are to eliminate accidents, injuries, exposures, damage to equipment/facilities and, sustain workforce mental & physical wellness.

**Logistics**—Oversees and supports facilities maintenance; apparatus, equipment and maintenance facility; and central receiving.

**Information Technology**—Responsible for the deployment of necessary technology infrastructure and equipment, and providing support assistance.

250

Uniformed Personnel  
(Suppression Firefighters,  
EMTs and Paramedics)

7

Shift Battalion Chiefs

17

Day Shift  
Uniformed Personnel

37

Non-uniformed Personnel

~ As of December 31, 2021

57

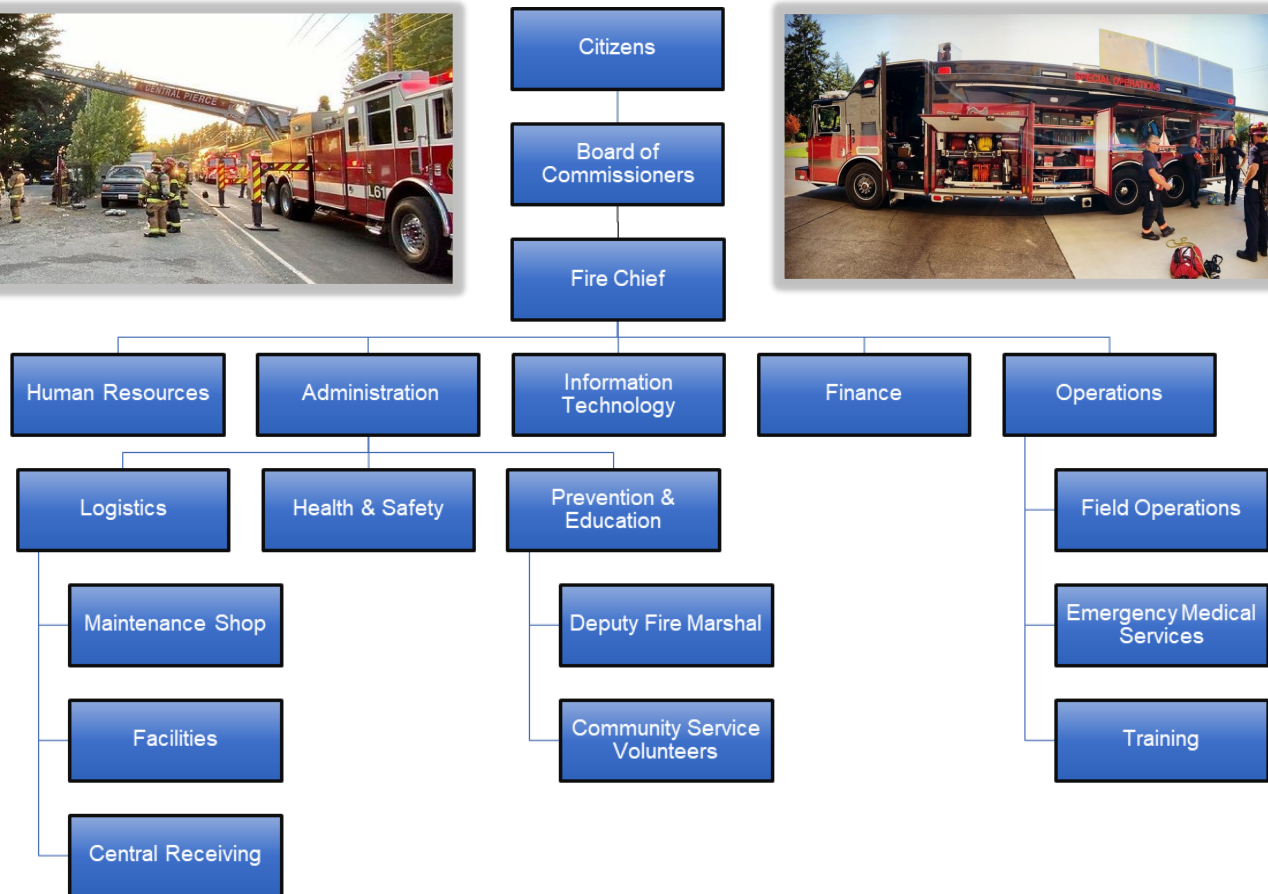
Suppression personnel  
on duty daily



**CONSIDER A CAREER IN THE FIRE SERVICE. WATCH OUR WEBSITE FOR OPENINGS!**



## ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



### Executive Staff

**Dustin Morrow**, Fire Chief  
**Russ Karns**, Deputy Chief Administration  
**Eric Stueve**, Deputy Chief Operations  
**Woody Juarez**, Assistant Chief Training  
**Guy Overby**, Assistant Chief Prevention/Education  
**Ron Kent**, Assistant Chief Field Operations

**Joe Bouchard**, Assistant Chief EMS  
**Radcliffe McKenzie**, Assistant Chief Health/Safety  
**Paul Stueve**, Assistant Chief Logistics  
**Suzi Washo**, Human Resources Director  
**Tanya Robacker**, Finance Director  
**Micah Scott-Ralston**, IT Director



### Move RIGHT for sirens and lights >>>>>>

*Each day we respond to motor vehicle accidents as part of our all-hazard response capacity.*

*Please help keep our responders safe by slowing down around the accident scene.*

## EMERGENCY RESPONSE OPERATIONS

### Field Operations

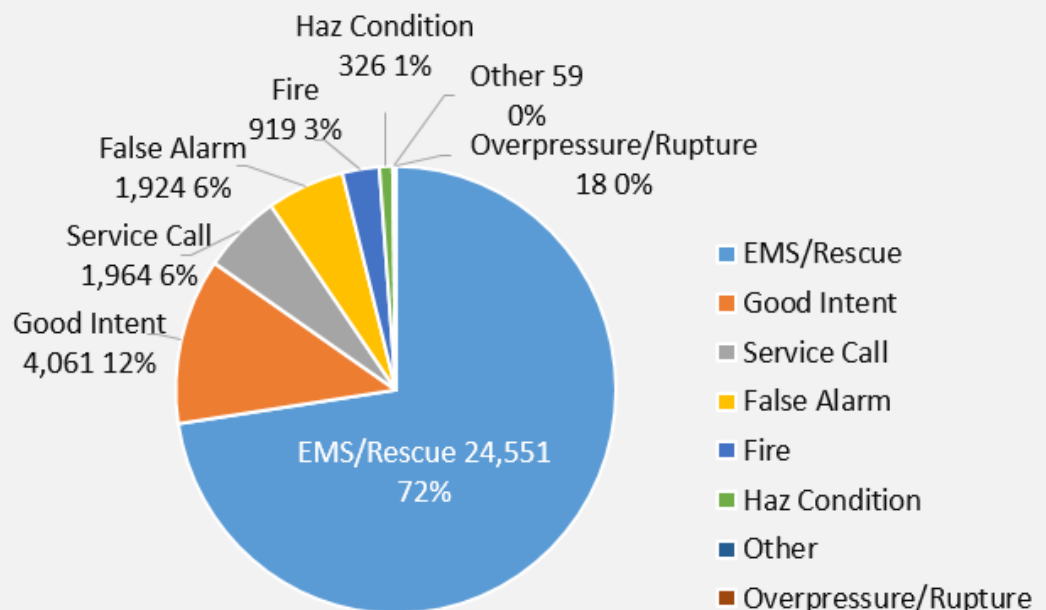
Central Pierce Fire & Rescue deploys its resources to support the “all-hazard response” capability required of the communities we serve. We have major transportation routes, significant waterways, rail transportation, and numerous industrial areas within the District. We also have a population of 230,000 expecting to be protected by our services.

We remain trained and ready to deal with a wide variety of emergencies that include fire suppression, emergency medical calls, hazardous materials mitigation, trench and confined space rescue, water and rope rescue, building collapse, and vehicle extrication.

Our highly trained firefighters and special operations units are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. We prioritize the health and safety of the communities we serve and strive to reduce risk by educating the public with both current and relevant information. It is our duty and our privilege to serve you, our neighbors.

### Special Teams

CPFR has two special operations teams: **Technical Rescue** and **Hazardous Materials**. Team members participate in additional training to handle highly complex incidents. Members are also part of regional and federal response teams that include surrounding fire departments.



## EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

The EMS Division provides clinical oversight of medical aid calls. All of our suppression firefighters are state-certified Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) or Paramedics.

**EMTs** provide basic emergency care and focus on rapidly evaluating a patient's condition, maintaining a patient's airway, breathing and circulation, controlling external bleeding, preventing shock, and preventing further injury or disability by immobilizing potential spinal or other bone fractures.

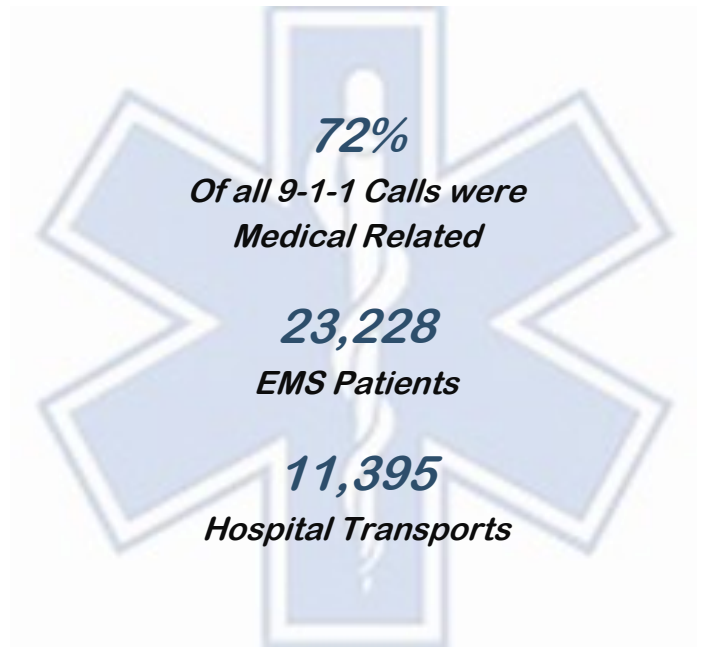
**PARAMEDICS** have additional medical training to include stabilizing critically ill patients, advance cardiac monitoring, administering medications and intravenous fluids, and inserting breathing tubes.

### PulsePoint Respond Mobile App

**PulsePoint**

[www.pulsepoint.org](http://www.pulsepoint.org)

- ⇒ *Help us save lives!*
- ⇒ *Alerts citizens to cardiac event nearby.*
- ⇒ *Allows users training in CPR and willing to help, to assist until first responders arrive.*
- ⇒ *See CPFR active units in real time.*
- ⇒ *Personal local emergency notifications.*



## 2021 Accomplishments

The Pediatric Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest study has been implemented for an entire year. It involves Mary Bridge Children's hospital as well as several surrounding fire departments. It has allowed us to provide the highest level of care to our pediatric patients and played a significant role in the cardiac arrest save of a three-month-old child.

Additionally, the study has led to a new training program called "Code A Quarter". It provides quarterly cardiac arrest training to all of our field personnel.

CPFR has revamped the Paramedic Airway Management training for Pierce County. The updated version has more realistic training aids, challenging scenarios, and the latest medicines and techniques. This training is now taught county-wide.

CPFR sent three firefighters to Tacoma Community College's paramedic program. Upon successful completion of the program, they will be mentored by CPFR paramedics and then serve as paramedics for our community.



## TRAINING

The Training Division oversees continuous training and development of all agency personnel while simultaneously hosting recruit academies. We achieve the best possible training by utilizing a variety of mediums including lectures, online courses, and hands-on drills at our state-of-the-art training center.

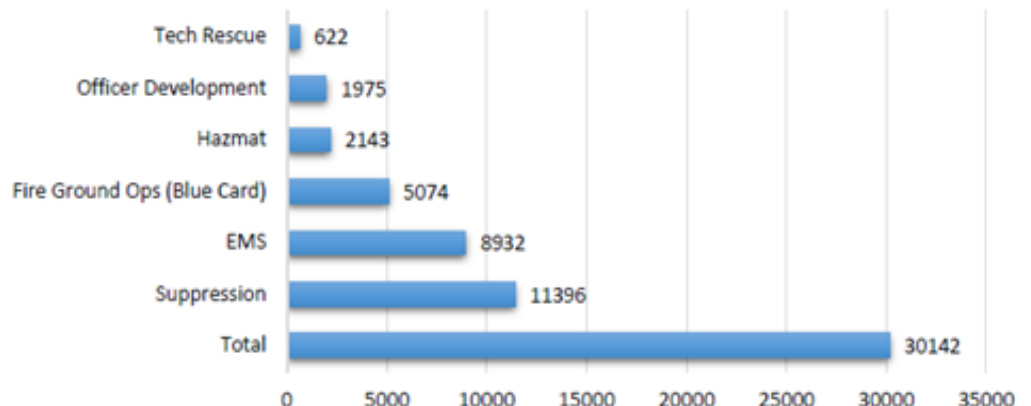
**ACADEMY:** Despite the continuous challenges brought forth by the COVID-19 pandemic, CPFR successfully developed and graduated thirteen new Firefighter-EMTs through our in-house recruit academy in 2021.



**CONTINUOUS TRAINING:** All firefighters at Central Pierce continue to build on and improve their skills by completing training in various categories such as suppression, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Fire Ground Operations, Hazardous Materials, Officer Development, and Technical Rescue. These categories encompass a wide variety of skills that ensure that we are adequately prepared for any emergency within our fire district.

Training has remained a top priority despite the hurdles encountered as we navigate the COVID-19 pandemic. Our Firefighters were able to complete 30,142 total training hours in 2021.

### Total Training Hours - 2021



## HEALTH & SAFETY / LOGISTICS

### Health & Safety

In 2021, the Health & Safety Division continued to support our communities and personnel as the SARS COVID-19 pandemic entered its second year. The division continued to collaborate with various external stakeholders to support their initiatives, such as mass vaccination clinics and medical standbys.

We maintained worker safety through updating procedures and processes to reflect current standards and changing environments.

The district's Hearing Conservation Program was updated to better identify and protect employee exposure to excessive noise while at work.

We were proud to participate in the WA State Firefighter Injury Illness Reduction Pilot Program.



### Logistics

The Logistics Division oversees the planning and maintenance of district facilities, vehicle maintenance and replacement, and procurement and distribution of supplies necessary to meet our mission.

**686**  
Facility Maintenance  
Requests

**936**  
Fleet Service Requests

**3**  
New Engines Placed in  
Service

**Central Stores**, our central receiving location, pulled and delivered:

1,826 station supply orders

1,512 EMS orders

A small example of what they delivered in 2021!

- Toners – 114 cartridges or 405,600 printed pages
- Paper Towels – 190,500 feet of paper towel
- Copy Paper – 170,000 sheets of paper
- Hand Soap – 147,450 ml of soap
- Notepads – 35,710 sheets of notepad paper
- Sticky Notes – 22,650 Post-it notes
- Trash Liners – 4,000 liners
- Pens – 2,076 pens



## PREVENTION &amp; EDUCATION

## Public Education

Most of our regular activities were still paused due to restrictions.



Celebrating National Night Out.



Birthday drive-bys were a big hit again this year. Hansel crashed a few parties!



We were pleased to bring Santa back to our communities.

## Prevention/Inspection

**1,365**

**Building Inspections**

**669**

**Violations Found**

**580**

**Violations Cleared**

**193**

**Operational Permits  
Issued within City of  
Puyallup**

**140**

**PLU Student Nurses  
provided Mass Casualty  
Training by DFMs**

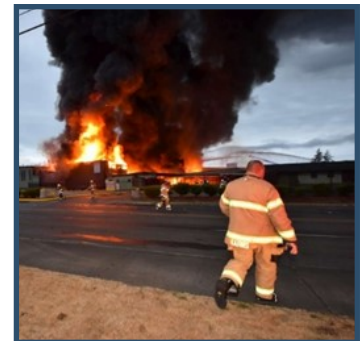
**3,000**

**People attended Hansel's  
demonstrations at the  
Fall Fair**

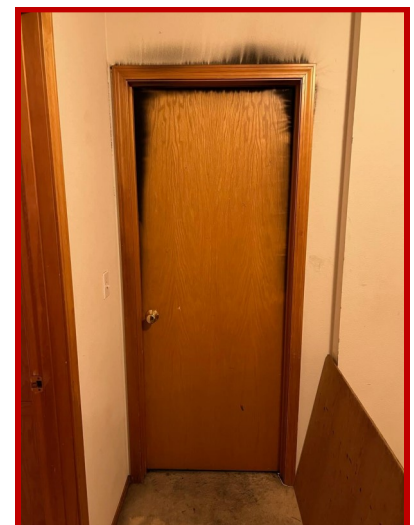
## Fire Investigation



ATF Officer Hansel was requested 22 times by outside agencies to provide his expertise!



Deputy Fire Marshal's engaged in 53 fire investigations, including the Washington Cold Storage facility.



**Evidence shows that during a fire,  
closed-door rooms:**

**CL**  
**BEFORE YOU DOZE**

- ◆ Experience much less temperature gain
- ◆ Contain much lower levels of carbon monoxide
- ◆ Allow more time to escape
- ◆ Have healthier breathing air for longer period of time for those trying to escape
- ◆ Fire contained to one area, grows slower in size



## BUDGET & FINANCE

### 2021 District Assessed Value—\$29,838,098,935

#### FUNDING

The majority of funding is received from two voter-approved initiatives—the EMS levy and Fire Benefit Charge. These two funding sources contributed to 41% of the overall budget in 2021.

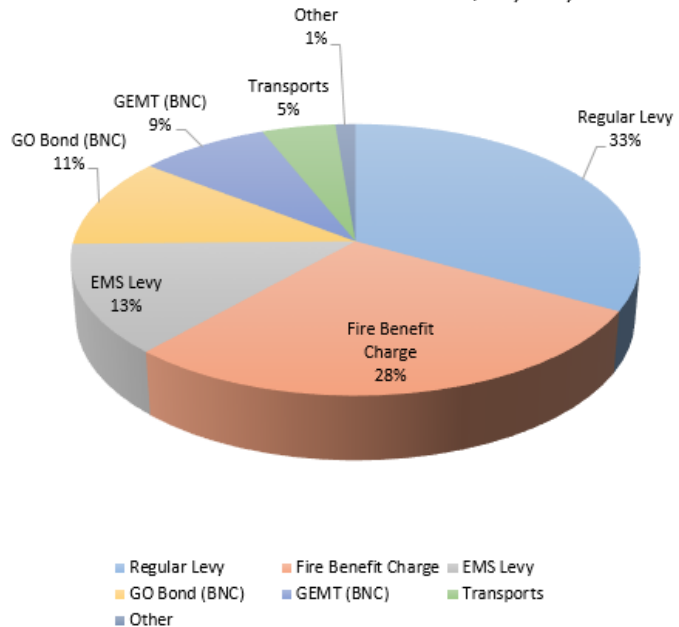
#### PROGRAM EXPENSES

The CPFR budget is broken down into seven major Divisions:

- Operations, Suppression, EMS
- Logistics (Facilities, Maintenance Shop, Central Stores)
- Administration
- Equipment/Capital/GEMT\*
- Information Technology
- Training
- Prevention & Education

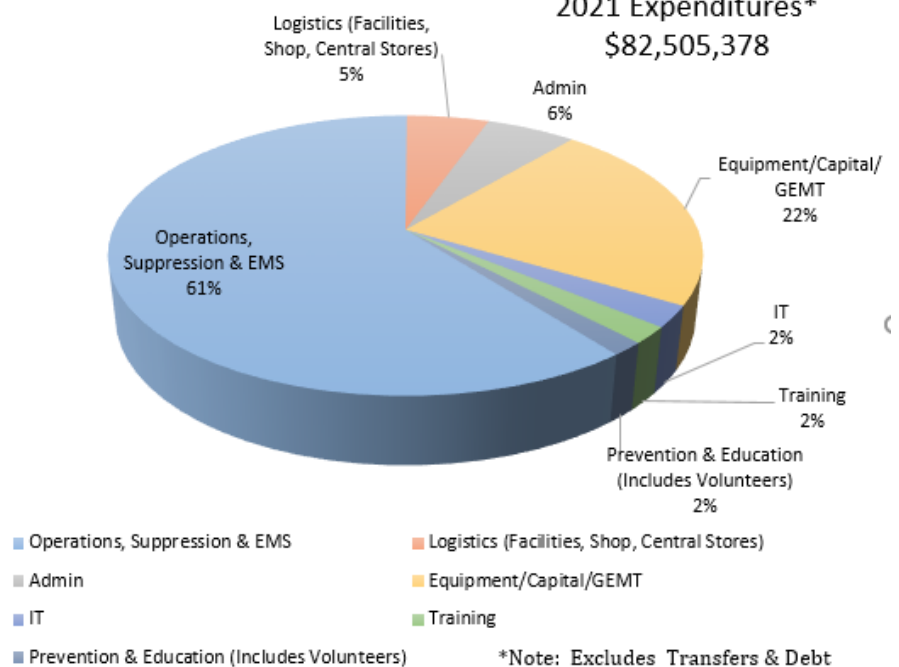
\*Ground Emergency Medical Transportation program

2021 Revenue Budget\*  
\$84,778,963



\* Note: Excludes Transfers & Debt

2021 Expenditures\*  
\$82,505,378





*Follow us on social media:*



@CPFR\_PIO



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