

# FIRE & LIFE SAFETY

Chris Heppel, Interim Fire Chief

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## Department Overview

The Cities of Springfield and Eugene consolidated their fire departments via an intergovernmental agreement in 2010. Operating as Eugene Springfield Fire, the three-battalion system provides services that prevent the loss of life and property and protect the environment not only within the boundaries of those two cities, but services extend to the urban growth boundaries and East Lane Ambulance Services areas. The City of Springfield contracts to provide fire, rescue, and emergency services to the Glenwood and Rainbow Water Districts and a portion of the Willakenzie Fire Protection District, providing fire suppression services to 20 square miles and an ambulance service area of 1,452 square miles.

Departmental services include fire protection and prevention; firefighting; basic and advanced life support and ambulance transportation; illness and injury prevention; special rescue; hazardous materials control; fire safety education; code enforcement; and fire investigation. Administration in the department supports the direct departmental services for finances, technology, logistics and facilities, as well as ambulance billing services. Additionally, the department performs ambulance billing services for two other jurisdictions throughout the State.

	FY19 Actuals	FY20 Actuals	FY21 Amended	FY22 Proposed
5 PERSONNEL SERVICES	15,505,094	15,319,034	15,838,660	15,827,562
6 MATERIALS & SERVICES	4,153,899	4,418,859	4,911,010	4,847,100
7 CAPITAL OUTLAY	411,562	92,611	1,765,000	118,800
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 20,070,555</b>	<b>\$ 19,830,503</b>	<b>\$ 22,514,670</b>	<b>\$ 20,793,462</b>

\*5, 6 & 7 indicated in table above are the numeric categories used in the general ledger to represent the different expense types.

## Budget Summary – FY2022

### Staffing

In FY22, the staffing levels for Springfield Fire and Life Safety will be reduced by 1 full time equivalent (FTE) position in EMS Billing Program 1102. The remaining 90 FTE include 57.6 FTE supported by the General Fund, 26 FTE supported by the Ambulance Fund, 7 FTE funded by the Fire Option Levy Fund, and 0.4 FTE funded by the Building Code Fund.

### Department Funding

Fire Operations are funded through General Fund sources and the Fire Local Option Levy, as well as by fees for service including fire suppression services for other fire districts, ambulance transport fees and billing services, FireMed membership fees, and building permits and inspection fees.

### Service Level Changes

No service level changes to the Springfield community are anticipated in FY22. The Department decided to reduce our footprint on offering Ambulance Billing for outside agencies in FY22 and did not renew contracts that have not been cost effective. This change allowed for the reduction of 1 FTE in the Ambulance Billing Department.

## Accomplishments FY21

- **COVID Response** – The Department’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic has been an ever-changing accomplishment in FY21. At the onset of the pandemic the Department took lead on standing up the emergency operations center for the local response to the outbreak. This response evolved into leveraging Federal CARES dollars to secure personal protective equipment stocks, acquire and deploy decontamination equipment, and aid in the vaccination rollout and administration.
- **Conflagration season** – The summer of 2020 was the largest Conflagration response for the Department in recent history, with responses to eight separate wildfires. Eugene Springfield Fire invoiced the Oregon State Fire Marshal’s office over \$352,000 for Springfield’s share of these efforts, the largest of which was the Holiday Farm Fire which accounted for \$258,000 of the reimbursement packet.
- **Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)** – The Department replaced its inventory of SCBAs for all line staff. The new SCBA model replaces an aging platform originally deployed in 2012 that was experiencing a high level of warranty failures including freeze ups and high-pressure failures, as well as first breath failures.
- **Ground Emergency Medical Transport Program** – The Department completed FY20 filing documents for the Ground Emergency Medical Transport (GEMT) program, bringing in an additional \$336,000 in revenue. The GEMT program makes supplemental payments to eligible GEMT providers who furnish qualifying emergency ambulance services to Oregon Health Authority Medicaid recipients.
- **Records Management Software** – The Department transitioned multiple records management software solutions to one cloud-based platform. Frontline Staff moved to ImageTrend for electronic patient care reporting on Dec. 30, 2020, with ambulance billing transitioning on Jan. 1, 2021. The billing transition to a cloud-based platform allowed the reduction of time and energy to maintain the prior system on Springfield servers. The Fire Marshal’s office will move to the ImageTrend platform next. Also implemented in FY21 was a new training platform, TargetSolutions, which allows for distance, self, and asymmetric learning for crews.
- **Apparatus Updates** – One Springfield fire engine and one Springfield ambulance were replaced in FY21 under the normal age and mileage replacement schedule. The MDC upgrade was completed in all Springfield engines, as well as the transition from Panasonic ToughBooks to iPads which are more reliable, easier to use, and come at a lower cost point.
- **MedBank** – Eugene Springfield Fire transitioned away from a hospital-facilitated process to purchasing and managing their own pharmaceutical inventory of both controlled and noncontrolled pharmaceuticals that are used in the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system. After a competitive selection process, the contract was awarded to MedBank and the new medication delivery system was implemented during winter FY21.
- **Standards of Cover and Risk Assessment** – The Department published an update of its Standards of Coverage, a report that addresses the emergency response resources and deployment strategies necessary to deliver a defined level of emergency service. A Community Risk Assessment was also completed in FY21, which allows us to define an overall risk profile, identify organizational vulnerabilities and areas of susceptibility, and evaluate risk reduction strategies. Both reports are available on the Department website.

## Initiatives FY2022

- **2020 Olympic Trials and 2021 World Games** – The Department is actively planning and preparing for the rescheduled 2020 Olympic Trials and rescheduled 2021 World Games being held in our community and the anticipated additional people these events will bring into our cities.
- **Radio System Replacement** – Strategic Services is exploring solutions to replace the current radio system with one better suited to operate in our urban environment, which is growing increasingly structurally dense. Further, the age of the current inventory presents challenges for maintenance because the parts are no longer manufactured.
- **2019 Fire Code permit and inspection fee alignment** – The Fire Marshal’s Office is working on aligning permit and inspection fees that need to be amended to coincide with the adoption of new 2019 Fire Code using consistent methodology within the Department.

## Three Year Considerations FY2023-FY2025

- **Population and Call Volume** – There was a steady increase in emergency responses over the last five years with the exception of the COVID-19 dip in call volume due to the pandemic. Call volume started to return to pre-COVID levels in FY21 and increased response volume is expected to continue with population growth and an aging population. The department will continue to update our Standards of Cover which will serve as the basis for strategic future growth planning, including future land acquisition needs and station placement.
- **Ambulance Transport Fund** – Even with a projected increase in call volume, revenues within the Ambulance Fund do not keep pace with rising expenditures. Nearly 80% of all patients transported are covered by Medicare or Medicaid, which establish capitated fee schedules. These fee schedules have remained flat or shown only moderate increases (less than 2% annually) in the last few years. GEMT was enacted to address the resulting shortfall and its implementation by Oregon Health Authority in FY20 has helped capture more revenue for the Ambulance Fund and is anticipated to continue to do so. The COVID-19 impact to the Ambulance Fund as ambulance transport services have declined is expected to stabilize with community recovery. However, expenditures are projected to continue outpacing revenues in the coming years, leaving a gap that will need to be funded.
- **Fire Inspection Resources** – The Fire Marshal’s Office is evaluating restructuring its staffing model through the creation of an entry level fire inspector classification. With only 2.0 FTE funded in the City of Springfield, it is difficult for staff to complete all high-hazard occupancies in a timely fashion, (i.e. assisted living facilities, memory care facilities, hazard material operations, etc.). The primary job duty of the fire inspector classification would be fire code inspections, differing from the multifaceted responsibilities of a deputy fire marshal. This would increase inspection capacity beyond mandated or complaint-initiated inspections, allowing us to prioritize inspections based on risk. The Fire Marshal’s Office will continue to evaluate options for improving inspection rates and reducing community risks with current available staff, but additional staffing will be needed to make a significant impact.

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- **Eugene Springfield Consolidation Evaluation** – The Cities of Springfield and Eugene consolidated their fire departments via an intergovernmental agreement in 2010. This consolidation of departments created a Three Battalion System to provide an integrated response to fire-service related emergencies regardless of the emergency’s location while each City retains full budget authority over its expenditures. This consolidation has worked smoothly in many operational areas and presented challenges in many administrative areas. The Department needs to continually evaluate the consolidation and look for areas of improvement.

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## Financial Summary by Fund

	FY19 Actuals	FY20 Actuals	FY21 Amended	FY22 Proposed
100 General Fund	11,543,031	11,696,241	12,258,148	12,302,070
224 Building Code Fund	57,915	62,260	77,340	80,701
235 Fire Local Option Levy Fund	1,513,175	1,366,563	1,578,669	1,589,299
615 Ambulance Fund	6,542,731	6,612,393	6,761,513	6,681,492
713 Vehicle & Equipment Fund	413,703	93,045	1,839,000	139,900
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 20,070,555</b>	<b>\$ 19,830,503</b>	<b>\$ 22,514,670</b>	<b>\$ 20,793,462</b>

## Financial Summary by Program

	FY19 Actuals	FY20 Actuals	FY21 Amended	FY22 Proposed
1006 Economic Development Agency Funding	277,077	-	-	-
1030 Building Plan Review	94,104	102,051	118,814	127,075
1039 Development Review	28,947	31,832	33,160	34,638
1090 Fire & Arson Investigation	65,177	55,746	68,008	70,206
1091 Community Risk Reduction	148,079	30,780	163,858	177,577
1092 Plan Review	378	-	-	-
1093 Apparatus & Equipment Maintenance	261,853	302,820	366,000	329,350
1096 Fire Suppression Operations	11,345,980	11,482,374	12,060,913	12,187,437
1097 Dispatch and Communication	763,874	755,516	880,641	881,641
1098 Training & Development	453,190	550,956	374,891	411,450
1099 EMS Operations	4,628,110	4,199,458	4,353,787	4,574,918
1100 Fire Logistics	435,882	151,275	453,000	218,483
1102 EMS Billing - Enterprise	282,261	356,623	559,509	462,107
1103 EMS Billing - Springfield	471,313	609,444	83,825	-
1104 FireMed	405,035	209,629	172,849	183,422
1105 Community Outreach	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
1106 BLS Operations	108,513	451,743	303,500	303,500
7000 Department Administration	290,783	436,273	672,915	681,759
7060 Property & Liability	-	769	-	-
9000 Non-Program	-	93,045	1,839,000	139,900
7022 City Facilities Operations, Maintenance and Custodial Services	-	169	-	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 20,070,555</b>	<b>\$ 19,830,503</b>	<b>\$ 22,514,670</b>	<b>\$ 20,793,462</b>

Notes:

- Program 1006 FY19 Actuals of \$277,077 represents a coding error. This amount should have been coded to program 1106 BLS Operations.
- Program 1103 FY21 Proposed is reduced to zero to reflect merging this program into program 1102.
- Program 9000 FY21 Proposed reflects an accounting change for recording Fund 713 vehicle and equipment replacement items.

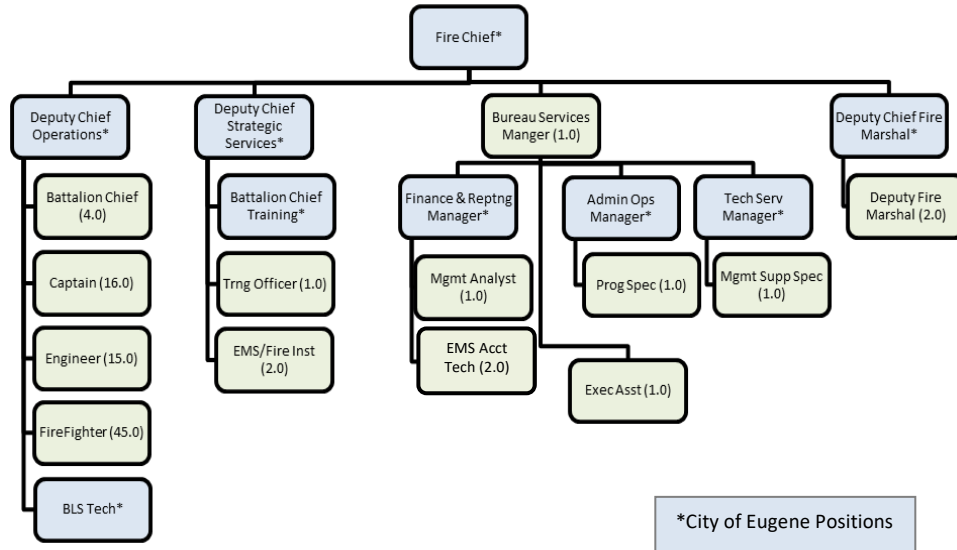
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## Organizational Structure



## Summary of Full-Time Equivalent by Position

	FY19 FTE	FY20 FTE	FY21 FTE	FY22 FTE
Basic Life Support Technician	5.90	5.90	--	--
Deputy Fire Marshal 2	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
Ems Accounting Tech	4.00	4.00	3.00	2.00
EMS Instructor	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
EMS/Fire Instructor	--	1.00	--	--
Executive Assistant	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Fire Battalion Chief (Ops)	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Fire Captain	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00
Fire Engineer	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00
Firefighter	29.00	29.00	29.00	29.00
Firefighter 53	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
Firemed Temp	0.75	0.75	--	--
Management Analyst	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Office Supervisor	1.00	1.00	--	--
Program Specialist	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Services Bureau Manager	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Training Officer	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Firefighter 40	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00
Application Tech Specialist	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.65</b>	<b>101.65</b>	<b>92.00</b>	<b>91.00</b>

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## Summary of Full-Time Equivalent by Fund

	FY19 FTE	FY20 FTE	FY21 FTE	FY22 FTE
100 General Fund	57.60	58.60	57.60	57.60
224 Building Code Fund	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40
235 Fire Local Option Levy Fund	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00
615 Ambulance Fund	35.65	35.65	27.00	26.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.65</b>	<b>101.65</b>	<b>92.00</b>	<b>91.00</b>

## Summary of Full-Time Equivalent by Program

	FY19 FTE	FY20 FTE	FY21 FTE	FY22 FTE
1030 Building Plan Review	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.65
1039 Development Review	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
1090 Fire & Arson Investigation	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.35
1091 Community Risk Reduction	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80
1096 Fire Suppression Operations	61.00	61.00	61.00	61.00
1098 Training & Development	2.00	3.00	2.00	2.00
1099 EMS Operations	20.00	19.00	19.00	19.00
1102 EMS Billing - Enterprise	2.00	3.05	3.00	2.00
1103 EMS Billing - Springfield	3.00	1.95	0.00	0.00
1104 FireMed	2.75	1.75	0.00	0.00
1106 BLS Operations	5.90	5.90	0.00	0.00
7000 Department Administration	2.00	4.00	5.00	5.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.65</b>	<b>101.65</b>	<b>92.00</b>	<b>91.00</b>