

24-25

Truckee Meadows Fire & Rescue

Report to the Community

Washoe County, Nevada





"Committed to excellence, service, and the protection of life and property in our community."



Board of Fire Commissioners

From left to right:

Alexis Hill, Chair - District 1

Mike Clark - District 2

Mariluz Garcia - District 3

Clara Andriola - District 4

Jeanne Herman, Vice-Chair - District 5

TMFPD is a political subdivision of the State of Nevada. The Fire District was created by Washoe County in accordance with NRS 474.460 and is governed by the Board of Fire Commissioners. Regular meetings of the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. at the Washoe County Building, 1001 E. 9th Street, Reno, Nevada. You may find agendas posted on our website at www.tmfpd.us.



@TMFPD



Message from the Board Chair

Dear Members of the Community,

The year 2024 was an impactful year for the community; a year in which several significant wildfires threatened our region across multiple jurisdictions. 2024 tested our resolve and preparation.

The year brought the Davis Fire, one of the more devastating fires for Truckee Meadows in recent memory. The wind-driven fire burned fourteen structures, over five thousand acres, and threatened to explode into a conflagration with the potential to displace hundreds. Fortunately, there was no loss of life as a result of the incident.

Strong collaboration with our partner agencies here at home, and across the nation, brought help and support, ultimately stopping the fire. Agencies from southern Nevada staffed Truckee Meadows Fire Stations during the blaze, providing much-needed relief for our fire crews. We appreciate the widespread community support our firefighters and first responders received during this challenging time.

In 2024, we implemented an automatic and mutual aid agreement with the City of Reno Fire Department for fire and emergency services in most areas throughout Washoe County, similar to what we put in place with the City of Sparks a few years back. The agreement enables dispatchers to send the closest resource, reducing response times and increasing the potential to save lives.

This year, we broke ground on an expansion of Fire Station 37, which serves the community of Hidden Valley. The project will be completed in late 2025 with new and larger apparatus bays, offices, and other facilities. It will provide a beautiful addition to the Hidden Valley community.

I am extremely proud of the dedication of our firefighters and paramedics, who valiantly and compassionately serve our citizens every day. We are grateful for the support of our citizens and stakeholders, and we value your continued support.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alexis Hill', written in a cursive style.

Alexis Hill, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Chair





Message from the Interim Fire Chief

On behalf of the men and women of TMFR, I would like to provide you with an overview of 2024. The summer of 2024 will go down in history as one of the most challenging wildfire seasons we have faced.

Our TMFR firefighters and community members were pushed to their absolute limits. The vital messages we always stress were put to the test and the messages we often sermonize, “be prepared to evacuate” and “reduce the fuel to minimize the risk”, proved to be essential components of the fire defense last summer. These precautions truly made a difference.

Community fire safety is a strong partnership between all of us. In the face of nature’s forces, such as wind, drought, and rugged terrain, we can enhance our resilience and ensure a safer future for everyone.

Our efforts in advanced life support paramedic services and our partnership with REMSA resulted in many positive outcomes and lives saved.

TMFR expends considerable time in the preparation for emergency response, and minimizing a fire’s impact through prevention. We are grateful for the many community partners that engage with us, including Washoe County, the Washoe County Sheriff’s Office, REMSA, the Northern Nevada chapter of the American Red Cross, and the Trauma Intervention Program (TIP).

At the beginning of 2025, we said farewell to our retiring Fire Chief, Charles Moore, who helped guide the district to a financially sustainable and full-service response agency. As we look forward to the future, our commitment to offer you professional and well-managed services is paramount to what we do.

Thank you for working to create defensible space around your homes and using our free green-waste disposal program. Each year, citizens harvest hundreds of thousands of cubic yards of dry brush, and the district recycles the material in an environmentally friendly way.

Please let us know how we can be of service to you in the year ahead.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dale Way".

Dale Way, Interim Fire Chief





Data and Statistics Overview

TMFR responds to all types of requests for assistance. Some calls for help are threatening to life or property, and others are not. Still, the full effect of what happens in our community is realized if the responses are documented, reported, shared, and analyzed.

Data is a critical business asset and an effective component in the management of our resources. The fire district uses the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) to report its responses to the public and the U.S. Fire Administration.

Incidents are categorized into nine (9) types:

- Fire
- Ruptures, Explosions, and Overheat (with no fire)
- Rescue and Emergency Medical Service (EMS)
- Hazardous Conditions (with no fire)
- Service Call
- Good Intent Call
- False Alarm and False Call
- Severe Weather and Natural Disaster
- Special Incident Types

TMFR uses data to identify trends, quantify activities, determine causes, plan the deployment of limited resources, and reduce the loss of life and property caused by fires.

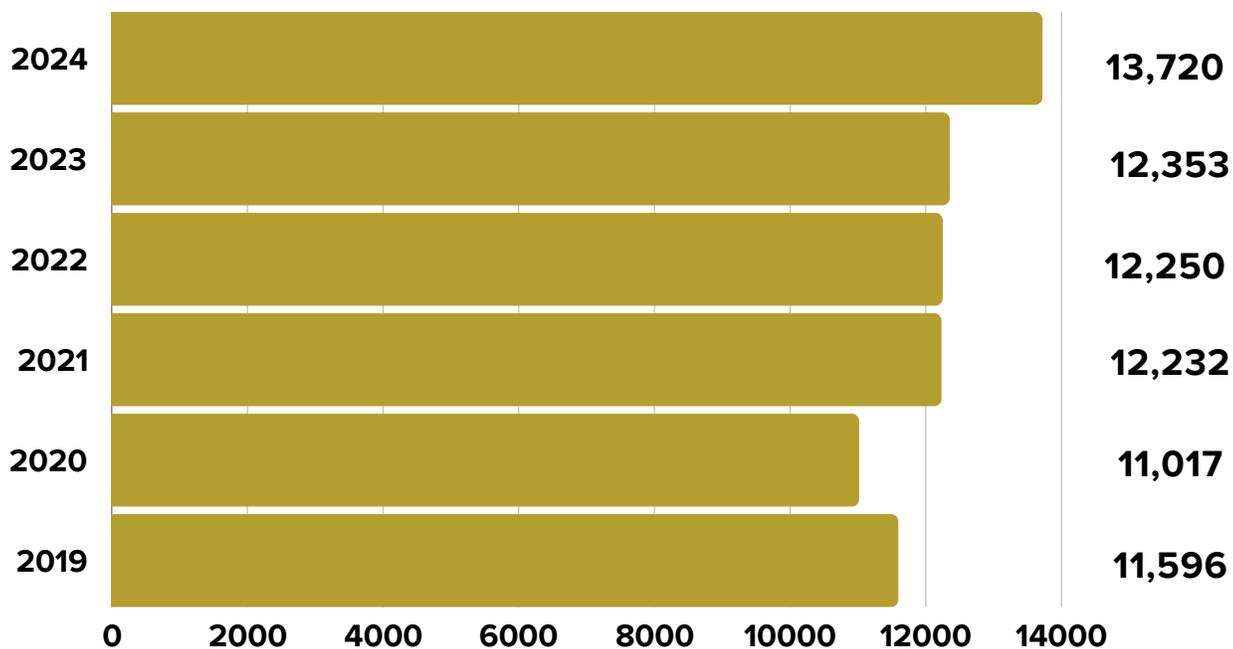


Aggregate Responses by Year - 2024

Implementation of automatic aid, where the response is made by the closest emergency resource regardless of jurisdiction has had an effect on the increase of aggregate responses in 2024. Total call volume increased by 11.1%, representing a total of 1,367 additional responses from the previous year.

The district has put new software in place to count these specific mutual aid calls in the future, for both responses given and received.

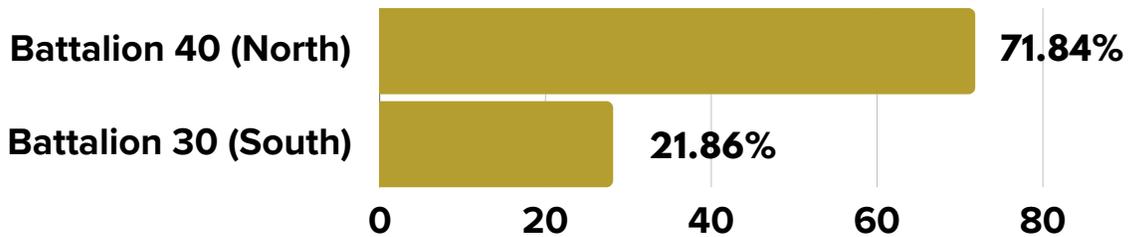
Total Responses by Year





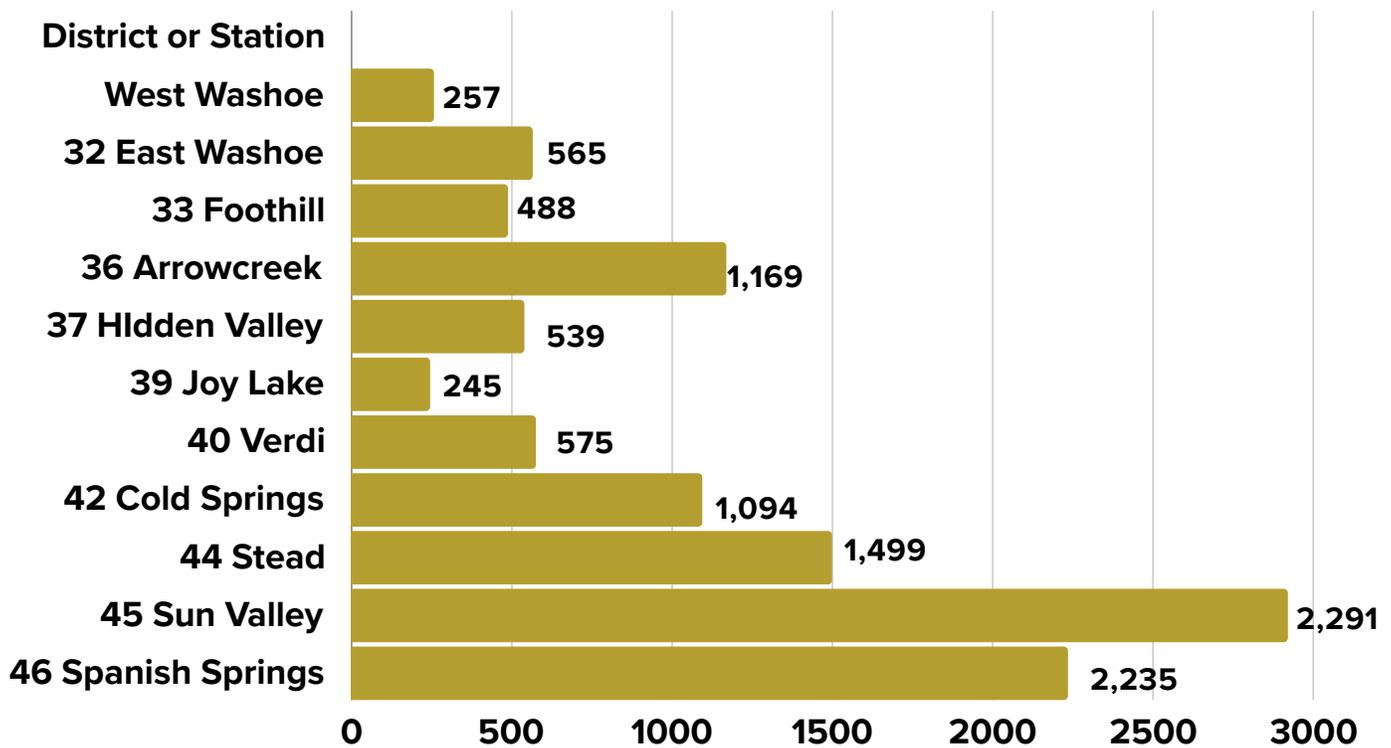
Aggregate Responses by Fire Station & Community

The number of responses tracks higher in the northern half of the district. The comparison between north and south battalions excludes aid to other jurisdictions outside of the TMFR boundary.



Fire stations in the north battalion include Verdi, Sun Valley, Spanish Springs, Stead and Cold Springs. The South battalion includes Eastlake (Washoe Valley) Arrowcreek, Joy Lake Foothill, and Hidden Valley

Each fire station is indicated by its station number and the community served.





2024 Detail Responses by Fire Station

Detail Response by Fire Station - North Battalion

Station Number	40	42	44	45	46	Total
Building Fire	3	1	6	20	9	39
Cooking Fire	0	0	2	4	0	6
Wildland Fire	16	7	15	18	19	75
Vehicle Fire	5	6	6	15	4	36
Other Fire	3	4	21	27	25	80
FALSE	19	35	26	48	69	197
Hazardous Condition	14	12	32	49	28	135
Service Call	21	65	66	162	84	398
Good Intent	137	166	429	322	279	1333
Micellaneous	0	0	1	1	2	4
Emergency Medical	303	765	848	2067	1601	5584
Vehicle Accident w/ Injuries	18	18	22	81	63	202
Vehicle Accident w/o Injuries	32	14	19	104	50	219
Rescue	3	1	5	1	2	12
Explosion / Rupture	1	0	1	1	2	5
Total	575	1094	1499	2920	2237	8323

Verdi Stead Cold Springs Sun Valley Spanish Springs

Detail Response by Fire Station - South Battalion

Station Number	32	33	36	37	39	Total
Building Fire	4	5	2	2	0	13
Cooking Fire	2	0	0	0	0	2
Wildland Fire	14	5	7	13	2	41
Vehicle Fire	6	1	3	1	1	12
Other Fire	6	8	4	3	2	23
FALSE	22	15	59	18	8	122
Hazardous Condition	12	9	24	3	2	50
Service Call	60	32	67	18	8	185
Good Intent	175	118	253	196	77	819
Micellaneous	0	0	0	1	0	1
Emergency Medical	423	288	692	251	98	1752
Vehicle Accident w/ Injuries	50	2	25	16	14	107
Vehicle Accident w/o Injuries	53	5	30	12	16	116
Rescue	4	0	1	4	2	11
Explosion / Rupture	1	0	2	1	0	4
Total	832	488	1169	539	230	3258

Washoe Valley Arrowcreek Foothill Hidden Valley Joy Lake



2024 Year in Review

Wildfire Summary

2024 was one of the most challenging wildfire seasons on record, evidenced by extreme wind-driven fire behavior, unprecedented impacts on citizens and communities, ecosystems, and emergency response resources. Marked by high complexity, the fire suppression effort underscored the growing intensity of wildfires.

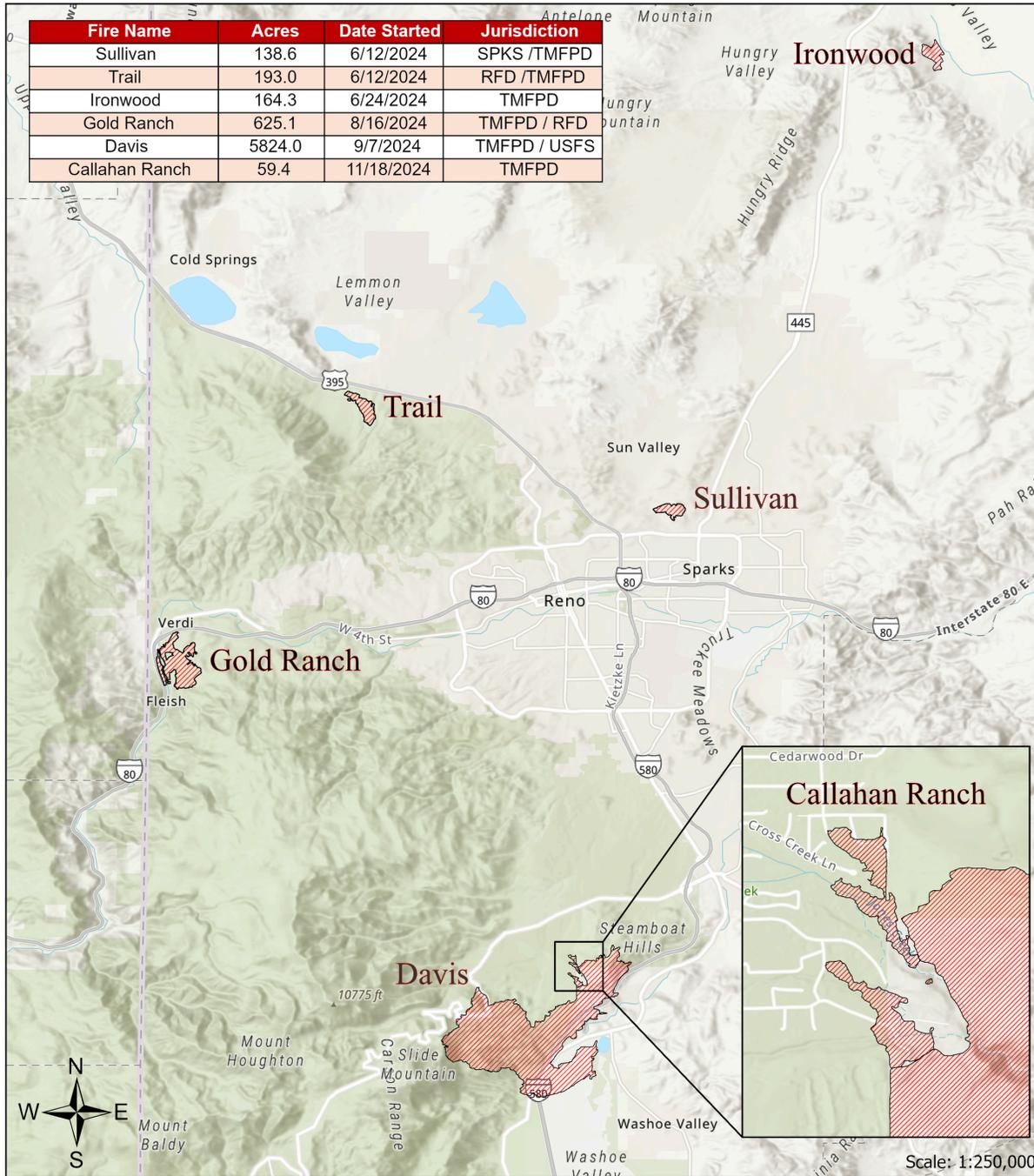
Firefighters faced difficult challenges from the wind-driven fires that threatened populated areas and tested the limits of response capacity. Communities endured evacuations, property losses, and hazardous air quality, highlighting the far-reaching consequences of wildfire beyond the flames themselves.

Despite these challenges, this year also demonstrated the resilience of first responders, emergency management teams, and the citizens we serve. Robust statewide mutual aid networks played a crucial role in protecting lives and infrastructure. This report provides an overview of the wildfire season's key events and lessons learned as we continue adapting to a landscape where fire regularly impacts the region.





2024 Wildfire Summary



2024 TMFPD Wildland Fire Perimeters

Total Acres Burned In District : 7,004.3 ac.



2024 Wildfire Summary

The risk of wildfire continues to be ever-present. It is critical than ever for residents to remain vigilant and prepared during fire season. Preparing an evacuation plan, staying informed about fire conditions, and creating defensible space around homes can make a life-saving and property-saving difference.

Quick action and evacuation readiness can protect you, your family, and your pets - and reduce vehicular conflict between private vehicles and emergency responders.

Despite the robust year of fire in 2024, it demonstrated the resilience of first responders, emergency management teams, citizens, and the communities they serve. Advances in fire evacuation notification, fuel reduction, and fire preplanning played a crucial role in protecting lives, property, and critical infrastructure.

Few preventative measures are as effective as preparing defensible space around your home and removing combustible materials, especially within five feet of adjacency to your dwelling.

The district provides a means for easy disposal of green waste annually. The district marked the continuation of the curbside chipping program, designed to help our underserved seniors or disabled citizens. The program enables TMFR to help this population group manage vegetation on their property. More than **200** residents participated this year. The program supplements the District's green waste collection, which enables the construction of defensible space in our community. Since inception, hundreds of thousands of cubic yards have been harvested and recycled.

Citizens brought **2,125** loads of green waste to our collection sites in 2024.





2024 Emergency Medical Services

The majority of emergency responses made by the district are for requests for medical aid (EMS). TMFR staffs every station with Advanced Life Support (ALS) providers certified at the paramedic level. Over 2/3 of the line staff are certified as State of Nevada Paramedics, and this allows TMFR to provide a high degree of emergency care to all patients treated within our district.

Advanced Life Support (ALS) paramedic services provide a critical level of pre-hospital emergency care, significantly improving patient outcomes in life-threatening situations. Unlike Basic Life Support (BLS), which focuses on fundamental care such as CPR and wound management, ALS paramedics are highly trained in advanced medical procedures, including airway management, cardiac monitoring, medication administration, and intravenous therapy. Their ability to rapidly assess and stabilize critically ill or injured patients before they reach a hospital often means the difference between life and death. In cases of cardiac arrest, severe trauma, stroke, or respiratory failure, ALS interventions dramatically increase survival rates and reduce the risk of long-term complications.

Beyond emergency interventions, ALS paramedics also enhance overall healthcare efficiency by reducing the burden on hospital emergency departments. By providing advanced treatment on-site, they can sometimes prevent unnecessary hospital admissions, freeing up resources for other critical patients. Working under the authority of REMSA, transport services are provided at three fire stations. TMFR paramedic's ability to provide high-quality emergency medicine outside of a hospital setting ensures that communities receive timely and effective care, reinforcing the essential role of ALS paramedics in modern emergency medical services.





2024 Structural Fire Suppression



Fire is a fast-moving threat that can engulf a home in minutes, making early detection, preparedness, and rapid response critical. Our fire district is committed to protecting the community through swift emergency response, public education, and fire prevention initiatives.

Early detection saves lives. Working smoke alarms reduce the risk of fatal home fires by alerting occupants at the first signs of danger.

We encourage every household to test their alarms regularly and have a fire escape plan in place. Fire safety starts at home, and simple precautions—such as safe cooking practices, proper storage of flammable materials, and never leaving candles unattended—can prevent tragedies before they start.

In the event of a fire, every second counts. Calling 911 immediately ensures our highly trained firefighters can respond as quickly as possible. Our crews are prepared 24/7 to battle structural fires, using advanced equipment and strategic firefighting tactics to contain flames, rescue occupants, and minimize damage.

Through proactive community engagement and a commitment to excellence in emergency response, we continue to enhance the safety and resilience of the residents we serve.

TMFR firefighters continually train on fire suppression, including drills on initial attack and multi-company incidents. TMFR keeps its fleet modern and well-maintained.



Fire Prevention

Fire prevention is essential to the safety and resilience of any community, reducing the risk of loss of life, property damage, and economic disruption. Public education, fire-safe building codes, and proactive risk assessments help prevent fires before they start, ensuring a safer environment for residents and businesses. Equally important is internal fire protection within buildings, which includes fire alarms, sprinkler systems, and proper maintenance of electrical and heating systems. These measures provide early detection and suppression, allowing occupants to evacuate safely and minimize fire spread. By prioritizing both community-wide prevention efforts and internal building protections, we create a safer, more prepared community.

In 2024, TMFR conducted 406 inspections of public buildings, reviewed plans for 1751 new buildings and conducted nine fire investigations

Built-in fire protection is crucial in certain buildings because it provides immediate response and notification for fires, reducing the risk of injury, loss of life, and structural damage. High-occupancy buildings like schools, hospitals, and apartment complexes require fire alarms, sprinkler systems, and fire-resistant materials to ensure people have time to evacuate safely. These systems also help control or suppress fires before firefighters arrive, preventing rapid spread and minimizing destruction. In critical facilities, such as healthcare centers and data storage buildings, built-in fire protection safeguards essential operations and assets, ensuring continuity of services.

Local, state, and national codes govern the design and installation of built-in fire protection systems. TMFR maintains a high level of expertise in its fire prevention division to assess building plans. By ensuring internal fire protection systems meet codes, buildings become safer and more resilient.

Fire cause determination is an important aspect of fire prevention that assists improving public safety, preventing future fires, and ensuring accountability. Identifying the cause helps fire departments develop better prevention strategies, improve building codes, and educate the public on fire risks. Fire cause determination plays a key role in criminal investigations. The goal is to determine if a fire was accidental, due to negligence, or intentionally set. Fire cause determination can lead to criminal charges in cases of arson, help recover financial losses, and support firefighter safety by identifying hazardous trends.



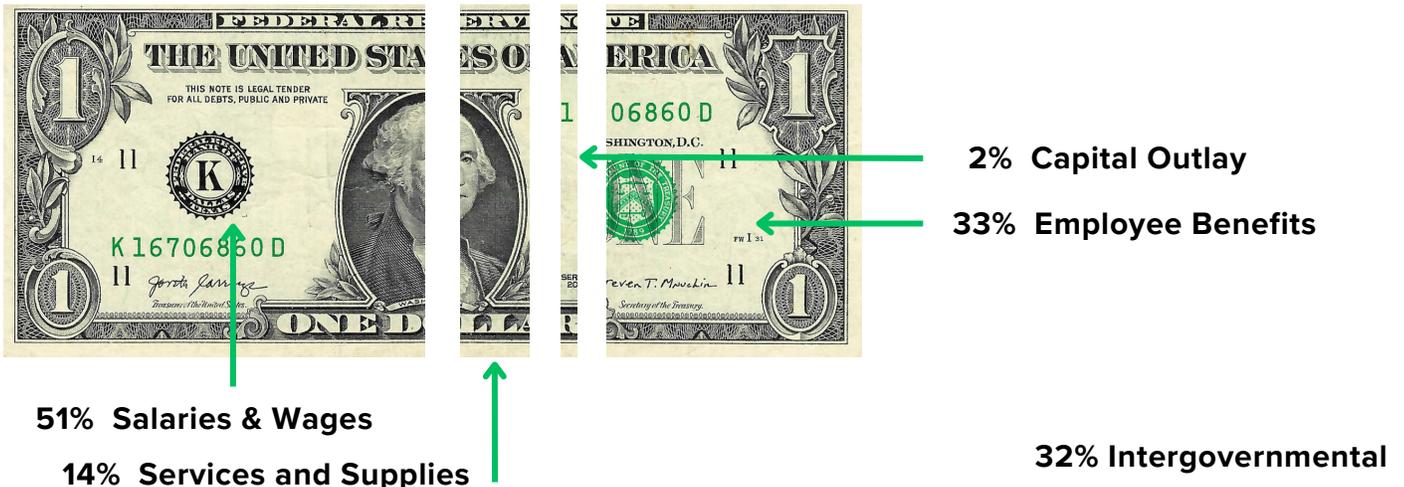
2024 Financial Summary

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District's finances are stable despite a period of high inflation and diminished revenues from a decline in consolidated tax (CTAX) revenues. The General Fund balance as of June 30, 2024, was \$9,348,338, a decrease of \$2,943,681 or 24% from the prior year. The decrease was primarily caused by less-than-anticipated revenues.

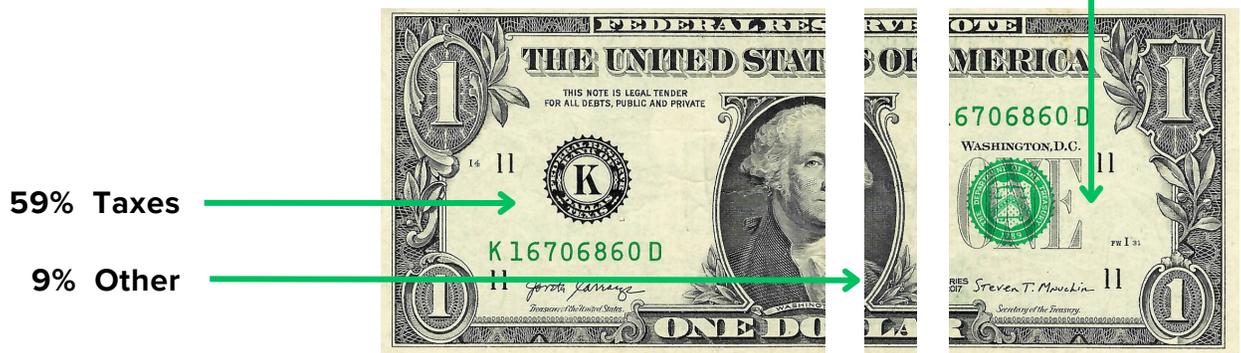
The total fund balance of \$9,348,338 equates to 22% or approximately 2.6 months' worth of expenditures (excluding transfers out to fund Capital Projects and Sick and Annual Compensation and Benefits costs) as compared to the prior year's ending fund balance of \$12,292,019 which was 32.2% or approximately 3.9 months' worth of fiscal year 2022-2023 expenditures.

In Fiscal Year 2023-2024 the total General Fund expenditures were \$42,417,589 which was 10.14% under budget. The General Fund revenues were under budget \$3,608,742 or 7.5%.

Expenditures



Revenues





2024 Improvements to Service

Fire Station Development

Construction of phase two of the Hidden Valley Fire Station recently started. This project will add modern apparatus bays, equipment rooms, and office space. The new addition replaces the original volunteer station which was too small to house modern fire engines.

A new fire station along the I-80 corridor and near the Apple Data Center is expected to break ground in 2025. This new fire station will add capacity to the overall response system and provide additional coverage on the growing eastern portion of the district.



Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD)

A county-wide computer-aided dispatch software system is expected to go live in 2025. The new system will significantly improve the 911 system functionality in the region. Implementing common computer-aided dispatch software between dispatch centers offers several public safety advantages.



2024 Improvements to Service

Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) continued

These advantages include:

1. Seamless Interagency Coordination

Improved response times by allowing dispatchers to see real-time unit availability across jurisdictions and eliminate communication gaps when transferring incidents between agencies.

2. Automatic Closest-Unit Dispatching

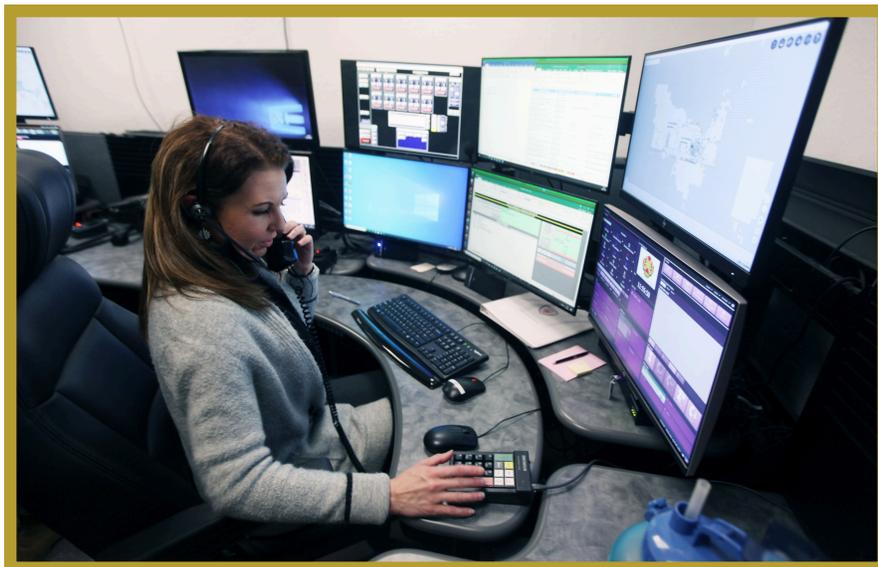
Ensures the nearest emergency unit (regardless of jurisdiction) responds first, reducing response times. This is particularly beneficial for border areas where mutual aid is logical.

3. Enhanced Situational Awareness

Shared CAD systems provide a unified real-time view of active incidents, resource allocation, and potential conflicts. The new system will assist in coordinating large-scale emergencies by ensuring all agencies see the same operational picture.

4. Improved Mutual Aid & Resource Sharing

Agencies can dynamically share personnel, apparatus, and specialized resources based on real-time demand. It will reduce duplication of effort and enhance regional emergency preparedness. Shared CAD data allows agencies to identify trends, optimize response strategies, and improve resource deployment.





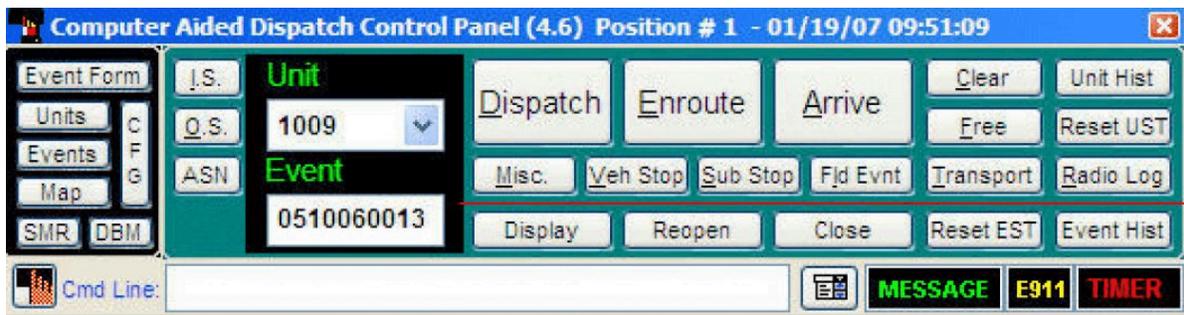
2024 Improvements to Service

Common CAD and Automatic Aid

As noted previously, automatic aid is an emerging service level improvement being developed in concert with the implementation of common dispatch software. TMFR and the city of Sparks implemented the closest unit response a few years ago. The agreements and protocols provide improved response times to critical emergencies such as cardiac arrest, stroke, structure fire, automobile accidents with injuries, and many other priorities.

Recently, protocols with the City of Reno have been put into place in certain areas where jurisdictional boundaries interface and a response from an adjacent agency is more expedient.

Closest unit dispatching has been in place between TMFR and Carson City Fire, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District, and Storey County Fire for years. When the closest available unit responds to an emergency, response times are reduced, potentially saving lives and property.



Agencies can dynamically share personnel, apparatus, and specialized resources based on real-time demand. It will reduce duplication of effort and enhance regional emergency preparedness. Another advantage is sharing CAD data. It will allow agencies to identify trends, optimize response strategies, and improve resource deployment.

The advantages of common CAD will also extend to law enforcement and the medical transport system provided by REMSA.



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