



**Partnering
with the
Community**

COMMUNITY ANNUAL REPORT

2022/23

For the Fiscal Year Ended
June 30, 2023



**Sacramento Metropolitan
Fire District**

**PROUDLY SERVING THE CALIFORNIA COUNTIES OF
SACRAMENTO AND PLACER**

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The Community Annual Report (CAR) provides summarized financial information in an easily understood format. The CAR is derived from the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), which is a detailed report showing Metro Fire's financial condition. The CAR is presented in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles but is not intended to be a substitute for the ACFR. To obtain a copy of the ACFR, visit:

<http://metrofire.ca.gov/annual-comprehensive-financial-reports>

CORE VALUES

- Integrity •
- Professionalism •
- Teamwork •
- Devotion to Duty •



Did you know?

At Metro Fire's fire camp, kids get to extinguish a real fire, climb a ladder reaching up to 7 stories tall, develop teamwork by participating in a traditional bucket brigade, learn CPR and much, much more. WHAT FUN!!

Message from the FIRE CHIEF

Dear residents of the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District,

Metro Fire’s vision, “Forged from a long line of tradition, we are Metro Fire – working together to serve our community with honor, integrity, and selfless devotion to duty” is realized through engagement with you, our community. Fire and emergency services is a human business after all –conducted by people, with people, and for people, and Metro Fire is fortunate to have a community that acts as a partner in the delivery of our services.

In this year’s issue of the Community Annual Report (CAR), I want to share with you not only the financial condition of the District, but also highlight the various ways we have partnered with the community: from opening our doors to the public through station open houses to providing emergency response training to volunteers.

The principal function of the CAR is to provide summarized financial data and a snapshot of the Metro Fire’s financial status. Metro Fire’s financial condition is sound and continues to provide quality services to our residents. Our overall financial position improved by \$26 million over the prior year and the independent auditors provided a clean opinion of the District’s financial reports.

I would like to thank our citizens for their continued support and the confidence they have placed in us.

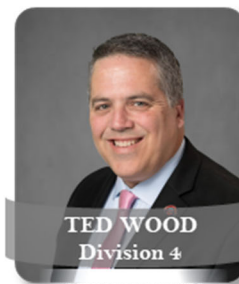
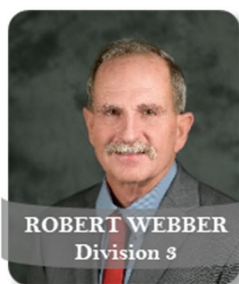


Adam A. House, Fire Chief



Elected Board of Directors

As of June 30, 2023



1922

Mills Fire Dept.



1923

Rio Linda Outpost of Fire Protection



1935

Citrus Heights Fire District



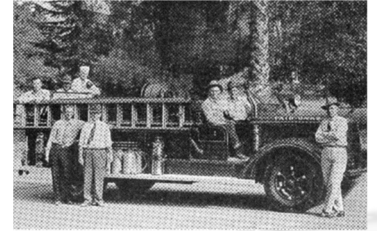
1938

McClellan Air Force Base Fire Dept.



1942

Fair Oaks Fire District



1942

Florin Fire District



1918

Mather Air Force Base Fire Dept.



1933

Orangevale Volunteer Fire Dept.



1942

Carmichael Fire District



1925

Elverta Fire District



1942

Arcade Fire Protection District



1945

Consolidation of Citrus Heights FD and Orangevale Volunteer FD into **Cordova Heights FPD**

1951

North Highlands Village Fire District



1958

Rancho Cordova Fire Protection District



1989

Consolidation of Rancho Cordova FPD and Citrus Heights FPD into **Sacramento County FPD**

1994

Fair Oaks FD consolidated into **Sacramento County FPD**



1943

Arden Fire District



2000

1983

Consolidation of Arden FPD and Carmichael FD into **American River FPD**



1984

Merger of North Highlands Village FD into **Citrus Heights FPD**

1947

Sloughouse Fire Protection District



2000

Consolidation of all 16 historic fire districts

SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN FIRE DISTRICT



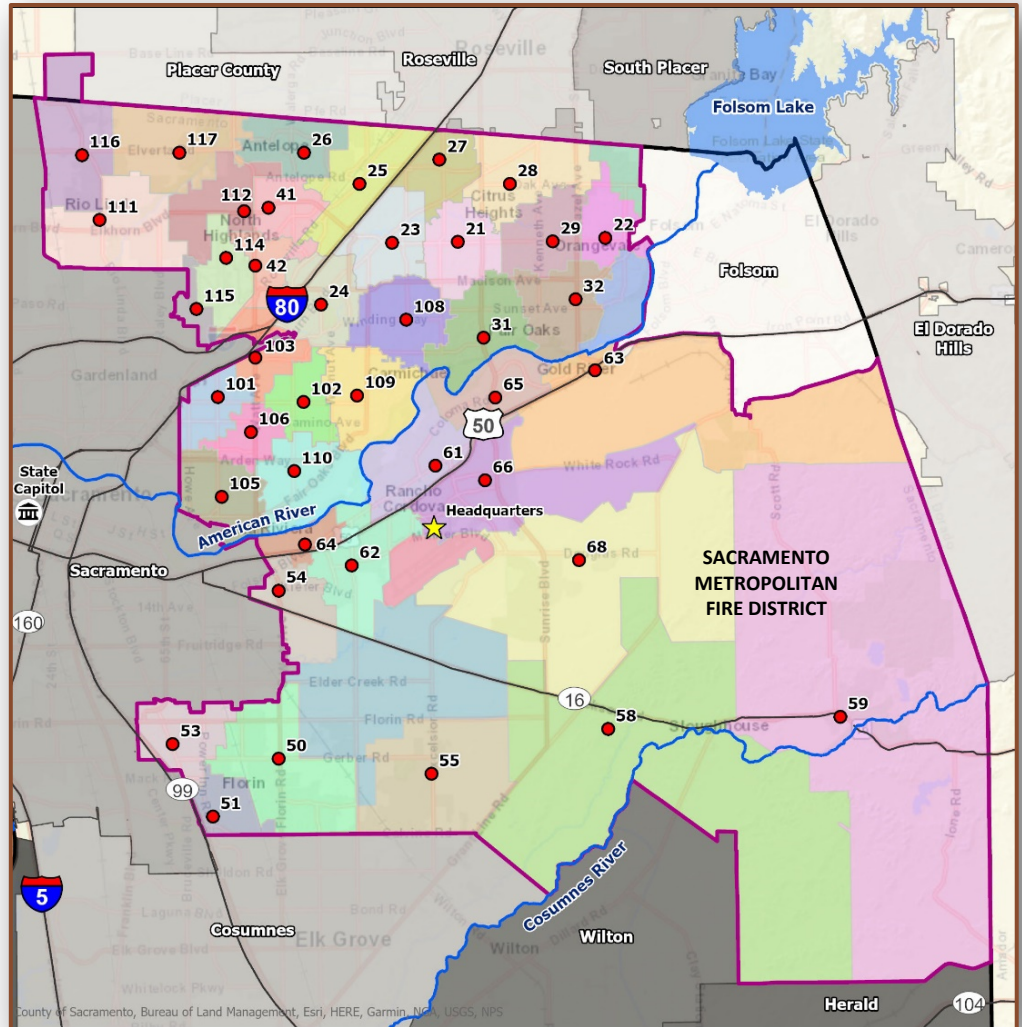
AT A GLANCE

The Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District was established on December 1, 2000 through the merger of the American River and Sacramento County Fire Protection Districts, which brought together 16 predecessor fire agencies. Metro Fire is governed by a nine-member Board of Directors duly elected by citizens from the nine geographical divisions in Metro Fire's area of responsibility.

Today, Metro Fire is the largest fire agency in the County of Sacramento and one of the largest in the State. The combined District provides fire suppression and emergency medical services along with various other public safety and hazard mitigation community services to 765,000 residents in approximately 359 square miles. The District's service area includes two cities, most of the unincorporated area of Sacramento County, and a portion of Placer County. Within the boundaries of Metro Fire are wildland areas, single and multi-family residential units, commercial and light industrial buildings, hotels, regional hospitals, institutions, local airfields, assisted living and

convalescent facilities, equestrian areas, and open space areas including several major hiking trails. Numerous main interstate high-ways also traverse Metro Fire's jurisdiction, along with the American River, a major recreation resource for residents and visitors alike.

Metro Fire provides all-hazard emergency services through 41 stations strategically located across its service area in order to respond to any emergency within its goal of 4-minute travel time.



Did you know?

More than two decades after the 16 predecessor fire agencies consolidated into Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District, there are still 33 "line" (i.e. field) personnel and 5 administrative personnel who started their career prior to the merge and are still with Metro Fire, Talk about commitment!!

Metro Fire recognizes the crucial role our community partnership plays in fire safety. That partnership is essential to our mission to build a safer community and we pursue that mission through services like youth education, emergency response training, and public awareness campaigns. We consider it an integral part of our mission and vision and we foster it by providing role models and educating community members to raise their awareness. It is through this collaborative effort that we build relationships and harness the potential of the community to be part of the solution.

Serving as Role Models – Role models have the most meaningful and lasting impact in the development of our youth. Firefighters are natural role models and reinforce the importance of civic duty.

- **Fire Camp** - is an annual four-day camp that teaches middle school-age kids what it's like to be a firefighter. Our firefighters help kids build a sense of teamwork and responsibility. Firefighter volunteers teach kids about the job and mentor them on life skills such as using fire extinguishers or performing hands-only CPR.
- **Explorers** – partnering with Del Campo High School, Metro Fire provides training on basic firefighting knowledge and skills and provides students with a pathway to successfully pursue a career in the fire service.
- **School visits and career days** – throughout the year, Metro Fire visits schools to teach children about the importance of fire safety. Metro Fire also maintains a presence in high school career days, showing students what it takes to become a firefighter.

Harnessing the Power of the Community –

The Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District was the first agency in the Sacramento Region to establish a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). The CERT Class is a free class open to those who live or work in Metro Fire's service area. It trains volunteers in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Metro Fire's CERT team assists at the airshow event at Mather airfield, 4th of July firework displays, residential smoke alarm installation blitzes, storm responses, and other emergencies.

Raising Awareness – There's more to firefighting than just putting out fires: it is a holistic effort that includes raising awareness to the importance of prevention and education on life-savings kills.

- **Sidewalk CPR** – With half-million cardiac arrests each year, CPR-trained individuals improve the survivor rates for these victims. Metro Fire offers a free program conducted in malls, events, and sidewalks to teach hands-only CPR in less than five minutes and to almost all ages.
- **Pink and Blue Fire Engines** – The side of these special engines read "All cancers. All people". Just about everybody in the community has been affected by cancer in some way. Metro Fire hopes these brightly colored engines will improve awareness and encourage cancer screenings, promote early detection, and ultimately save lives.
- **Open houses** - provide an opportunity for the community to better understand the important function the fire station serves, to interact with their local firefighters, and to potentially recruit new firefighters.

Did you know?

Metro Fire's website offers all sorts of helpful information for our community residents. By clicking or visiting the link below, you will find numerous helpful safety tips, educational programs, and kid activities which includes fun safety videos and a downloadable activity book. Check it out!

<https://metrofire.ca.gov/residents>

CERT VOLUNTEERS



2023 METRO FIRE'S NEWLY CERTIFIED VOLUNTEERS



BURN INSTITUTE SAFETY FAIR



CPR TRAINING OPEN HOUSE STATION 68

FIRE CAMP



80 KIDS AND 20 VOLUNTEER CAMP COUNSELORS
4 FUN FILLED DAYS
JUNE 2023

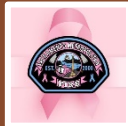
CANCER AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2023 – ENGINE 109

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SACRAMENTO KINGS Campaign Sponsor



Partnering with the City's Leadership

SCHOOL VISITS

PERSHING ELEMENTARY



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL



EXPLORERS



FUTURE FIREFIGHTERS

CAREER DAY

OVER 800 STUDENTS PARTICIPATED AT DEL CAMPO HIGH SCHOOL



Did you know?

Sacramento's Police Chief Kathy Lester, Metro Fire's Fire Chief, Adam House, and Sacramento County's Sherriff Jim Cooper all attended Cordova High School. Who will be the next great leader from CHS?



BY THE NUMBERS

For the year ended June 30, 2023

public safety



109,141

Calls Dispatched



6.5 of 10

Medical Calls



3,670

Fires Extinguished



4,030

Vehicle Accidents



6m 39s

Average Response Time to
Provide Medical Aid



4m 58s

Average Response Time to
Reach Structure Fires



5m 20s

Average Response Time to
Reach Vehicle Accidents

41

Fire
Stations



20

Major
Incident
Deployments

16 California
4 National

348

Apparatus and Other Vehicles

Trucks, engines, rescues,
medics, and cars

fire family



736

Metro Fire Employees

- 4 Office of the Fire Chief
- 626 Operations
 - Fire Suppression
 - Emergency Medical Services
 - Metro Medic Program
 - Training and Safety
- 76 Support Services
 - Community Risk Reduction
 - Facilities
 - Fleet
 - Information Technology / Communications
 - Logistics
- 30 Administration
 - Community Relations
 - Finance
 - Human Resources
 - Planning and Development

community



19,919

Inspections and Plan Reviews

- 8,286 Code Enforcement Inspections
- 3,752 Plan Reviews
- 6,117 Construction Inspections
- 152 Fireworks Inspections
- 1,612 Weed Abatement Inspections

369 Community Engagements



- 233 Special Events/Station Tours
- 75,228 Estimated residents reached



- 68 School Visits
- 12,222 Estimated students reached

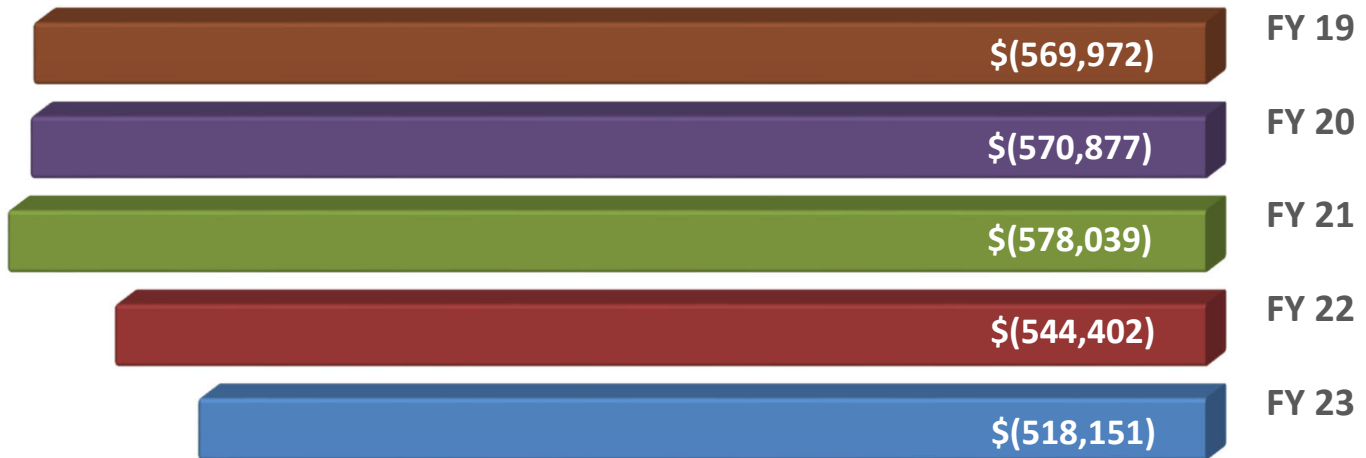


- 68 Other Visits
- 9,380 Estimated residents reached

NET POSITION

What We Own & What We Owe

The government-wide Statement of Net Position provides a “snapshot” of where the District stood financially at a given moment in time. Metro Fire's negative net position is largely due to the liability owed to its employees as they retire from Metro Fire, which includes pension liability and post-retirement medical liability. Changes in net position over time is highly sensitive to changes in these liabilities. Over the past three years, Metro Fire has slowly improved its financial position.



NET POSITION <i>(in thousands)</i>	2023	2022
Cash and other assets <i>(cash and investments, receivables, and inventories)</i>	\$ 113,957	\$ 91,063
Capital assets <i>(land, buildings, and equipment net of accumulated depreciation)</i>	101,911	103,362
Deferred Outflows <i>(expenses incurred but applicable to a future year)</i>	204,807	128,970
TOTAL ASSETS AND OUTFLOWS	420,675	323,395
Current and other liabilities <i>(payables, payroll, and unearned revenue)</i>	11,637	11,554
Long-Term liabilities <i>(bonds, other post-employment benefits, pensions, and other obligations)</i>	861,254	658,165
Deferred Inflows <i>(Income received applicable to a future year)</i>	65,935	198,078
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND INFLOWS	938,826	867,797
Net investment in capital assets <i>(net book value of capital assets less related outstanding debt)</i>	87,197	87,893
Restricted <i>(what is not available for use because it is set aside for a particular use)</i>	19,753	8,491
Unrestricted <i>(funds available to use for general operations)</i>	(625,101)	(640,786)
TOTAL NET POSITION	(518,151)	(544,402)

REVENUE

Where the Money Came From

SOURCES 2023 2022

(in thousands)

Program Revenues - Revenues that are derived directly from operations, not the taxpayers

Charges for services <i>Fees charged for ambulance transports, deployments, and similar charges</i>	\$ 82,494	\$ 69,702
Grants <i>Federal and state grant awards</i>	18,090	6,260

Total Program Revenues	100,584	75,962
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General Revenues - Revenues not required to be reported as program revenues

Property taxes <i>Received from property owners based on the assessed valuation and tax rate.</i>	192,166	177,825
Miscellaneous / Other Income <i>All other revenue such as resources received from other agencies, investment and rental income</i>	5,797	4,588

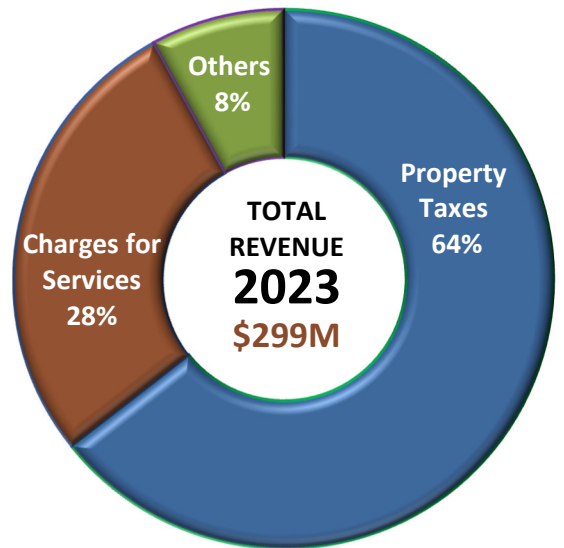
Total General Revenues	197,963	182,413
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Total Revenues	\$ 298,547	\$ 258,375
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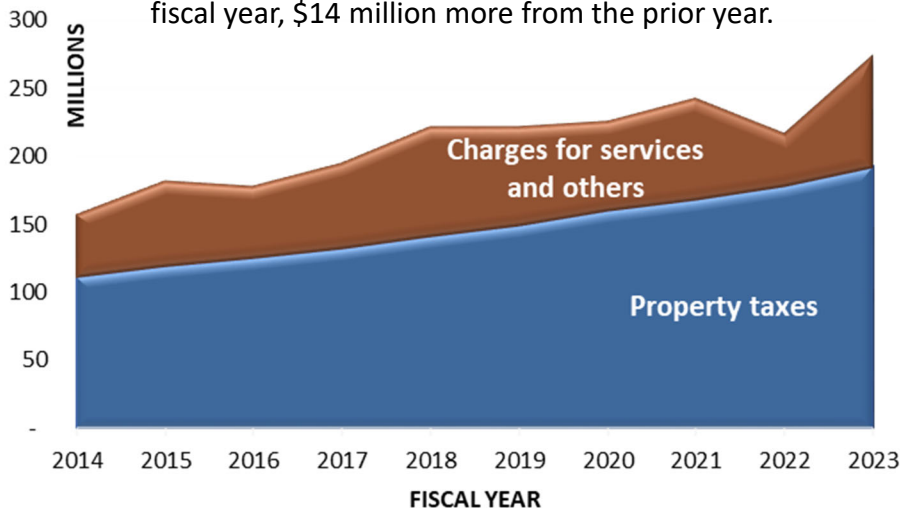
Property tax is the main source of funding for fire suppression activities. For every dollar paid by a resident in Metro Fire's jurisdiction, about 21.68 cents go to Metro Fire.



The average assessed value of a detached single family residential home in Metro Fire's jurisdiction is \$324,693, which means that a homeowner typically contributes about \$704 per year in property taxes to Metro Fire.



Metro Fire experienced 10 straight years of growth in assessed property values since FY 2012/13, increasing by \$6 billion in the most recent fiscal year to a total of \$83.8 billion. This generated \$192 million in property tax revenues for the current fiscal year, \$14 million more from the prior year.



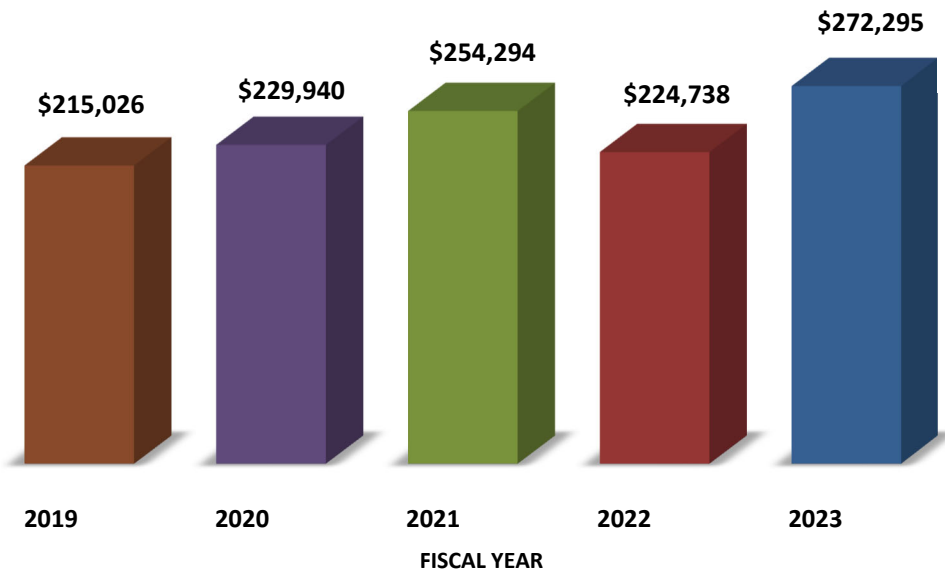
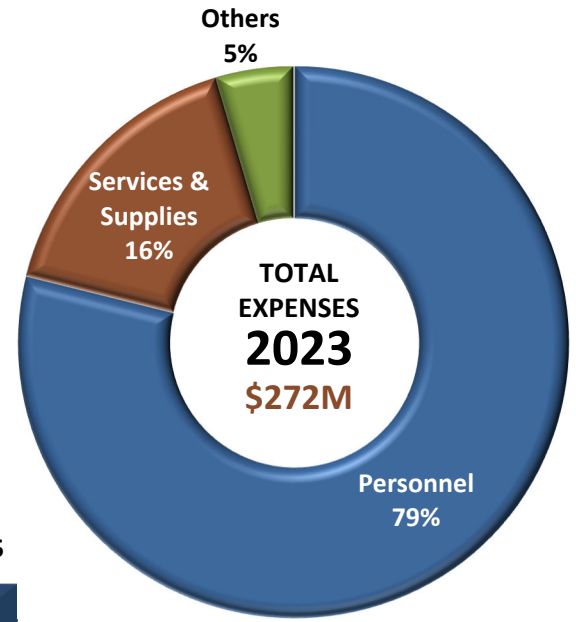
Metro Fire continues to find ways to diversify its revenue base through better cost recovery on its emergency medical services. Property taxes now composed 64% of all sources compared to 80% more than a decade ago. Charges for services and other revenues now amount to \$82 million in the current fiscal year.

EXPENSES

Where the Money Went

As a public safety provider, the majority of Metro Fire’s operating expense relates to **PERSONNEL** costs, accounting for **79%** of total expenses. The 21% or \$41 million increase for the current fiscal year is mainly due to increases in pension costs resulting from higher pension liability. Poor investment performance and a lower discount rate drove up the Metro Fire's pension obligation.

Our overriding goals of the budget process is to optimize services to the greatest extent possible, ensure that the ongoing all-risk fire, rescue and emergency medical needs of the citizens are met, and provide adequate reserves for future contingencies.



Did you know?

Over 7 out of 10 Metro Fire employees provide front-line service as fire-fighters, engineers and captains.

Firefighting and medical services must be staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, which means there are over 180 members per shift (there are 3 shifts) working each day, ready to assist the community with fire and medical emergencies.

EXPENSES <i>(in thousands)</i>	2023	2022
Public Protection - <i>Direct cost of services provided</i>		
Personnel <i>Salaries and benefits such as pension costs</i>	\$ 214,758	\$ 173,911
Services and Supplies <i>Fees paid to vendors for various services and supplies</i>	45,098	37,875
Other <i>Includes assessments paid to other local agencies</i>	3,149	4,291
Depreciation <i>Allocated cost of capital assets over their useful life</i>	7,281	6,406
Interest and Others <i>Includes interest and other miscellaneous expenses</i>	2,009	2,255
Total Expenses	\$ 272,295	\$ 224,738

CAPITAL SPENDING

Investing in reliable firefighting apparatus is a crucial step in building a better fire service. Not only does each apparatus have to be maintained in the highest state of readiness to respond to emergencies, it must also take advantage of better technology that will allow efficient and safe operation.

For the year ended June 30, 2023

Taking into account the operational needs, current fleet status, and available resources, Metro Fire invested in the following significant capital assets in the most recent year:

1 COPTER CONVERSION (\$750,000)

The donated Bell UH1-H helicopter will be converted to visually and functionally match our Copter 1 and Copter 2. This will include painting the air craft, updating the avionics and communication systems, and adding mission specific fire and EMS equipment, such as a rescue hoist and tall landing gear.



5 TYPE I ENGINES (\$4.1 million)

These engines hold 700 gallons of water and have a larger pump to provide higher water flows for fighting structure fires.



For the upcoming year ending June 30, 2024

The following are the significant planned acquisitions expected to be received in the upcoming fiscal year:

3 TYPE III AMBULANCES (\$824,000)

These smaller ambulances are fully equipped yet have a lower initial cost, increased fuel economy, and longer service intervals.



6 AMBULANCE REMOUNTS (\$1.1 million)

The box portion of an existing ambulance is mounted on a new cab and chassis. This remount process saves about one-third of the cost to replace an ambulance with a new one.

1 AERIAL TRUCK (\$950,000)

With no hose or water, this "truck" can still respond to most emergency and medical calls. The large ladder stored across the top extends up to 105 feet making it valuable in special emergencies.



30 ELECTRIC GURNEYS AND 38 POWER LOADERS (\$2.25 million)

These new gurneys have improved battery life, navigates through tighter quarters, lifts 700 lbs. unassisted, and has a tracking system for inventory management. They attach to a mounted power loader inside the ambulance, locking it into place for a safe and secure transport.



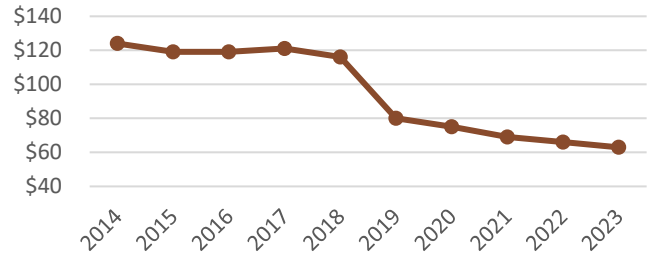
Did you know?

An "engine" is Metro Fire's primary fire apparatus and the first responder for most emergencies. It is typically staffed with 3 firefighter/paramedics (a captain, an engineer and a firefighter). Metro Fire currently has 57 in service.

A ladder "truck" is used to fight structural fires, like a high rise, Unlike an engine, it does not carry water. These are typically staffed the same as an engine, plus one additional firefighter. Metro Fire currently has 7 in service.

Metro Fire has three major debt types: pension bonds, lease revenue bonds, and capital equipment financing. Pension bond proceeds were used to reduce the unfunded actuarial liabilities of its pension plans. Lease revenue bonds were used to purchase the headquarters building, make building improvements, and acquire fire-fighting and computer equipment. Proceeds of capital equipment financing have been used mainly for ongoing apparatus and equipment needs.

Debt Per Capita

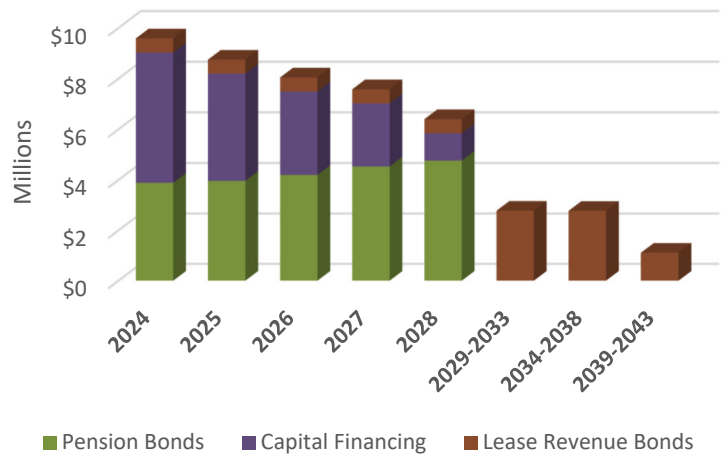


Metro Fire's S&P Global Credit Rating.

Indicates an extremely strong capacity to meet financial commitments on its pension bonds resulting in lower borrowing costs.



Future Debt Payments



AWARDS

Metro Fire received the award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for the 5th straight year for its *Community Annual Report* (CAR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022. This prestigious national award recognizes conformance with the highest standards for the preparation of creative popular annual financial reports specifically designed to be easily understandable to the general public.

Metro Fire has also been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the GFOA for the 9th straight year for its *Annual Comprehensive Financial Report* (ACFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022.





Mission Statement

“To provide professional and compassionate protection, education and service to our community.”

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