



**COMMUNITY
ANNUAL REPORT**

For the Fiscal Year Ended
June 30, 2022

2021/22

INSIDE
YOUR

911



**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?

If you need to contact 911 but can't speak or need to stay quiet in your emergency, you can text to 911. Although you should call if you can (because talking is faster), text if you can't!

Message from the FIRE CHIEF

Dear residents of the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District,

As the State of California was reminded late in 2022, the retreat of a pandemic and a relatively mild fire season do not mean our communities are beyond the reach of natural disasters. In late December 2022 and early January 2023, California experienced nine catastrophic “atmospheric river” winter storms, downing power lines, flooding homes, and stranding motorists. During that time service calls spiked dramatically: rising 180% from the prior New Year’s Eve count, and 207% on January 8.

Responding to service calls is Metro Fire’s mission and day-to-day focus, and we could not begin to achieve either without the close support of our colleagues in the Sacramento Regional Fire EMS Communication Center (“Dispatch Center”). 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 introduce you to the critical services of the Dispatch Center. When you must reach out for emergency assistance, the Dispatch Center will be there to help you, and I am proud to share how they serve the citizens of the Sacramento region.

In addition to highlighting the critical work of the Dispatch Center, the principal function of this CAR is to summarize the financial reporting found in the District’s Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). As explained in this publication, the District’s financial condition is sound. The District’s overall financial position improved by \$34 million over the prior year and the independent auditors provided a clean opinion (no findings or exceptions) of District finances.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks to the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District Board of Directors, which provides the District and me with the authority and guidance to ensure the District is well led and properly resourced.

Dan M. Haverty
Dan M. Haverty, Interim Fire Chief



Elected Board of Directors

As of June 30, 2022



CINTHIA SAYLORS
Division 1

PRESIDENT



GRANT GOOLD
Division 2



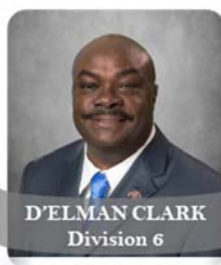
RANDY ORZALLI
Division 3



TED WOOD
Division 4



JENNIFER SHEETZ
Division 5



D'ELMAN CLARK
Division 6

VICE-PRESIDENT



MATT KELLY
Division 7



GAY JONES
Division 8

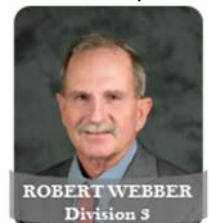


WALT WHITE
Division 9

SECRETARY

NEW DIRECTORS AS OF:

December 8, 2022



ROBERT WEBBER
Division 5

August 25, 2022



BRIAN RICE
Division 7

December 8, 2022



JOHN COSTA
Division 9



Arcade Fire Protection District



Mills Fire Dept.



Citrus Heights Fire District



Carmichael Fire District



Elverta Fire District

1918

1922

1923

1925

1933

1935

1938

1942



Mather Air Force Base Fire Dept.

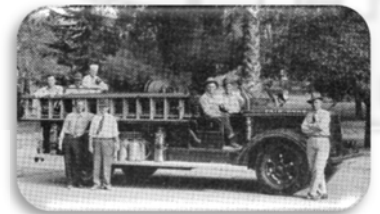
Orangevale Volunteer Fire Dept.



Florin Fire District



Fair Oaks Fire District



Rio Linda Outpost of Fire Protection



McClellan Air Force Base Fire Dept.





North Highlands Village Fire District

Merger of North Highlands Village FD into Citrus Heights FPD



Consolidation of Arden FPD and Carmichael FD into American River FPD

Consolidation of Rancho Cordova FPD, Fair Oaks FD and Citrus Heights FPD into Sacramento County FPD

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



1943

1945

1947

1951

1958

1983

1984

1989

2000

Arden Fire District



Rancho Cordova Fire Protection District



Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District

Consolidation of all 16 historic fire districts

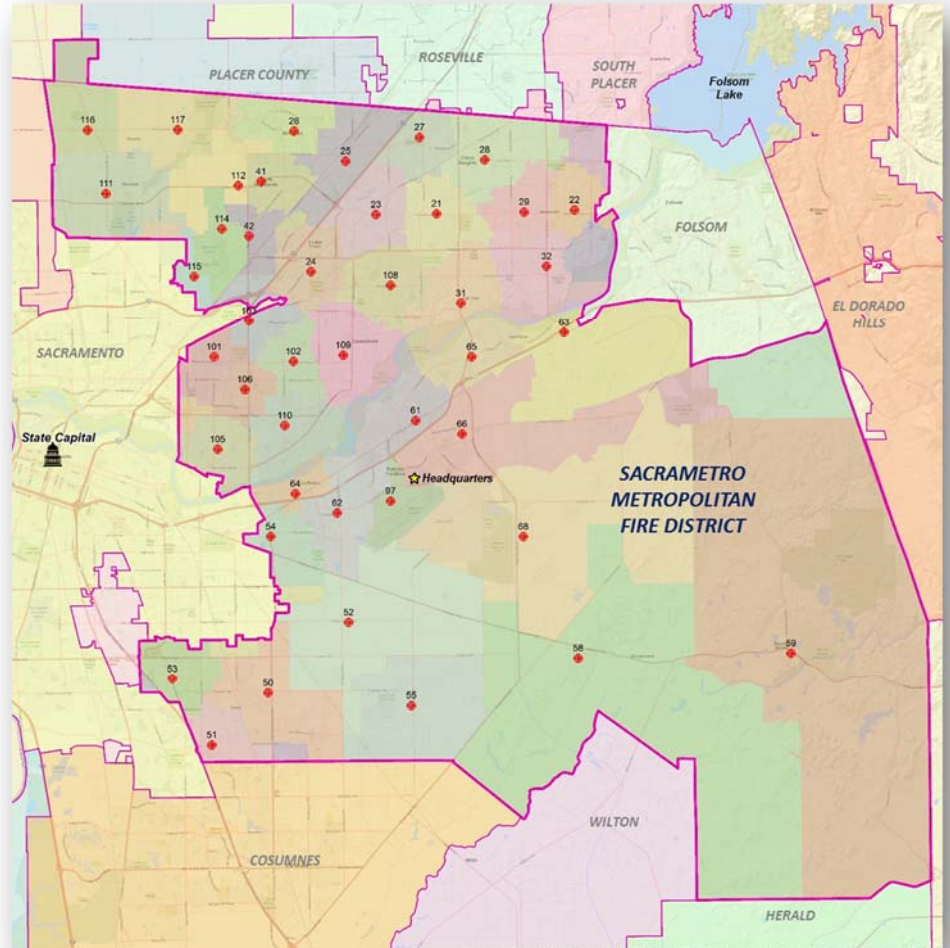
Sloughouse Fire Protection District



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 770,000 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 highways 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?

Metro Fire responds to 911 calls dispatched by the Sacramento Regional Fire/EMS Communications Center (SRFECC or "Dispatch Center"), which also serves 9 other fire agencies in the region.

In 2021, the Dispatch Center answered over 338,000 calls and dispatched first responders to over 230,000 fire and medical incidents. Metro Fire responded to over 108,000 of those calls.



The residents of the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District have come to expect that when emergencies occur, the men and women of Metro Fire will rapidly arrive on scene with all of the necessary tools, knowledge, and experience. But what you may not know about is the critical link between your emergency call and the emergency response, namely the Sacramento Regional Fire/EMS Communication Center (SRFECC), or the “Dispatch Center”.

Like Metro Fire, the Dispatch Center evolved over decades, joining together the emergency dispatch services of smaller districts into an increasingly large and modernized organization. Over time, larger agencies also joined the group and, with Isleton and River Delta Fire as the last agencies joining in 2016, the Dispatch Center began serving ten (career and volunteer) fire agencies.

Today, the Dispatch Center serves a population of more than 1.5 million people, organizing the deployment of equipment and personnel of 90 fire stations across 1,000 square miles of Sacramento County with a team of 42 dispatchers and supervisors.

Your 911 Call – When you call 911, you do not reach the Dispatch Center directly. Your location triggers which law enforcement agency’s dispatch receives the call. In the Sacramento region, your call will be initially answered by the state’s highway patrol, the city’s police station or the county’s sheriff’s office. If the call is determined to be a medical or fire emergency, your call is routed to the Dispatch Center. They have the ability to quickly send out the closest available fire and/or medical first responder. All other calls, mainly those dealing with public safety matters, will be handled by the law agency that took your call.

The Dispatcher – The Dispatch Center’s environment is quiet and calm with low lighting. It is separated with a glass wall which blocks off other daily work activity that is happening around them. Normally, dispatchers work 12 hour shifts – 3 days on, 3 days off. At their station in front of them sit seven monitors, all with their own functions to assist in processing your 911 call as swiftly as possible. There are 15 stations in the room, with 3 additional stations available in the office area, if needed. If a dispatcher needs a moment after an extremely stressful call, they can step away to one of the quiet rooms to take a breather and decompress.

Information is Key! – Calling 911 can add even more stress to an already stressful situation, but it is important to speak as calmly as possible, and to speak clearly with accurate and detailed answers to the dispatcher’s questions. This ensures that correct and sufficient resources are sent to your emergency.



Metro Fire and You – Once the Dispatch Center assigns your emergency to a Metro Fire station, an automated system alerts the staff who are always ready to answer the call! We have close to 200 firefighters, EMS and paramedics staffed daily to respond to your medical and fire emergencies. These first responders staff 22 ambulances, 36 engines, 7 trucks, 1 helicopter, 1 aircraft rescue and firefighting unit and 5 battalion commanders throughout the Sacramento County region from 41 fire stations. Rest assured, help is on it’s way!

Did you know?

In order to keep a caller safe during a 911 call of a suspected violent crime, the Dispatch Center will not call back on disconnected calls in certain situations. For example, if a caller finds a safe moment to call 911 but then has to hang up, having the dispatcher call back could put the victim in further danger. Remember - you can always TEXT 911 if you find yourself in a situation where you can't talk.



Metro Fire provides all-hazard emergency services throughout the Sacramento region, rapidly and effectively deploying appropriate resources to respond to any medical or fire call for help. We are equipped with many different types of apparatus (medical and fire vehicles) and trained staff to aid and assist in any emergency. Here is what you may expect to see depending on your emergency:

MEDICAL AID
AMBULANCE

Staffed with a Paramedic and EMT

Responds to medical calls, vehicle accidents and structure fires, providing rescues services, advanced life support, and patient transport to the hospital. Most of Metro Fire's paramedics are also firefighters.



STRUCTURE FIRE AND
MEDICAL AID
FIRE ENGINE

Staffed with a Captain, Engineer, and 1 or 2 Firefighters

Responds to medical emergency calls, vehicle accidents, and all types of fires to protect life and property by rescuing civilians and animals and extinguishing fires.



Did you know?

It is a standard practice to staff our fire vehicles (engine, truck, rescue, etc.) with at least one paramedic. For a medical call, it is quite common for a fire engine to show up along with an ambulance to ensure advanced life support services are delivered in a timely manner.

STRUCTURE FIRE
MEDICAL AID
AERIAL TRUCK



Staffed with a Captain, Engineer, and 2 Firefighters

In addition to responding to medical emergencies, this provides extrication of entrapped victims, and assists with the extinguishment of fire by providing forcible entry and ventilation.

GRASS FIRES, AIR SEARCH
AND RESCUE
HELICOPTER



Staffed with a Pilot, Rescuer, and Flight Officer, who are, at the minimum, all firefighters.

This is most commonly used for grass fires, but can also be used for search and rescue, and medical transports.

WATER SEARCH AND
RESCUE
BOAT



Staffed with a Captain, Engineer, and 1 or 2 Firefighters

Conducts search and rescue in the region's waterways including flooded disaster areas, and other water-related emergencies.

RANKS



CHIEFS



CAPTAIN



ENGINEER



FIREFIGHTER

Did you know?

When calling 911 for a medical or fire emergency, you may not get the response from the station closest to you as they may already be out on another call. The Dispatch Center has the ability to see the closest available response unit and assign them to your call.

BY THE NUMBERS

For the year ended June 30, 2022

public safety



108,232

Calls Dispatched



7 of 10

Medical Calls



1,165

Fires Extinguished



2,813

Vehicle Accidents



6m 28s

Average Response Time to Provide Medical Aid



4m 20s

Average Response Time to Reach Structure Fires



5m 17s

Average Response Time to Reach Vehicle Accidents

41

Fire Stations



25

Major Incident Deployments
19 California,
6 National

350+

Apparatus and Other Vehicles

Trucks, engines, rescues, medics, and cars

fire family



Metro Fire Employees

671

554
Fire,
Medical
And
Rescue

43
Fire
Prevention,
Safety and
Training

74
Admin
And
Support

FIREFIGHTERS GET HURT TOO



448

Firefighter Injuries



7,951

Days Lost Due to injury



\$4,849,429

District Cost

community



21,392

Inspections and Plan Reviews

9,095 Code Enforcement Inspections
3,850 Plan Reviews
7,644 Construction Inspections
147 Fireworks Inspections
656 Weed Abatement Inspections



58 Community Engagements



27 Special Appearances
• 3475 Adults and Kids



31 School Visits
• 1911 Students

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 the close of the fiscal year. Over time, increases or decreases in net position serves as a useful indicator of whether the District’s financial position is improving or deteriorating.

The largest portion of Metro Fire's net position reflects its investment of \$103 million in capital assets with a related outstanding debt of \$15 million used to acquire those assets resulting to a reported net investment in capital assets of \$88 million. Although Metro Fire's net investment in capital assets is reported net of related debt, this does not mean that capital assets will be liquidated to pay for this debt since it uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens. Other funding sources will be used to pay for this debt.

Metro Fire's negative unrestricted net position is largely due to the recognition of the liability owed to its employees as they retire from Metro Fire, which includes pension liability and post-retirement medical liability. The \$30 million improvement is mainly attributable to the broad investment gains that resulted in the lowering of these estimates for post-retirement obligation.

Did you know?

While an ambulance is en route to the hospital and administering medical aid to the patient, pertinent medical information is also being transmitted to the emergency department in preparation of the patient's arrival.



Net Position (in thousands)

2022
2021

Assets - What is owned by Metro Fire

Cash and other assets <i>Includes cash and investments, receivables, and inventories</i>	\$ 91,063	\$ 89,392
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Capital assets <i>Land, buildings, and equipment net of accumulated depreciation</i>	103,362	101,312
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Deferred Outflows

<i>Expenses incurred but applicable to a future year</i>	128,970	125,736
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Total assets and outflows

323,395
316,440

Liabilities - What Metro Fire owes

Current and other liabilities <i>Payables, payroll, and unearned revenue</i>	11,554	11,287
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Long-Term liabilities <i>Bonds, other post-employment benefits, pensions, and other obligations</i>	658,165	805,573
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Deferred Inflows

<i>Income received applicable to a future year</i>	198,078	77,619
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Total liabilities and inflows

867,797
894,479

Net Position - Metro Fire's net worth

Net investment in capital assets <i>Capital assets less accumulated depreciation and any outstanding debt used to acquire these assets.</i>	87,893	81,259
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Restricted <i>What is not available for use because it is set aside for a particular use.</i>	8,491	7,333
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Unrestricted <i>Funds available to use for general operations.</i>	(640,786)	(666,631)
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Total net position	\$ (544,402)	\$ (578,039)
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REVENUE

Where the Money Came From

Property tax revenue is the main source of Metro Fire's funding and provides support for its fire suppression activities.

SOURCES

(in thousands)

2022 2021

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

Charges for services <i>Fees charged for ambulance transports, deployments to other jurisdictions, and similar charges</i>	\$ 69,702	\$ 75,311
Grants <i>Resources received through federal and state grant awards</i>	6,260	189

Total Program Revenues **75,962** **75,500**

General Revenues - Revenues not required to be reported as program revenues

Property taxes <i>Taxes received from property owners based upon the assessed valuation and tax rate.</i>	177,825	167,482
Miscellaneous / Other Income <i>All other revenue such as resources received from other agencies, investment and rental income</i>	4,588	4,150

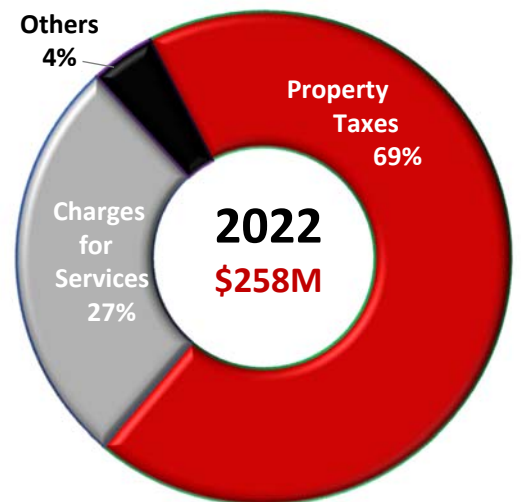
Total General Revenues **182,413** **171,632**

Total Revenues **\$ 258,375** **\$ 247,132**

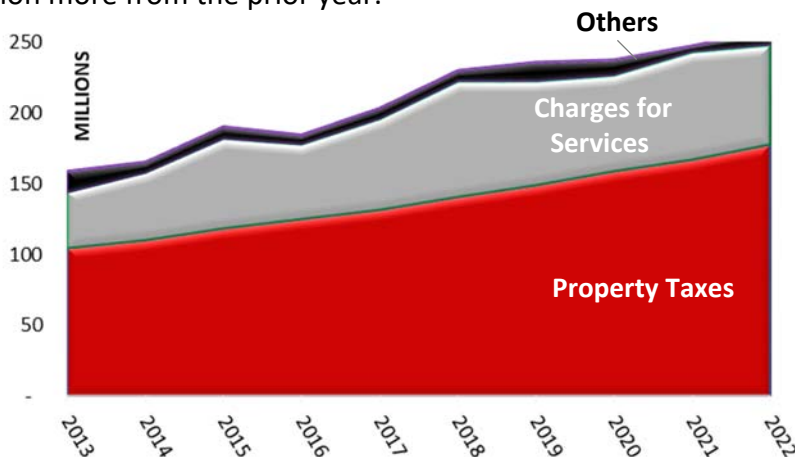
For every property tax dollar paid by a resident in Metro Fire's jurisdiction, about 21.68 cents go to Metro Fire.



The average assessed value of a detached single family residential home in Metro Fire's jurisdiction is \$305,960, which means that a homeowner typically contributes about \$663 per year in property taxes to Metro Fire.



Metro Fire experienced ten straight years of growth in assessed property values since FY 2012/13, increasing by \$3.6 billion from the prior year to a total of \$77.7 billion. This generated \$177 million in property tax revenues for the current fiscal year, \$10 million more from the prior year.



While the District expects to see modest growth in property taxes, it continues to find ways to diversify its revenue base. These efforts successfully yielded better cost recovery on its emergency medical services. As the graph to the left infers, property taxes now comprise 68% of all revenue sources, compared to 80% more than a decade ago. Charges for services and other revenues will amount to nearly \$70 million in the 2022/23 fiscal year.

EXPENSES

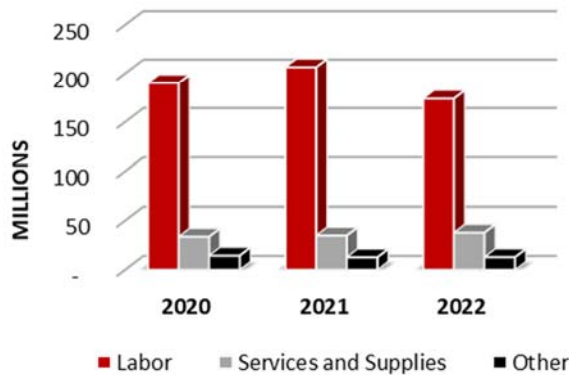
Where the Money Went

As a public safety provider, the majority of Metro Fire’s operating expense relates to personnel costs, which comprise about 77% of total expenses. The 12% or \$33 million decrease this year is mainly due to lowering of Metro Fire’s obligation for post-retirement pension and medical benefits as a result of overall gains in its funding portfolio that are partly recognized in the current year.

The other significant expense is services and supplies which comprise about 17%. The \$1.2 million increase is due to several factors including higher insurance costs, vehicle maintenance, dispatch fees, and overall inflationary effects.

Metro Fire begins its budget process in Spring each year and adopts a preliminary budget in June, a final budget in September, and makes mid-year adjustments in March. The overriding goals of each 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.

The Board of Directors has established a target of retaining at least a 15% reserve of budgeted General Fund operating expenditures, to be set aside to cover unexpected costs or revenue shortfalls.



Did you know?

You've seen it in movies many times, but did you know that first responders actually respond to many pet and wildlife rescues?

Metro Fire will do everything in their power to not only rescue your loved humans during a fire, but also your beloved pets. You may also find them up a ladder in a tree to save that stuck owl, or in the lake pulling out an exhausted trapped deer. In fact, Metro Fire responded to over 300 animal rescue calls.

EXPENSES <i>(in thousands)</i>	2022	2021
Public Protection - Direct cost of services provided		
Personnel <i>Salaries and benefits such as pension and medical costs</i>	\$ 173,911	\$ 206,496
Services and Supplies <i>Fees paid to external vendors for various services and supplies</i>	37,875	34,936
Other <i>Includes assessments paid to other local agencies</i>	4,291	4,026
Depreciation <i>Allocated cost of capital assets over their useful life</i>	6,406	6,418
Interest and Others <i>Includes interest and other miscellaneous expenses</i>	2,255	2,418
Total Expenses	\$ 224,738	\$ 254,294

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, 2022

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:

6 AMBULANCES (\$1.3 million)

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 (7 stories) making it valuable in special emergencies.



1 WATER TENDER (\$575,000)

Transporting more than 2,000 gallons of water, these are mainly used to fight fires in rural areas where there are no working fire hydrants within reach.



3 TYPE I ENGINES (\$2.1 million)

The most common engine type here at Metro Fire with up to 36 in service daily District-wide.

2 TYPE III ENGINES (\$1 million)

Engineered to handle rugged terrain, these engines carry a 500-gallon tank and are designed for wildland fires.

FIRE STATION #68 (\$5.3 million)

May of 2022 marked the completion of the new Station 68 located in the Sunridge area within the City of Rancho Cordova.

For the upcoming year ending June 30, 2023

In the upcoming year, the following are the significant planned acquisitions:

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.



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.



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.



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.

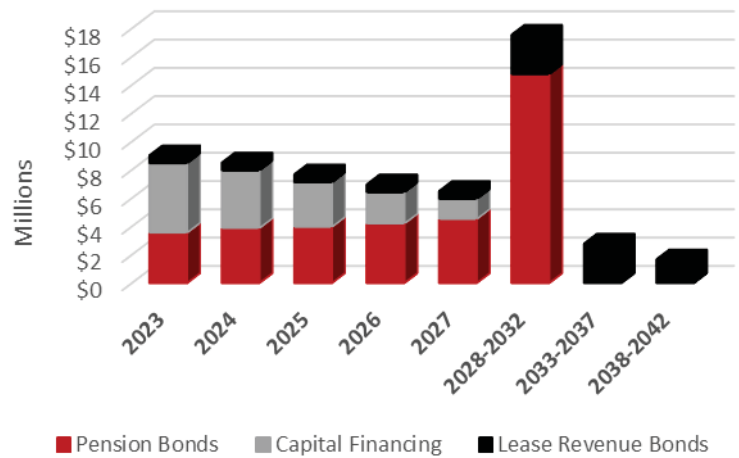
Did you know?

The purchase of an emergency vehicle (apparatus) requires a long lead time. Since the outbreak of COVID, it now takes up to three years to receive a new fire engine - from planning the specs to delivery of the apparatus to the District.

Metro Fire uses debt to spread the cost of larger purchases over time. Metro Fire’s debt policy requires that the maturity of a debt issue be consistent with the economic or useful life of the asset being financed, generally level annual debt services payments, and preferences for fixed interest rates and optional redemption at a reasonable call date. This policy prohibits the issuance of long-term debt to fund District operating costs.

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.

Future Debt Payments



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.



AWARDS



Metro Fire received the Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for the 4th straight year for its *Community Annual Report* (CAR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021. 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 8th straight year for its *Annual Comprehensive Financial Report* (ACFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021.



Mission Statement

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

STAY CONNECTED:

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 twitter.com/metrofirepio

JOIN OUR TEAM!

metrofire.ca.gov