



Providing progressive high quality emergency services
to the citizens of Burlington for over 120 years



Burlington Fire Department 2021 Annual Report

Statement to our Stakeholders

It is with great honor and pride that I introduce the Burlington Fire Department, and the 2021 Annual Report. As we close out 2021, we look forward to new opportunities and relationships in 2022. 2021 was expected to be the year that we as a nation recovered from the pandemic and moved back to our normal way of life. For the fire department, we too were looking forward to normal operations and specifically getting back and interacting with our great community. The impact of this disease has profoundly affected American Communities and claimed so many lives. The Burlington Fire Department and other communities within Skagit County faced tremendous challenges and hurdles throughout the year. Please know that the men and women of your Burlington Fire Department continued to answer our community's calls for service and stayed true to our organization's Mission, Vision, and Values.

The following pages will illustrate our unity, and the great care we take in providing service to our Burlington citizens and those in our EMS response areas. We are a Mission-driven organization that truly believes in compassion and professionalism at all levels of activities and interactions with our community. The core values of our organization are; do your job, treat people right, give all-out effort, and have an all-in attitude. These simple words and statements are the foundation of your Burlington Fire Department.

What we do would not be possible without the support of our community, policymakers, and outside stakeholders. Our community is an amazing group of diverse individuals, brought together by family, friendships, and partnerships that proudly represent our fine city. Throughout 2021, although challenging, we saw the best of our community during those times. It was also exciting to see our community getting back out to celebrate and honor our community members. In November, our city hosted the annual Veterans Day parade, and your fire department was proud to be a part of that great event honoring our veterans past and present. We were also able to enjoy the activities at our Harvest Festival with family and friends at the Skagit River Park. Live music, food, and fireworks are always crowd-pleasing events. And your crews never missed a Friday night Burlington-Edison H.S. football game.

In closing, as we move into 2022, I look back at our accomplishments and achievements and would like to thank every member of the Burlington Fire Department. These individuals are true leaders and heroes in our community. They continue to stay focused and provide top-level service for those that make the call. Finally, a thank you to the Mayor and council members for your ongoing support and leadership of our department and citizens.

Respectfully,

Robert Toth, Fire Chief

Table of contents:

<i>Fire Chief's Message</i>	<i>Page 2</i>
Introduction	
<i>Chapter 1</i>	<i>Page 5</i>
Accomplishments.....	
<i>Chapter2</i>	<i>Page 8</i>
Budget and Finance.....	
<i>Chapter 3</i>	<i>Page 10</i>
Incident Statistics.....	
<i>Chapter 4</i>	<i>Page 16</i>
Emergency Medical Services.....	
<i>Chapter 5</i>	<i>Page 18</i>
Training and Operations.....	
<i>Chapter 6</i>	<i>Page 25</i>
Station and Apparatus.....	
<i>Chapter 7</i>	<i>Page 27</i>
Special Operations.....	
<i>Chapter 8</i>	<i>Page 29</i>
Community Outreach.....	

Our Departments Mission:

Proudly serving our community with a commitment to compassion and professionalism.

Our Vision:

An integral partner in ensuring a safe and vibrant Burlington Community.

We achieve this through:

- Community engagement
- Progressive high-quality emergency services
- Promoting personal well-being for the success of our team

Our Values:

- Do your job
- Treat people right
- Give all-out effort
- Have an all-in attitude

Organizational Priorities:

- 1.** Provide for emergency response to those in need
- 2.** Crew readiness
- 3.** Provide training and staff development opportunities
- 4.** Participate in community education and risk reduction
- 5.** Program management for successful operations
- 6.** Conduct pre-incident survey and tactical consideration of commercial properties
- 7.** Participate in company strength and conditional opportunities

Chapter 1

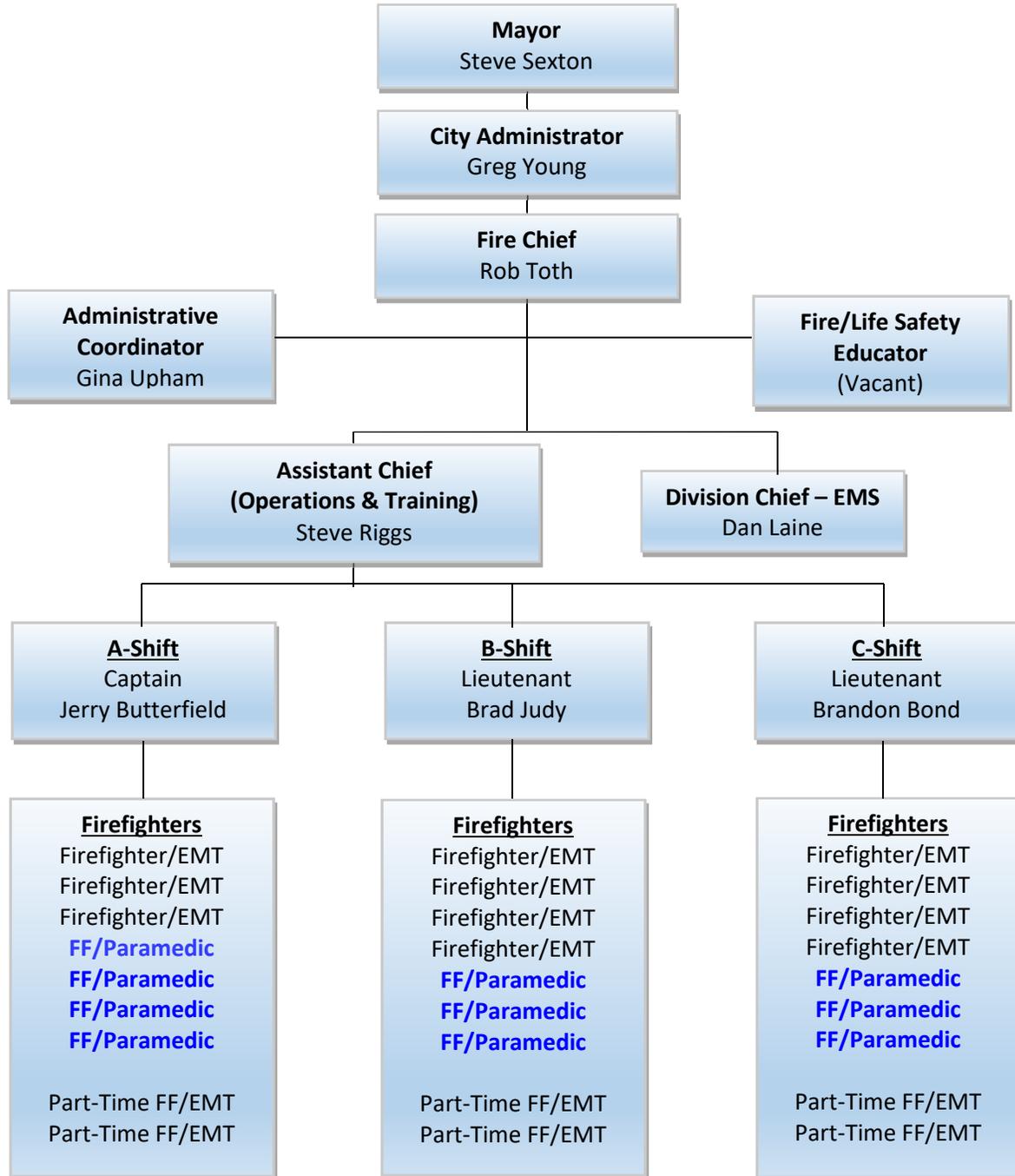
Accomplishments for 2021

- **BLS Transport Program** – In 2021 the Burlington Fire Department was approved to move our Basic Life Support (BLS) transport Pilot Program into our standard operation. This approval allows the Burlington Fire Department to respond to the appropriate level of care to emergency medical calls. The Burlington Fire Department was also approved mid-year to respond with our BLS unit out of the city to outlying areas of Skagit County for lower acuity calls leaving our Advanced Life Support unit in service for those higher acuity calls.
- **Firefighter II Certifications** – By certifying our fire and EMS staff to the level of IFSAC Firefighter II, we reduce the required training hours set forth by the Washington State Survey and Rate Bureau (WSRB). The certification of personnel to the Firefighter II level also reduces deficiency points issued by WSRB. Deficiency points issued by WSRB determine where our insurance rating is set. The fewer deficiency points issued, the better the insurance rating. The Burlington Fire Department currently has a class 5 rating in a scale of 1-10, 1 being the goal with the fewest deficiency points.
- **Wildland/Urban Interface Program** – The Burlington Fire Department signed contracts with the State of Washington and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) that allow us to participate during state all-hazard mobilizations and DNR local responses. These agreements also allow the City of Burlington to be reimbursed for our services and equipment used when we respond to those incidents.
- **Quarterly Training Plans** – Created a 6-year training plan that includes all state and local training requirements along with meeting our everyday operational needs. From the 6-year training plan, we have broken the requirements into quarterly training to easily manage the drill types and time needed to complete the training.
- **Multi-Company Operations** – The Burlington Fire Department has an automatic aid agreement with the City of Mount Vernon for fire response. With this agreement the two departments must conduct quarterly training with each other. In 2021, we were able to meet the quarterly training requirements by getting all shifts opportunities to work together.
- **HUB training and Multi-Company Operations** – The Burlington Fire Department is a part of the county-wide mutual aid agreement. When requested, we will assist our neighboring departments during an emergency response. In 2021, we created the Northwest training HUB that includes Skagit County Fire Districts 5, 6, 12 and 14. This team works on standardizing operations between our agencies, providing training opportunities for individuals or groups. The NW HUB also conducted 4-multi-company

drills in 2021. The drills included emergency operations and responses to an Aviation facility, an Educational facility, a multi-vehicle incident with helicopter support, and a large processing plant scenario. On average these training exercises will bring in 50 to 70 firefighters and their equipment.

- **Apparatus replacement** – In 2021, we started the design work for a new ambulance with the hope that the unit would be constructed and delivered in late 2022. The department also ordered a new command vehicle to replace an existing command vehicle that experienced a mechanical failure.
- **Community outreach** – 2021 allowed us to participate slightly more with our community than in 2020. Our staff held a few station tours where the participants gathered outside to see fire equipment and learn fire safety information. We participated in City’s Harvest Festival activities, Veterans Day parade and a few other events. We look forward to 2022 and being more connected with our community.
- **Program Development** – We continued to develop and implement programs. Some of the programs include; Personal protective equipment, Uniform standards and issuing, Fire hydrant inspection and maintenance, Pre-incident planning of commercial and multi-family buildings, Wildland response and various EMS program outlines
- **Water Rescue** – As our population continues to grow in Skagit County, we are seeing a change in how the Skagit River being used. At one time, the Skagit River was primarily a fishing river. Fishermen on the banks and in boats waiting for the open run to come through. Today not only do the river banks fill with fishermen but the sandbars are used for family recreation. On warm or hot days in the spring, summer and early fall you will see hundreds of people enjoying the water. With the change in use, the Burlington Fire Department is responding to more river emergencies. Because of the increase in those calls, we sent staff to Swift Water Rescue training. This training and new equipment will increase our abilities to help those in need. In addition, the Burlington Fire Department started working more closely with the Skagit County Sheriff’s Office as a partner in river rescues. This partnership has included training together for a better response to river rescues.
- **Training Facility improvements** – Started on Phase 1 of our training facility plan. 80-yards of concrete was poured providing a large concrete pad for fire training. This new training area will primarily be used for propane-operated (live fire) props plus a vehicle extrication pad. We hope to have full construction completion of the prop in 2022.
- **New Employees** – We welcomed Firefighter-EMT Zachary Cleave and Firefighter-Paramedic Nathan Parsons to the Burlington Fire Department Family.

Fire Administration & Organizational Chart



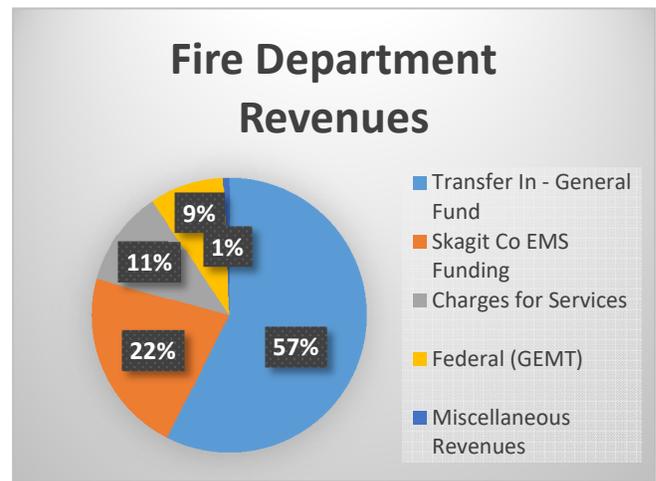
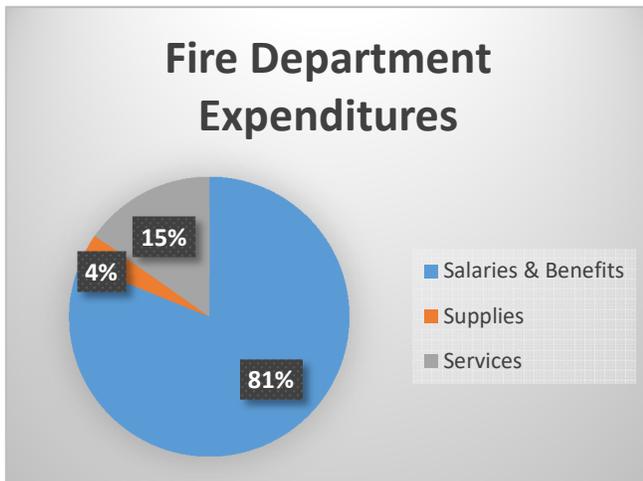
Chapter 2 Budget and Finance:

The Burlington Fire Department remains committed to the efficient and effective use of the tax dollars we receive. The Fire Departments annual budget is funded through a variety of revenue sources. Like other departments in the city, a portion of our funding comes from the City's General Fund. The Fire Departments annual budget for 2021 was \$5,294,589.94, this represents roughly 14% of the City's total operating budget.

While the just over half of our Dept.'s revenue comes from the City's General Fund, the Fire Department also generates revenue from external sources in the form of Federal funding, Contracts, Emergency medical service transports and other miscellaneous revenues.

For specific budget information please visit: <http://www.burlingtonwa.gov>

Fire Department budget breakdown



Expenses	2021 (unaudited)
Salaries & Benefits	\$4,125,935.40
Supplies	\$185,449.16
Services	\$774,474.69
Total	\$5,085,859.25

Revenues	2021 (unaudited)
Transfer In - General Fund	\$3,163,000.00
Skagit Co EMS Funding	\$1,198,512.98
Charges for Services	\$620,354.09
Federal (GEMT)	\$478,881.33
Miscellaneous Revenues	\$40,032.83
State Grants	\$1,260.00
Total	\$5,502,041.23

Chapter 3 Service Area Statistics

Tracking data is an important part of our industry. Data that is properly tracked and reported can make a difference in deployment models, response sequencing, and show trends that lead to prevention and education or response modifications.

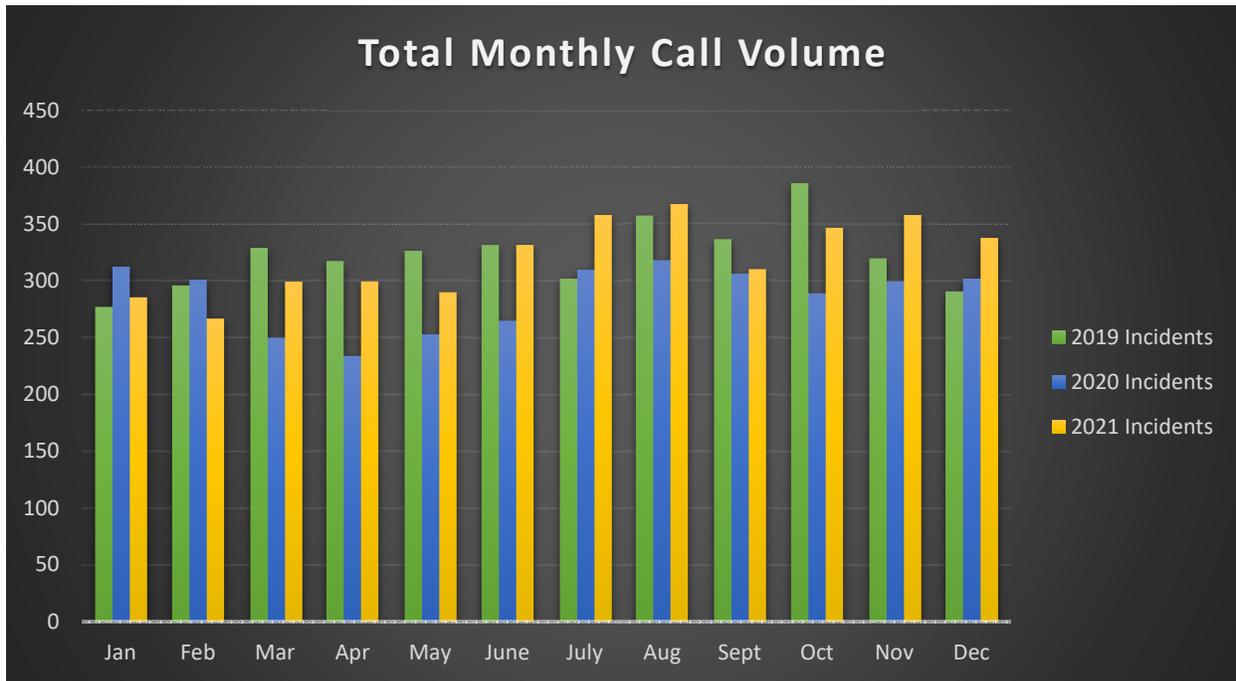
The information below shows basic data points for response and types of calls.

Annual call volume over the last 10-years

Prior to 2019, the Burlington Fire Department expected to see about a 6% increase in call volume each year. In 2019 we experienced a 76% increase that was directly attributed to the addition of EMS transport services. For the remainder of this report, we will focus on the last 3 years.

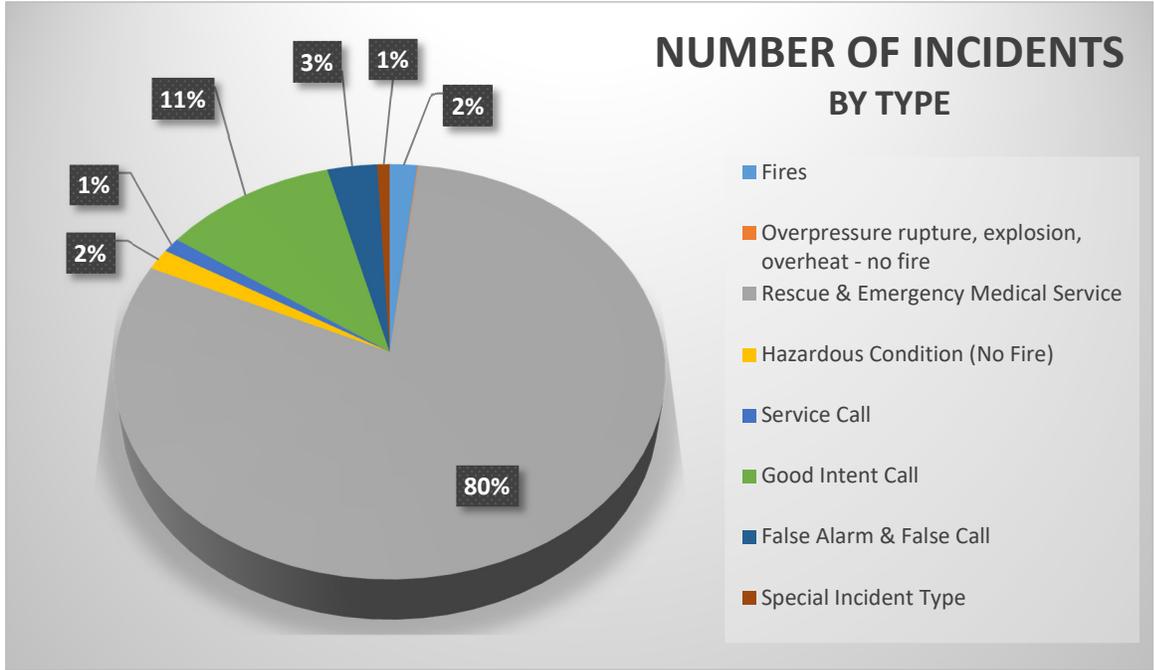


Calls by month over the last 3-years



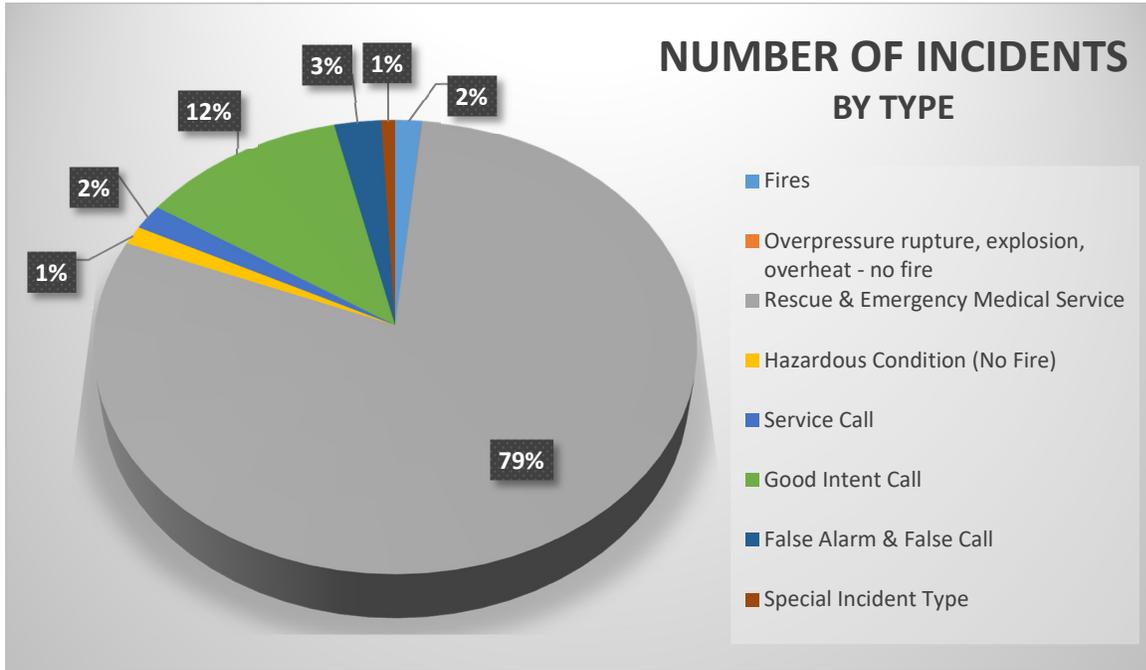
Month	2019 Incidents	2020 Incidents	2021 Incidents
Jan	277	312	285
Feb	296	301	267
Mar	329	250	299
Apr	317	234	299
May	326	253	290
June	332	265	332
July	302	310	358
Aug	357	318	367
Sept	336	306	310
Oct	386	289	347
Nov	320	300	358
Dec	291	302	338

**Call types per year over the last three years
2019**



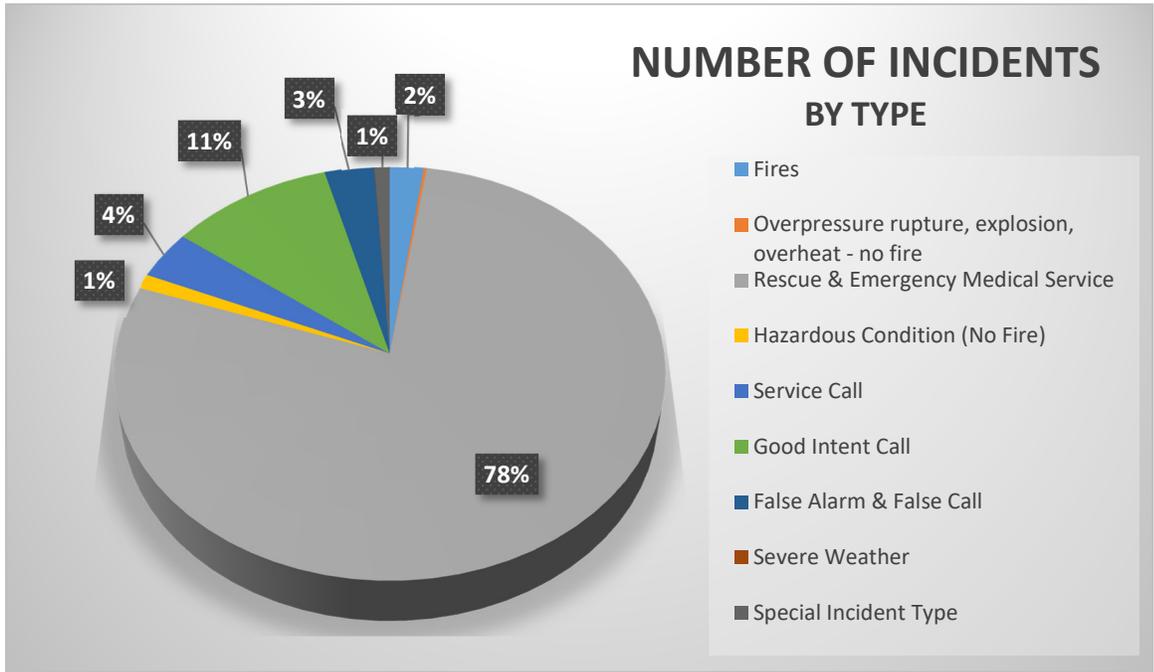
INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	68	1.76%
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheating - no fire	2	0.05%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	3101	80.15%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	64	1.65%
Service Call	44	1.14%
Good Intent Call	435	11.24%
False Alarm & False Call	124	3.2%
Special Incident Type	31	0.8%
2019 TOTAL	3869	100%

2020



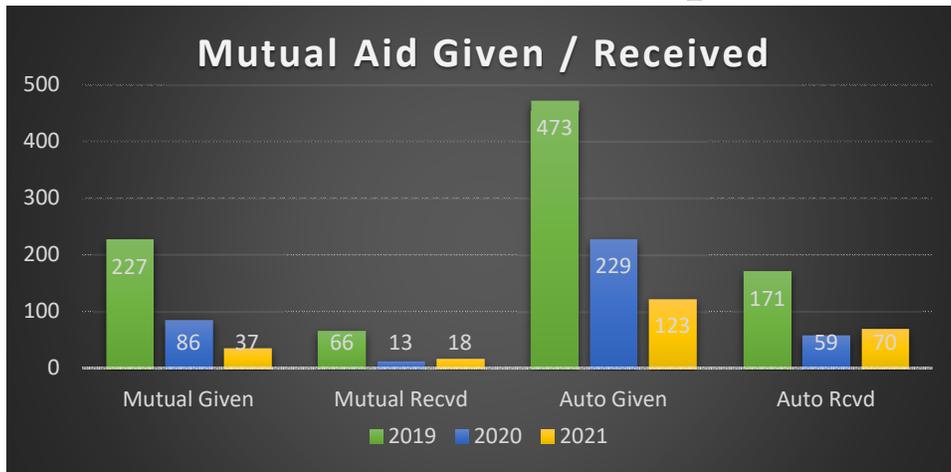
INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	54	1.57%
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheating - no fire	1	0.03%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	2737	79.56%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	46	1.34%
Service Call	62	1.8%
Good Intent Call	417	12.12%
False Alarm & False Call	95	2.76%
Special Incident Type	28	0.81%
2020 TOTAL	3440	100%

2021



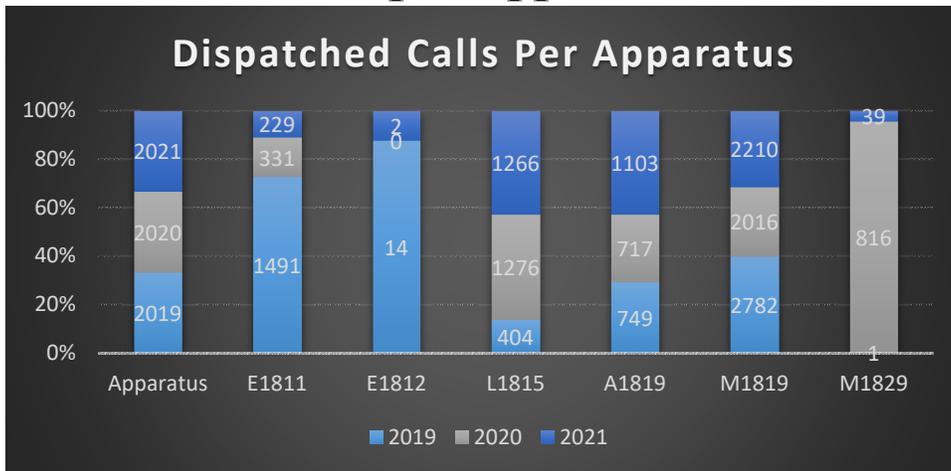
INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	84	2.18%
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheating - no fire	7	0.18%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	3003	78.00%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	44	1.14%
Service Call	146	3.79%
Good Intent Call	405	10.52%
False Alarm & False Call	123	3.19%
Severe Weather	1	0.03%
Special Incident Type	37	0.96%
2021 TOTAL	3850	100%

Mutual and Auto Aid Responses



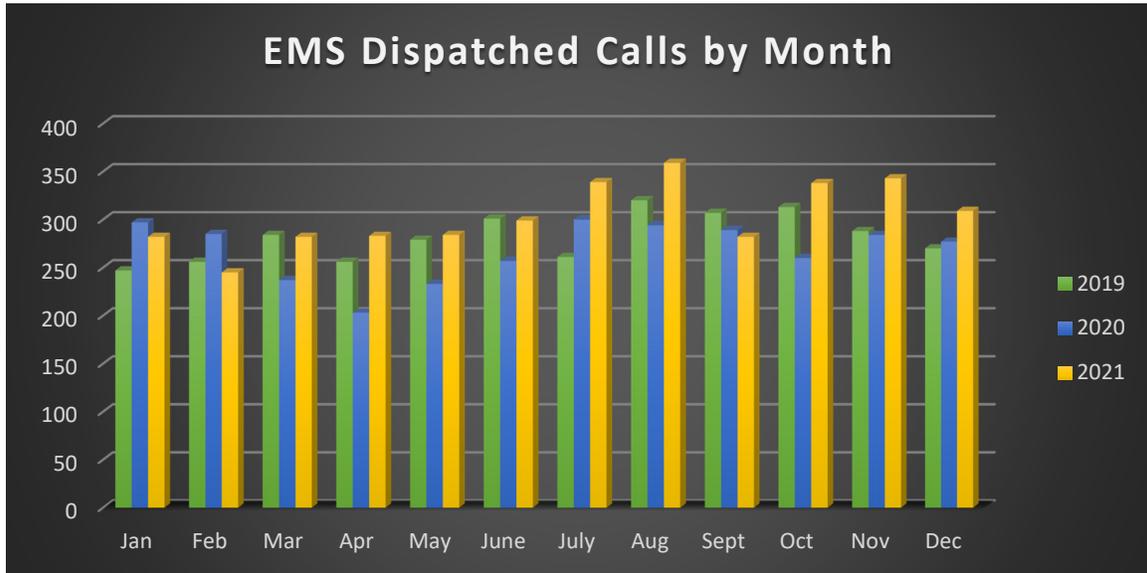
Year	Mutual Given	Mutual Received	Auto Given	Auto Received	Total Annual Calls
2019	227	66	473	171	3869
2020	86	13	229	59	3440
2021	37	18	123	70	3850

Calls per Apparatus



Apparatus	Engine 1811	Engine 1812	Ladder 1815	Aid 1819	Medic 1819	Medic 1829	Total for the year
2019	1491	14	404	749	2782	1	5441
2020	331	0	1276	717	2016	816	5156
2021	229	2	1266	1103	2210	39	4849
Total	2051	16	2946	2569	7008	856	15,446

Emergency Medical Calls Dispatched

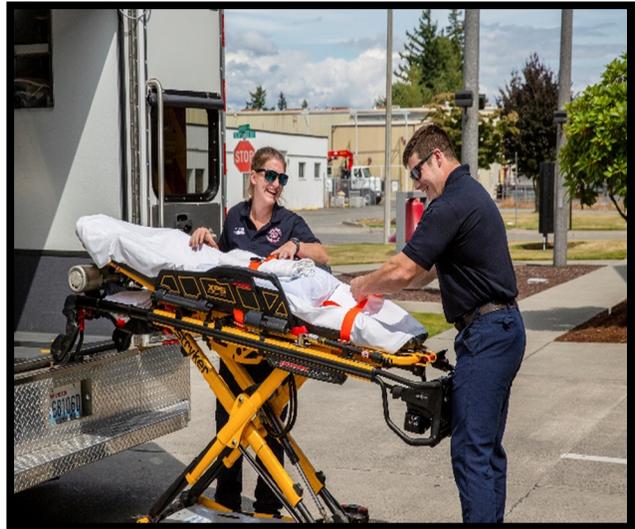


Month	2019	2020	2021
Jan	247	297	282
Feb	256	285	245
Mar	284	237	282
Apr	256	203	283
May	279	233	284
June	301	257	299
July	261	300	339
Aug	320	294	359
Sept	307	289	282
Oct	313	260	338
Nov	288	284	343
Dec	270	277	309
Totals	3382	3216	3645

Chapter 4

Emergency Medical Services

The EMS division of the Burlington Fire Department is the busiest division within our organization, accounting for approximately 80% of the calls for service (this includes calls that are dispatched with an EMS Nature, including those that are canceled before going enroute or arrival). Our providers, both Advanced Life Support (ALS) and Basic Life Support (BLS) are highly trained, compassionate individuals, and teams that focus on high-quality patient care for our patients and community members.



In January 2021, ProQA criteria based dispatch was launched at Skagit 911. This internationally recognized program provides a step-by-step process in which dispatchers are led through a series of questions that prompt different level priority responses based on acuity, and dispatch an appropriate EMS level care to emergency trauma and medical calls. Year one has provided data that has allowed organizations involved in EMS delivery and transport to recognize the need to modify some responses based on data driven decisions, such as patient outcomes, call dispositions (canceled calls, no patients found, non-transport), and unique response challenges within Skagit County. The data obtained from ProQA is providing opportunities to look at needed EMS system changes while ensuring that appropriate resources are utilized and quality of patient care remains a top priority.



With the implementation of ProQA and collaboration with Skagit EMS and the Skagit County Medical Program Director, Burlington Fire Department was able to more efficiently deploy its resources throughout Skagit County, based on the appropriate level of dispatch. This provides for ALS services to be more readily available to treat those patients with a higher acuity injury/ illness while allowing for lower acuity patients to receive a timely and appropriate level of care utilizing our highly skilled BLS providers. This has been



especially important through the pandemic, as resources become stretched due to increased call volume, increased wait times at Emergency Rooms, and hospital diversions due to overcrowding.

The pandemic continued to challenge Burlington Fire Department throughout 2021. We as an organization experienced firsthand, both at an organizational level, but also on a very personal level the impacts COVID has in our communities. In February of 2021, a

longtime member and provider of the Skagit County EMS and hospital community, Rusty Carpenter, passed away from complications of COVID. For those that had the privilege of many years of working beside this outstanding paramedic, nurse, and clinician, the impact was real and left large shoes to fill. Burlington Fire Department also experienced firsthand the impacts on our staffing and the personal lives of our providers, the effects of COVID. While diligently working to maintain a safe and healthy workforce, inevitably our organization had members who tested positive for COVID. This challenged our already exhausted providers by further increasing the need to work additional hours, by those who were already working additional shifts due to staffing shortages with our paramedic ranks, and the need to increase staffing hours of our BLS transport unit.

Despite the challenges that 2021 presented, the providers of Burlington Fire Department rose to the challenges and moved forward ensuring a response, quality care, and transport were provided to the communities we serve. I am proud of each of our providers, as they continue to show up, work to improve their knowledge and skills, continue to focus on the delivery of high quality care, and work as a team not only within the Burlington Fire Department but with the providers in our primary service area. The hard work of each of our members shows their commitment to themselves, their team, and their community.



Chapter 5

Training and Operations

The Operations Division is the “Central Nervous System” of the fire department that is responsible for providing fire and emergency medical services to the residents and visitors of the City of Burlington. We continue to provide contracted emergency medical services to the residents and visitors of Skagit County Fire Districts 5, 6, 12 and 14. Our daytime population in the city fluctuates between 40,000 to 60,000 and with an evening population of 9600 to 10,000 residents. With the contract for emergency medical services to outlying areas listed above, our nighttime population includes an additional 10,000 residents. The city of Burlington itself covers approximately 4.5 sq. miles. When adding our contracted service area in the county, our primary coverage area expands to approximately 106 sq. miles

Our 24 full-time employees along with 9 part-time firefighters provide an emergency response from one central location in the City. Our department operates with an average of 7 personnel on shift working a “48/96” (2 days on, 4 days off) work schedule. Our daily response consists of 1-quint (ladder/engine), 1-medic unit, and 1-Aid unit. Together, these three units responded to 3850 calls for service in 2021.

Of our 24 full-time employees, 10 of those are firefighter paramedics. These individuals are responsible for 80% of our calls for service. They provide advanced life support (ALS) services for our community and communities around us. Our firefighter paramedics are supported by our firefighter EMT’s basic life support (BLS). These individuals play a critical role in supporting our ALS unit by responding to and transporting lower acuity patients. Our Firefighters/EMTs also prepare for other emergencies that take place. Through continuous training, pre-incident planning and program management our firefighters are ready for those other calls for service.

Like our full-time staff, our part-time firefighters are trained and certified through IFSAC firefighter II level and EMT. This level of training allows for the part-time firefighters to be an essential part of our daily operations. Our part-time staff works approximately 5-24 hour shifts a month working alongside our career staff to provide service.

Like the rest of the first responders in the world, we continued to work within the guidelines set forth that protect our employees and community when they call for service. The COVID pandemic has been long and challenging for our crews, however, we maintain a high level of service while protecting staff and the community that calls upon us. We too, felt the impacts of the COVID vaccine mandate. While the majority of our employees stepped forward to meet the requirement, we still lost two incredible employees to a difficult decision.

We continue through our mission and vision statements to meet the full service demands of our community. As our community continues to grow, the type and volume of calls for service grow as well. Through automatic emergency response agreements and mutual aid agreements with

our neighboring fire departments, we receive the proper resources to manage larger scale incidents.

In 2021 we said goodbye to our original L1815. The 1996 LTI 100 foot aerial served our community for 23 years of front line service and saw plenty of fires with one of the last big blazes being the Hansen/Craft Stove fire in Mount Vernon. The LTI was purchased by Jasper Fire and Rescue out of



South Carolina. The LTI will continue service for them as a reserve ladder truck and heavy rescue.

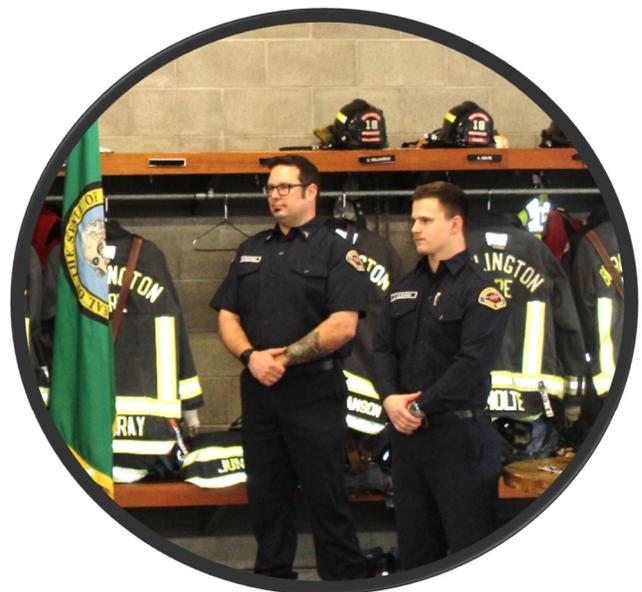


While retiring one apparatus we receive a new command vehicle to replace an aging one. After being on order for nearly a year the new command vehicle is in service. The vehicle will be used as a command resource for emergency responses like fires, rescues, and vehicle crashes. It will also be used by the

training division to support our crews when working skill-based training.

We also hired two new employees in 2021. Nathan Parson, Firefighter Paramedic comes to us from Pierce County. Nathan worked in the private sector and was looking to re-enter the fire service. Nathan brings 10 years of experience to our Dept.

Zachary Cleave, Firefighter EMT is a graduate of Mount Vernon High School and the son of Scott Cleave, Fire Captain for the Mount Vernon Fire Department. Zachary graduated from the Skagit Valley College Fire Science Program and brings wildland firefighting experience as well.

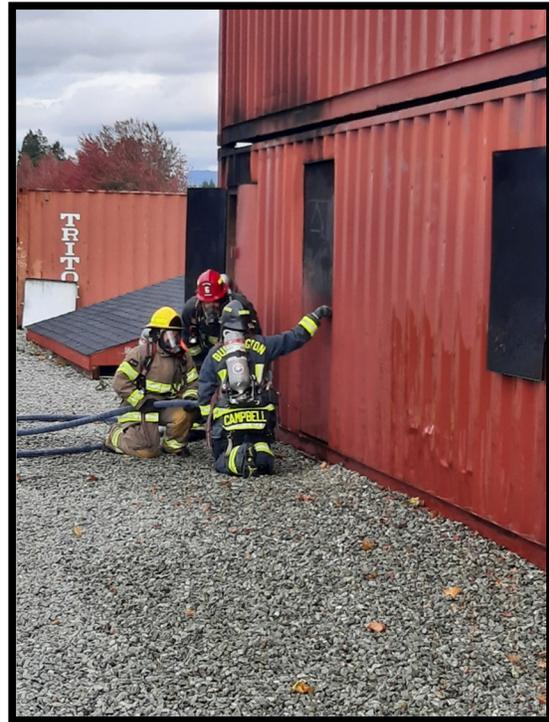


Nathan Parsons (left), Zach Cleave (right)

Fire Training and Employee Development

Training is an essential component of our success as an emergency response agency, the training division directs all training for the Burlington Fire Department's 33 fire and EMS personnel. It is our responsibility to provide basic level cognitive and practical skills, but to look into new ways, tools and techniques to give our employees the best advantage when there is a call for service. It is also our responsibility to help direct and develop employees. As with any career, individuals will find something that interests them, or maybe they know where they want to be in their career. The training division helps provide opportunities and steps to achieve personal goals.

In 2021 we were able to bring all our personnel up to an IFSAC Firefighter II skill level. This next level provides employees with a higher skill level in fire investigation, community outreach, life safety systems in buildings, and advanced firefighting tactics and techniques. This level of is recognized by the city's fire insurance rating (WSRB), which in return could provide some of our community members with better insurance rates.



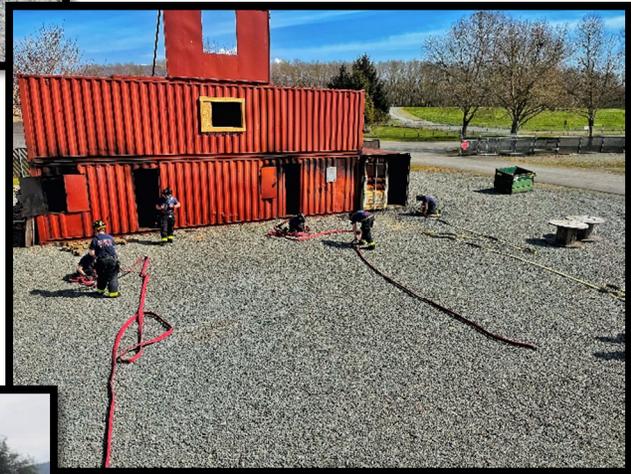
Skills and topics

The training division breaks training into quarterly training and topics are specific to the employees skill level. The topics covered in 2021 were:

- Annual state requirements set by Labor and Industries
- Company officer development
- Driver operator
- Engine company operations
- Truck company operations
- Technical rescue
- Hazardous materials
- Wildland and urban interface
- Multi-company operations
- Live fire training
- Emergency Medical
- Officers choice



Fire Extinguishers



Hose Operations

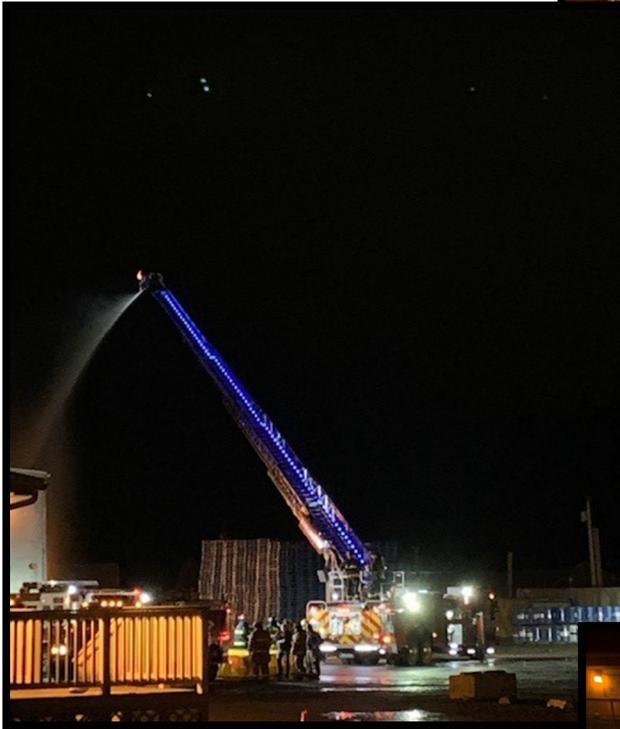


Propane Emergencies

Pump Operations



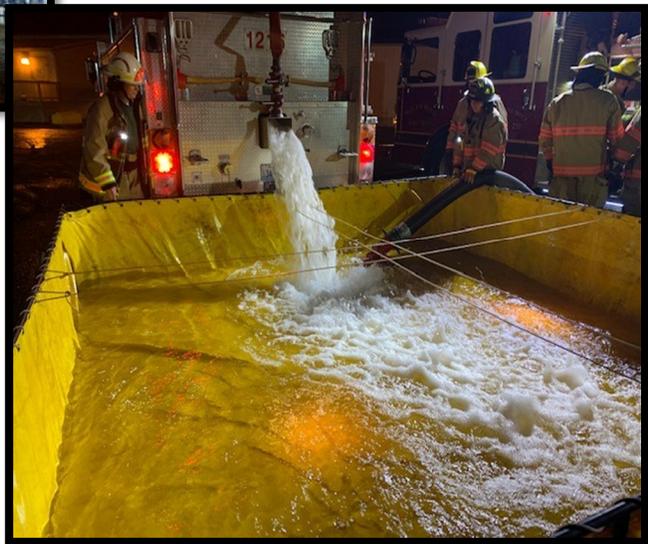
**2nd Quarter
Multi-Company Operations**



**4th Quarter
Multi-Company Operations**

NW Fire Training HUB

Burlington Fire Department
Skagit County Fire District 5 (Allen, Edison,
Samish Island)
Skagit County Fire District 6 (Bay Ridge)
Skagit County Fire District 12 (Bayview)
Skagit County Fire District 14 (Alger)



**Sharing Resources
and Facilities with
outside agencies**



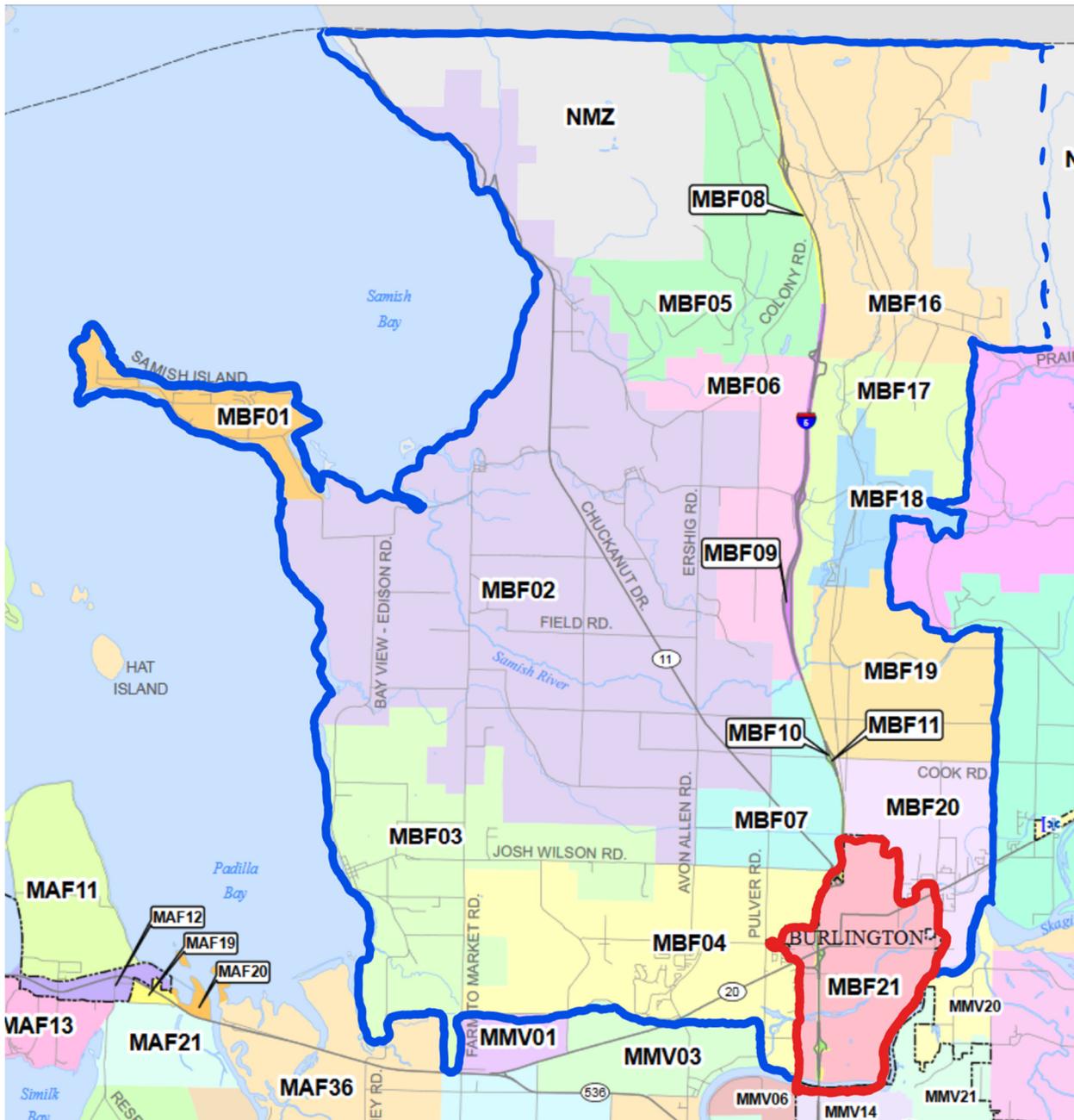
**Fire District 2
(Melean Rd FD)
working on annual live
fire training**

Training Hours

Topic	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Totals
WAC L&I	124	33	49	50	256
Officer Development		31		9	40
Driver Operator	42	24	42	24	132
Engine Operations	58	49	38	33	178
Ladder Operation	54	86.5	90	63	293.5
Hazardous Materials	68.5	28.5		17	118
Multi Company with MVFD	51	42	21	30	124
Multi Company with HUB	51	42	13	18	124
Technical Rescue	58	70	16	22	166
Officer Choice (Shift Training)	47	103	115	41	306
Live Fire		35	45		80
Firefighter II Certification		53	38	16	107
Mini Skills Academy			210		210
Quarterly Totals	553.5	597	677	323	2150.5

Response and Service Area

The map below represents the Burlington Fire Department primary response areas. In red is the City of Burlington. Within the city limits and urban growth areas we provide full service response for fire, EMS and technical response. The blue area is our primary EMS response area covering Bay Hill and the Country Club, Bayview, towns of Allen, Edison, Alger and outlying areas such as Samish Island, Chuckanut Mountains and Squires Lake.



Chapter 6

Station and Apparatus

The Burlington Fire Department operates out of a single firehouse that was constructed in 1996 replacing the fire station on Cherry Street. With the change over from volunteer force to career the needs to be reworked on the interior to provide proper working spaces, cooking area, sleeping, and training. In 2021, a study was completed with the support of the Burlington City Council to look at those issues and provide a plan for review. It is anticipated in 2022 the Burlington City Council will review proposals.

Fire Apparatus

The Burlington Fire Department maintains three firefighting apparatus and three EMS transport vehicles. Each vehicle has a specific function within our department. Our primary fire response is with a 2019 Pierce 107-foot ladder (Quint) that has pumping capabilities. This vehicle maximizes the use of both an aerial for elevated positions and the ability to pump water for fire extinguishment.

Our backup fire apparatus to the Pierce aerial and our primary response vehicle for out-of-city responses to assist neighboring departments is a 2009 Crimson. We operate this apparatus in the fire districts and where water supplies are limited as it carries 750 gallons of water.



Our third fire apparatus is primarily our training apparatus; however, when our front line apparatus is on an emergency response or out for repair this 2003 Pierce becomes the workhorse for the city. Although this engine is aging, it still provides valuable service to our community

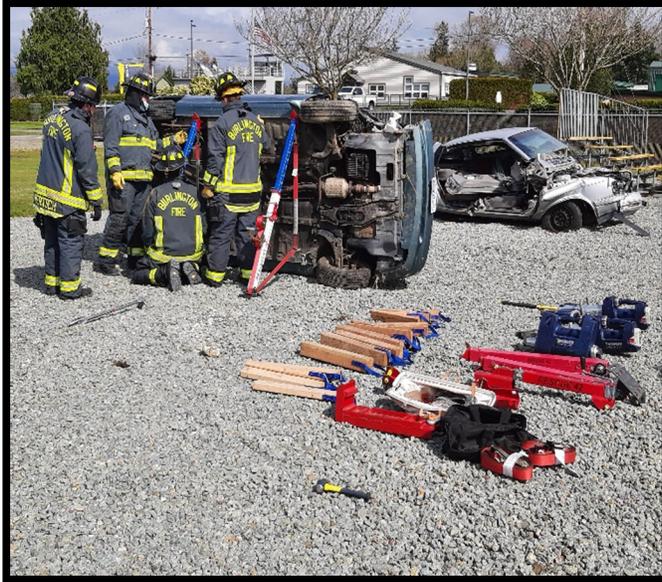


For EMS responses, we operate three transport ambulances. One of the units provides advanced life support (ALS) another provides basic life support (BLS), and the third is a reserve when one of the other two is out for repair or maintenance. The three units all look alike and other than the "M or A" on the side, the general public would not know the difference. These vehicles see many hard miles over a short time. It is not unusual to put 20,000 miles or more a year on the front line ambulances.



Chapter 7

Special Operations



In addition to Fire and EMS responses, the Burlington Fire Department has responsibilities to provide technical expertise for vehicle and machinery extrication, confined space rescue, shore-based water rescue, structural collapse, and rope operations.

The Burlington Fire Department has 5 members on our staff with technician certifications in multiple disciplines. Our Technicians train regularly to meet required NFPA 1670 standards for operation and training. Along with

meeting all OSHA standards for confined space rescue.

In 2021 the Burlington Fire Department began to further develop our technical rescue abilities. In late 2021 we formed a Technical Rescue Team (TRT) to better provide training opportunities, standardize responses and identify equipment needs to provide the correct tools in a technical rescue situation.-



Because of the ever changing conditions of the Skagit River and families using it more for recreation than ever before, we find ourselves responding to calls for service on or along the 2 miles of river we cover. Because of the call increase we sent 4 members to a 40-hour swift water training to better prepare them for water emergencies. From that training, we identified equipment needed to better access people in the river.

We also sent individuals to Rescue Systems 1 training that provides knowledge and skills in building collapse and shoring, rope systems, urban search & rescue, and much more. Living on a fault line and experiencing earthquakes in the past, it is vital to have the training and understanding of buildings after an earthquake.

**Rope bag practice
“Throw and go”**



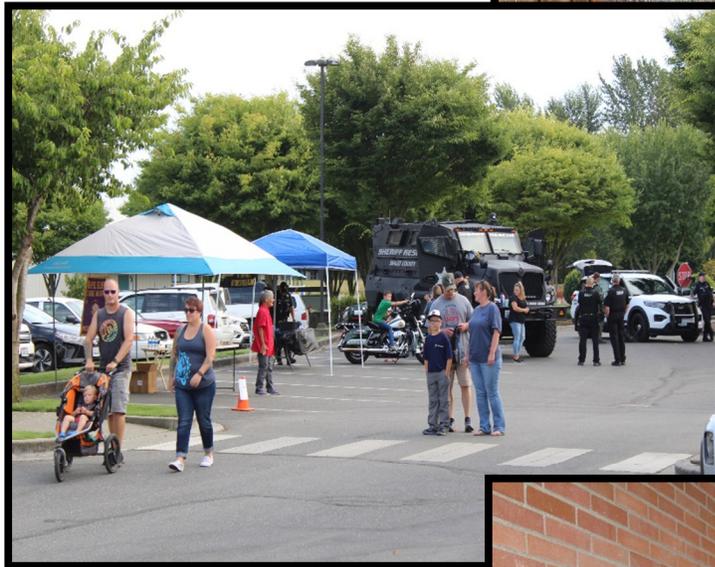
**Retrieving people
out of swift water**

**Navigating obstacles
in the river**



Chapter 8 Community Outreach

Although 2021 continued to give us roadblocks with COVID restrictions, we found ways to get together with our community. Our firefighters are always looking for opportunities to engage and share our fire safety message and just have fun with our community. This past year we participated in “National Night Out” which was sponsored by Burlington



Police Department. It was a night full of fun, games, music, and events. It was an honor to be invited to such a great event.

Many of our firefighters participate in “Operation Warm”. This program

gets warm coats out to kids in our community. This past year they were able to get back into the schools and present warm coats to children from the Burlington-Edison School District.

Public safety events and fire station tours are ways that we get to connect with our community. We missed having folks come visit our stations, especially the youngsters.



Unfortunately, our station was still closed to the public. We got creative and had a drive-through tour and interaction with the firefighters. This was a first for us but the kids enjoyed the event,

especially visiting with the firefighters and looking at our apparatus.



The Veterans Day parade returned in 2021. With the assistance of Sedro Woolley Fire Department, we were able to hang the American Flag under the two ladder trucks and continue the

tradition. We also had our 1948 Seagrave engine and 2009 Crimson in the parade. It was great to see the community out in support, and it's always a pleasure to see the old military planes fly over.



We also participated in a few other events, like Harvest Fest, Team Julius, and the



Burlington-Edison High School Friday Night under the lights home football games.

Conclusion

We hope the information provided has given our community, stakeholders and interested parties a good overview of the Burlington Fire Department. As we now focus our attention to the coming year, we are committed to servicing our community and communities around us with compassion and professionalism. We look forward to participating in local events throughout the year and hope to see you there as well.

