

# Burlington Fire Department 2022 Annual Report



Hard times do not create heroes.  
It is during hard times when the hero within is revealed.

## Statement to our Stakeholders



The Burlington Fire Department is pleased to present our 2022 annual fire and EMS report.

The annual report reflects the efforts and accomplishments of the Burlington Fire Department in providing high-quality professional emergency services to our Burlington community and those communities we serve through the EMS Levy. This report highlights emergency response statistics, training, and community activities. This report further serves as a tool for evaluating and supporting decisions that enhance our department's mission, vision, and values for serving our communities and guide us in ways to better assist in risk reduction.

2022 was a challenging year for our department. Yet, as a nation and community, we continue to recover after the pandemic, reaching to meet what we once were accustomed to and looking beyond for new opportunities. We saw employees make difficult decisions about their futures in the fire and EMS services and invited new members into our family.

I am incredibly proud of our personnel and their accomplishments in 2022. We saw an increase in emergency responses and training hours, completed our Washington State Survey and Rating Bureau (WSRB) evaluation, designed and ordered a new ambulance, and began a 2.7 million-dollar remodel of Station 18. Despite all these items, we continued to engage actively with our community during scheduled events and calls for service.

Our biggest accomplishment for 2022 was our new fire protection rating class 4, which we received during our WSRB evaluation. In our previous 2017 evaluation, we received a fire protection class 5 rating (class 1 being the best). Over these past five years and with a pandemic in the middle, we made operational changes that provide our community with a lower fire protection class rating and insurance premiums that will be adjusted for many residents and businesses. Over the last five years, some changes include our new ladder truck, additional firefighter positions, advanced life support, and basic life support (BLS) with transport. Implementing new training requirements and partnering with our neighbors on training and responding. New tools and technologies provide our responders with the best means to overcome emergencies.

We have learned so much in the last couple of years, specifically about ourselves, and we know the future will provide unique opportunities. So, I look forward to the future and serving our community.

Thank you  
**Robert Toth**  
Fire Chief

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## **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 the following:

- 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 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 a pre-incident survey and tactical consideration of commercial properties
- 7.** Participate in company strength and conditional opportunities

## Chapter 1

### Accomplishments for 2022

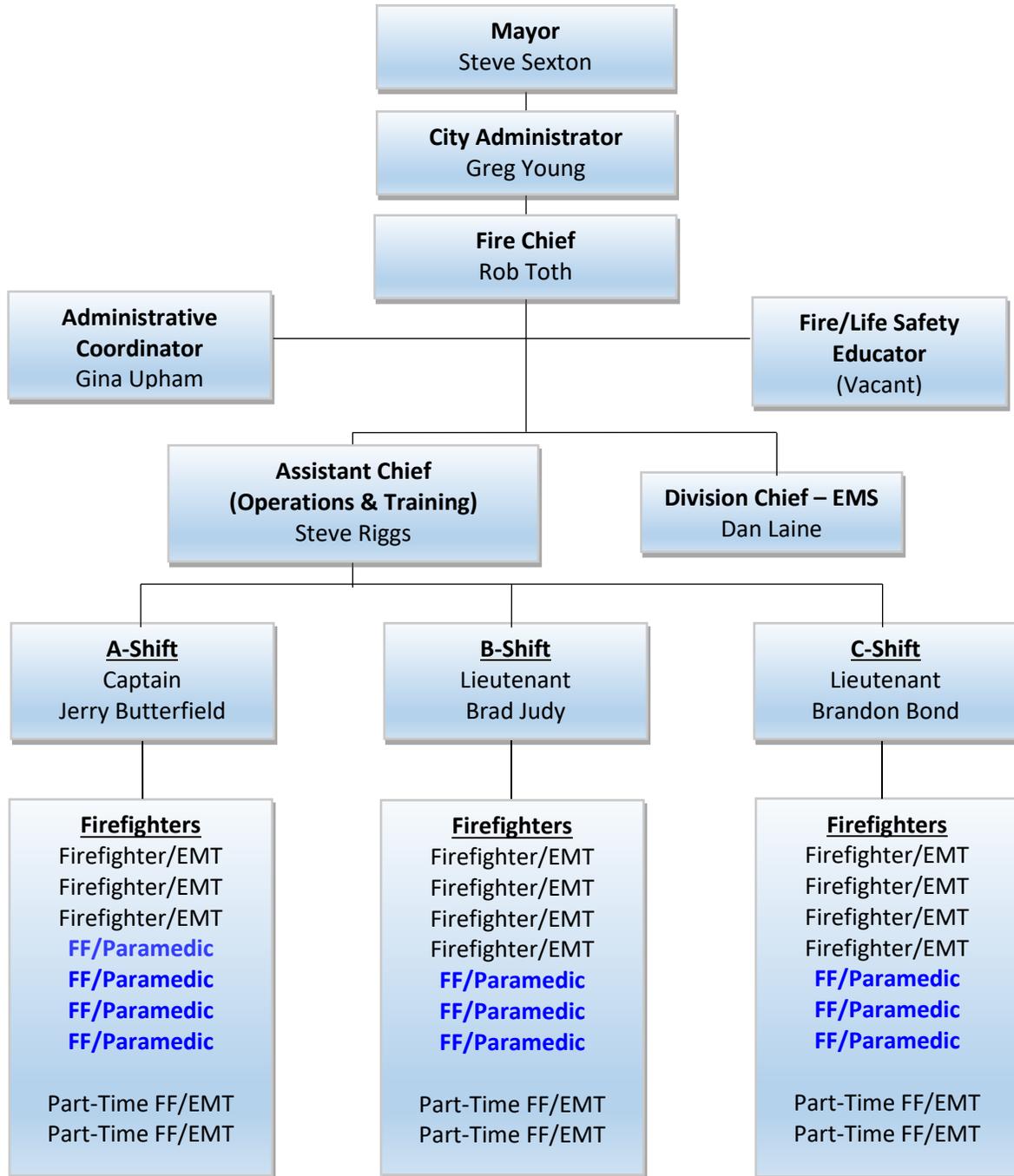
- ❖ **Fire Station Remodel** - In 2022, we identified operational challenges within the fire station. Understanding that the fire station located at 350 Sharon Avenue was constructed in 1995 when community volunteers primarily operated the fire department. The station had large, wide-open spaces for gathering. In 2019, the Burlington Fire Department brought in Advanced Life Support (ALS) and additional firefighter EMTs (BLS) to provide emergency responses to our citizens. With the staffing change from a volunteer workforce to a career fire and EMS organization, the station needed modifications to meet workforce demands. In October, our city council approved an interior remodel and provided funding without asking the community for financial assistance. The remodel began in 2022 and is slated to be completed by November 2023.
- ❖ **Apparatus replacement** - The design work was completed, and a new ambulance was ordered. The shortage of supplies delayed delivery until 2023. The new ambulance will replace one of the aging units used primarily for ALS emergencies and transports. We also ordered a second ambulance in 2022; we are to receive it sometime in 2024. The second ambulance will replace our BLS transport unit from Central Valley Ambulance. Finally, we were approved to replace a command vehicle in 2022.
- ❖ **New Employees** – 2022 hit the Burlington Fire Department hard, losing nearly one-quarter of our employees. COVID had taken its toll on some, while other employees moved on to different areas with the massive openings of fire department positions across the state. Ultimately, we hired ten new employees to fill the vacant positions. We are pleased to welcome Firefighter-EMT Richard Myers, Firefighter-EMT Austin Forster, Firefighter-EMT Joseph LaChaussee, Firefighter-EMT Nikki Campbell, Firefighter-Paramedic Bryce Hamilton, Firefighter-Paramedic Scott Parrett, Firefighter-Paramedic Skye Levandowski, Firefighter-Paramedic Michael Villalpando, Firefighter-Paramedic Benjamin Weber, and Firefighter-Paramedic Scott Lang.
- ❖ **Community Outreach** – 2022 continued to open opportunities for our staff to attend community events/activities. With the return of significant events like Berry Dairy Days, the Fall Festival, and the Veterans Day Parade, it was great to see our community. The city also brought back Touch-A-Truck, Senior Day in the Park, and many other events. Station tours, National Night Out and Halloween with the kids were favorites within the fire department.
- ❖ **Fire and EMS HUB Training** – In 2022, we continued to work closely with our neighboring fire agencies. Quarterly fire-related multi-company training operations were planned with our neighboring agencies, offering a variety of situations. Our largest event included seven agencies and more than 70 participants. In addition, we returned to the classroom with EMS training and worked with our HUB partners. We also had an

opportunity to work with law enforcement on active shooter training. Burlington-Edison School District has greatly supported our training by allowing us to use school buildings for training. In addition, we could get back into the classroom at our local high school to provide CPR and first aid training.

- ❖ **Peer Support Program** – During challenging times and emergency responses our crews are dispatched to, keeping our staff mentally and physically healthy is a priority. In 2022, we developed an in-house peer support program. Three firefighters attended a 24-hour certification class to learn how to work with peers in need and how to provide those individuals with tools for success. We hope to extend that program to other organizations within the county.
- ❖ **Wildland** – In 2021, we obtained contracts with the State of Washington and DNR to provide resources in the event of a State or DNR emergency. In 2022, we responded to two DNR wildfires with a firefighter paramedic who provided EMS support to firefighters on the line. This service allows immediate treatment to an injured or ill firefighter who might otherwise not have medical care for an extended time.
- ❖ **Training** – The Burlington Fire Department develops a yearly training plan for line staff. This training includes annual requirements set by law and local requirements through contracts and inter-local agreements. With the turnover experienced in 2022, the training division had to become creative with new member onboarding and skills training. Our line staff of company officers, instructors, and field training officers (FTOs) did an outstanding job balancing daily operational requirements with new employee training and evaluations. In all, 15 new employees were trained in 2022.
- ❖ **Washington State Survey and Rating Bureau (WSRB)** – Every five years, the Burlington Fire Department undergoes an evaluation from WSRB to determine our service level and assign a grade for insurance rates. This process takes most of the year to prepare documents, graphs, spreadsheets and supporting documents requested by the agency. In the end, the Burlington Fire Department achieved a Class 4 rating. The Class 4 rating is an improvement from the Class 5 we received during our last evaluation. This class adjustment should provide insurance adjustments for many customers within the Burlington city limits.
- ❖ **New Drivers** - The fire department operates highly technical equipment, including an aerial ladder truck and fire engines. After the first year of employment, the next task is to become a driver operator. Each member must complete a training manual, including practical and cognitive training and evaluations. In 2022, we added three new drivers to our qualified driver list.
- ❖ **Basic Life Support Technicians (BLS)** – In late 2020, the Burlington Fire Department started a BLS transport unit. With this new resource now available in our county, we had to develop a program to train line staff on proper procedures and expectations. Since the

program started, every new employee has completed all components of this technician program. In 2022, we added seven new BLS technicians who can respond anywhere in the county when dispatched to provide top quality care and transport.

## Chapter 2 Fire Administration & Organizational Chart



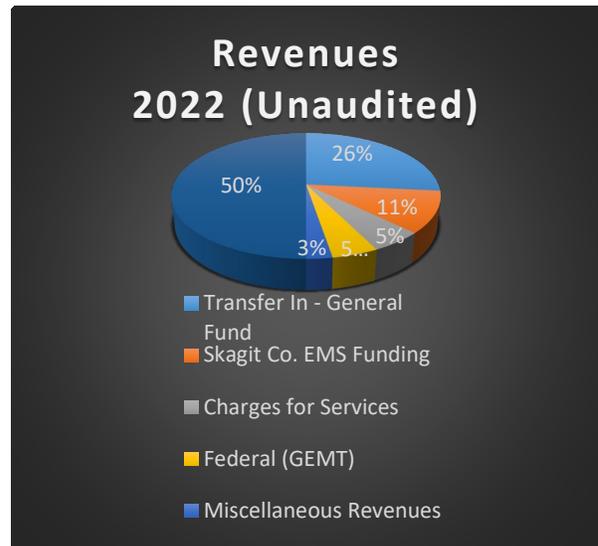
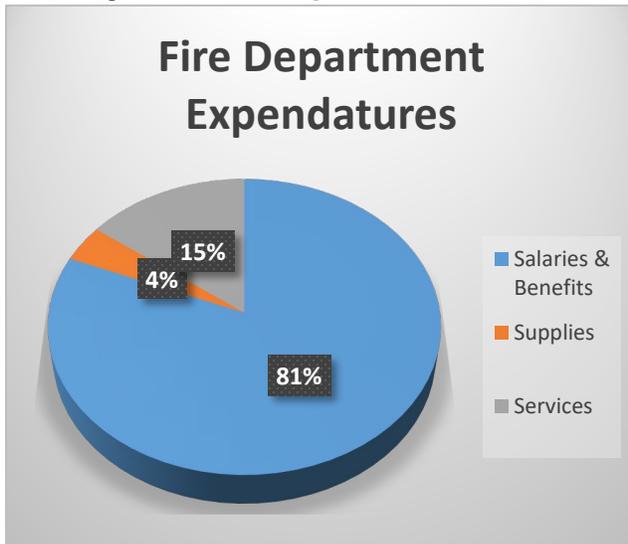
## Chapter 3 Budget and Finance:

The Burlington Fire Department remains committed to the efficient and effective use of the tax dollars we receive. The Fire Department’s annual budget is funded through various revenue sources. Like other departments in the city, a portion of our funding comes from the City’s General Fund. The Fire department’s annual budget 2022 was \$5,830,151.89; this represents roughly 14% of the City’s total operating budget.

While just over half of our department’s revenue comes from the City’s General Fund, the Fire Department also generates revenue from external sources through 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	2022 (unaudited)	%
Salaries & Benefits	\$4,587,808.62	81%
Supplies	\$226,719.92	4%
Services	\$832,735.99	15%

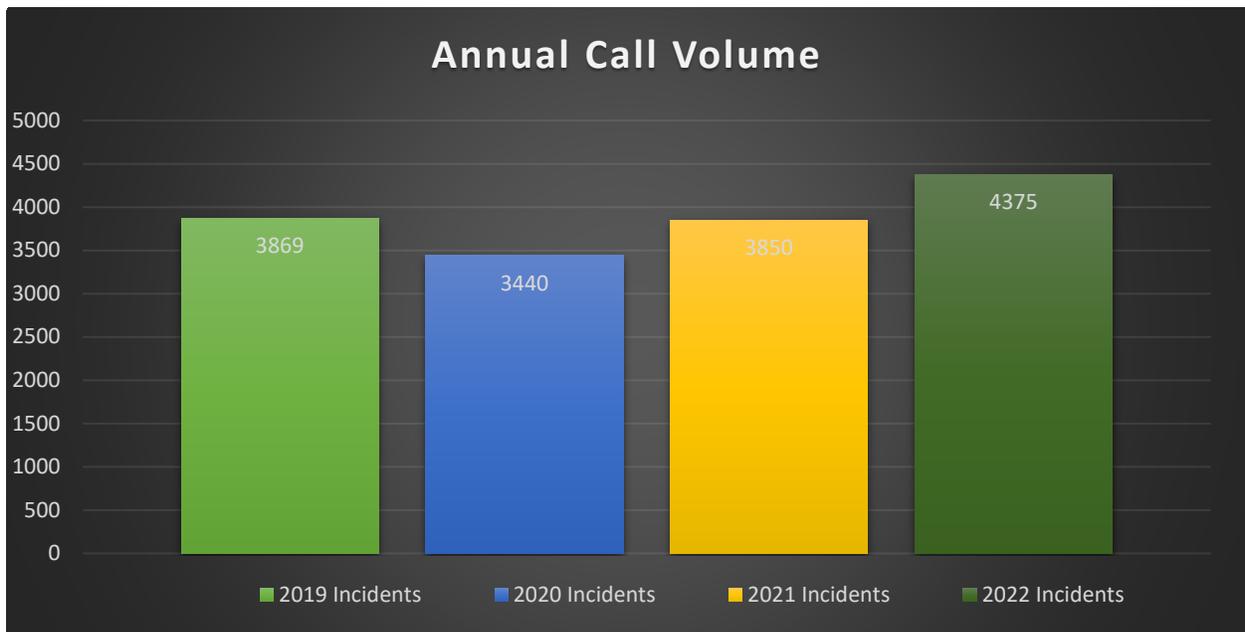
Revenues	2022 (unaudited)
Transfer In-General Fund	\$3,102,034.65
Skagit Co. EMS Funding	\$1,243,523.00
Charges for Services	\$626,000.00
Federal (GEMT)	\$550,000.00
Misc. Revenues	\$308,594.24
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,830,151.89</b>

## Chapter 4 Service Area Statistics

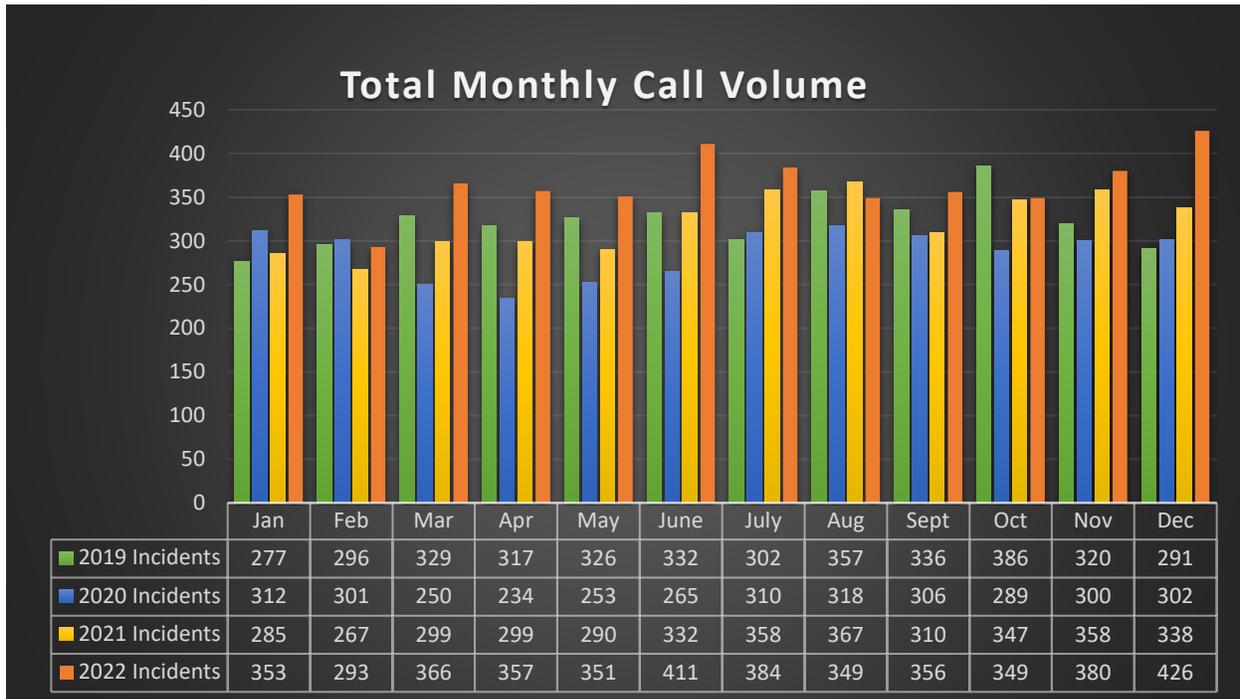
Tracking data is an integral part of our industry. Proper tracking and reporting data can make a difference in deployment models and response sequencing and show trends that lead to prevention, education, or response modifications.

### Annual call volume over the last 4-years

Before 2019, the Burlington Fire Department expected a 6% increase in call volume each year. However, in 2019, we experienced a 76% increase, directly attributed to the addition of EMS transport services. In 2022, our call volume increased by approximately 8.33% from 2021. It is believed that the call increase may result from our community returning to a usual way of life and the growth within the city.



## 4-year call history per month, all call types



## 2022 Call Numbers by Incident Type

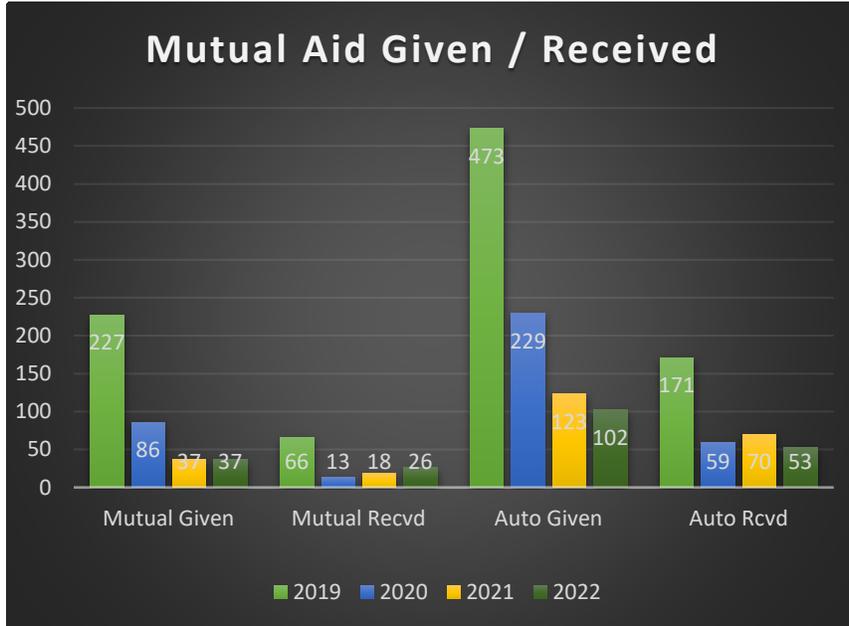
INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	84	2.18%
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overhear - no fire	7	0.18%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	3003	78.00%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	44	1.14%
Service Call	146	3.79%
Good Intent Call	405	10.52%
False Alarm & False Call	123	3.19%
Severe Weather	1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

**EMS Calls**                    **3003**  
**Fire/Other Calls**           **847**  
**Total Calls**                   **3850**

As an all-hazard response fire department, we respond to various emergency responses. The table to the left identifies the most common type of emergency response. Emergency medical has the highest call volume. The good intent call identifies those calls that were called in but were not a true emergency. For example, steam venting from a building can be mistaken for smoke. A person sleeping can be mistaken for a medical emergency. Special incident types can be when a citizen is concerned about a situation or a possible fire code violation. The table below will show the 2022 year for call types compared to 2021.



## Mutual and Automatic Aid Given and Received



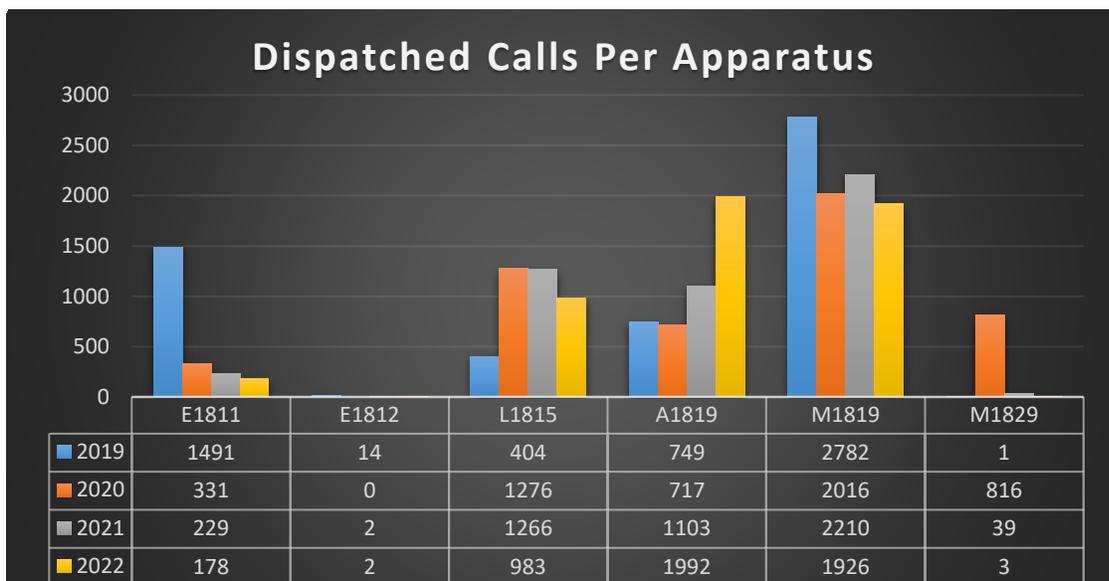
Year	Mutual Given	Mutual Recvd	Auto Given	Auto Rcvd	Total Annual Calls
2019	227	66	473	171	3869
2020	86	13	229	59	3440
2021	37	18	123	70	3850
2022	37	26	102	53	4375

The Burlington Fire Department operates under a countywide Mutual Aid agreement that is county-wide. The intent of the Mutual aid agreement is to provide resources to neighboring fire departments in their time of need. Any fire department can request assistance from another fire department, even if the request is not from a neighboring department. An example might be a group of water tender trucks that provide the needed water to extinguish a fire.

An automatic agreement is an agreement between two or more departments in which, under specific call types, like a building fire, the departments participating in the automatic agreement send specified equipment without the fire department in need asking for it. The benefit of the automatic agreement is that resources come early in the emergency, whereas mutual aid is a later request.

## Calls per apparatus over a 4-year period

The Burlington Fire Department operates with three primary response vehicles. Ladder 1815 is staffed 24/7 for all fire and rescue-related emergencies. When L1815 is down for maintenance, Engine 1811 is run in its place. E1811 is also staffed with off-duty personnel coming back to work when our front-line equipment and personnel are out on a long-term emergency incident. Medic 1819 is our advanced life support unit staffed daily, and Aid 1819 is our BLS transport vehicle. Engine 1812 has multiple roles within our department. It is in reserve for the emergency response if our front-line vehicles are down for service; it is used as our primary training engine for new employees and training academies and finally responds to state mobilizations for wildland fires or natural disasters.



Apparatus	2019	2020	2021	2022
E1811	1491	331	229	178
E1812	14	0	2	2
L1815	404	1276	1266	983
A1819	749	717	1103	1992
M1819	2782	2016	2210	1926
M1829	1	816	39	3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5441</b>	<b>5156</b>	<b>4849</b>	<b>5084</b>

## Chapter 5

### Emergency Medical Service

In 2022, our department saw many new faces join our Paramedic ranks and Burlington family. Between the fall of 2021 and spring of 2022, we welcomed Firefighter/Paramedics Nathan Parsons, Bryce Hamilton, Scott Parrett, Scott Lang, Michael Villalpando, Skye Levandowski, and Ben Weber. We also welcomed Firefighter/EMTs Austin Foster, Richard Myers, Joseph LaChaussee, and Nikki Campbell to the ranks. While bringing on much needed staff, this also increased demands to provide onboarding and training specific to Skagit County operations and protocols for our new paramedics. Thanks to our small group of experienced providers (Dean Junell, Joe Gray, Adam Wunsch, and Scott Lang who had significant time as a provider in Skagit County previously), we were successful in providing our new paramedics with the training, knowledge, and skills to integrate into our EMS delivery system successfully.

#### Call Volume and Growth

Burlington Fire Department's EMS Division continues to see an increase in calls, with EMS representing approximately 86% of the requests for service. Calls for EMS service continued to grow in 2022, with an increase of 12% in EMS calls for service and an 11.4 % increase in transports compared to 2021.

	2020	2021	2022
<b>Total Agency Dispatched Calls</b>	3440	3850	4375
<b>EMS Dispatched Calls</b>	3120	3466	3763
<b>Percentage of Fire Calls</b>	9%	10%	14%
<b>Percentage of EMS Calls</b>	91%	90%	86%
<b>Patient Transports</b>	1353	1402	1584
<b>BLS Transports</b>	394	355	553
<b>ALS Transports</b>	959	1047	1031

#### New Patient Care Technology and Equipment

Thanks to the Skagit County New Initiative Funding opportunity provided in 2021, Burlington Fire Department could upgrade our outdated equipment which had reached its end of life use, with new state-of-the-art Video Laryngoscopes in 2022. After a multi-agency assessment of multiple devices by providers from Skagit County Advanced Life Support agencies, a consensus was reached on the future device that would be used in Skagit County. This initiative purchased these and deployed them to each agency for extensive training, skill evaluations, and deployment as a first-line intubation device. Before deployment, a small group of instructors attended a train-the-trainer course to provide them insight into the device functions, training curriculum, and process for Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement procedures. Since deploying these devices, we have seen a significant improvement in provider first-time intubation success, along with a more reliable and improved ability to review our care for the patient and our continued development in our individual provider skills.





Through a grant application authored by Skagit County EMS from the North Region Trauma and EMS Council Grant, the Burlington Fire Department received pediatric and neonate restraint devices added to our ambulances. These will improve safety during transport for our small children and infants while still allowing providers to care for them.

Also, thanks to the support of our Burlington City Council, we were successful in purchasing much needed Load Lift systems for two of our current ambulances, as well as one Load Lift system and the latest Power Cot for our new ambulance that is due to be delivered in 2023. These were installed in our two current frontline ambulances in September and were put in service after a short training session. These purchases are essential in reducing the risk of back, shoulder, and other injuries related to picking up repetitive heavy loads, as well as providing a safer and more secure means of placing patients in our ambulances.



Burlington Fire Department also took delivery of a new state-of-the-art ZOLL X-Series Monitor, which allows our ALS providers to provide cardiac monitoring, cardioversion, defibrillation, and monitor ETCO2 exchange as well as be more definitive in the tidal volume of oxygen being delivered via bag mask ventilations. This monitor will replace a device on our frontline paramedic unit, placing the aging device into reserve/training status. This purchase was approved in the 2021 City Council budget under Capital Improvement funds.

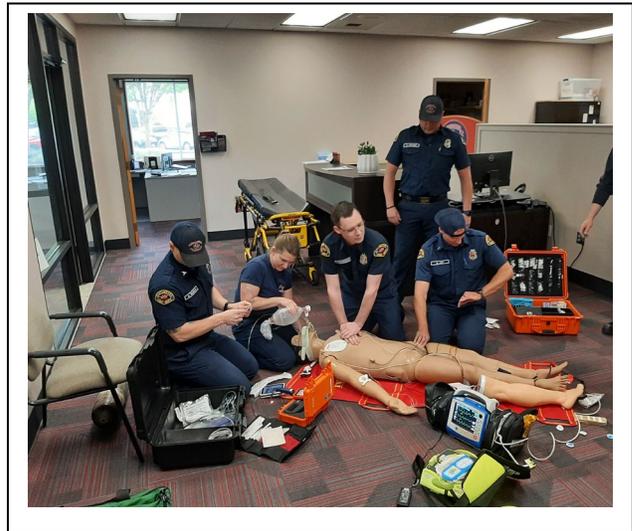
A huge thanks to our Burlington City Council and the community we serve for providing us with quality and state-of-the-art equipment!

## EMS Training and Education

The importance of training and education for EMS personnel cannot be overstated. The ever-changing science behind medicine creates challenges in staying current and relevant to those impacting our patient care. Emergency Medical Technicians are required to achieve 10-15 hours of ongoing training and education each year. These include online didactic training, skills training, and assessments every quarter. On average, paramedics must achieve 50-60 hours a year of ongoing training and education to maintain certification. This includes didactic material (online or in-person training), quarterly skills training and verification (through scenario based training, or labs), Medical Program Director run reviews (where cases are reviewed for quality of care, compliance with protocols, and patient outcomes), and EMS conferences. Keeping up with current trends, science, and procedures can be challenging with limited time and budgets.

Beyond the annual requirements, our crews work diligently to incorporate EMS-focused training into their shifts. They train as a team to improve their individual roles as part of the patient care team and refine their approach to team discussions, promoting a high level of communication and respect and ultimately improving patient care.

In 2022, Anacortes Fire Department and Burlington Fire Department collaborated to provide Intravenous Therapy training for our EMTs. This class was hosted by Burlington Fire Department with lead instructor Joel Pratt, from Anacortes, providing 40 hours of classroom education to two Anacortes personnel and 6 Burlington Personnel.



As a result, Burlington Fire Department now adds five additional EMTs to our staff who are endorsed to provide IV therapy. These include Brendan O’Neill, LaRen Gevaart Rossie, Darby BreretonWomack, Cole Gordon, and Jacob Cibert. This provides a skill set that can be useful in high acuity situations where a paramedic may need assistance in addressing multiple skills in a short period, and provides a stepping stone in the career paths of these providers who may be seeking opportunities to become a paramedic in the future.

The City of Burlington presented a funding request to the Skagit EMS Council, under the Skagit County New Initiative Fund, requesting training funds to bring National EMS Management Association instructors to Skagit County to provide the Field Training Evaluation Program (FTEP) course. This program is a nationally recognized training course that offers 16 hours of instruction for Managing and Developing EMS FTEP and 4 hours of training course for Basic Field Training Officers. We thank the Skagit County EMS Council for approving this funding and supporting this regional training. This training will be open to all Skagit County Fire/EMS agencies, allowing other regional agencies to attend if a vacancy is still available. This training is scheduled to occur in the spring of 2023! Look for an update in our 2023 Annual Report.

## **Chapter 6**

### **Training and Operations**

Fire department operations respond to emergency and non-emergency incidents within the City of Burlington and surrounding communities through automatic aid agreements, mutual aid and contract for service agreements. Our emergency response is led by highly trained career and part-time firefighter staffing.

As an “All-Hazards” organization, we respond to various incident types, including fires, medical emergencies, hazardous material incidents, technical rescues, including extrication and disentanglement-type emergencies, water rescue, and many other calls for service.

The City of Burlington continues to be one of the fastest-growing cities in Skagit County. As more people move in, the demand for housing increases. Surrounded by agricultural land and the Skagit River, our boundaries are limited for expansion, so developers are building taller buildings. Over the past few years, the city has seen multiple three- and four-story buildings constructed, with more on the way.

The operations division continually assesses data to guide changes, resulting in more efficient service delivery. By being an active part of our community, reviewing trending data, and listening to its needs, we strive to serve at the highest level possible.

Our 24 full-time employees and nine part-time firefighters provide an emergency response from one central location in the city. Our department operates with an average of seven personnel on shift working a “48/96” (2 days on, four 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 4375 calls for service in 2022.

Of our 24 full-time employees, 11 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 the communities around us. In addition, our firefighter EMTS (Basic Life Support – BLS) supports our paramedics. These individuals are critical in helping 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.

Our part-time firefighters work up to five 24-hour shifts per month. Each part-time firefighter is qualified through IFSAC certification for Firefighter I and II and holds an Emergency Medical Technician certificate. In addition, all part-time firefighters must complete our in-house BLS transport technician program. We maintain a high standard for all our employees, and with our part-time firefighters, that high standard has paid fully as many of them are being recruited and hired at fire departments needing full-time employees.

Our mission and vision statements form who we are as an organization and provide us with the pathway for success to meet the full-service demands of our community. As our community continues to grow, the type and volume of calls for service also grow.

We also hired ten new employees in 2022, with COVID still part of our lives and new regulations affecting operations. Many fire departments were facing staffing shortages. This was the same for the Burlington Fire Department. For some, COVID and the state regulations were enough to make a career change, while others found opportunities and larger fire departments across the state. By March of 2022, we were down a quarter of our staff. Through an aggressive hiring process and hiring incentives, we were able to fill the open positions before the year's end. Our first hire consisted of the following new employees.



**Austin Foster** was a part-time firefighter/EMT with the Burlington Fire Department before being hired full-time. Austin brings fire and EMS experience from the San Juan Islands and is currently enrolled in Paramedic school.

**Richard Myers**, who was also a part-time firefighter/EMT with the Burlington Fire Department, brings over ten years of experience, including his past role as Fire Marshal for San Juan Islands. Richard also holds certifications in diving and is the boat captain of 100-ton vessels.

**Scott Parrett**, a firefighter-paramedic, comes to us from Corpus Christi, Texas. Originally from Skagit Valley, where he attended the Burlington School District, Scott brings knowledge of the valley and his mechanic skills as a former mechanic from the city of Anacortes.

**Bryce Hamilton**, a firefighter-paramedic comes to us from Orcas Island with 23 years of experience. Bryce is a fantastic cook and has a family restaurant in Bellingham. Bryce is also a certified Maritime US Coast Guard Captain for vessels of 100 tons.

Our second hire of 2022 included the following personnel.

**Nikki Campbell**, a firefighter-EMT, comes to us from South County Regional Fire. Before her move, Nikki was part of the Burlington Family; she has seven years of experience, is driver-operator qualified, and is an expert on fire hose operations.

**Scott Lang**, a firefighter-paramedic, comes to us from the Everett Fire Department. Scott brings 20 years of experience with 16 plus years as a paramedic. Scott spent many years with Central Valley Medic 1 and time with the Burlington Fire Department. Scott has also been involved with helping other countries in their time of need, including Haiti, after their Earthquake in 2010.

**Michael Villalpando**, a firefighter-paramedic who comes to us from Lewis County. Michael worked in the private sector, looking to re-enter the fire service. Michael brings 17 years of experience to our dept. Michael has also participated in large-scale incidents, including Hurricane Katrina and the Aurora Colorado Theater Incident from 2012.

**Benjamin Weber**, a firefighter-paramedic was a local firefighter from Skagit County Fire District 6. Ben recently completed his paramedic training and is ready to serve our community.

**Skye Levandowski**, a firefighter-paramedic comes to us from North Whidbey Fire and Rescue. Skye recently completed her paramedic training and is ready to serve our community.

The Training Division provides fire training, education, and ongoing development for fire department personnel. The division also evaluates and maintains quality control of firefighting through research and development, hands-on training drills, and comprehensive evaluations. Additionally, it is responsible for developing training methods and standards to evaluate proficiency and overseeing the hiring process for new firefighters joining the city.

All fire department members train under specific disciplines, such as driver operator, firefighter, company officer, technical rescue, hazardous materials, emergency medical, and annual training required by the State of Washington. Below is a list with minimum hours required for each discipline as noted in NFPA, WSRB or the local standards.



## Training Topics by Discipline

Training Topic	Frequency	Minimum Hours	Hours per year	WSRB rated
Company training	Quarterly	3-hours per	12 to 16 hours	Yes
MCO with MV	Quarterly	3-hours per Quarter	12 hours annually	Yes – auto aid
MCO with HUB	Quarterly	3-hours per Quarter	12 hours annually	No – WAC Yes - WSRB
Firefighter II	Monthly	10-hours monthly	100 hours annually	Yes
Officer Development	Monthly	2-hours	24 hours annually	Yes
Driver Operator	Annually	8-hours	8 hours annually	Yes
EMS	Quarterly	4-hours		No - WAC
WAC 296-305	Annually	Classes vary	Varies by subject	Yes
Technical Rescue	Quarterly	4-hours	AHJ determines	No - WAC
Hazardous Materials	Annually	Classes Vary	16 annually	Yes
WildLand	Annually	8-hours		No-WAC
Required annual training	Annually	4-hours		WAC

## Skills and topics

The training division breaks training into quarterly training, with topics specific to the employee's skill level. The topics covered in 2022 were:

- Annual state requirements set by Labor and Industries
- Company officer development
- Driver operator
- Engine company operations
- Truck company operations
- Multi-Company operations
- Technical Rescue
- Hazardous Materials
- Wildland Interface
- Live Fire Training
- Emergency Medical
- Leadership development
- Conferences

Our members compile training hours when practicing basic skill sets, working with new tools or standards, career development, program management, or maintaining certifications.

The chart below represents the topics we track. It shows the maximum quarterly hours when all employees are available for training. The “ACTUAL” column shows the hours that our employees logged. Depending on how the training was entered will determine which topic earns the credit.

### Training Hours by Discipline

Topic	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total	Actual
<b>WAC 305</b>	<b>210.0</b>	<b>52.0</b>	<b>108.0</b>	<b>132.0</b>	<b>502.0</b>	<b>444.5</b>
<b>Officer Development</b>	<b>32.5</b>	<b>27.5</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>135.0</b>	<b>156.0</b>
<b>Driver Operator</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>95.0</b>	<b>172.0</b>
<b>Engine operations</b>	<b>60.0</b>	<b>52.0</b>	<b>54.0</b>	<b>66.0</b>	<b>232.0</b>	
<b>Ladder Operations</b>	<b>60.0</b>	<b>52.0</b>	<b>81.0</b>	<b>66.0</b>	<b>259.0</b>	
<b>Hazardous Materials</b>	<b>135.0</b>	<b>130.0</b>	<b>81.0</b>	<b>99.0</b>	<b>445.0</b>	<b>130.9</b>
<b>Multi-company w/MVFD</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>136.0</b>	<b>136.0</b>
<b>Multi-company w/HUB</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>60.0</b>	
<b>Technical Rescue</b>	<b>60.0</b>	<b>104.0</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>165.0</b>	<b>350.0</b>	<b>91.0</b>
<b>Officer choice (shift training)</b>	<b>75.0</b>	<b>52.0</b>	<b>162.0</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>421.0</b>	<b>525.0</b>
<b>Live Fire</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>54.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>93.0</b>	
<b>Mini Skills Academy</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>288.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>835.0</b>	<b>1123.0</b>	<b>1123.0</b>
<b>Wildland</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>128.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>128.0</b>	<b>128.0</b>
<b>Quarterly totals</b>	<b>674.5</b>	<b>956.5</b>	<b>681.0</b>	<b>1599.0</b>	<b>3911.0</b>	<b>3007.4</b>

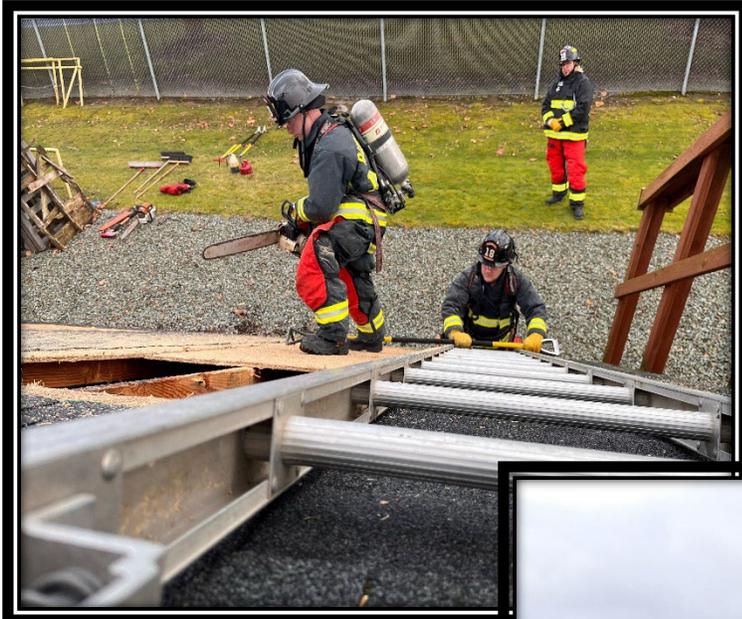
**Average of .91 hours per day per person.**

### Highlights of training events



**Spring Fire Academy  
Fire Behavior**

**Highlight of training events continued**



**Rooftop Ventilation**

**Pump Operations**



**Hose drills**

**Highlight of training events continued**



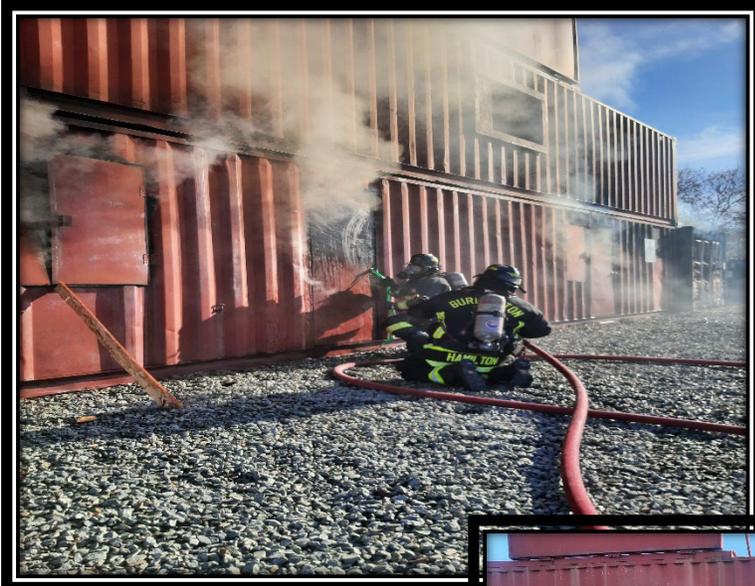
**Training HUB MCO  
Quarter 2**

**Pump operations training  
With HUB Departments**



**Training HUB MCO  
Quarter 3**

## Highlight of training events continued



Live Fire Training

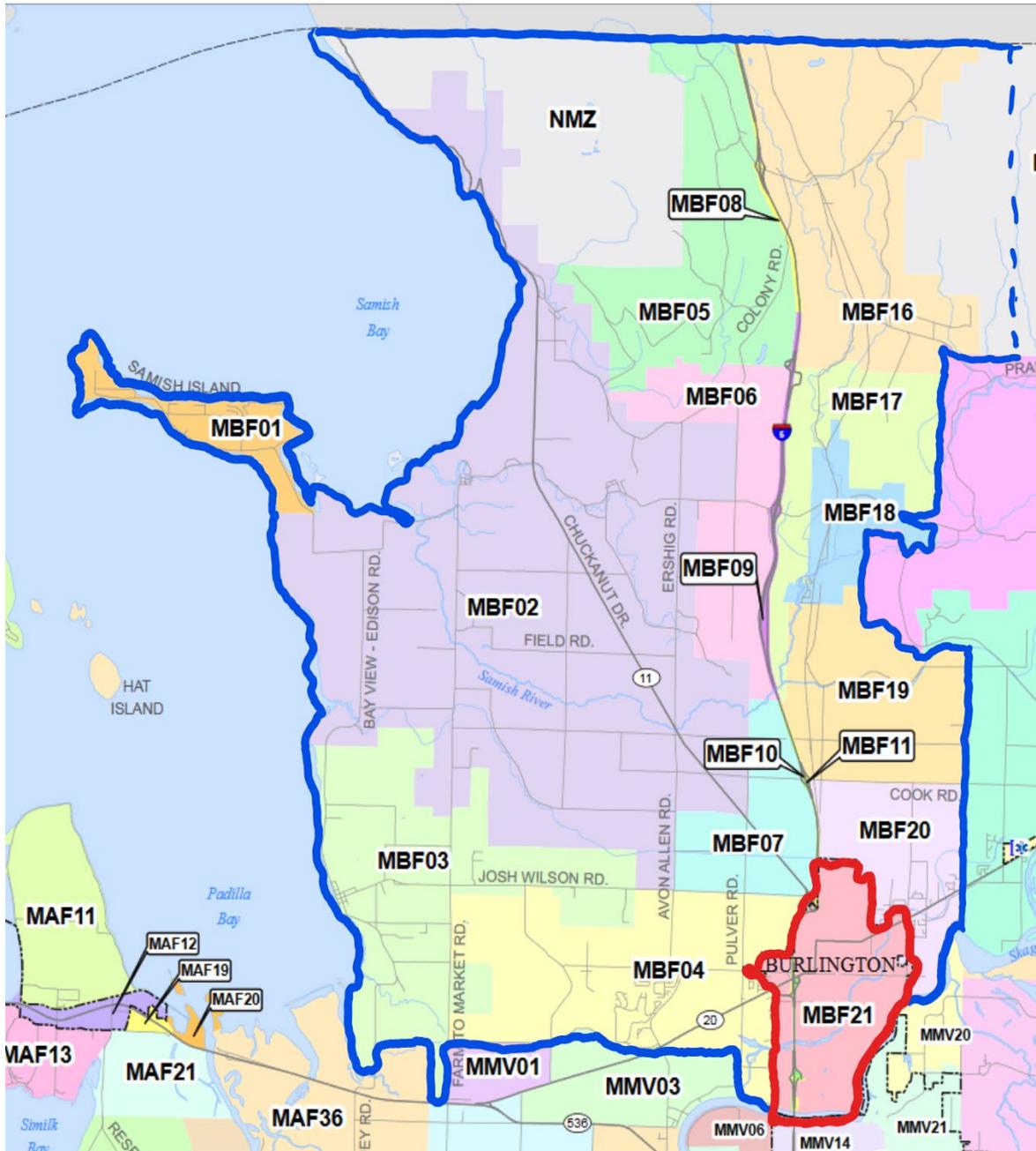
Team Building



Regional Training Delivery

## Chapter 7 Response and Service Area

The map below represents the Burlington Fire Department's primary response areas. In red is the City of Burlington. Within the city limits and urban growth areas, we provide a 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, Allen, Edison, Alger towns, and the outlying regions such as Samish Island, Chuckanut Mountains, and Squires Lake.



## Chapter 8

### Station and response

The Burlington Fire Department operates out of a single firehouse constructed in 1996, replacing the fire station on Cherry Street. In 2021, the city completed a feasibility study for a station remodel to bring the firehouse up to current codes and better serve a career workforce. In September of 2022, the 2.7 million dollar remodel was approved by the city council. In late November, Tiger Construction was awarded the bid, and phase I of a three-phase project was underway. Phase I included framing



a physical fitness room within the existing building footprint. This room, located in the southwest corner of the apparatus bay, would also serve as the temporary bunkroom for our 24-hour staff once phase II started. Another feature of phase I is a dedicated decontamination room for



employees to be cleaned up after an emergency where employees have come in contact with combustion products, blood-borne pathogens, or hazardous materials. Phase I also includes a separate laundry room to wash soiled garments after emergency responses. Phase II of the remodel starts in early 2023. This phase will consist of new

bunkrooms on the ground floor with code compliant exiting, restroom and shower facilities for 24-hour staff, a staff workroom for report writing and training, a larger kitchen area for food prep, a new administrative office, and a conference room, protective gear storage and a new training room on the second floor. Phase III will consist of completing the physical fitness room once our workforce moves back into the central part of the station.

## Chapter 8 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 Quint ladder truck with pumping capabilities. This vehicle maximizes the use of aerial for elevated positions and can 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 fire districts where water fire firefighting is limited. The engine carries 750 gallons of water and can pump up to 1500 gallons of water per minute.



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 aging, this engine still provides valuable service to our community.

## Chapter 9 Special operations

In addition to fire and EMS responses, The Burlington Fire Department responds to many other types of emergencies. Technical rescue responses continue to increase as our population increases. Our first responders are trained in various technical rescue disciplines, including vehicle and machinery incidents, confined space, water rescue, structural collapse, and rope rescue operations.



In 2022, our crews responded to 316 technical rescue responses that included five river rescue responses, six wildland responses and 300 motor vehicle accidents.

In 2021, we started a wildland firefighting program. This program provides our staff with the appropriate tools and training to work within the urban interface within the city and our neighboring fire districts. 2022 was our first live fire training exercise, which included our neighboring departments. This exercise was



specific to fire behavior, fire lines, proper use of hand tools, and fire suppression. 2022 also allowed the Burlington Fire Department to assist in two state wildland incidents. In addition, we sent a fire line paramedic to provide care for firefighters battling the blaze.

## Chapter 10 Community Outreach



This year, we had great weather and many community engagement opportunities. With COVID restrictions behind us, we were able to interact with our community.

One of our favorite events is station tours. Kids and adults get to see how our fire station operates, station living, trucks, and tools, and we always finish with a fire safety message. This past year, children from our local elementary schools, Cub Scouts and BEHS transition students could all stop by for a visit.



We participate in many events throughout the year. For example, one of our outdoor events is Touch-a-Truck. Trucks of all types line the streets for kids and adults to see, climb around, and touch. The Burlington Fire Department gets a large section of this event filled with kids and their imaginations. Other community events we participate in are the annual Berry Dairy Days and Fall Fest.



National Night Out is a sponsored event by the Burlington Police Department. It's an entire evening of games, music, events and food. Multiple agencies from within the county participated in this evening event.

## Community Outreach

Santa Day, visiting local schools, care facilities and assisted living



Halloween evening by LU Elementary School

## By the numbers

- Events 15
- Hours spent 37
- Attendance Kids 155, not including Berry Dairy Days and Veterans Parade
- Attendance Adults 935, not including Berry Dairy Days and Veterans Parade