



**Elizabeth Fire Protection District
2022 Annual Report**

Fire Chief's Letter

Hello, and thank you for taking the time to review our 2022 annual report. We look forward to sharing this report with our customers every year because we are proud of the accomplishments our staff and crews make.

The Elizabeth Fire District remains one of the more progressive and service-oriented fire service organizations in the state. As we watch our community evolve every year, we make sure to embrace the change and plan for new ways to serve our customers. The demographics in our service area are changing slightly; however, we continue to see an increase in EMS emergencies related to age. Our aging customers are using the system more, and we must expand our EMS services to meet that need.

In 2022, we experienced the highest annual call load in EFPD history. The increase in calls has been gradual and manageable so far. While annual call numbers are important to watch, we find more value in measuring our annual calls per capita. With the additional growth, we are seeing a decrease in the number of calls per thousand people, which means globally we are safer as a community. Our efforts to staff our Ponderosa Park station with a paramedic crew has proven to be a very useful tool in our response toolbox. My hope as Chief is to permanently staff that station to bolster our response capabilities even more.

My wish, as you read this report, is that you are satisfied with the level of service our agency provides. We take our jobs and our responsibility very seriously, and you will find that our dedication to our community is our highest priority. As we look forward and continue our planning for the future, I can assure you that our customers' satisfaction will be critical in every decision we make.

If you have any questions or would just like to catch up, I welcome you to contact us. We genuinely appreciate the opportunity to serve this community and look forward to seeing you all in the very near future.

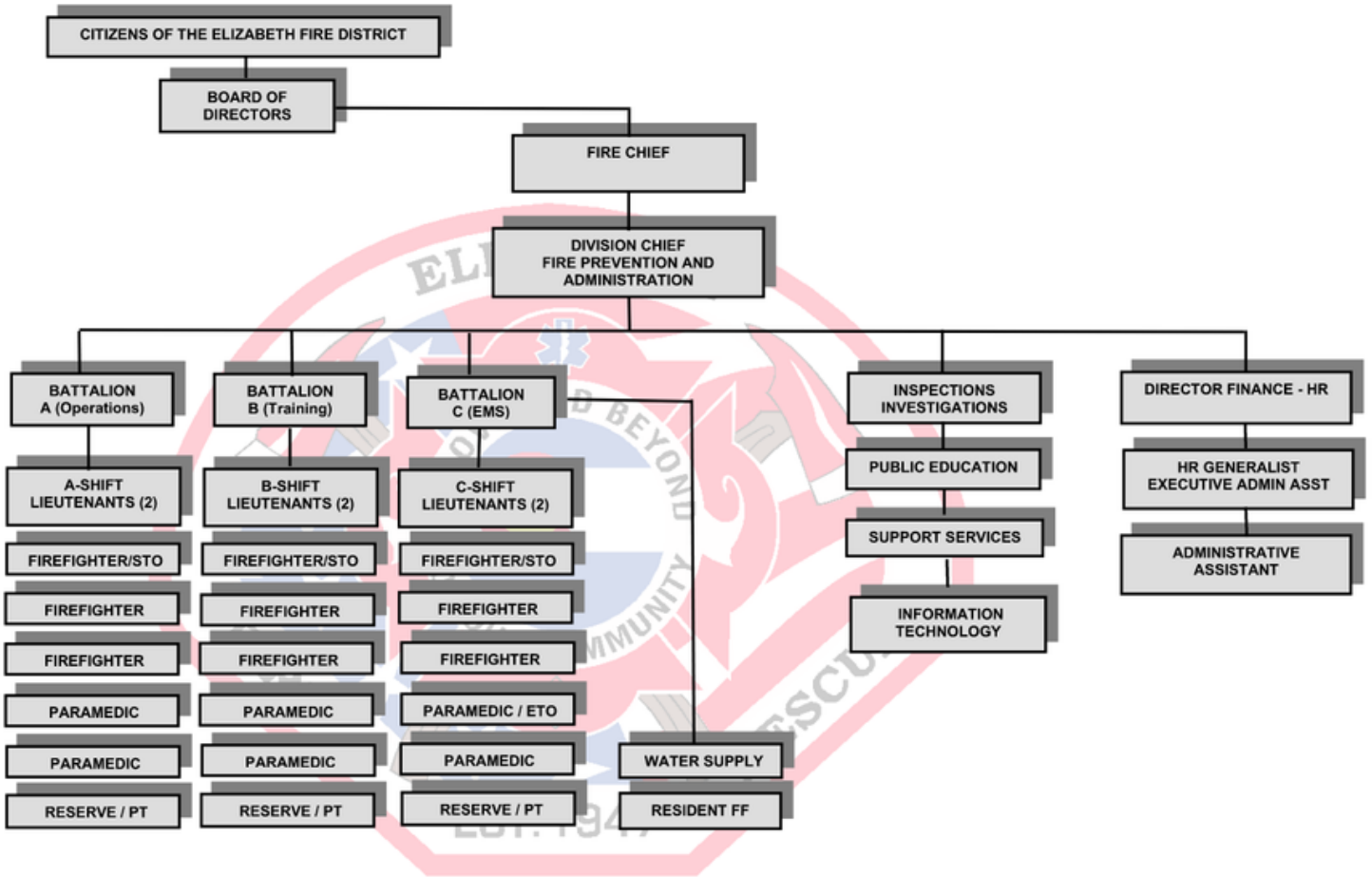
Sincere Regards,

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

TJ Steck, Fire Chief

Organizational Chart

ELIZABETH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONAL FLOW CHART EFFECTIVE 7/2023



Board of Directors

Rick Young
Board President
May 2022 - May 2025

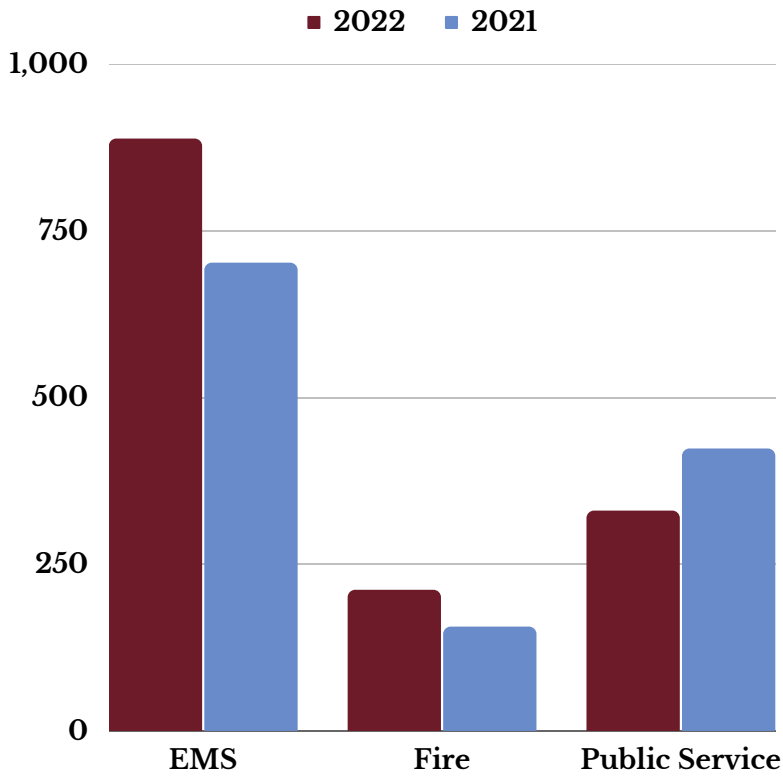
Don Means
Board Treasurer
May 2023 - May 2027

Stacey Collis
Board Director
May 2022 - May 2025

Scott Christensen
Board Vice President
May 2023 - May 2027

Wayne Austgen
Board Secretary
May 2023 - May 2027

2022 Statistics



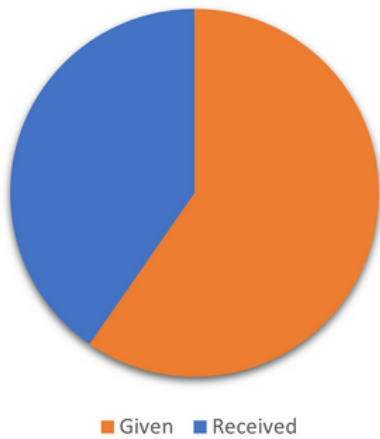
TOTAL CALLS 2022: 1,429
TOTAL CALLS 2021: 1,285

**Median
Response
Time:
7.00 minutes***

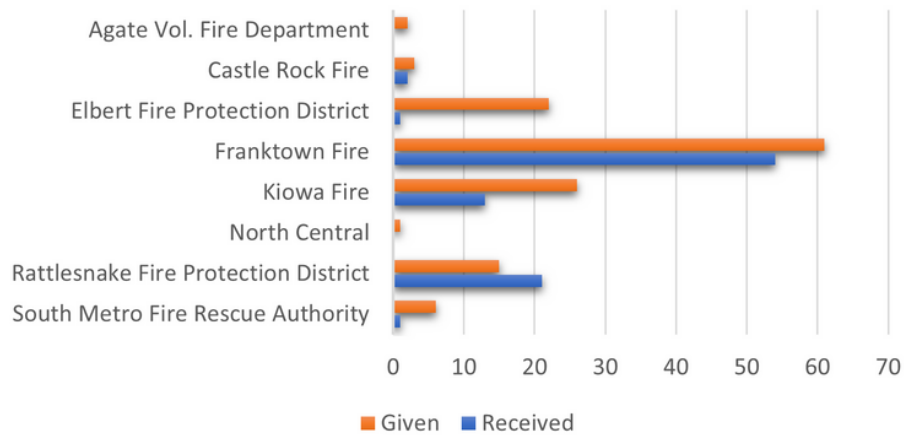
*THIS INCLUDES MUTUAL AID RESPONSE TIME



Mutual Aid



Mutual Aid



MUTUAL AID GIVEN: 136
MUTUAL AID RECEIVED: 92

Financial Highlights

NET POSITION FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31

2022

2021

ASSETS

Current Assets	\$5,668,733	\$5,044,518
Capital Assets	2,737,232	2,879,940
Noncurrent Assets	<u>3,305,227</u>	<u>1,993,547</u>
Total Assets	<u>11,711,192</u>	<u>9,918,005</u>

DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES

	<u>949,223</u>	<u>1,040,859</u>
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LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities	55,384	74,088
Long-Term Liabilities	<u>1,662,345</u>	<u>1,952,907</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>1,717,729</u>	<u>2,026,995</u>

DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

	<u>6,011,701</u>	<u>5,313,335</u>
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NET POSITION

Net Investment in Capital Assets	1,874,196	1,835,530
Restricted for Emergencies	132,000	123,000
Restricted for Capital Improvements	530,276	335,215
Unrestricted	<u>2,394,523</u>	<u>1,324,789</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$4,930,995</u>	<u>\$3,618,534</u>

CHANGES IN NET POSITION FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31

REVENUES

Program Revenues		
Charges for Services	514,104	401,385
Operating Grants and Contributions	306,652	456,884
Capital Grants and Contributions	157,483	81,221
General Revenues		
Property Taxes	3,087,781	2,823,467
Specific Ownership Taxes	494,844	505,450
Investment Earnings	47,668	3,303
Other	63,883	18,528
Gain on Sale of Capital Assets		<u>27,388</u>
Total Revenues	<u>4,672,415</u>	<u>4,317,626</u>

EXPENSES

Public Safety - Fire	3,328,850	3,035,503
Interest and Fiscal Charges	<u>31,104</u>	<u>37,109</u>
Total Operating and Debt Service	<u>3,359,954</u>	<u>3,072,612</u>

CHANGE IN NET POSITION

CHANGE IN NET POSITION	1,312,461	1,245,014
NET POSITION - BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>3,618,534</u>	<u>2,373,520</u>
NET POSITION - END OF YEAR	<u>\$4,930,995</u>	<u>\$3,618,534</u>

Volunteer Spotlight



Support Services Volunteer Mike Bilbo

How long have you been volunteering with the department?

I have been a volunteer at Elizabeth Fire Protection District for just over 5 years. I had done some preliminary work in early 2018 but believe that I officially started in July of that year.

What first brought you to Elizabeth Fire?

Early in 2018, I had thought that every citizen of this county at some point in time should do something to give back to this community for the privilege of

living here. I had initially thought that I would like to be a Reserve Deputy with the Sheriff's Department or become a part of the Elbert County Posse. I had mentioned this to one of the lieutenants at the time, and he said to me, "Why don't you think about coming on with Elizabeth Fire? We could use your help." Well, that got me thinking, and an interview with one of the chiefs was set up within a few days. An application along with the usual background check followed, and the rest is history.

As a support services volunteer, what types of tasks do you do for the department?

My tasks and responsibilities revolve around Tender Support to assist fire crews in the suppression of structure and wildland fires. I also participate in training for academy personnel when a live fire class is held, and I assist the agency in cistern inspections and maintenance as needed. For the first few years I was with EFPD, I took it upon myself to aid in the care and maintenance of Station 272, as for the most part it was not staffed regularly 5 or 6 years ago. I am signed off to respond and operate all of Elizabeth Fire's Tenders, along with Rattlesnake Fire and Kiowa Fire Tenders, but I have only worked with our own Tenders for the past 5 years. My primary response apparatus is Tender 272, so I am constantly checking small details to ensure its response readiness. I also like to help with the pancake breakfasts, bringing the Tender out to the Elizabeth Stampede, driving the Tender in the Elizabash Parade, and setting up a booth on Main Street to let people see up close and personal one of our Apparatus and give small kids the chance to climb in a take photos at the wheel. Their parents love it, and so do I.

Volunteer Spotlight

What's been your favorite part about volunteering with Elizabeth Fire?

My favorite part of working with Elizabeth Fire is the chance to work for and alongside all the EMTs, Medics, STOs, Lieutenants, Chiefs, Administrative Staff, and the Board of Directors, who oversee all that goes on with the operations of this top notch agency. It has been my privilege to be included as part of the Elizabeth Fire Protection District in whatever small way that I may be able to contribute.

What life lesson would you give yourself if you could speak to yourself 10 years ago?

One of the things that I have learned since becoming a part of EFPD is that there are a lot of very good people still in this world, and my biggest regret, if I were to look back at my life 10 years ago, is I wish I had entered this work 30 years back and could have made this my career.

What's your personal motto?

If you are not an asset, you are a liability.



Department Trainings

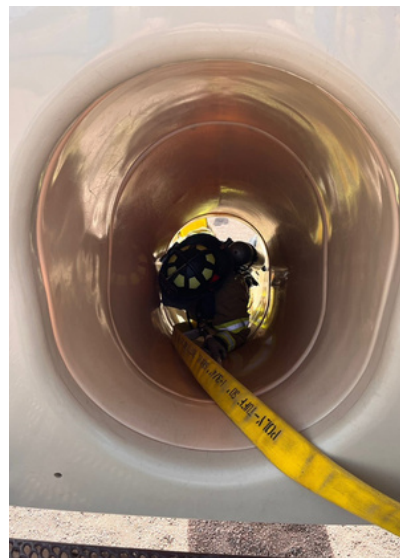
Department trainings are an important obligation of EFPD as part of our standard of crew readiness. Crews conduct trainings every shift, and reserve volunteer firefighters are required to participate in at least 36 hours of training per year. Each shift has a dedicated Shift Training Officer, who is supervised by the Battalion Chief of Training, to come up with new ways to keep our crews' skills sharp. See below for some examples of how EFPD crews trained during the year 2022.



Training during a summer storm!



Search-and-rescue training



Training on simulated collapses, confined spaces, and following a hose line...at the playground!



IV training

Community Events

The Elizabeth Fire Protection District and the Elizabeth Firefighters Community Foundation participate in many community events throughout the year. In 2022, the Foundation put on several pancake breakfasts during the summer to raise money to help the community. Additionally, the foundation partnered with the Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce to put on a joint Chili on the Divide Cook Off and Pints in the Park event. Pueblo green chilis were sold to raise money for the foundation, and several of our firefighters participated in the chili cook off.



Throughout the year, Elizabeth Fire crews stay engaged in the community. Crews participate in town events, such as the Elizabash Parade, as well as day-to-day events, such as playing four square at the schools, engine demos, station tours, birthday drive-bys, and other events. We are proud of our commitment to engage with our district on every level, and we are grateful to every member of our department for taking that commitment seriously!

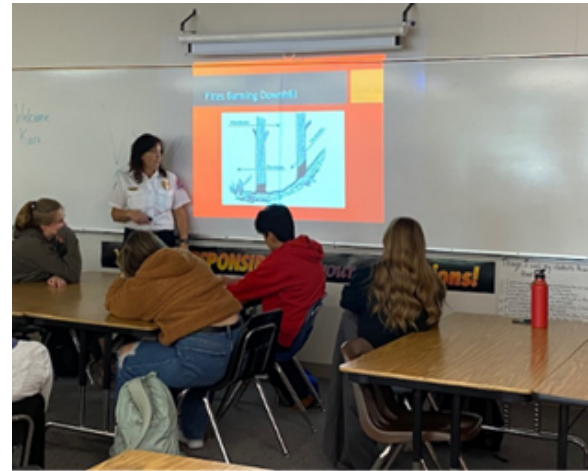


Risk Reduction

"Connecting with our community by providing Risk Reduction Programs is the best part of my job. It is amazing to see a community that wants to be safer and more resilient."

Kara Gerczynski, Division Chief of Administration and Prevention

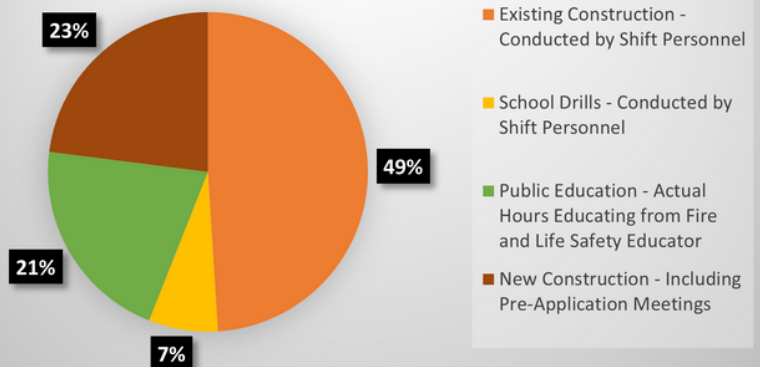
Year	Number of Plan Reviews	Number of Review Hours	Square Footage Reviewed	Acres Reviewed
2015	28			
2016	40			
2017	56	98	51087	
2018	36	123	72700	
2019	68	186	82936	
2020	93	256	200311	1,420
2021	85	220	153015	1463
2022	87	260	329000	10866



Risk Reduction Programs:

- New Construction Review/Inspections
- Existing Building Inspections
- Fire Investigations
- Public Education
- Wildland Mitigation Education
- Fire House Tours
- CPR/First Aid/Hands Only CPR
- Stop the Bleed Program
- Car Seat Inspections

2022 Fire Prevention Staff Hours



Employment

The Elizabeth Fire Protection District is a combination fire department, serving our community with the help of:

- Full-time, career employees
- Part-time employees
- Reserve firefighters
- Support services volunteers

Our Mission

We will prevent fire and EMS-related emergencies as often as possible. We will maintain the highest level of training and crew readiness to minimize the adverse effects of emergencies that cannot be prevented.

Core Values

Safety ~ Customer Service ~
Professionalism ~ Progressive ~ Ownership



Employment positions are advertised on our website as they become available. Please scan the QR code provided to see available positions and view our employment application.

Elizabeth Firefighters Community Foundation

Mission:

The mission of the foundation shall be to promote education and mentoring to mankind, young or old, to cast a hand in time of need, while maintaining the bond of kindness and caring to all, without boundaries or prejudice.



CONTACT US

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