

FAIRVIEW PARK FIRE DEPARTMENT



2017 ANNUAL REPORT

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The mission of the Fairview Park Fire Department is to provide excellence in service in the fields of emergency medical care, rescue, fire prevention and suppression, and public safety education. Such service is achieved through a combination of innovation, training, teamwork, and a commitment to the safety of the citizens of Fairview Park.

A message from the department...

The Fairview Park Fire Department is committed to providing service excellence to our community in everything we do. It is also important to us that you, the members of our community, realize that we are truly *your* department. We work for you, train for you, and are here to assist you with all of your safety service needs no matter what they might be.

This 2017 annual report is being published in order to better inform you on exactly what we do. It's nearly impossible to prepare one report that describes everything we have accomplished in the past year. A significant portion of the report remains similar to years past, but hopefully the highlights we present here will provide some insight to what happened behind the doors of your department in 2017.

The year was once again filled with regional efforts. Realizing that we rarely respond to emergencies alone, the Fairview Park Fire Department held a regional training on the land that now is home to two new restaurants just west of Westgate Mall. Held during the spring, the training was a tremendous success and allowed several departments to train in conditions that were as realistic as possible. We were able to do this by using the 6 buildings that we eventually demolished as part of the redevelopment project.

We said goodbye to Firefighter Dan Karliak as he retired and in turn welcomed Firefighter Joe Palmer as well as Firefighter Ryan Myers to our ranks.

Without your support we would never be able to sustain the high level of service that the community has come to know.

As always, the Fairview Park Fire Department offers you a sincere thank you for all of the support that have shown to us this past year!

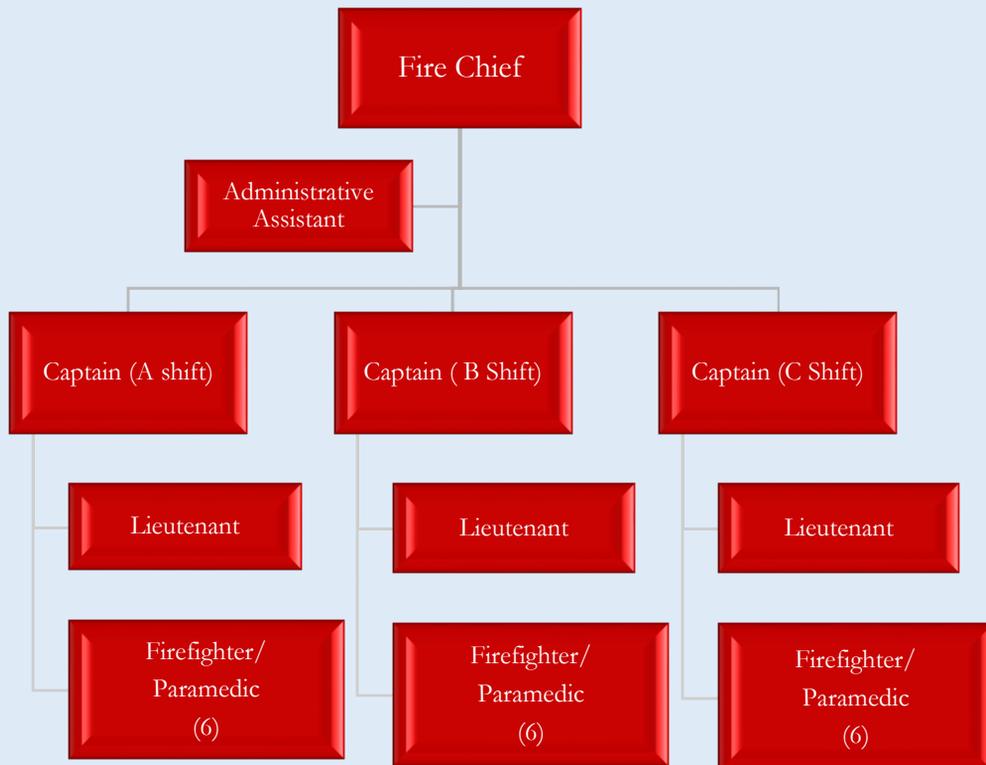


Staffing...

Our 26 member department (chart below) is working 24/7/365 to keep you safe. The firefighters that are on shift work a 24 hours on and 48 hours off schedule. This helps to ensure that we are providing the best service available while allowing each firefighter to recoup both physically and mentally from their daily responsibilities and service calls.

Staffing is further divided into three platoons, each of which works a full 24 hour shift at a time as stated earlier. Each platoon is comprised of 8 members and is structured as shown in the in the organizational chart below. This type of structure allows for a minimum of 6 members to be on duty at any given time. Because of our small size it is necessary that we cross staff our vehicles. This means that on any given day our members can respond as a Paramedic for an EMS run or a Firefighter for a fire run.

The knowledge, skills, and abilities of all of our members makes it easy to respond to the community's needs that may change by the second.



Regional Assests...

The Fariview Park Fire Department is dedicated to its regional partners collectively referred to as the Westshore. This dedication and commitment in responding to our regional emergencies is made possible by our central dispatch referred to as WestCom. WestCom is the glue that holds the region together, providing direction when needed. That direction helps to emphasize the importance of service needs at an emergency without the concern of the city borders that are drawn on a map.

In cases when a city's fire and EMS units are already on calls, WestCom will send the closest, most appropriate emergency vehicle to residents. This collaborative approach to dispatch provides the citizens of the Westshore area with continued, seamless emergency service. This practice saves precious time during fire and medical emergencies.

Furthermore, when there is a confirmed structure fire in the region; WestCom Dispatchers will automatically send units from neighboring communities to assist the affected Fire Department. The photos below show several examples of the system in action.

Throughout large scale incidents, like the ones pictured below, WestCom dispatchers continue normal operations within our jurisdiction, handling all incoming emergency calls for service.





Our Emergency Vehicles...

The two most critical elements of any fire department are the members and the emergency response apparatus. Without either, responding to your needs would be next to impossible. In 2017 we finally took possession of a new 2017 Braun ambulance! A long needed replacement for its 20 year old predecessor. Current assets include:

- Engine #35- 2008 KME with a 750 gallon tank and a 1,500 gpm pump
- Truck #31- 1995 KME a 102' Ariel Platform with a 350 gallon tank and a 1,500 gpm pump
- Medic #33- 2017 Braun ambulance with advanced life support capabilities
- Medic #31- 2013 ambulance with advance life support capabilities
- Car #39- 2013 Ford F-250 pickup truck utility vehicle
- Car #30- 2014 GMC Terrain, Chief's response vehicle
- Engine #34- 1993 KME (reserve engine)



Training...

Not a day goes by without the department completing some type of training.

Training is important when designing a successful and safe department. We cannot help our community if we are not trained to the highest standard of care available. In April we hosted a regional training for the Westshore departments. Land made available through the redevelopment of the area just west of Westgate mall was our training ground. Training evolutions included fire attack, ventilation, forcible entry, search and rescue, and self rescue. Rocky River and Lakewood fire departments joined us for the week long training event.

In the summer months we organized a rope rescue training. With the Metropark's valley in our back yard, rope rescue techniques are another skill we need to keep polished. We again focused on ladder training in 2017, and it paid off. Our 102 foot Ladder Truck was used several times throughout the year to help fight several fires around the region and in our own city.

As the year progressed, Fariview Hospital was kind enough to once again provide us the ability to attend the Northern Ohio Trauma System Symposium. This, along with monthly Paramedic trainings also provided by Fariview Hospital, ensured that Paramedic skills of all our members were top notch.



Education and Prevention....

Fire Prevention Week was in early October and was a great opportunity for all of our members to spread the message of fire prevention. The theme for this past year was “Every second counts, Plan 2 ways out.”

The fire prevention message is always important and is recognized by the schools as such. Over the year several tours took place including the one pictured on the right.

Not only do people come to the fire house for tours and education, but we also take the show on the road!

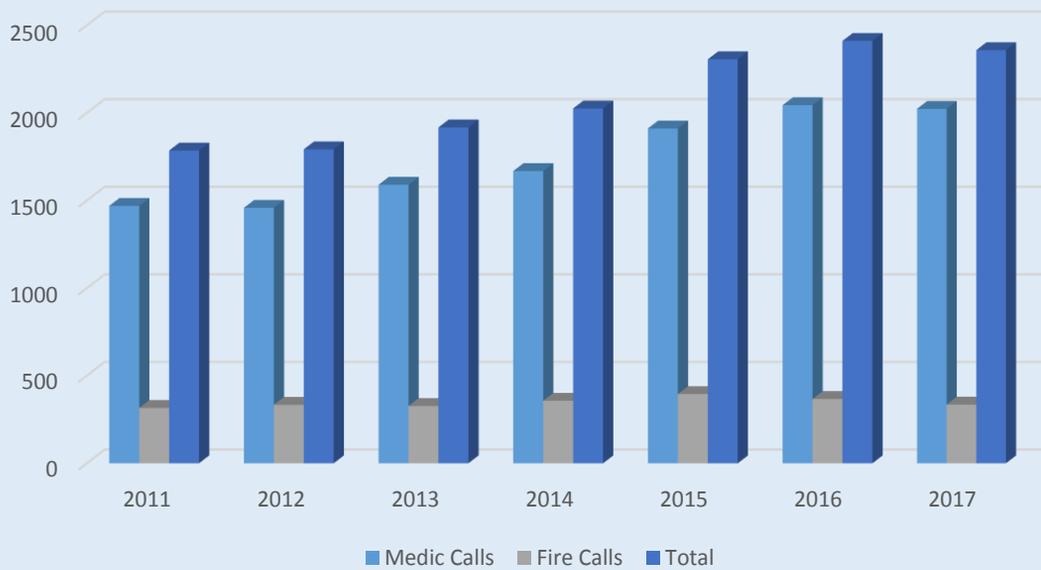
A total of 25 school fire drills and 15 safety talks were completed in 2017.



Fire prevention is one of the most important functions that our department is involved in throughout the year. Code enforcement to ensure the public's safety is one way to stop problems before they start. Initiated by annual rotation as well as citizen complaints, inspections of business in our community help our department identify where the problems are. In 2017 our Fire Prevention Bureau inspected over 500 buildings with no major violations noted. The inspection process is intended as educational and not punitive. When people understand why violations must be addressed everyone benefits.



Run Volume 2011-2017



Service Calls...

The **2,358** calls for service throughout the city was just a slight decrease from the previous years 2,411. However, from the chart above it is easy to see that the requests for emergency services show no signs of slowing down. In fact total calls have been steadily increasing for the past 7 years! Fairview Park experienced multiple working structure fires in 2017 with very unfortunate results. Several injuries and one death were reported as a result of the fires.

As a part of the Westshore region, our department responded to several working structure fires in Rocky River, Bay Village, Lakewood, North Olmsted, and Westlake as well. In fact, mutual aid response for fire and medical calls was requested by other cities 164 times throughout the year. In the same regard our fire department requested aid 89 times throughout the year. The Westshore is a busy region with strong partnerships that have been forged with surrounding departments. Because of this we are always able provide outstanding emergency service to our community regardless of other calls that we may be responding to at the same time.

Noteworthy Events....

We are always working to hold ourselves to the highest standard of service possible. The points below highlight just a few of the purchases, implementations, and recognitions that we have attained throughout 2017.

- Purchase of Fire attack hand tools provided through grant from Fairview Park Women's Club!
- Purchase of high visibility traffic jackets (obtained through Ohio EMS grant)!
- Began replacement program for structural firefighting gear!
- Donation to *Team Rubicon* of \$540 from our winning FPFD golf team (outing pictured below)!
- Continued success of car seat program (first Monday of every month)!
- Continued success of lockbox program for our community's seniors!
- In service of new 2017 Braun Ambulance!
- Upgrade in station alerting system for dispatch!
- Two new members hired to fill retirements!
- Another successful Santa Patrol!
- Continued regional training efforts!
- Over a two dozen recognitions by Fairview Hospital Emergency Department for outstanding care!

