

# 2016



## ANNUAL REPORT

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## OUR VISION

We set the standard for quality fire and emergency services by applying strategic thinking, leadership development, and innovation to maintain financial responsibility and public trust.

# ANNUAL SUMMARY



*Al Church  
Fire Chief/Administrator*

I am both pleased and proud to be able to present to our community this Annual Report covering the activities of South King Fire & Rescue (SKFR) for 2016. The efforts of the entire Fire District are contained within this brief overview of activities that took place during 2016. We are very busy serving 150,000 citizens within

the cities of Federal Way and Des Moines, and a portion of unincorporated King County.

In 2016 SKFR responded to over 20,000 calls for service, equating to just over one response every 30 minutes. We provided emergency services related to incidents involving fires, medical, rescue, hazardous materials, marine and a host of other emergent and non-emergent responses. We also provided fire prevention, investigation, and public education services to our communities.

We are proud and honored that our citizenry passed a Capital Bond Measure on November 3, 2015, with over 60% of our citizens voting in favor of upgrading our fire stations, fire apparatus, and informational technology infrastructure. We implemented the \$39 million bond issue by ordering new fire engines and aid cars, initiated the seismic upgrades at several of our stations, and developed architectural plans for the remaining fire station upgrades. A great deal of work went into the bond issue in 2016, which will be carried forward well into 2017 and beyond.

In order to sustain our current revenue stream, the Board of Fire Commissioners unanimously decided to place the renewal of our current Maintenance and Operations Levy on the November 8, 2016 ballot at a much lower amount (\$2.75 million compared with \$3.5 million collected annually

from 2013 through 2016), and at a lesser rate (19 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value, as compared with the previous 29 cents per \$1,000). This levy was overwhelmingly supported by our citizenry with a 67% yes vote, far exceeding the required 60%. This levy will assist the Fire District in maintaining its current level of service 2017 through 2020. However, ongoing growth in emergency responses communitywide will challenge the Fire District in years to come, necessitating a strategic look at other revenue options to meet our community's growing needs.

During 2015, the Fire District was recertified with a Class 2 insurance rating by the Washington Survey and Rating Bureau, which is the best in the State (matched only by the Seattle, Bellevue, and Olympia Fire Departments). Achieving and maintaining a Class 2 allows our citizens and business owners a large savings on their annual insurance premiums (the difference between a Class 4 and a Class 2 routinely results in a 20% to 25% decrease in insurance premiums), while maintaining a Standard-of-Cover to rapidly respond and mitigate fires, emergency medical incidents, and any other emergency that may befall our citizens. In addition, Standard and Poors recertified the Fire District with a AA+ Bond rating, which is the best rating in the state of Washington for a fire district. We are pleased and honored to have maintained these high ratings for our citizens.

In the final analysis, the leadership within the Fire District, from the elected Board of Fire Commissioners throughout the entire organization, continued to work together with the simple goal of ensuring we lived up to our Mission Statement day-in and day-out during 2016: We provide professional fire department services to safeguard the community and enhance quality of life.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Al Church". The signature is stylized and written over a light gray background.

# SERVICE AREA & RESPONSE

**Total Employees**  
153

**Firefighters & Officers**  
127

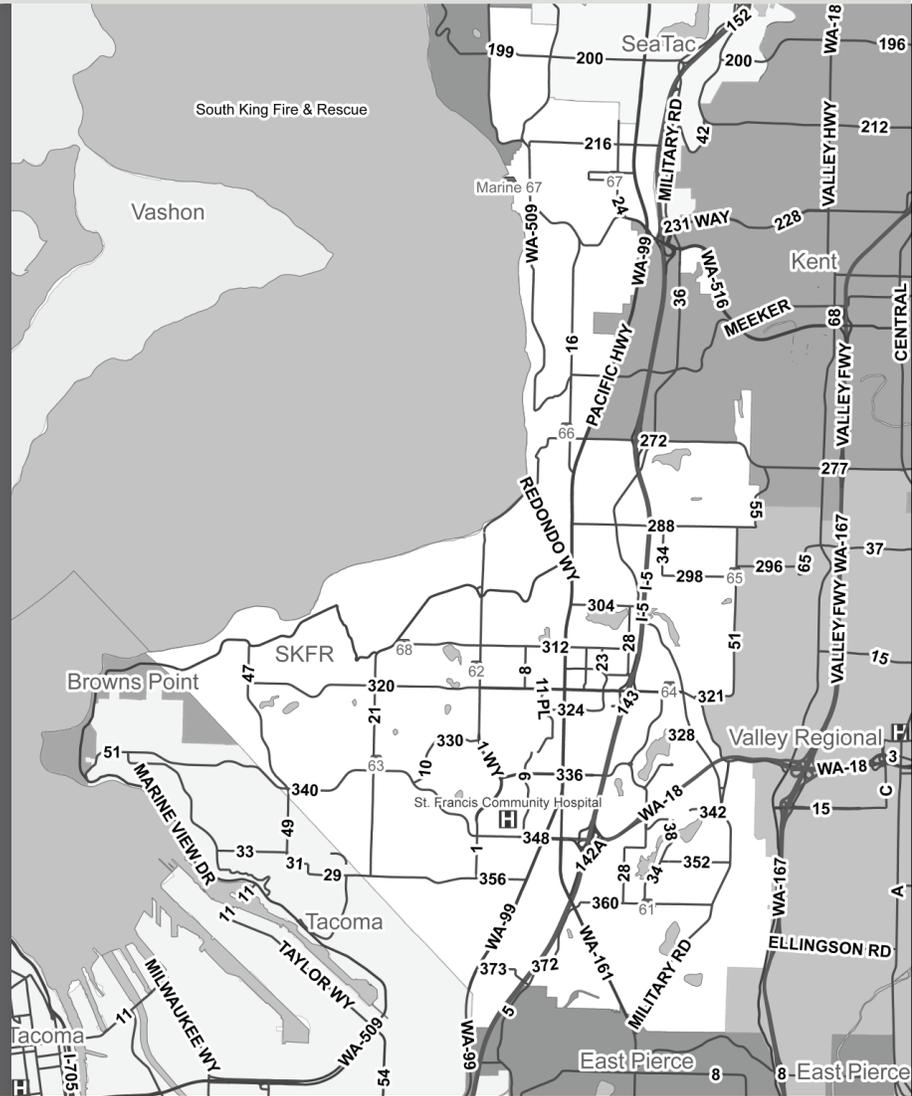
**Emergency Responses**  
20,258

**Square Miles**  
41

**Citizens Protected**  
150,000

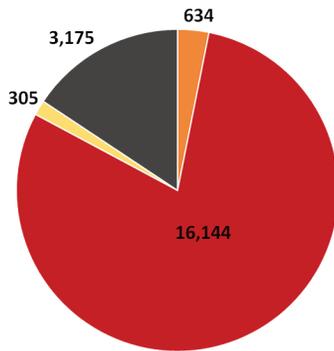
**Assessed Value**  
\$13,887,569,292

**Operating Budget**  
\$28,713,189



## 2016 Emergency Responses

20,258



■ Fire ■ EMS ■ HazMat ■ Misc.

## OUR MISSION

We provide professional fire department services to safeguard the community and enhance quality of life.

# BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

SKFR is governed by an elected Board of Fire Commissioners. The 5-member Board consists of representatives from the Fire District, each serving a 6-year term. Working closely with the Fire Chief/Administrator, the Board holds monthly public meetings, establishing Fire District policy and maintaining responsibility for the District's annual budget, long-range planning and strategic goals.

In existence since 1949 and as one of the largest stand-alone fire districts in the State of Washington, we are pleased and proud to be able to report that we have maintained our insurance ratings of Class 2 in Federal Way and Class 3 in Des Moines while continuing our conservative budgeting approach. We are also proud that SKFR was recertified with a AA+ Bond rating by Standard and Poors, the highest rating of any fire district in the state. This demonstrates the highly professional staff we have in place from top to bottom.

Our goal is to ensure that SKFR meets the needs of our growing community: Whether it is maintaining or upgrading our apparatus, facilities or equipment, or ensuring that we have the funds necessary to maintain our Fire District. We are here to serve the communities of Federal Way, Des Moines, and a portion of unincorporated King County.

Thank you for your ongoing support. It has allowed us to live up to our mission statement on a daily basis.



*James Fossos, Commissioner*

*Mark Thompson, Board Vice Chair*

*William "Bill" Gates, Board Chair*

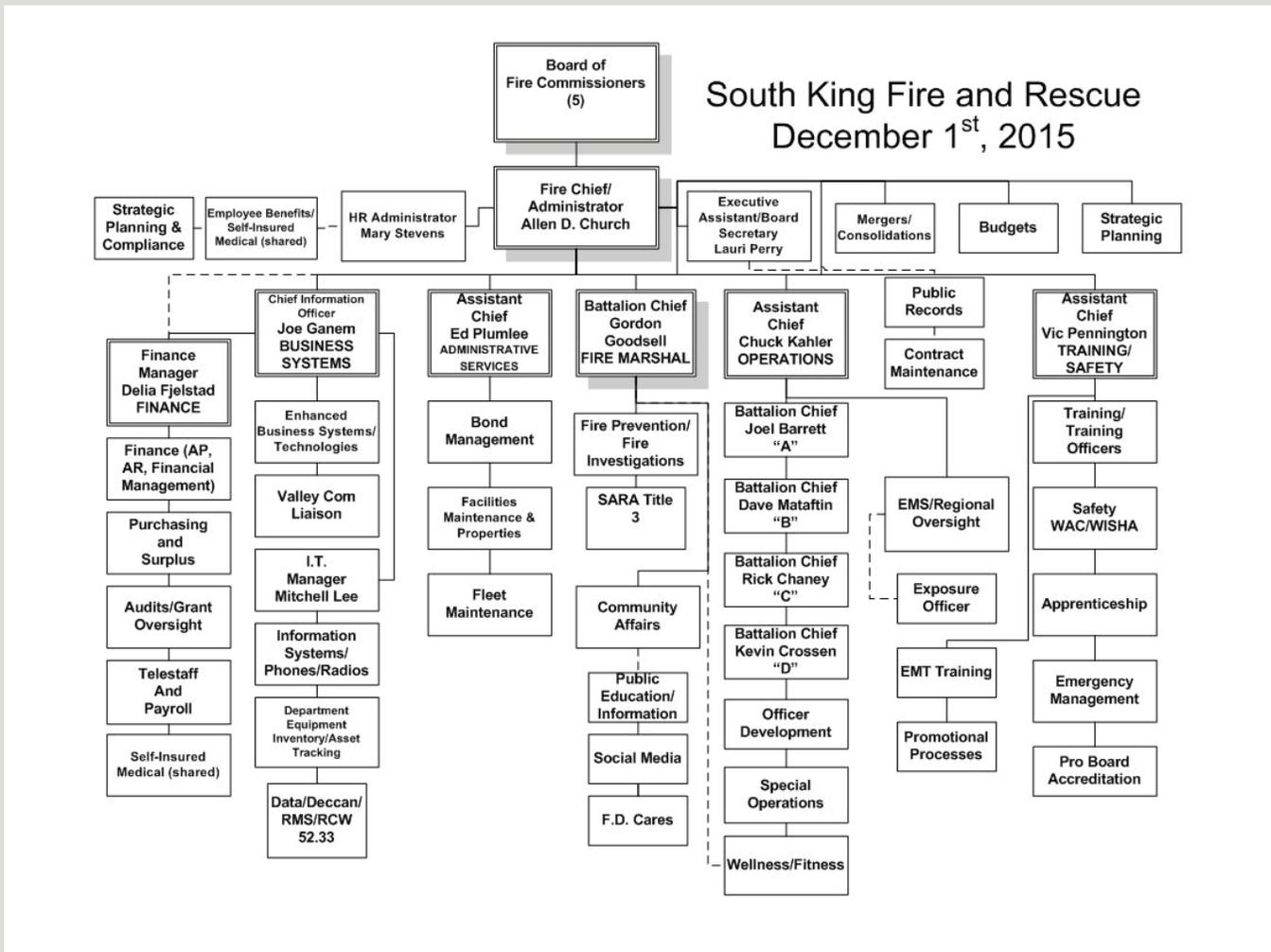
*Bill Fuller, Commissioner*

*John Rickert, Commissioner*

*Bill Fuller,  
accompanied by  
his wife Pat, being  
sworn in as an SKFR  
Commissioner by  
Judge Dave Larson  
on January 26, 2016*



# ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



## OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Meet or exceed the customer's needs
- Perform your duties safely
- Keep it clean and professional
- Be honest, respectful, loyal and communicate openly
- Help each other succeed
- Continually improve your skills
- Be prepared to perform
- Help to provide achievable solutions
- Never walk past a mistake
- Be responsible for your actions
- Finish what you start
- Take care of each other; treat each other with respect
- Follow the rules
- Serve with pride
- Hold ourselves and each other accountable
- Support these guiding principles

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

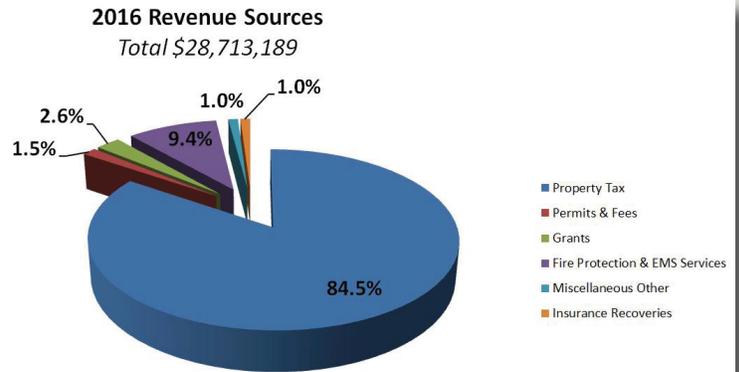
## REVENUE

Overall District revenues increased from \$26,572,532 collected in 2015 to \$28,713,189 (\$2,140,657 increase or 7.46%) in 2016 due to moderate increases in property tax values. In addition, the District collected on its fourth and final year (before expiration) of the \$3.5 million Maintenance and Operations Levy (M&O), approved by the citizens within the SKFR community in August of 2012.

In November 2016, voters approved a renewal of the M&O Levy with a 66.71% “Yes” vote. The reduced amounts of \$2.5 million per year is in place for another four years. The M&O Levy, coupled with stabilizing assessed valuations, enables Fire District staffing levels to be maintained for the long-term. The chart to the right represents the sources of revenue for the District.

## EXPENDITURES

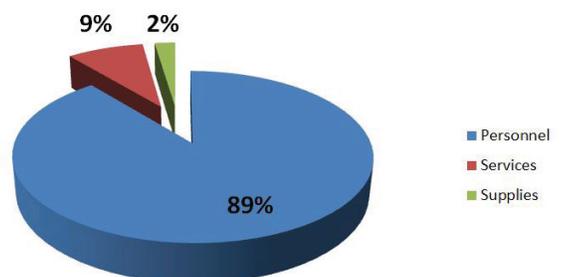
The District’s operating expenses for 2016 were \$27,489,523 and capital expenditures were \$1,884,819. The District’s capital expenditures in 2016 included necessary equipment and maintenance outside of what was funded by the recently approved General Obligation Bond. Capital expenditures included: replacement of personal protective equipment worn by first responders; uniforms for newly hired firefighters; surface water rescue equipment; necessary training props; and minor facilities projects. As reflected in previous annual budgets, personnel represent 89% of the District’s operating expenses.



## GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND - CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

In November 2015, our citizens approved a \$39 million dollar Safety and Improvement Bond with a 61.69% “Yes” vote. The bond proceeds are used to maintain the District’s capital infrastructure (apparatus, facilities and equipment).

**2016 Operational Expenditures**  
Total \$27,487,605



# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

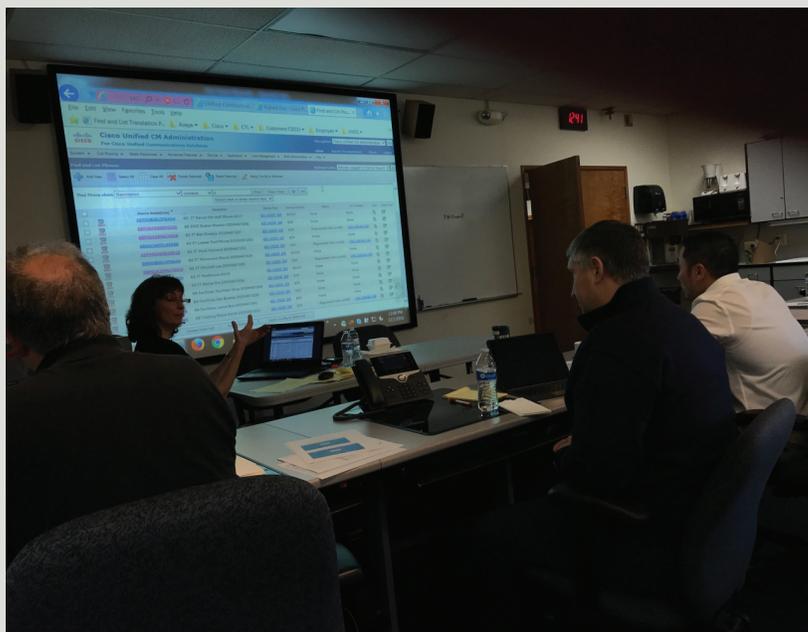
2016 was a pivotal year as SKFR's IT Division reached a milestone for technological advancements. With a reduced funding model that started during the Great Economic Recession, we lacked the ability to achieve alignment between technological needs and our strategic vision. Unfortunately, this impending deficit hampered our organization's ability to achieve our full strategic intent, for which technology plays a critical role. Thankfully our citizens understood the needs of their fire department and passed the November 2015 Bond measure.

Upon passage of the bond, SKFR's IT Division road-mapped a series of projects into corresponding themes for the 3-year duration of the bond: Improving communications and IT security systems.

- Focusing on communication during the first half of the year, IT embarked upon two large-scale projects that were comprised of: high-bandwidth, fiber-optic networks, and a modernized voice-

over IP (VoIP) phone system. IT partnered with CenturyLink for both projects. After countless hours of planning and research, the network infrastructure upgrades were completed in July and the new phone system went live in December.

- In terms of security, IT initiated the planning for a new firewall system near the end of the third quarter. In lieu of all the social, engineering-driven malware attacks such as the notorious Cryptolocker and WannaCry ransomware, upgrading our protection systems was imperative. We needed to ensure that our highly-sensitive data was not compromised through deceptive phishing emails and erroneous web links. With the growing complexity of malicious software, there was a concern that our existing firewalls did not have the appropriate mechanisms to prevent present-day threats. Consequently, after 3-months of configuration and testing, we secured our protection systems by installing state-of-the-art firewalls before the end of the year.



SKFR's mission is to maintain high-level fire and emergency medical services to our citizens and to meet our strategic objectives. Through bond-related technology improvements in 2016, we have increased efficiency, quality, reliability, and security; all while reducing ongoing support costs. The IT Division has made certain that technology serves as a catalyst to meet our strategic objectives with measured success through communications and security projects.

We look forward to reporting on 2017, as many key projects are already underway.

# PREVENTION DIVISION

The Prevention Division is staffed with the Fire Marshal, Assistant Fire Marshal, Community Affairs Officer, and five Deputy Fire Marshals. The primary focus of the Prevention Division is education, engineering, code enforcement and fire investigations.



## FIRE & LIFE SAFETY PLAN REVIEW AND NEW CONSTRUCTION INSPECTIONS

Our staff is trained and certified for Fire and Life Safety Review of commercial new construction and remodel plans. We work closely with the Cities of Federal Way and Des Moines building departments to ensure proposed buildings and remodels are in compliance with Building and Fire Codes. Once the plans are approved and permitted, our Deputy Fire Marshals ensure the work is completed properly and all systems are tested to ensure they will function as designed.

## FIRE SAFETY INSPECTIONS

All commercial businesses, schools, public buildings and multi-family residential complexes are inspected annually in an effort to keep the people working and living in these buildings safe and to ensure they are in compliance with the Fire Code. Most of the 3,380 inspections are completed by firefighters assigned to engine companies, with Deputy Fire Marshals assisting when needed. Deputy Fire Marshals also conducted 748 Fire Code Permit Inspections for occupancies that require a permit for hazardous processes such as cutting and welding or storage of hazardous materials.

## EDUCATION & PUBLIC INFORMATION

Our Community Affairs Officer provides timely information to the public, and organizes firefighter involvement in the community. Fire and life-safety messages are coordinated and delivered through school activities, nonprofit events, and city-sponsored festivals. Additionally, SKFR creates and hosts public events such as free CPR classes and open houses in group and individual settings. Timely communication with the media is delivered face-to-face and through the use of Twitter and other social media platforms. The Division also delivers a youth fire-setter prevention and education intervention program.

## FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

Deputy Fire Marshals are trained to determine the origin and cause of fires. They provide this service to the community and they share the duty that requires their response after hours and on the weekends. Engine companies call a Fire Investigator when the cause of a fire is unknown, or the crime of arson is suspected.



# OPERATIONS

Firefighter/EMTs respond to fire, medical and rescue incidents from seven different fire stations deployed strategically within the Fire District. The types of calls for service are varied: from major structure fires and cardiac arrests, to lower-acuity responses assisting people who have fallen, but are not injured.

The Operations Division is comprised of four different shifts that provide 24/7/365 coverage. Each shift is comprised of 10 company officers and 17 firefighters. All officers and firefighters are Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) with defibrillator training. Each fire engine, ladder truck and aid car has first-aid capabilities, with medical aid equipment and a defibrillator for cardiac arrest patients.



Operations also contains specialty teams for hazardous materials incidents, salt-water marine rescue, technical rescue, and rescue swimmers for fresh and salt-water rescues. The firefighters and officers who are on these specialty teams have the training and certifications to allow them the safest and most efficient response to help people in distress.

Each fire engine and the ladder truck carry one officer and two firefighters. The aid cars carry one officer and one firefighter.



Fire engines remain the most versatile fire department apparatus, capable of fire suppression, emergency medical response, and operations level equipment to initiate a hazardous material response, technical rescue, or surface water rescue. The ladder truck carries specialized equipment to assist in forcible entry or ventilating a burning structure, and it has fire hose with a pump to act like a fire engine when necessary.

Aid cars are smaller ambulance type vehicles that respond to medical emergencies as well as fires, extrications, and many other types of responses. Aid cars are normally located in a “dual house” fire station that has an engine or ladder company. In dual houses the aid car is the first unit dispatched to an aid response, with the engine or ladder responding when the aid car is at another call.

There is one Battalion Chief (BC) on duty each day. The BCs are experts at scene command, assuming control of an incident that requires multiple apparatus to carry out the mission.

# SPECIAL TEAMS

## RESCUE TEAM

The Technical Rescue Team consists of 16 highly trained rescue technicians and rescue specialist operating out of Station 64. The team's mantra is "improving readiness every day." This mind set permits a state of operational readiness in the areas of: structure collapse rescue, rope rescue, confined space rescue, swiftwater rescue, trench rescue, and heavy vehicle extrication rescue. Several members of the team are also members of Washington Task Force-1, one of FEMA's 28 national Urban Search and Rescue teams. Members of the team maintain an extensive specialized cache of equipment housed on Rescue 64, able to respond locally as well as regionally.



## HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM

The HazMat team was originally placed in service in 1982 to address issues with the Weyerhaeuser Technology Center along with the danger of hazardous spills on I-5. As hazardous materials threats have increased over the years, so has our team, which now includes up to 16 firefighters trained as HazMat Technicians. They work hand-in-hand with the HazMat teams of Kent, Renton and Port of Seattle Fire to provide hazmat coverage and leadership for all of Zone 3.



## MARINE TEAM

Marine 67 (M67) is a 32-foot rescue/fire boat that operates in Puget Sound out of the Des Moines Marina with 16 trained pilots. M67 responded to 22 incidents with 397 training hours between all pilots. Pilots were given a tour of the Coast Guard facility and trained 120 hours with the Coast Guard, performing towing, navigation, search and rescue. Training with the Coast Guard was a great opportunity and experience for the pilots of M67. The pilots also spent 32 hours with the Surface Water Swimmer Team which was important training for both teams. Other drill hours were spent on general operation such as pumping, fueling, and navigation.



## SURFACE WATER SWIMMER TEAM

The Surface Water Swimmer Team continues to be effective in recovering drowning victims in our numerous lakes and Puget Sound. With the exception of the Marine Team, all the other special teams partner with neighboring fire departments to provide expertly trained firefighters to mitigate special response needs. Collaborating with neighboring fire departments provides more consistent training regionally, and the daily staffing to carry out a special response mission without overburdening one department.



# TRAINING

SKFR's Training Division continues to meet the internal training needs of the District, and continues to be a regional leader in the development of firefighters and special team operations. Listed below are some highlights of the many accomplishments of the Training Division for 2016:

- Developed and delivered the initial training for the new MSA G-1 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus to the entire Operations, Fire Prevention, and Administration Divisions.
- Hosted the Zone 3 Structural Collapse Drill at the SKFR DiRT site.
- Hosted live fire training for approximately 650 Zone 3 firefighters at SKFR's Training Facility.
- Hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter Zone 3 Truck Drills.
- Hosted King County Medic One Paramedic student Mass Casualty Incident training.
- Hosted King County Prosecutor training exercise to include participants from the King & Pierce County Prosecutor's Office, King County Sheriff's Office and the King County Medical Examiner's Office.
- Provided 4 days of Emergency Vehicle Incident Prevention Training.
- Completed recruit training academy 2016-1 training and certifying 7 new recruit firefighters at the IFSAC Firefighter 1, Firefighter 2, Hazardous Materials Operations levels utilizing Bates Technical College, SKFR's 6 week post recruit academy and the Washington State Firefighters JATC.
- Completed the planning, development, and creation of the SKFR Disaster Response Training Site (DiRT).

The Training Division also supported the Operations Division with the facilitation and development of comprehensive post-incident analysis for the following major incidents:

- Multiple alarm Crosspoint Apartment fire.
- Southbound Interstate 5 under-ride car fire.
- Drowning at 5 Mile Lake involving Zone 3 Dive Teams, King County Sheriffs Dive Team King County Medical Examiner's Office and SKFR's Chaplaincy Program.
- Multiple-alarm Dollar Store fire at Pacific Highway South and Kent Des Moines Road.

The Training Division remains an active member of the Washington State Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee through the activity of the SKFR JATC sub-committee. The Training Division delivered 18 written and practical apprenticeship step advancement tests.

In conclusion, the Training Division continues to be innovative and strives to meet the ever-changing demands of the fire department. We provide the highest quality learning environment and training facilities, delivering outstanding career development and emergency response skills that exceed the expectations of the fire service and the communities we serve.



# SUPPORT DIVISIONS



## FLEET DIVISION

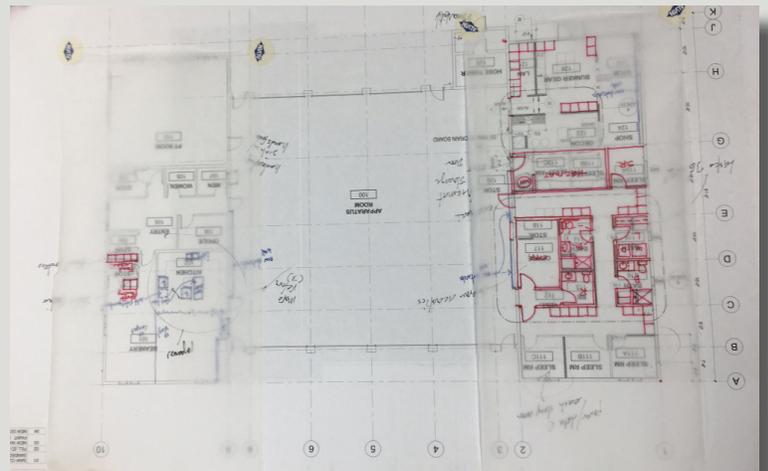
The Fleet Division was comprised of three Emergency Vehicle Technician Certified Mechanics, including one supervisor. To accomplish the mission of SKFR requires a fleet of fire engines, aid cars, ladder trucks, haz mat and rescue apparatus, a marine unit, and staff vehicles (totaling 54 vehicles). These mechanics accomplish the daunting task of maintaining all apparatus for emergency response. Along with normal drive-train maintenance, most of our apparatus has specialty-type equipment such as fire pumps, gurneys, emergency lighting, mobile radios, on-board computers, and a host of other equipment that requires on-going maintenance. The mechanics play an important role in maintaining a safe and timely emergency response to our community.

## FACILITIES DIVISION

In 2016 the Facilities Division was comprised of one staff member, the Facilities Manager. Prior to 2012 there were three employees who conducted many station repairs/remodels. Currently, most repairs are being conducted by outside vendors due to the workload of 83,345 square feet of fire station space. Each fire station has components found in a residence, along with office space and a truck bay for equipment. The mechanical systems in each facility need to be maintained constantly, roofs and gutters cleaned regularly, and repairs made to plumbing and electrical, along with many other routine maintenance items.

One other task of the Facilities Division that is important to our citizens is the annual inspection and testing of all 5,875 fire hydrants in the fire district. Each summer, students from a nearby technical school are interviewed and hired as temporary employees to conduct hydrant testing. This is a very successful, cost-effective program that allows young men and women that are interested in a firefighting career an opportunity to learn more about the fire service.

SKFR facilities are in serious need of safety upgrades, including seismic modifications to allow fire stations to operate after a design-level earthquake. Most of our stations were built before seismic upgrades were required by the building code. Consequently, most would suffer some collapse during an earthquake, making it impossible for firefighters to respond to our community. In 2016 the Facilities Division was involved with design teams regarding station safety improvements that were incorporated into the Bond measure.



# FIRE STATIONS & FACILITIES

## STATION 61



(1979): 3203 S 360<sup>th</sup> St, Auburn, WA

This station is located just east of Wild Waves. The firefighters that staff this station are part of the Hazardous Materials Team that responds to hazardous materials incidents in King County, from the Seattle City border to the Pierce County border.

## STATION 62



(1978): 31617 1<sup>st</sup> Ave S, Federal Way, WA

Administrative and business services for SKFR are located at Station 62. It is the busiest station in the District. Firefighters oversee the purchase and maintenance of the bunker gear that is worn into hazardous fire environments. SKFR also maintains a Surface Water Rescue Team, ready to respond to any incident involving water rescue, although the members of this team reside at different stations.

## STATION 63



(1964): 33414 21<sup>st</sup> Ave SW, Federal Way, WA

Station 63 is located in the Twin Lakes area of Federal Way. It is the third busiest station in the district. The Federal Way Police also have a small substation within this station.

## STATION 64



(1987): 3700 S 320<sup>th</sup> St, Auburn, WA

A public memorial honoring those who perished on 9/11 is located in front of this station, on S 320<sup>th</sup> St just east of I-5. Members of this station are on the Rescue Team, ready to respond to incidents that involve confined spaces or high/low angle rescues. Paramedics from King County Medic One are also housed at this station.

## STATION 65



(1968): 4966 S 298<sup>th</sup> St, Auburn, WA

This facility is located in unincorporated King County. Station 65 is responsible for the logistics of SKFR including the purchase and distribution of emergency medical equipment and station supplies.

## STATION 66



(1966): 27010 15<sup>th</sup> Ave S, Des Moines, WA

Station 66 is located above Redondo Beach, just west of Pacific Hwy South.

## STATION 67



(1970): 2238 S 223<sup>rd</sup> St, Des Moines, WA

Station 67 is located in Des Moines off the Kent-Des Moines Rd, west of Pacific Hwy South. The Marine Team and Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus Respiratory Program are located at this station. Paramedics from King County Medic One and their Medical Services Officer also reside at this station, ready to respond to calls in south King County. Station 67 is the second busiest station in the District.

## STATION 68



(1964): 1405 SW 312<sup>th</sup> St, Federal Way

Station 68 houses the Training, Fleet and Facilities Divisions. Firefighters continually drill at this station to keep up their emergency skills, and many training courses are held in the classroom.

## CITY HALL



33325 8th Ave S, Federal Way

Federal Way City Hall houses the Fire Marshal's Office. This division works closely with the Cities of Federal Way and Des Moines, along with a small portion of unincorporated King County, to provide inspections, plan review, investigations, and prevention services.

## OTHER PROPERTIES

SKFR owns several parcels of property throughout the Fire District related to future planning and potential growth as necessary. They include the following: 47<sup>th</sup> Ave SW & Dash Pt Rd, which is available should long-term growth occur in the west portion of the District; S 356<sup>th</sup> St & Pacific Hwy S, which is available should growth in the south end of the Fire District require an additional fire station; S 288<sup>th</sup> St and approximately 30<sup>th</sup> Ave S, in anticipation of future department needs; and S 320<sup>th</sup> St just east of I-5, upon which a future training and emergency operations center are planned.

## NEW HIRES



**Ken Brumet**  
Admin Assistant  
Fleet



**Ben Gorely**  
Network  
Administrator



**Dean Bastin**  
Firefighter



**Josh Bellinghausen**  
Firefighter



**Nich Gullickson**  
Firefighter



**Adam Joyner**  
Firefighter



**Stefan McPherson**  
Firefighter



**Kelly Salvage**  
Firefighter



**Joe Stevens**  
Firefighter

## RECOGNITIONS

### 20 Years of Service

Lieutenant Scot McDonald

### 25 Years of Service

Firefighter Craig Burrus  
Lt. Deputy Fire Marshal Chris Cahan  
Yvette Dominguez  
Firefighter Shane Youells

### 30 Years of Service

Captain Jeff Bellinghausen  
Lieutenant Gregg Bordner  
Firefighter Allen Crandall  
Firefighter Daren DeBoer  
Steve Denton  
Lieutenant Chris England  
Lieutenant Scott Ervin  
Firefighter Ed Hobbick  
Firefighter Joe Perusse  
Deputy Fire Marshal John Strub  
Captain Aaron Weeks

### 35 Years of Service

Lieutenant Dan Dragovich  
Deputy Fire Marshal Vince Faranda  
Firefighter Kerry Moore  
Lieutenant John Riley  
Firefighter Tony Sirgedas  
Firefighter Gary White

### 40 Years of Service

Ret. Firefighter/Data Analyst Roy Brewer  
Deputy Chief Dave Mataffin

### Officer of the Year

Lieutenant Jason Lambert

### Firefighter of the Year

Firefighter Chris Mathis

### Non-Combat Employee of the Year

Lance Boe

### Sustained Excellence Award

Assistant Chief Ed Plumlee

### William Martin Award

Battalion Chief Kevin Crossen

### Whitney Bellinghausen Community Service Award

Valerie Danforth

# RETIREMENTS



**Firefighter Steve Crews**

9/1/1977 - 9/4/2016  
40 years of dedicated service  
as a Firefighter



**Firefighter Allen Crandall**

9/15/1986 - 9/1/2016  
31 years of dedicated service  
as a Firefighter



**Lieutenant John Riley**

1/5/1981 - 7/1/2016  
36 years of dedicated  
service as a Firefighter and  
Lieutenant



**Firefighter Ed Hobbick**

9/17/1990 - 5/20/2016  
27 years of dedicated service  
as a Firefighter



**Lieutenant Mike Trotto**

1/5/1981 - 7/1/2016  
13 years of dedicated service  
as a Firefighter



**Ryan Lex**

4/12/2004 - 4/1/2016  
13 years of dedicated service  
as a Firefighter



**Firefighter Tony Sirgedas**

7/20/1981 - 8/1/2016  
36 years of dedicated service  
as a Firefighter

**SOUTH KING FIRE & RESCUE**

31617 1st Avenue South  
Federal Way, WA 98003

[www.southkingfire.org](http://www.southkingfire.org)



**SOUTH KING FIRE & RESCUE**

# **PERFORMANCE REPORT**

**RESPONSE STANDARDS FOR 2016**

**AS REQUIRED BY**

**RCW 52.33**



# SOUTH KING FIRE & RESCUE

## RESOLUTION NO. 413

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS FOR SOUTH KING FIRE & RESCUE, a.k.a. KING COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NUMBER 39, ESTABLISHING THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, OR DECLARING IT ESTABLISHED, LISTING THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT, DESCRIBING THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND THE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS, AND ADOPTING STANDARDS FOR SERVICE.**

**WHEREAS**, South King Fire & Rescue, also known as “King County Fire Protection District Number 39” was organized in the year 1949, and therefore the Board of Fire Commissioners intends to “establish” the District’s Fire Department, or declare it as being heretofore established; and

**WHEREAS**, the Washington State Legislature adopted House Bill 1756 during 2005, and such bill is codified as Chapter 52.33 of the Revised Code of Washington; and

**WHEREAS**, such statute requires that each substantially career fire department be declared “established,” that the services provided by the district or department be listed, and among other requirements, that standards for service be adopted locally; and

**WHEREAS**, such statute also requires that an annual report be first prepared in 2007, describing compliance with the local standards and otherwise reporting to the public; and

**WHEREAS**, such statute also requires compliance with the locally established response time standards 90% of the time; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose and intent of this resolution is to provide policies and standards so as to comply with the intent of the new legislation;

### **NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.** Since South King Fire & Rescue (King County Fire Protection District No. 39) was formed in 1949 and thereafter a substantially career fire department has been established, the Board of Fire Commissioners officially declares the Fire Department to be established.

**Section 2.** The municipal services provided by the district and the department, in accordance with the mission and statutes that govern fire protection districts and fire departments, are as follows:

- Fire suppression
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Basic Life Support (BLS)
- Hazardous Materials Response-Level A
- Hazardous Materials Response-Operations
- Technical Rescue/Special Operations
- Marine Rescue and Fire Fighting
- Wildland Fire Fighting
- Fire Prevention/Public Education
- Participation in Local Emergency Management

**Section 3.** The organizational structure of the Fire Department is best illustrated by reference to the attached organizational chart. However, the organization is generally described as governed overall by the elected policy-making and governing body – the Board of Fire Commissioners – whose policies are implemented and managed on a day-to-day basis by the appointed Fire Chief. The Board and the Fire Chief are aided in accomplishing the mission of the department by an appointed District Secretary, whose primary duties are administrative, including maintaining Board meeting minutes and records. Various fire service officers, firefighters, Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs), volunteer administrative personnel, and other staff personnel comprise the District’s work force and accomplish the delivery of vital services to the public.

**Section 4.** On the effective date of this Resolution, the District employs the equivalent of 153 full time employees (FTE’s), and enjoys the benefit of approximately 14 volunteers in non-operational, e.g., non-firefighting capacities. Any changes or projected changes in these numbers will be addressed in subsequent annual reports.

**Section 5.** The Fire Protection District hereby establishes the following service delivery objectives, including specific response time objectives for the following major service components, as applicable:

**Structural Fire Suppression First Unit Turnout Time \***

Goal: Standard turnout time of 2-minutes, 45-seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average turnout time goal is 2-minutes, 00-seconds.

**Structural Fire Suppression First Engine Travel Time**

Goal: Standard travel time of 5-minutes, 30-seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average travel time goal is 3-minutes, 30-seconds.

**Structural Fire Suppression First Full Alarm Travel Time**

Goal: Standard travel time of 9-minutes, 00-seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average travel time goal is 6-minutes, 00-seconds.

*Note: The full first alarm assignment includes a minimum of fifteen (15) firefighting personnel and adequate apparatus/equipment for the incident.*

**Other Fire Incidents (vehicular, electrical, etc.) First Unit Turnout Time \***

Goal: Standard turnout time of 2-minutes, 45-seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average turnout time goal is 2-minutes, 00-seconds.

**Other Fire Incidents (vehicular, electrical, etc.) First Engine Travel Time**

Goal: Standard travel time of 6-minutes, 00-seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average travel time goal is 3-minutes, 45-seconds.

### **EMS BLS First Unit Turnout Time with First Responder or higher**

Goal: Standard turnout time of 2-minutes, 30-seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average turnout time goal is 1-minute, 30-seconds.

### **EMS BLS First Unit Travel Time with First Responder or higher**

Goal: Standard travel time of 6-minutes, 00-seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average response time goal is 4-minutes, 00-seconds.

### **EMS ALS Unit Travel Time**

Goal: King County Medic One has adopted a standard travel time of 8-minutes, 00-seconds, 90% of the time for the arrival of the first ALS emergency medical unit with two King County Paramedics.

*Note: As provided by King County Medic One, who are administered by Public Health Seattle/King County. King County has adopted standards for King County Medic One responses. SKFR does not provide Advanced Life Support (ALS) responses. ALS services are provided by King County Medic One.*

### **Hazardous Materials First Unit Turnout Time with Operations level or higher trained personnel\***

Goal: Standard turnout time of 3-minutes, 00-seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average turnout time goal is 2-minutes, 00-seconds.

### **Hazardous Materials First Unit Travel Time with Operations level or higher trained personnel**

Goal: Standard travel time of 5-minutes, 45-seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average travel time goal is 4-minutes, 00-seconds.

### **Hazardous Materials First Unit Travel Time with HazMat Technician level trained personnel**

Goal: SKFR adopted a travel time of 10-minutes, 00-seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average turnout time total is 8-minutes, 00-seconds.

### **Technical Rescue/Special Operations Turnout Time \***

Goal: Standard turnout time of 3-minutes, 00-seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average turnout time goal is 2-minutes, 00-seconds.

### Technical Rescue/Special Operations Travel Time – Technical Rescue trained/certified personnel

Goal: Standard travel time of 10-minutes, 00 seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average travel time goal is 8-minutes, 00-seconds.

### Marine Rescue & Firefighting Turnout Time\*

Goal: Standard turnout time of 3-minutes, 00-seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average turnout time goal is 2-minutes, 00-seconds.

### Marine Rescue & Firefighting Travel Time

Goal: Standard travel time of 5-minutes, 00 seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average travel time goal is 4-minutes, 00-seconds.

*Note: This includes travel time to the dock in the marina where the boat is moored, then staffing Marine 67 with a minimum of one pilot and one deckhand.*

### Wildland Firefighting First Unit Travel Time with Red Card (NWCG) certified firefighters

Goal: Standard travel time of 30-minutes, 00-seconds 90% of the time.  
The average travel time goal is 30-minutes, 00-seconds.

*Note: This standard has been developed for Statewide Mobilization events wherein certified wildland members are called back to duty for responses).*

\* Times take into account all firefighters being fully bunkered up in protective clothing prior to initiation of the response/travel time.

**Section 6.** The foregoing objectives shall be the goal for SKFR to achieve at least **90% of the time** in accordance with the statute. In addition, the **average turnout and travel (response) time goals** are included for comparison of response objectives. Annually, commencing in 2007, the District shall evaluate its levels of service, deployment, and the achievement of each response time objective throughout the District. The Annual Report shall define any geographic areas and circumstances in which the requirements of these standards are not being met. The Annual Report shall explain the predictable consequences of any deficiencies and address the steps that are necessary to achieve the objectives.

**Section 7.** All terms used herein, such as “turnout time,” “travel/response time,” “advanced life support,” and “fire suppression,” shall be as defined in the state statute.

Within this resolution, the terms “South King Fire & Rescue,” “King County Fire Protection District Number 39” and “District” shall be synonymous.

**ADOPTED** by the Board of Fire Commissioners of King County Fire Protection District No. 39, doing business as South King Fire and Rescue, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2006.

# 2016 Actual Response Standards

## Structural Fire Suppression First Unit Turnout Time \*

Goal: Standard turnout time of 2-minutes, 45-seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average turnout time goal is 2-minutes, 00-seconds.

Actual: Met the standard turnout time **92% of the time**.  
The actual average turnout time was **2-minutes, 02-seconds**.

## Structural Fire Suppression First Engine Travel Time

Goal: Standard travel time of 5-minutes, 30-seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average travel time goal is 3-minutes, 30-seconds.

Actual: Met the set standard **91% of the time**.  
The actual average travel time was **3-minutes, 46-seconds**.

## Structural Fire Suppression First Full Alarm Travel Time

Goal: Standard travel time of 9-minutes, 00-seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average travel time goal is 6-minutes, 00-seconds.

Actual: Met the standard **68% of the time**.  
The actual average travel time was **8-minutes, 21-seconds**.

*Note: The full first alarm assignment includes a minimum of fifteen (15) firefighting personnel and adequate apparatus/equipment for the incident.*

## Other Fire Incidents (vehicular, electrical, etc.) First Unit Turnout Time \*

Goal: Standard turnout time of 2-minutes, 45-seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average turnout time goal is 2-minutes, 00-seconds.

Actual: Met the set standard **89% of the time**.  
The average turnout time was **1-minute, 56-seconds**.

### Other Fire Incidents (vehicular, electrical, etc.) First Engine Travel Time

Goal: Standard travel time of 6-minutes, 00-seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average travel time goal is 3-minutes, 45-seconds.

Actual: Met the set standard **76% of the time**.  
The average travel time was **4-minutes, 40-seconds**.

### EMS BLS First Unit Turnout Time with First Responder or higher

Goal: Standard turnout time of 2-minutes, 30-seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average turnout time goal is 1-minute, 30-seconds.

Actual: Met the set standard **89% of the time**.  
The average turnout time was **1-minute, 39-seconds**.

### EMS BLS First Unit Travel Time with First Responder or higher

Goal: Standard travel time of 6-minutes, 00-seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average response time goal is 4-minutes, 00-seconds.

Actual: Met the set standard **81% of the time**.  
The average travel time was **4-minutes, 27-seconds**.

### EMS ALS Unit Travel Time

Goal: King County Medic One has adopted a standard travel time of 8-minutes, 00-seconds, 90% of the time for the arrival of the first ALS emergency medical unit with two King County Paramedics.

Actual: ALS achieved the set standard **77% of the time** per data from SKFR.  
The average travel time was **6-minutes, 16-seconds**.

*Note: As provided by King County Medic One, who are administered by Public Health Seattle/King County. King County has adopted standards for King County Medic One responses. SKFR does not provide Advanced Life Support (ALS) responses. ALS services are provided by King County Medic One.*

## CPR

Goal: The 52.33 report does not have reporting standards for responses to cardiac arrest, however, this statistic is studied by SKFR; there were 362 incidents of cardiac arrests.

Actual: The average turnout time was **1-minute, 33-seconds**.  
The average response time was **3-minutes, 21-seconds**.

## Hazardous Materials First Unit Turnout Time with Operations level or higher trained personnel \*

Goal: Standard turnout time of 3-minutes, 00-seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average turnout time goal is 2-minutes, 00-seconds.

Actual: Met the standard **100% of the time**.  
The average turnout time was **2-minutes, 21-seconds**.

## Hazardous Materials First Unit Travel Time with Operations level or higher trained personnel

Goal: Standard travel time of 5-minutes, 45-seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average travel time goal is 4-minutes, 00-seconds.

Actual: Met the set standard **67% of the time**.  
The average travel time was **4-minutes, 21-seconds**.

*Note: SKFR firefighters are trained to Operations Level for response to hazardous materials incidents and supports the Washington State Patrol who is responsible for hazardous materials incidents within the District. In addition, SKFR supports a department Hazardous Materials Team consisting of at least 12 firefighters trained to the "technician" level. This team responds in conjunction with similarly staffed hazardous materials teams throughout the South King County area to ensure an effective and highly trained response to hazardous materials emergencies. SKFR's response time standard is predicated on hazardous materials operational level firefighters responding to an alarm. Responses requiring Technician level personnel have a time standard of 10-minutes, 00-seconds travel time with an average of 8-minutes, 00-seconds.*

## Technical Rescue/Special Operations Turnout Time \*

Goal: Standard turnout time of 3-minutes, 00-seconds, 90% of the time.  
The average turnout time goal is 2-minutes, 00-seconds.

Actual: Met the set standard **100% of the time**.  
The average turnout time was **00-minutes, 55-seconds**.

**Marine & Technical Rescue Incidents**

Goal: Standard travel time of 5-minutes, 00 seconds, 90% of the time.

The average travel time goal is 4-minutes, 00-seconds.

*Note: This includes travel time to the dock in the marina where the boat is moored, then staffing Marine 67 with a minimum of one pilot and one deckhand.*

Actual: In 2016 there were 12 Marine responses that met the criteria for inclusion in this report. The Marine unit turnout time was 10-minutes, 01-seconds. The Marine unit travel time was 1-minute, 12-seconds. Due to data limitations the times given are for the initial response apparatus to respond to where the boat is stationed. The times do not account for the boat response time to the actual emergency. The times in the two charts below indicate the time the specialty apparatus reached the scene of the emergency.

The turnout time and response times for technical rescue responses was not measurable for 2016 due to the small sample size. Small sample sizes and variable alarm coding for rescue and hazmat responses make response time measurements from the DECCAN database unreliable. Rather than rely on these numbers, we can produce the actual response data for each rescue response in 2016 to those who request this information.

The following chart is from our Fire Records Management System showing all specialty responses. Any differences in average response times from the data above reflects responses going to the greater south King County area, not just the responses that occurred within SKFR’s jurisdiction.

YEAR	App_AppID	#	%	Avg Turnout Time	Avg On-Scene Time	Avg Resp Time
2016	HM61	16	44.44%	0:03:31	1:07:03	0:27:15
	MAR67	12	33.33%	0:10:01	1:12:17	0:23:03
	R64	8	22.22%	0:05:15	1:38:26	0:40:11
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>36</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>0:05:06</b>	<b>1:15:46</b>	<b>0:28:33</b>

The following chart shows all specialty responses that occurred within SKFR’s jurisdiction (excludes automatic/mutual aid given outside the District). These times include the time it took to get a specialty apparatus to the incident.

YEAR	App_AppID	#	%	Avg Turnout Time	Avg On-Scene Time	Avg Resp Time
2016	HM61	12	44.44%	0:03:27	0:53:37	0:17:48
	MAR67	11	40.74%	0:10:31	1:11:27	0:23:49
	R64	4	14.81%	0:05:30	1:29:59	0:23:18
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>27</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>0:05:05</b>	<b>1:06:16</b>	<b>0:20:52</b>

# Fire Department Administration

SKFR operates under a chain-of-command, which was established by an elected Board of Fire Commissioners.

The functions performed by SKFR chief officers and career firefighters include the following:

- a) Emergency response to fires and medical aid emergencies.
- b) Emergency response to all motor vehicle accidents.
- c) Response to all hazards including technical rescue, hazardous materials and marine emergencies.
- d) Mutual aid emergency responses when requested by neighboring jurisdictions.
- e) Fire inspections performed on an annual basis in local businesses, and those in unincorporated areas, coordinated with the King County Fire Marshal's Office.
- f) Coordination with local emergency management personnel from King County.
- g) Hazardous materials Operations level emergency response, coordinated with the Washington State Patrol as the designated Incident Commander.
- h) Perform fire investigations in conjunction with Federal Way Police and assist the King County Fire Marshal's Office with the investigation of fires within the City of Des Moines and unincorporated King County.

## Policy Statements

South King Fire & Rescue (SKFR; aka King County Fire Protection District #39) has existed as a Fire District within the State of Washington since 1949. The District was organized under the tenants of Title 52 of the RCW's, with the legal formation of the Fire District mandated by an affirmative vote of the residents residing within the District's boundaries and by King County Fire Protection District #39 Commissioner Resolution.

SKFR provides service to forty-one (41) square miles including the cities of Federal Way and Des Moines. Included in the 41 square miles is approximately nine (9) square miles of unincorporated King County. The District serves a population of approximately 150,000 community members.

Services provided by SKFR include:

- a) Fire Suppression
- b) First Response Basic Life Support (BLS) Emergency Medical Services
- c) Fire Prevention/Public Education
- d) Hazardous Materials Level A and Operations Level Response
- e) Technical Rescue/Special Operations
- f) Marine Rescue and Firefighting
- g) Wildland Firefighting
- h) Participation in Local Emergency Management

Total emergency responses in 2016 and prior years were broken down as follows:

		2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
100	Fire	634	722	559	488	478
200	Rupture/Explosion	20	35	39	57	65
300	Medical	16,144	14,193	13,847	12,947	12,572
400	Hazardous Materials	305	295	288	288	506
500	Public Assist	629	677	611	549	529
600	Good Intent	1,346	1,262	1,236	1,008	955
700	False	1,120	1,058	1,005	933	869
800	Weather	36	82	67	28	158
900	Other	24	25	42	110	156
	TOTAL	20,258	18,349	17,694	16,408	16,288

## Predictable Results

### 2016 Staffing Levels:

	Jan-Mar	April-June	July-Sept	Oct-Dec
Chief Officers	9	9	9	11
Career Firefighters	134	132	126	124
Admin Support & Services	17	20	18	18
Total Staff (FTE)	158	161	151.75	151.75
Full FTE Headcount	160	156.75	153	153

The goal for 2016 and beyond will be to maintain, and eventually enhance, these staffing levels commensurate to:

- Improve response times
- Maintain and enhance service levels
- Manage increasing emergency response needs throughout the SKFR community