



Item Number: 1

# CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS AGENDA ACTION REQUEST

**DATE:** March 25, 2025

**TO:** Mark Washington, City Manager

**COMMITTEE:** Public Safety Committee

**LIAISON:** Asante Cain, Assistant to the City Manager

**FROM:** Brad Brown, Fire Chief  
Fire Department

**SUBJECT:** **GRFD 2024 Annual Report**

GRFD is proud to present its 2024 annual report highlighting major events, statistics, and personnel changes that took place over the past year. The department responded to 25,415 incidents requiring 34,920 apparatus responses. Our people were in the streets for 30,109 hours mitigating emergencies.

One of the most important statistics in addition to the countless lives saved or positively impacted is our break-even date. On March 7, 2024, the total value of property and contents saved year to date surpassed the fire department's annual budget amount. We ended the year with an impressive 97.38% property save rate equating to \$381,697,585 saved. Although we saved a considerable number of lives and property, we were also witness to several losses including \$10.25 million in property and contents loss, 6 civilian injuries, and 1 civilian death in addition to 15 firefighter injuries while on emergency calls.

Our continued focus on the utilization of grants has proven beneficial with local, state, and federal funds supplementing our new live fire training facility, new turnout gear for all suppression personnel, staffing for trucks responding in the 3rd ward (MLK and Kalamazoo), staffing for Kendall fire station, new fitness equipment, cancer screening, new CO2 monitors, gas and battery powered saws, and emergency management staffing and consulting.

The construction projects continue to take a tremendous amount of time, effort, and resources not only from the fire department, but many other city staff including engineering, fiscal, and planning. A true team effort was displayed throughout 2024 getting plans completed, permits pulled, and construction underway for the Kendall fire station.

We are still monitoring the Leonard St. fire district as they had the most simultaneous alarms (12.41%), were the 4th busiest district based on incident volume (behind LaGrave, Kalamazoo, and Bridge), and Ladder 1 was the 4th most deployed apparatus based on hours behind Engine 3, Engine 4, and Engine 2. Based on our staffing we were able to place Engine 1 in service at Leonard sporadically, which assisted in answering 164 alarms during 49.12 hours of deployment time.

Outside of our typical fire response we answered 16,631 medical calls with 342 being cardiac arrests which experienced a 42% Return of Spontaneous Circulation (ROSC) for witnessed or 26% ROSC for non-witnessed events. We continue to invest heavily in equipment and training for our hazardous materials (18 incidents), water rescue (14 incidents), and technical rescue (140 incidents) teams. These are low frequency, high risk events that continue to become more prevalent and complex given the growth and density of our city.

In addition to emergency response we visited 38 schools for 2nd grade presentations, enrolled 13 children into our fire match program, reviewed over 400 construction plans, visited 612 homes for safety assessments and smoke alarm installations (8,112 smoke alarms & 2,297 CO alarms), evaluated 1,023 buildings for risk assessments, registered 13,587 residents for our emergency alert system, trained over 35 people for our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), and underwent our Insurance Services Office (ISO) evaluation.

  
CORRECT IN FORM  
CITY ATTORNEY