



# 2016

## **POUDRE FIRE AUTHORITY** **ANNUAL REPORT**



**Poudre Fire Authority**  
Fort Collins  Colorado

[WWW.PFAANNUALREPORT.COM](http://WWW.PFAANNUALREPORT.COM)

# PFA GOVERNANCE

## TWO BOARDS OF DIRECTORS

**5 PFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- 2 PVFPD DIRECTORS
- 2 CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS
- 5<sup>th</sup> MEMBER; TYPICALLY THE CITY MANAGER



**5 POUDBRE VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS (PVFPD)**

- ELECTED DIRECTORS



### LETTER FROM THE CHIEF

#### To the PFA Community,

The Poudre Fire Authority (PFA) is proud to serve the communities of Fort Collins, Timnath, Laporte, Bellvue and surrounding areas with prompt, skillful and caring service.

This past year we added full-time firefighters at Station 8 in Timnath, a change from the decades of dedicated volunteers. Firefighters are now available 24/7, significantly reducing response times throughout the area.

While the 2016 PFA call-volume increased, the organization saw a small reduction in our emergency response times. This is a result of ongoing collaboration with our partners at Fort Collins 911 and UCHealth EMS.

PFA has maintained its accredited status through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International. The accreditation is an excellent tool to determine how we can improve and provide better outcomes.

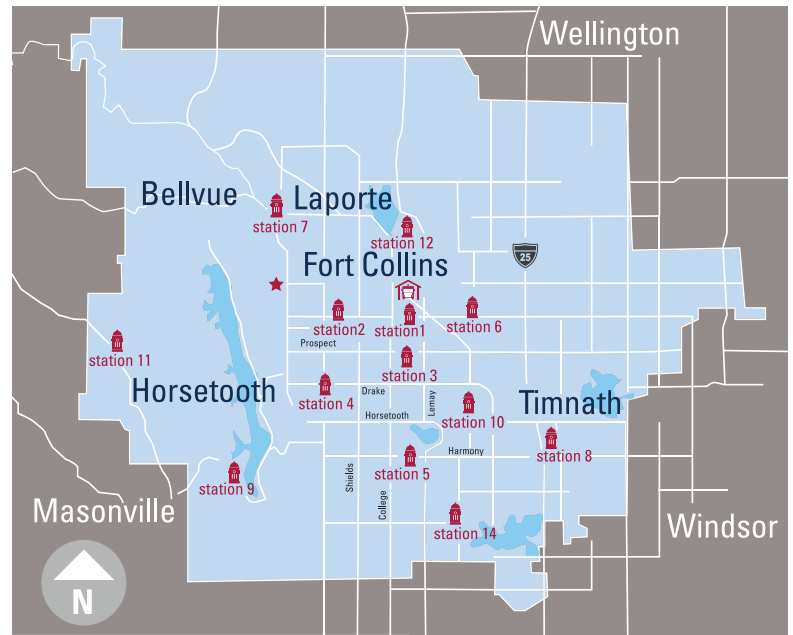
New residential and commercial construction has kept our fire-prevention staff incredibly busy ensuring that buildings are safe before anyone steps inside.

PFA also continues to reach out to the community to provide educational opportunities and life-safety education; preventing fires is much easier than fighting them.

- **Chief Tom DeMint**



### POUDRE FIRE AUTHORITY SERVICE AREA



We serve **198,855** people within a **235-square-mile** area, and protect **\$29.7** billion of property.

#### PFA RESPONSE AREA IN BLUE

- Admin Building
- Stations
- Training Center



# ABOUT OUR PEOPLE

## MISSION

*To protect life and property by being prompt, skillful and caring. Our actions are anchored in the core values of courage, leadership and duty.*



COURAGE



LEADERSHIP



DUTY

## IN PREVIOUS LIVES, PFA EMPLOYEES WERE...

**POLICE OFFICERS** ARTISTS  
MILITARY SERVICE **PLUMBERS**  
TEACHERS ARCHITECTS  
LAWYERS **CPAs** CONSTRUCTION WORKERS  
PRO AND SEMI-PRO ATHLETES

## FIREFIGHTER ISN'T THE ONLY JOB TITLE AT PFA

- Fire mechanics
- Administrative-support staff
- Fire sprinkler experts
- Hazardous materials technician
- Warehouse and supplies manager
- Office of Emergency Management personnel
- Bunker, the support K9
- Public outreach and education staff
- GIS/mapping/IT
- Certified swift water rescue personnel
- Investigators

## STAFF TESTIMONIALS

I wanted to be a firefighter from as early as I can remember. I began my career for the City of Fort Collins Fire Department in 1979. Like many of us, I am here to help the community. To be a part of something that makes the community better and is bigger than myself. Every day I still love being a firefighter here!

– Capt. Frank W. Dreckman - 38 years of service

I grew up in Fort Collins but my education and initial fire fighting training took place in New Mexico. I made my way back to Fort Collins five years ago and have since worked at Station 4, 7 and 1. I am excited for what the future holds and am extremely thankful for the opportunities that Fort Collins and PFA have provided for my family.

– Martin Romero - 5 years of service

In my past life as a journalist, I saw my work as a way of sharing information to empower people to understand the world in more detail. At PFA, those same ideas embody my position as public affairs & communication manager. By providing fact-based, timely information, I can help our organization tell its story. – Madeline Noblett - 1 year of service

## STAFF FACTS

EDUCATIONS LEVELS FOR ALL EMPLOYEES

12.5% ASSOCIATES

50% BACHELORS

9% MASTERS

2.2% DOCTORAL

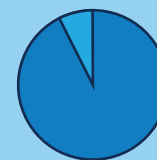
3.5% IN SCHOOL

22-75 AGE RANGE

AVERAGE AGE PFA EMPLOYEES

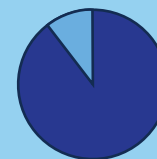


202 FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES



86% MEN  
14% WOMEN

179 FIREFIGHTERS



92% MEN  
8% WOMEN

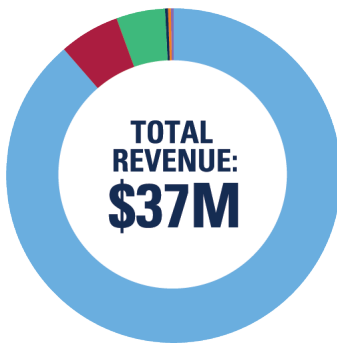
YEARS OF SERVICE RANGE:  
7 WEEKS - 38.9 YEARS



AVERAGE YEARS OF SERVICE

# RESOURCES

## WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM



CITY & FIRE DISTRICT TAXES \$28M (INCLUDES KFCG FUNDING)

FEES AND CHARGES FOR SERVICES \$2M

CAPITAL FUND REVENUE \$6.5M

EARNINGS ON INVESTMENTS \$19K

GRANTS AND NON-CAPITAL PROJECTS \$42K

MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE \$111K



OPERATIONS \$19M

SUPPORT \$4M

ADMINISTRATION \$3M

COMMUNITY SAFETY SERVICES \$2M

TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES \$8M



**2016 RESERVES: \$7.6M**  
(OR 26% OF THE OPERATING REVENUE)



**2016 BUDGET EXPENDITURES: UNDERSPENT BY \$1.3M**  
(4.64% OF BUDGET)



### COST OF HIRING A FIREFIGHTER

**\$13,500:**  
16-week recruit fire academy and 5 weeks of specialized training

**\$12,000:**  
Protective clothing, uniforms, radio, air pack, and other miscellaneous safety items

**TOTAL: \$25,500**

## FAST FACT: FIRE AGENCY ACCREDITATION

Accreditation is a fancy way of saying that PFA is one of the top-performing and forward-thinking fire organizations. PFA is one of 13 accredited fire agencies in Colorado; there are 234 accredited fire agencies worldwide.



## KEEP FORT COLLINS GREAT (KFCG) FUNDING & OUTCOMES

### FUNDING SUPPORTS:

15 POSITIONS INCLUDING

- South Battalion
- Shift Safety Officers
- Firefighters
- Public Education Position
- Accreditation Manager
- Operations Division Chief
- Replacement of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) (partially funded through KFCG)

### 2016 FUNDING IMPACTS:

- Reduced SCBA maintenance costs & increased safety compliance
- Reduced response times for the South Battalion
- Reduced potential for injury & workers' compensation costs with on-scene Shift Safety Officers
- Lower potential for citizen injuries through public education programs
- More opportunities for improving quality & measuring outcomes

## PFA FACILITIES:

**1** ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING

**2** VOLUNTEER STATIONS

**1** TRAINING CENTER

**11** FULLY-STAFFED STATIONS

## 44 PIECES OF APPARATUS INCLUDING:



BRUSH TRUCKS



LADDER TRUCKS



REHAB UNIT



ENGINES



TENDERS



INTERAGENCY COMMAND POST

# WHAT WE DO

## INSPECTIONS



**COMMERCIAL & MULTI-FAMILY COVERING**  
68,348,227 Sq. Ft.

## TRAINING

**51,708**  
COMBINED  
TRAINING  
HOURS



## PUBLIC EDUCATION



**INSTALLED**  
**267**  
SMOKE ALARMS  
**152**  
CARBON MONOXIDE  
ALARMS

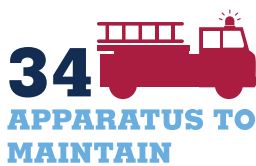


**8,401**  
EDUCATIONAL  
CONTACTS

## MECHANICS



**2**  
MECHANICS



**34**  
APPARATUS TO  
MAINTAIN



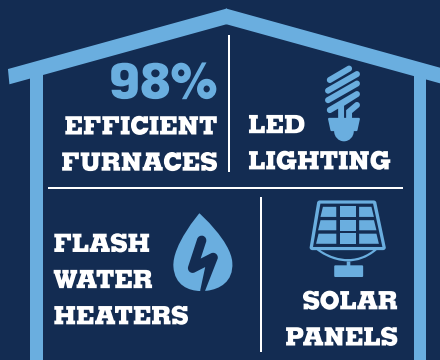
**900**  
SERVICE  
REQUESTS



**336**  
CAR SEAT  
CHECKS



**505**  
PUBLIC  
EDUCATION  
SERVICE  
REQUESTS



## NEW FIRE STATIONS INCLUDE

PFA is committed to reducing its carbon footprint while on the road and in its stations. New Green Star engines reduce idling time to 3 minutes.

**1,279**  
STRUCTURE  
SURVEYS  
2006-2016



## WILDLAND OUTREACH PLANNING INITIATIVE PROGRAM (WOPI)

Firefighter and public safety is improved when agencies know information about structures and where they are located – especially in rural areas.

## OCCUPATIONAL, HEALTH AND SAFETY

The job of a firefighter is inherently dangerous. PFA strives to reduce injuries through training, fitness and state-of-the-art personal protective equipment. Costs for occupational injuries have been trending downward over the past few years.

## INVESTIGATIONS

Investigations determine if fires are accidental, natural (weather) or incendiary and undetermined (intentional). The analysis requires an in-depth understanding of fire science and behavior, and effective communication skills and attention to details. Fire investigation is both science and art. In the past 5 years, PFA has investigated the causes of 716 fires.

## PulsePoint

U.S. Pulse Point is a mobile phone app that alerts individuals trained in Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) of a person experiencing cardiac arrest nearby.

- Locally, 3,375 people have downloaded the app.
- 12,000+ people are trained in CPR in the area.
- Use the app to also track PFA's calls minute by minute.

**Get the app and start helping!**

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS)

Did you know?

75% of calls PFA was dispatched to are medical-related; all firefighters are at least EMTs and often arrive to calls first.

Working cooperatively with our ambulance partners at UCHHealth EMS, PFA sends an engine or truck company (the big white truck) to all medical-related calls within the service area. This allows for quicker response to and stabilization efforts of life-threatening emergencies.

# BY THE NUMBERS

TOTAL 2016 INCIDENTS: 21,028 (10% INCREASE FROM 2015) THINGS TO NOTE:

More detailed data at [pfaannualreport.com](http://pfaannualreport.com)

**3** LARGE ANIMAL RESCUES

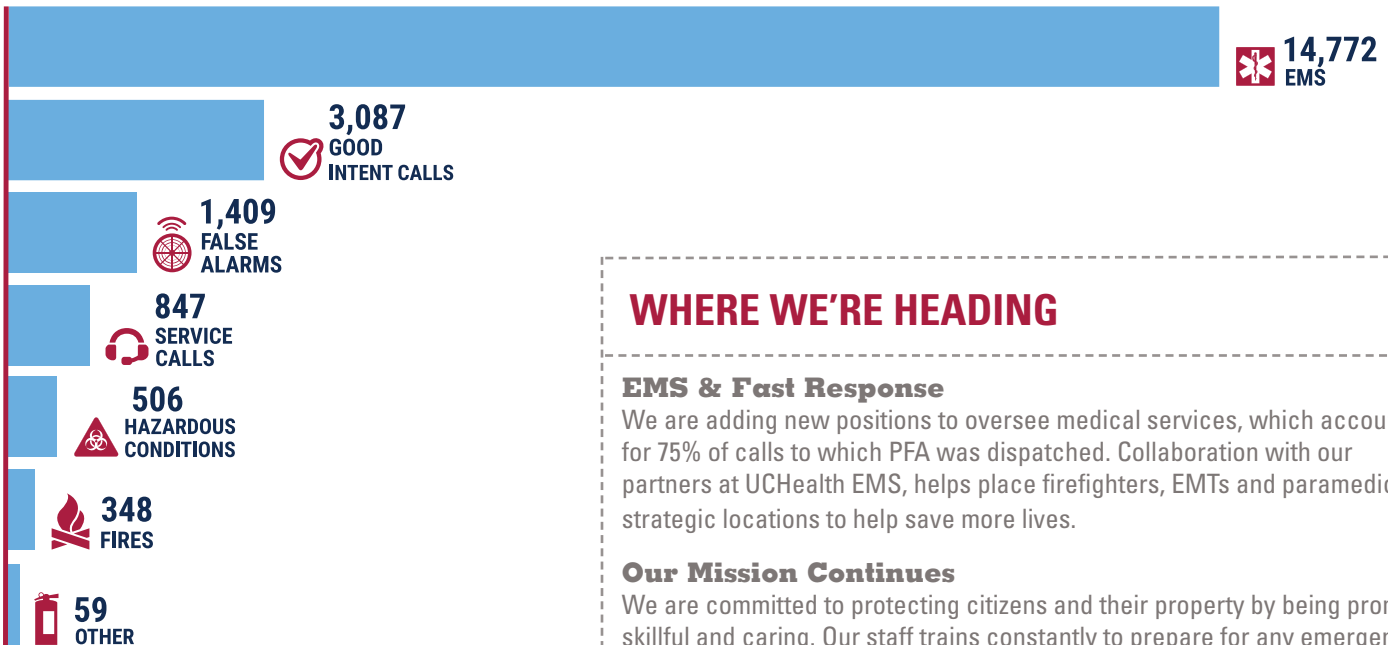
**127** WILDLAND FIRES

**1** CALL EVERY 25 MINUTES

**89** ELEVATOR RESCUES

**5** EXPLOSIONS

**1** TRAIN DERAILMENT



## WHERE WE'RE HEADING

### EMS & Fast Response

We are adding new positions to oversee medical services, which accounts for 75% of calls to which PFA was dispatched. Collaboration with our partners at UCHHealth EMS, helps place firefighters, EMTs and paramedics in strategic locations to help save more lives.

### Our Mission Continues

We are committed to protecting citizens and their property by being prompt, skillful and caring. Our staff trains constantly to prepare for any emergency. We serve this great community with overwhelming pride.

### Ongoing Improvement

In 2017, PFA will complete its second Annual Compliance Report in the five-year cycle of accreditation, which aligns with our desire to continuously improve.

### Planning for Community Growth

Current projections predict that by 2050, over 250,000 people will reside in PFA's service area. PFA is working today to plan for the future, and is studying the possible construction of Station 15 in the northeast portion of our jurisdiction.

### Future Funding

Keep Fort Collins Great (KFCG), a tax initiative passed in 2010 that will sunset in 2020, will soon face re-approval from the voters of Fort Collins. This modest sales tax provides over 10% of PFA's funding and is critical to maintain the level of service we provide today. Thank you voters for supporting the KFCG tax initiative.

## HOW WE CAN GET TO YOU FASTER

PFA has made significant improvements to its emergency-call process, which has resulted in faster response times. Since January 2015, call-processing times on medical emergencies have been reduced by 2 minutes or 58%. Response times are now at 7 minute and 23 seconds 90% of the time.

PFA uses various maps to determine the fastest route to a call. Highly accurate GIS data provides electronic-response routing to the computer in every emergency vehicle. In addition, each vehicle also carries two hard-cover map books as a back-up.