



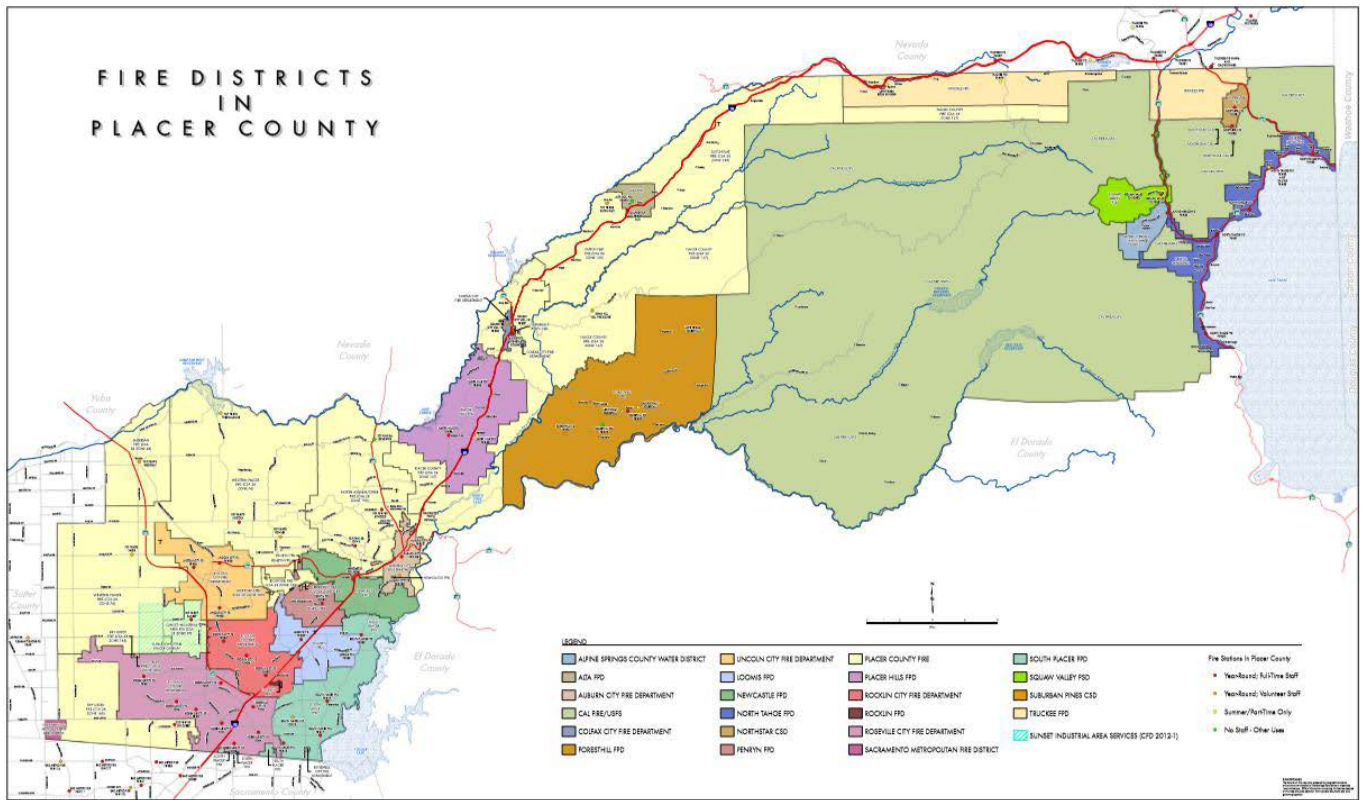
# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## BOARD of Director's Goals

2022 - 2023

- 1) Fully implement the alert radio station.
- 2) Complete a *Strategic Plan*.
- 3) Focus on needed *Facility Maintenance*.
- 4) Fully implement the *Community Volunteer Program*.
- 5) Improve the maintenance of fire access roads and expand *Defensible Space Inspections*.
- 6) Evaluate the possible annexation of taxable properties within the ambulance response zone into the district.
- 7) Establish membership in *Cal-JAC (California Joint Apprenticeship Committee)*.
- 8) Finalize *PERS (Public Employee Retirement System)* evaluation.
- 9) Explore *JOA's (Joint Operating Agreement)* and mergers with allied agencies.
- 10) Evaluate and update district fees including mitigation fees.
- 11) Explore *CDBG (Community Development Block Grant)* for Fire Station.
  - A. Block grants provide funding for eligible activities identified in authorizing legislation. Community development, education, health service and crime controls are some examples of Block grants. Large block grants include Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)\* and Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG).



# FIRE DISTRICT PROFILE

The Foresthill Fire Protection District (FFPD) was created in April of 1946, after over 15 years of service by the Foresthill Volunteer Fire Department. The District exists to provide local services relating to the Protection of Lives and Property of the community members as well as visitors to the Foresthill area.

Located in the rural foothills of Placer County, east of Interstate 80, the Foresthill Fire Protection District provides all risk fire protection services including advanced life support and ambulance transport. The 89 square mile fire district is home to over 6,900 residents with nearly 3,000 homes and 60 commercial properties. The District also provides advanced life support ambulance transport services, rescue services, and wildland fire response, to an expansive area of the US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management lands through auto aid agreements and contract. The auto aid and contract areas account for an additional 411 square miles for a total coverage area of approximately 500 square miles.

The District provides fire protection, Advanced Life Support (ALS) transport ambulance service, rescue services, and other services relating to the protection of lives and property within our jurisdictional boundaries, as well as aiding neighboring communities when a need arises. The District is governed by a five-member Board of Directors (Board) elected by the general population residing within the district boundaries. Board members are elected for staggering four-year terms. The District has a part-time (20 hours per week) Fire Chief and one part-time (12 hour per week) Deputy Chief. The Fire Chief operates the District with one (1) Full-time Business Manager, one (1) part-time (10 hour per week) Administrative Assistant, three (3) Full-time Fire

Captains, three (3) Full-time Engineers, five (5) Full-Time Firefighter Paramedics and a variable number of Part-Time paid Firefighter Paramedics, and Part-Time Firefighter EMT's.

The District operates 2 fire stations staffed with 2 personnel at each station and maintains Advanced Life Support Ambulance service. During calendar year 2021, the Fire District responded to 766 emergency calls or 2.10 per day, with the largest percentage of these as requests for medical services.

**Population 6,900 +/- people and nearly 3,000 residential structures**

**Current Insurance Services Office (ISO) Rating is 3/3Y**

**Area Covered - 89 Square Miles Fire and nearly 500 Square Miles for Ambulance Transportation**

## Vision Statement

**We will set the standard for dedicated leadership in emergency services while providing collaborative, innovative, and effective solutions.**

## Mission Statement

**“We protect life, property, and environment while serving our Community with Professionalism and Compassion.”**

## Core Values

**Integrity**

**Professionalism**

**Community**

**Compassion**

## MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

On behalf of the Foresthill Fire Protection District, I am pleased to present you with the 2021 Annual Report.

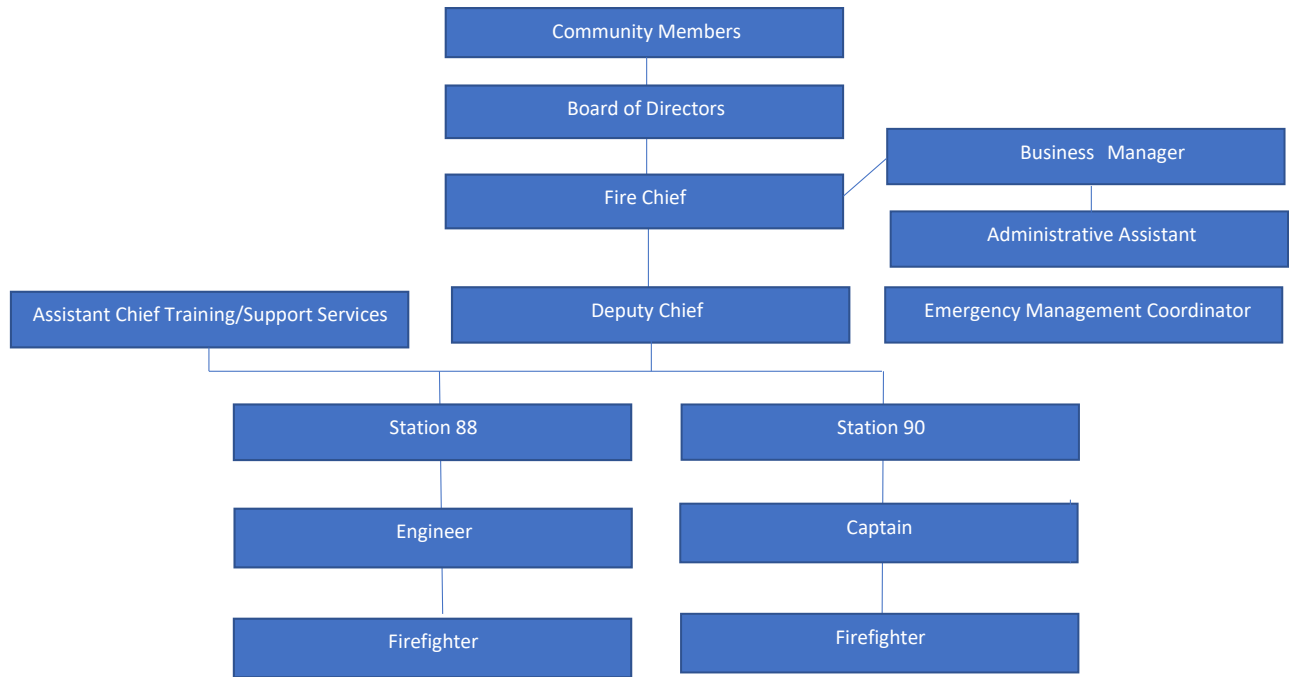
Highlighted in this report are call trends, major fires, property value and loss statistics, training statistics and the risk reduction programs. As you will see, the year 2021 was once again a challenging one for the fire service, as we responded to a world pandemic, another bad fire season, a Winter Storm for the record books, and a staffing shortage that had the district trying different plans, continual recruiting and promotional testing.

As we reflect on our many accomplishments and on the many things, we are thankful for this year, none of it would be possible without the close bond and trust that we have with our community, our partners and our firefighters.

On behalf of all the personnel working for the Foresthill Fire Protection District, I want to express my appreciation for your support. I am humbled and honored to share the hard work of our Fire District with you and look forward to an even better 2022.

Respectfully,

*Michael A. Ridley*



# Executive Summary

This was busy year for the Foresthill Fire Protection District as we continued to make progress in the services provided, training of our members, and equipment and funding opportunities available to our district for the year 2021. The district continues to look at providing the very best in Fire and EMS services to our citizens and visitors while being financially responsible to the people we serve.

## FACILITIES AND APPARATUS

The Foresthill Fire Protection District maintains facilities and apparatus to ensure timely and efficient responses to emergencies. The department has two stations that cover responses for the district and one for the storage of apparatus.

### **Fire Headquarters – 24320 Main Street**

The offices of the Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief of Operations, Community Risk Reduction, and EMS and the Assistant Fire Chief of /Support Services are all located there. Administrative staff are located here as well. The Department's Operations Center (DOC) is also located at Fire Headquarters.

The following apparatus being assigned to Headquarters:

- 2006 – Chevrolet Silverado 1500 4x4 Pick-up
- 2006 – Chevrolet Silverado 1500 4x4 Pick-up

### **Station 88 – 5981 Gold Street**

Station 88 houses two full-time fire personnel per day.

The station currently houses the following apparatus:

- 2001 – Westates 1000 gpm Type 1 Engine
- 2003 – West Mark 500 gpm Type 3 Engine
- 2020 – Leader Type 1 Ambulance

10Kw Trailer Generator

### **Station 89 – 22700B Foresthill Road**

Unstaffed. Used as a storage location.

The station currently houses the following apparatus:

- 2001 – West Mark 3000-gallon Type 1 Water Tender

## **Station 90 – 20540 Foresthill Road**

Station 90 houses two full-time fire personnel per day.

The station currently houses the following apparatus:

2017 – Spartan 1500 gpm Type 1 Engine

2003 – West Mark 500 gpm Type 3 Engine

1999 – Hytec Rescue

2017 – Horton Type 1 Ambulance

## **Porter Garage – 24495 Foresthill Road**

Used as a storage location.

The station currently houses the following apparatus:

2014 – Horton Type 1 Ambulance (Reserve)

## **FIRE ADMINISTRATION**

24230 Main Street, Foresthill



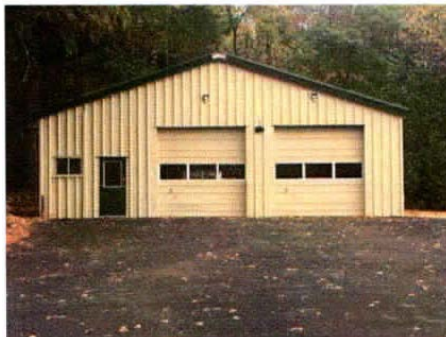
## **FIRE STATION 88**

5981 Gold Street, Foresthill



## **FIRE STATION 89**

22700B Foresthill Road, Foresthill



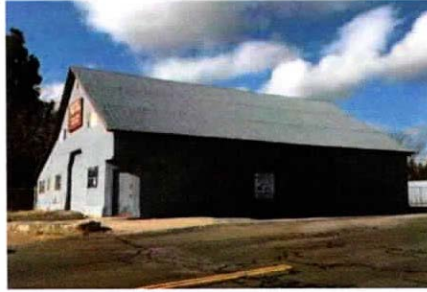
## **FIRE STATION 90**

20540 Foresthill Road, Foresthill



**PORTER GARAGE**

24495 Foresthill Road, Foresthill



**Engine 88**



**Water Tender 89**



**Medic 90**



**Rescue 90**



**Reserve Medic**



**Brush 90 (Brush 88 is identical)**



**Medic 88**



**Engine 90**



**Office of Emergency Services Type VI Engine**

**4614**

## **Operations and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Divisions**

The fire department Operations and EMS divisions are managed by Deputy Fire Chief Jed Matcham. This is the largest division of the fire department. Operations/EMS personnel respond to all requests for service.

In addition, personnel also continually conduct mandatory training requirements, assist in public education, conduct fire prevention inspections supporting the risk reduction division and maintain the fire stations and apparatus.

The ability to improve our service is generated through many ideas and initiatives that originate from the operational/EMS members. Their values, energy, commitment, and compassion drive many of the departments' functions, programs, and activities throughout the year. The personnel are faced daily with accomplishing our mission to provide extraordinary service to the community.

## **Training & Education**

Over the years, the fire service has evolved into an "all hazards" approach agency with the Foresthill Fire Protection District being no exception. Firefighters are the initial responders to all emergencies.

Total hours totaled for 2021: **2,708 hours and 40 minutes**

## **Community Risk Reduction Division**

The Community Risk Reduction division (CRR) is headed by Deputy Fire Chief Jed Matcham. The division focuses on all aspects of life safety. The primary objective is to reduce preventable deaths, injuries and property loss through public education programs, fire inspections of all commercial and non-owner-occupied occupancies and through enforcement of the California Fire Code.

The division educates building owners and tenants while conducting fire safety inspections. This helps to gain voluntary compliance, as well as limit the number of repeat violations in the future. The division and firefighters conduct annual fire safety inspections of existing commercial properties each year which may result in follow-up inspections to ensure compliance.

Foresthill Fire Protection District's CRR was busy throughout 2021, working locally as well as with regional and national stakeholders to improve the safety of our community. Although COVID-19 presented challenges to operations, the CRR division was able to make some very significant impacts throughout the year.

FFPD was selected in 2020 by the International Association of Fire Chief's (IAFC) Ready, Set, Go! (RSG) Program as a recipient of its Targeted Risk Reduction Assistance. We were selected after a nationwide, open application process and are continuing to receive guidance for our wildland fire community education and outreach. This opportunity allows us to strengthen community-wide wildland fire preparedness, adaptation, and resiliency efforts. Along with this

grant also came assistance with the development of our new Community Wildfire Preparation Plan, which we expect to have completed in mid-2022.

CRR was also active with the local schools, providing mandated annual inspections of the school campuses, reviewing and making recommendations on each schools' emergency plan, and meeting with school officials to provide wildfire preparation and evacuation information.





## **Office of Emergency Management**

The mission of the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Division is to assist the Fire Chief with developing plans and procedures that provide effective responses to all threats facing District. By developing and exercising the all-hazards plans we strive to minimize the impacts of an emergency or disaster on our citizens, visitors, property, the environment.

During 2021 the OEM continued to update several areas of the District's Emergency Operations Plan. Constant review and updating of this plan allow the District to be ready in the event of a disaster or emergency that requires the implementation and activation of various emergency support functions.

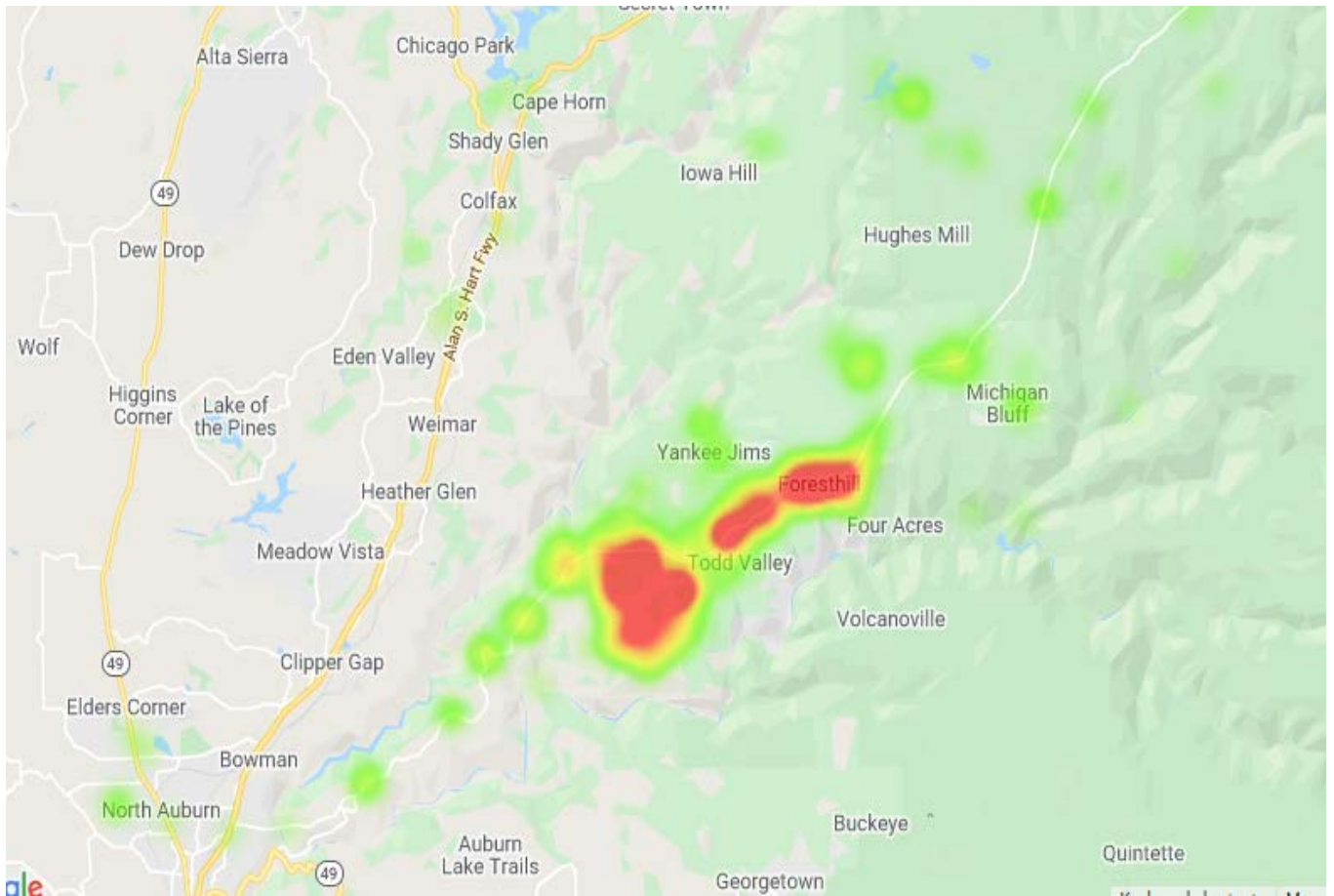
Currently this position is not funded and is not staffed.

## **Community Relations and Outreach**

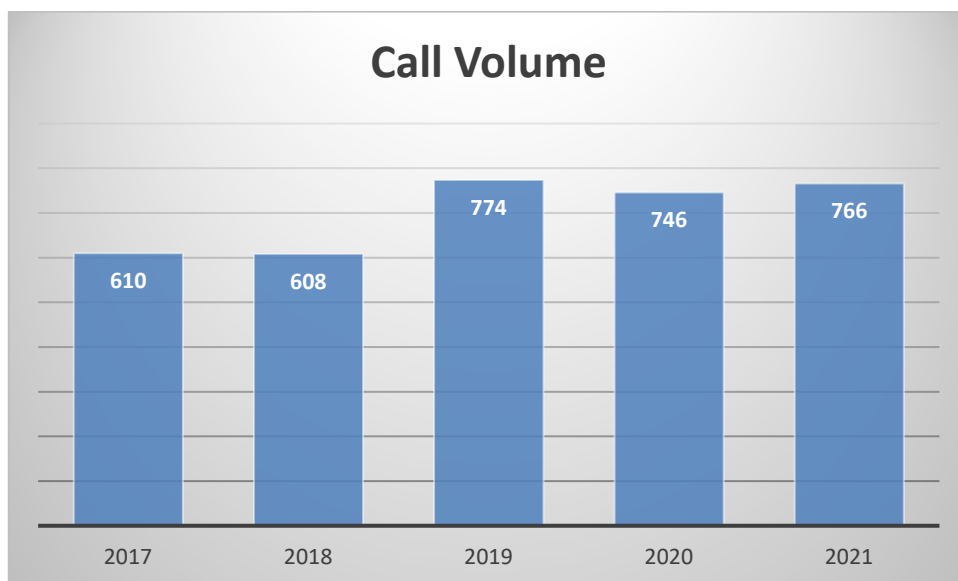
The Foresthill Fire Protection District has always been very active promoting the betterment of the city. The pandemic has had a major impact on our abilities to partake in events, as many of these activities were cancelled to comply with Federal, State, County, and local guidelines.



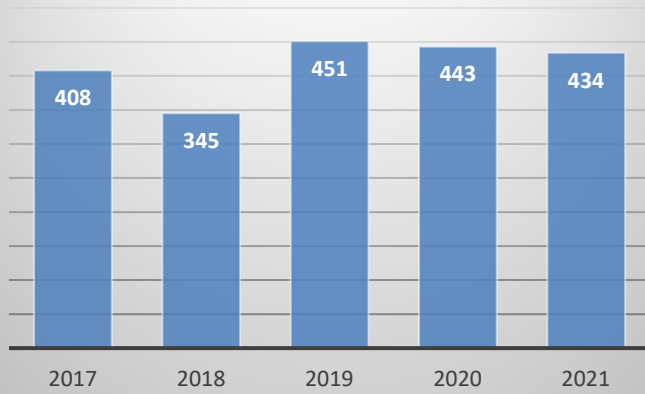
# HIGHLIGHTS BY THE NUMBERS



## Call Volume



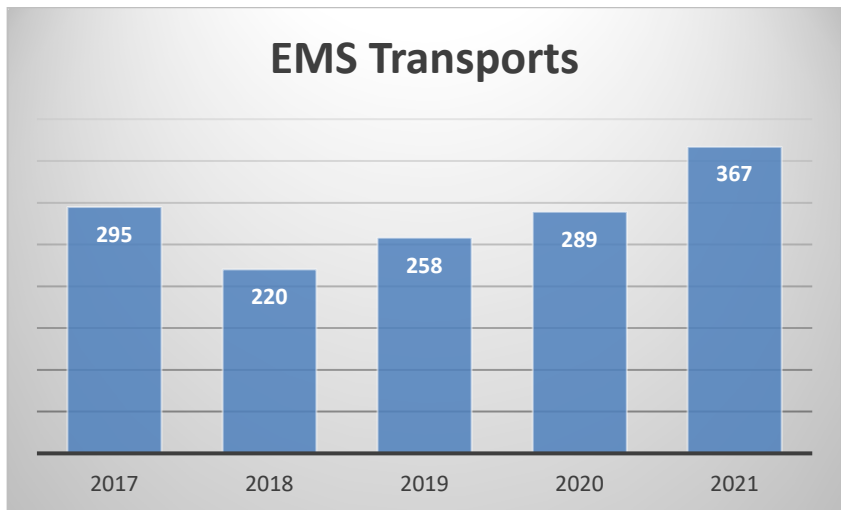
## EMS Call Volume



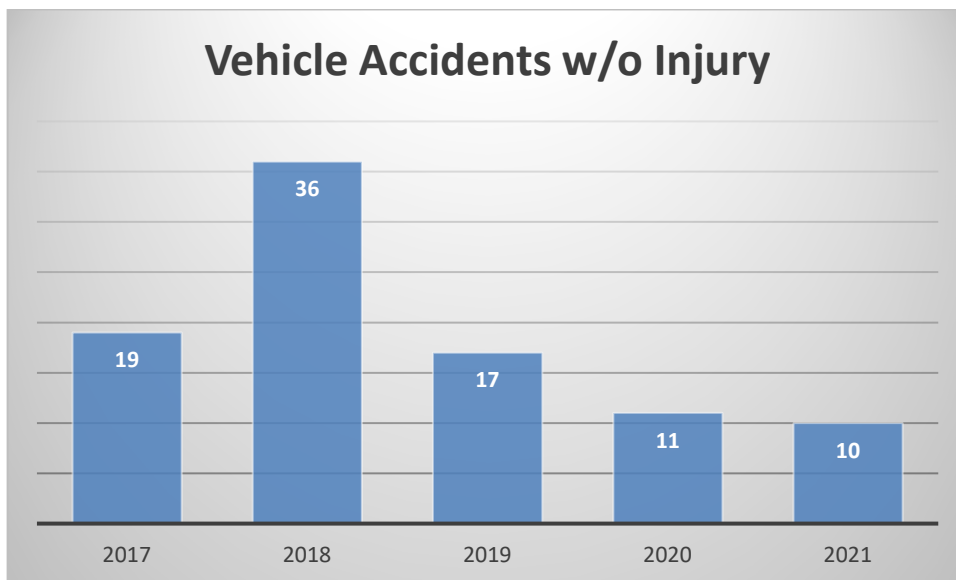
**Calls per day  
average**

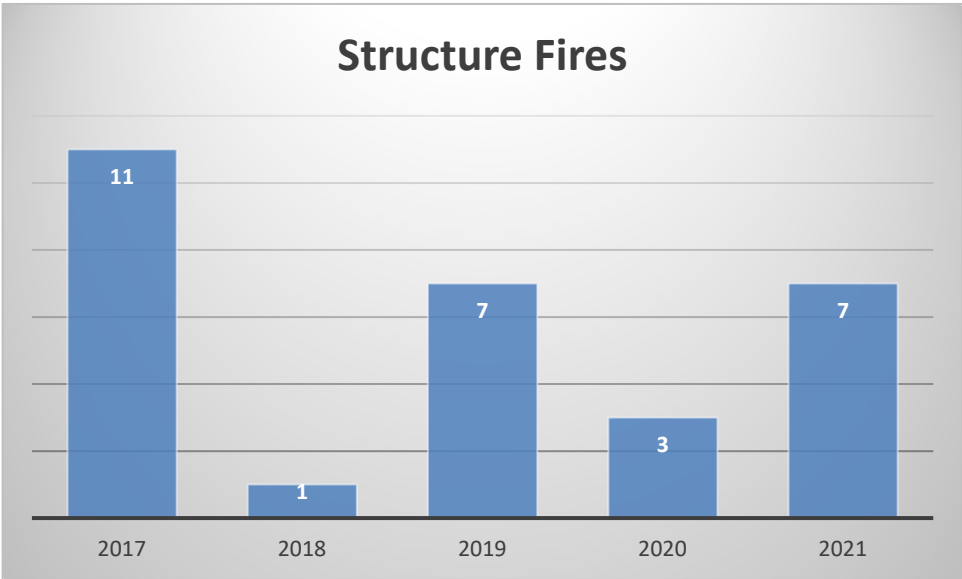
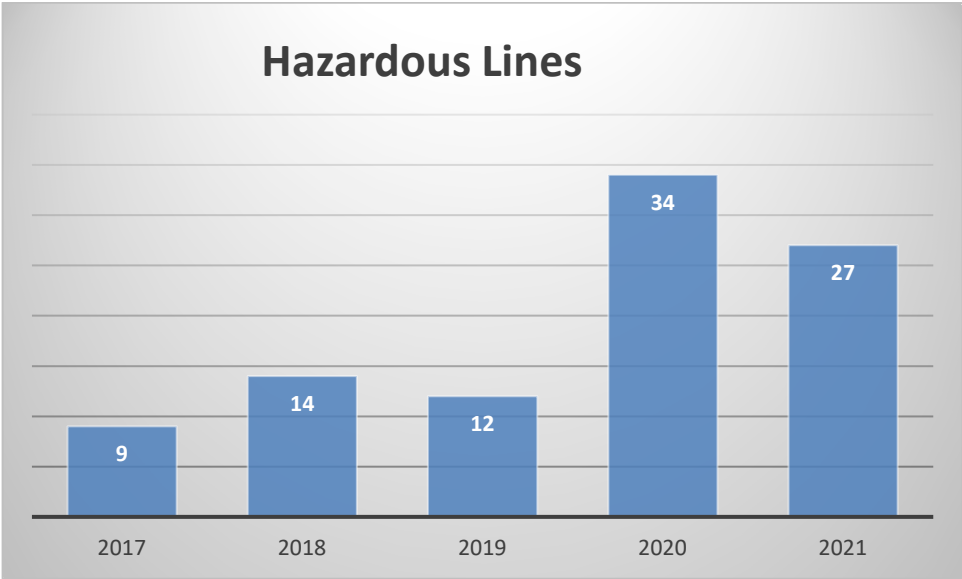
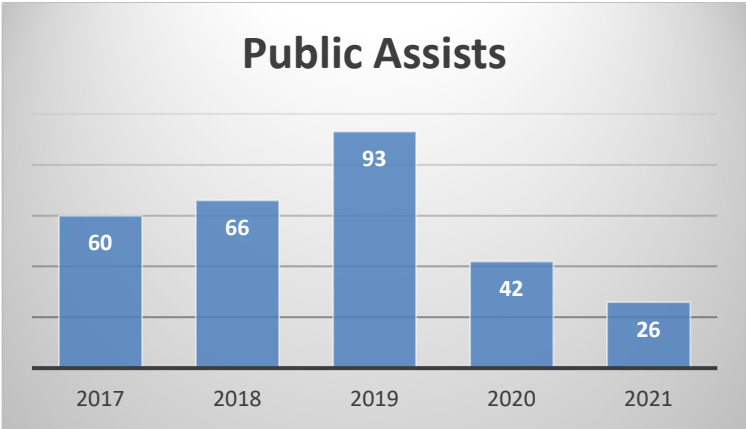
**2.10**

## EMS Transports

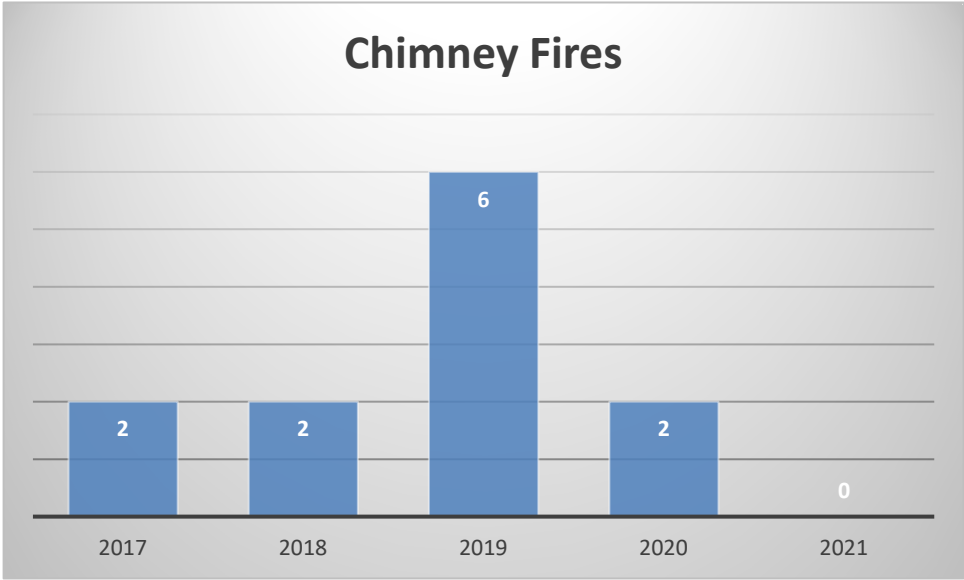


## Vehicle Accidents w/o Injury

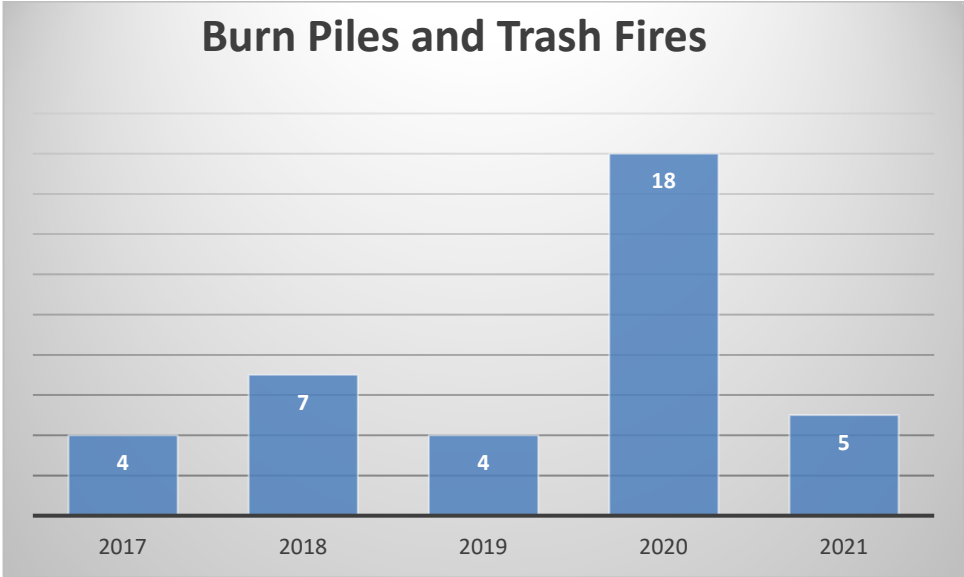




**Fire Damage**  
**Pre Incident value:**  
\$1,094,000  
**Saved:**  
\$622,000



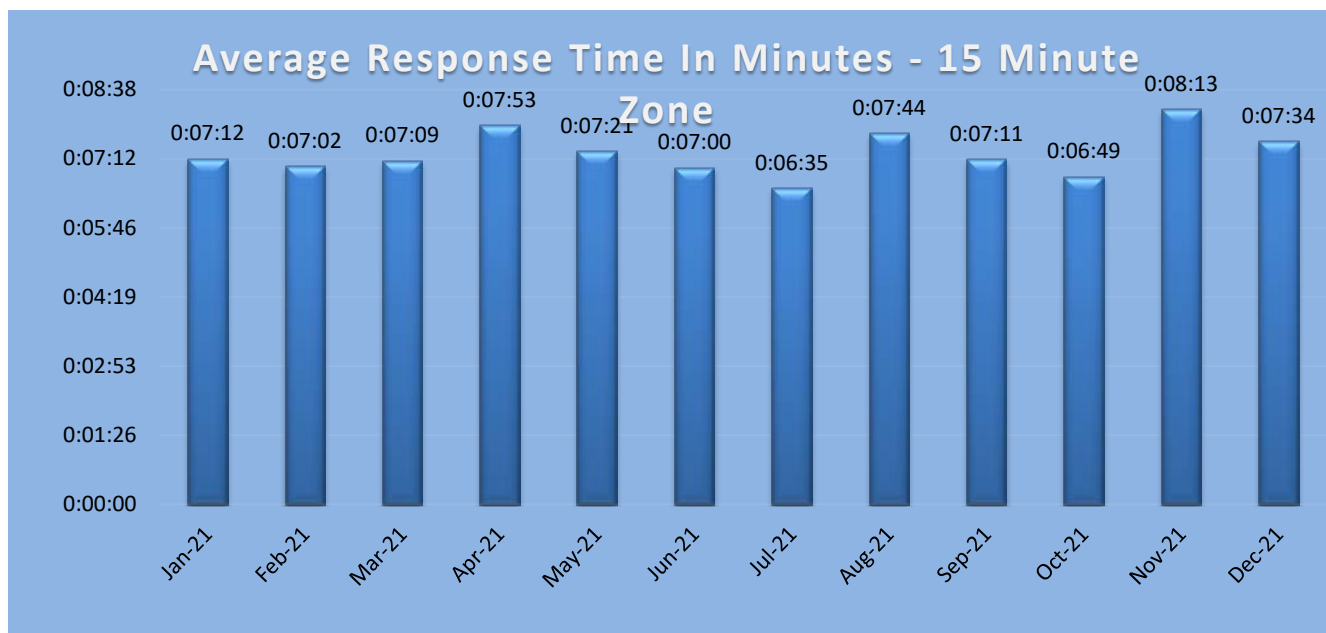
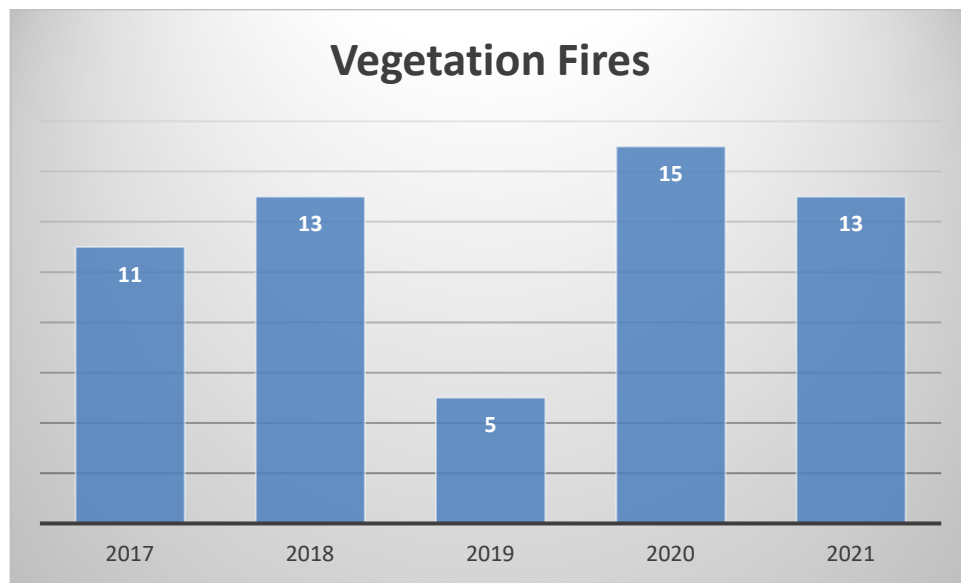
**Overlapping  
Calls**  
15.63%



## Mutual Aid

Received 87

Given 42







## River and Bridge Fires





- Winter Storm: December 27<sup>th</sup>, Snow started falling heavily during the night of December 26, 2021. We were at a staffing level of 3-0 and Advanced Life Support (ALS). At 1:12 am on December 27, 2021 the Placer County Dispatch Center dispatched units from Foresthill, Auburn, CalFire, Placer County Fire, and American Medical Response (AMR) to a Residential Structure Fire on Glen Drive. This incident turned out to be downed wires burning in a tree. This was the beginning of the Regional Snow Event for our agency.

The Fire Protection District had received a few inches of snow in the lower elevations just above Upper Lake Clementine Road to multiple feet of snow above Baker Ranch.

During these early hours of December 27<sup>th</sup> and extending into the day our access to most of our district was limited to Foresthill Road and not very far off of it. This was not for the lack of four-wheel drive equipment, but due to the vast number of downed trees, limbs, power and communications lines and the depth of the snow that had accumulated. County Road crews were trying to plow Foresthill Road and for the most part, snow was accumulating at a rate of several inches between their passes. During this effort, trees were falling onto the roadway. Many citizens driving up and down the road for whatever reason had chain saws and stopped to cut up the trees/limbs, as others stopped to help remove the obstacles and if too large the County Roads plows and motor grader made easy work of it.

Chief 8800 (Ridley) arrived in the district at approximately 5 am on the 27<sup>th</sup>. He began a windshield survey of the district that could be accessed. At first light the enormity of the event began to surface. OES 4614 (Type VI Engine) had already made numerous

attempts to respond to the incidents being dispatched. Cal Fire Engine 2381 was also assisting. After a very close call with Engine 4614 turning around because of a downed tree and having a tree fall just in front of the engine, it was determined that if an incident did not have a known life safety issue, responses were added to a list for the appropriate agency to respond when access could be made. During this early part of the event the issues were wires down, trees down, and roadways blocked. These calls were happening all over the area, including Colfax, Alta, Weimar, Meadow Vista to name a few.

Early estimates of damage in the fire district were:

- 48 homes damaged to various degrees by trees.
- 30 out buildings (sheds, carports, fire wood coverings, etc.) Damaged or destroyed
- 14 vehicles either damaged or destroyed.

A more detailed report on this event is available for review.







## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Delivered a balanced budget**
- **Managed COVID-19 Impacts**
- **Two Captain's Examination Processes**
- **Two Engineer's Examination Processes**
- **Increased the amount of new Structural Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)**

- Received 1 Four Gas Detector
- Completed Insurances Office (ISO) Reevaluation Process
- Hosted State Fire Training – Command 2E (Wildland)
- Fire Danger signs installed
- Purchased Forcible Entry Door Prop
- Updated the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)
- Participant in the “Red Flag Warning” program
- Received a California Fire Foundation grant (\$10,000) for a portable electronic sign to support the Emergency Radio Station
- Received a Type VI Engine from the Office of Emergency Services (OES) – OES 4614
- Extractor washer installed. Station 90 laundry room refinished
- Promoted Aubrey Pierce to Captain
- Promoted Bailey Sett to Engineer
- Received 7 sets of donated Structure Turnouts from MES
- Foresthill Emergency Planning Maps printed
- Engineer Sett received the 2021 Fire Fighters of the Year
- Lincoln Fire donated to us Hurst Extrication tools: 3 power plants, 2 combo-tools, 1 cutter, 1 spreader, 1 large ram, 2 small rams, and hoses.

## COMMENDATIONS

- **Commendation for Action** – Fire Fighter/Paramedic Nathan Dilly. January 30, 2021. Providing rescue and definitive life-saving action by assisting a victim from a motor vehicle accident on Interstate 80 West of Antelope, in Citrus Heights. Continuing to assist Metro Fire Paramedics in providing a high level of care.

# CONTACT INFORMATION

## **Administration:**

Fire Chief Ridley – 530-300-8569  
mridley@foresthillfire.org

Deputy Fire Chief Jed Matcham – 530-367-2465  
jmatcham@foresthillfire.org

Assist Fire Chief Dave Whitt – 530-367-2465  
dwhitt@foresthillfire.org

## **Fire Administration:**

Patrice Metz – 530-367-2465  
pmetz@foresthillfire.org

Shonne Epperly-Elgin – 530-367-2465  
selgin@foresthillfire.org

## **Fire Facilities:**

Headquarters Phone (non-emergency) – 530-367-2465  
Headquarters Fax # - 630-367-3498

Station 88 – 530-367-2766  
(5981 Gold Street)

Station 90 – 530-367-2311  
(20540 Foresthill Road)





Forcible Entry Door Prop



Winter Storm damage



Defensible Space Demonstration Day– May 1, 2021

# FUTURE PREDICTIONS

- **Staffing will be a challenge** due to “the Great Resignation,” which is affecting companies and organizations across the United States – including the fire service.
- **Community engagement is more important than ever.** Federal, State, County, and local governments are demanding greater insight and accountability into what publicly funded services are doing to benefit the community.
- **Provider safety will stay a core issue**, especially around mental health and well-being. With the continued surge in COVID-19, 2022 will see fewer responders, personnel working more shifts and facing more violence from the public.
- **Service and delivery models will continue to evolve**, with a greater expectation – and greater pressure – for the fire service to do more than firefighting activities.