



**South San Joaquin County Fire Authority**  
835 Central Ave.  
Tracy, CA 95376

FIRE ADMINISTRATION

MAIN 209.831.6700

FAX 209.831.6732

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

# Memorandum

Date: July 12, 2022  
To: Board of Directors  
From: Chief Bradley  
Subject: Monthly Fire Chief Update-June 2022

---

## **Division Chief Dave Bramell Becomes Fire Chief at Lathrop Manteca Fire District**

After 28 years of valued service, Chief Bramell has accepted the Fire Chief position with the Manteca-Lathrop Fire District. Chief Bramell quickly worked his way through the ranks. Chief Bramell was hired as a firefighter with the Tracy Rural Fire District in January of 1994. He was promoted to Engineer in 1995, where he served until he was promoted to Captain in 1999. As a Captain, he served as the



Academy Coordinator for four different academy classes. Chief Bramell was promoted to Division Chief in May of 2005. During his tenure as Division Chief, he was assigned to both Operations and Administration at varying intervals. Chief Bramell was the A Shift "Battalion" for 12 of his 17 years as Division Chief. He was the agency lead in several construction projects, including Fire Administration, and Fire Stations 92, 93, 95, 96 & 98 (Mt. House). In addition, he managed special project areas including Standards of Cover and Strategic Planning. Chief Bramell was well versed in Human Resources, Recruitment, Personnel Management, and

Budget Development serving as the primary liaison with HR and Finance for much of his time. He served as the Interim Fire Chief on three separate occasions in 2010, 2015, and 2018. I hope everyone will join me and congratulating Chief Bramell on his new position and thanking him for years of loyal service to our fire agency.

## **Jeremy Ward Promoted to Captain**

I am pleased to announce the promotion of Engineer Jeremy Ward to the rank of Captain. Captain Ward is a 17-year veteran of the fire service. He started in 2005 as a Reserve Firefighter with the



South County Fire Authority. In May of 2007 Jeremy started his full-time employment with South County Fire Authority as a Firefighter/Paramedic. He was promoted to Engineer in June of 2018. Captain Ward is a licensed Paramedic since 2002, San Joaquin County Paramedic accreditation officer, and a Hazardous Materials Specialist. Jeremy currently manages the South County Fire Authority's Reserve Firefighter Program (2014-current) and Fire Explorer Program (2011-current). He also serves on our training committee and is member of our training cadre. Jeremy lives in Tracy with his wife Sarah and enjoys spending time with his family, traveling, and exploring the outdoors. The

effective date of Captain Ward's promotion was July 3, 2022. Captain Ward is assigned to C Shift at Station 97. Please join me in congratulating Captain Ward on his promotion.

### **Strategic Planning**

Command Staff met and have established areas of responsibilities for each of the 2022-25 Strategic Plan initiatives. Working groups are now being formed to address each of the strategic initiatives. The working groups will develop work plans that identify timelines, milestones, work assignments and completion goals for initiative objectives.

### **EMS Legislation**

The Authority has been working with the California Fire Chief's Association to develop "carve out" legislation to address South County Fire's on-going litigation with San Joaquin County EMS Agency. Although late in the legislative process, Senator Hertzberg (Author of SB 438) agreed to author and carry the legislation. Though we had the support CalChiefs, Fire Districts Association of California, California Professional Firefighters and CalCities, we decided to withdraw the legislation before it was considered by the Assembly Health Committee. SB 443 would have helped to ensure that local fire agencies remain in control of making policy decisions regarding their own jurisdiction and constituents. The bill would have clarified the intent of prior, passed legislation (SB 438, 2019) on local EMS and addressed some recent court decisions.

We knew introducing the legislation this late in the session was not ideal but getting clarifying legislation moving this session outweighed the potential "heavy lift" for the advocates and associations. Ultimately, there was insufficient time to clarify some of the opposition's remarks and educate legislators on the actual intent of the legislation. Getting it right was more important than getting it quickly. Fire services advocates will try to work with the opposition in the coming months with the hope of getting legislation drafted for the next session that addresses concerns but still represents the needs of local government fire service/EMS providers.

### **EMS Litigation**

The EMS litigation against the San Joaquin County EMS Agency is entering its next phase. On Friday, July 1, 2022 the Authority filed a motion to reconsider the previous courts ruling based upon a recent precedent setting case involving the City of Oxnard. The County EMS Agency will have three weeks to file an opposition to the motion. The hearing is set for August 24, 2022.

### **COVID Update**

During the past month, five of our seven Chief Officers were infected with COVID-19. Fortunately, the infections were fairly spread-out and we were able to cover the BC shifts with an available backup duty chief. All Chief Officers are now a-symptomatic and all should be released from quarantine within the next 48 hours. We also experienced an uptick in CIVID-19 infections with shift personnel. Based on the new infections, we have re-implemented the directives that are designed to limit exposures in the fire station environment.

### **Chief Labor Negotiation RFP**

With assistance from HR, we are preparing to issue an RFP for a Chief Labor Negotiator to assist with labor negotiations that we plan to initiate in January. After a Chief Negotiator is placed under contract, the person will meet with the Board to obtain negotiation parameters. In the interim, staff will be working with HR to develop to begin to collect necessary data that will be used to assist the Board in developing the negotiation parameters.

## **Training**

In June, the Fire Authority Division of Training continued to facilitate all risk emergency training events that included:

- Initial on scene reporting and operations (residential structure fire simulations)
- Hose testing has been completed on all engines and stations
- Phillips ECG monitor training for all personnel; instructors from Phillips were sent out to help stream line the monitors internal matrix and our protocols
- Multiple companies and command staff trained on back burn fire operations for wildland fires at the Tracy Airport. The SCFA in coordination with the Tracy Airport and EAP were able burn off multiple sites on the airport property

At the company level our firefighters are training each and every day to better prepare themselves to assist in mitigating emergencies in our community. The department logged over 700 hours of training this month. The Division of Training always supports the mission of the Fire Authority and its' duty to provide a well-trained and professional fire department to serve our community.

## **Active Shooter Program**

The Fire Authority is in the process of implementing an "Active Shooter" program that will be designed to support law enforcement during an "Active Shooter" incident. We are in the process of purchasing PPE and other equipment to support the program. On July 6, 2022 Fire Authority personnel participated in "Active Shooter" training with the Tracy Police Department at Kimball High School. Full implimentation of the program will take several months. We look forward to developing a program that will enable our personnel to respond and provide EMS support to potential victims and our law enforcement counterparts.

## **Budget Development**

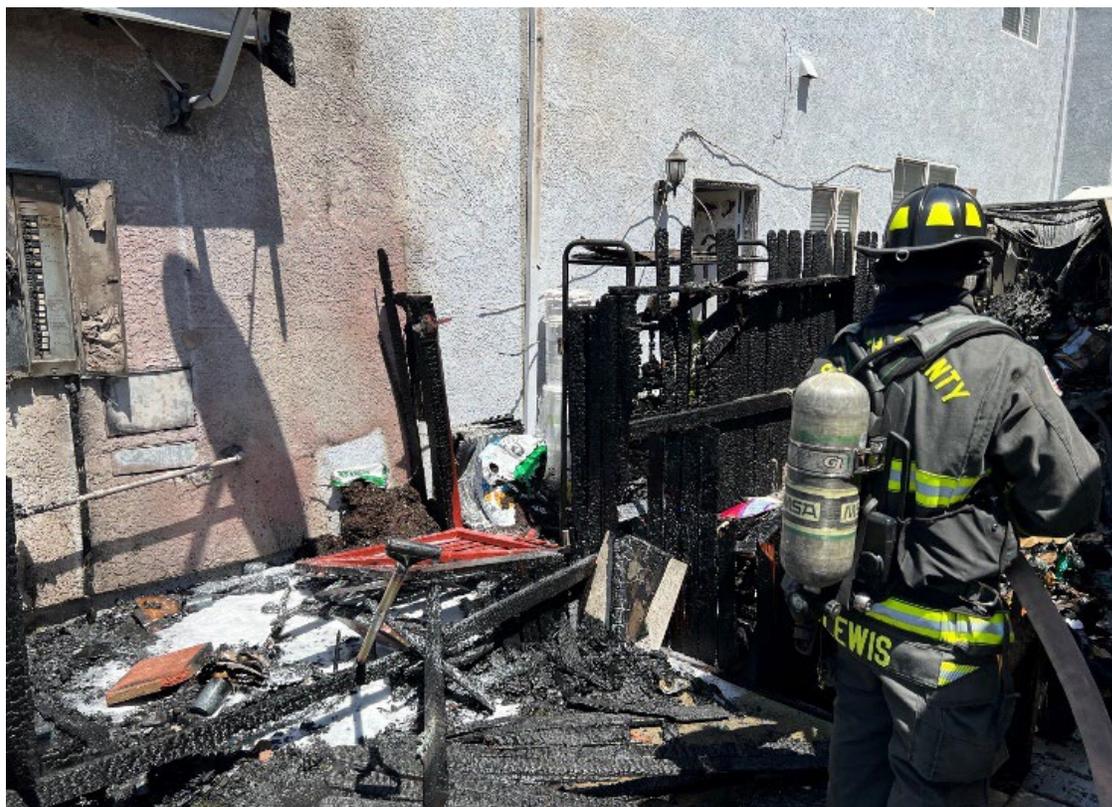
The Authority began our fiscal year 2022/23 budget process in December when program managers submitted budget recommendations for consideration. After meeting with member agencies, a draft preliminary budget was developed and an Authority Board budget workshop was held on March 22, 2022. The final preliminary budget was presented to the Board and approved on June 21, 2022. Due to the Tracy Rural Fire District's budget schedule that is based on special district budgeting practices, the final Authority budget will be presented for approval at the August Board meeting.

## **Firefighter Recruitments**

Out of 250 applicants, nine candidates were selected to continue to go through a comprehensive background review. If they pass, they will be given conditional job offers and complete medical exams and psychological exams. The Authority is currently recruiting firefighters to fill the anticipated nine openings in the next fiscal year. The vacancies are due to retirements, anticipated retirements and one resignation. In September, successful candidates will be placed in a joint fire academy with Stockton and Lodi Fire Departments.



*Fence and structure fire on Lara Street. (June 23, 2022)*



*Fence and structure fire on Lara Street. (June 23, 2022)*



*One-and-a-half-mile wind driven grass fire between I580 and Tracy Hills Development (June 28, 2022).*



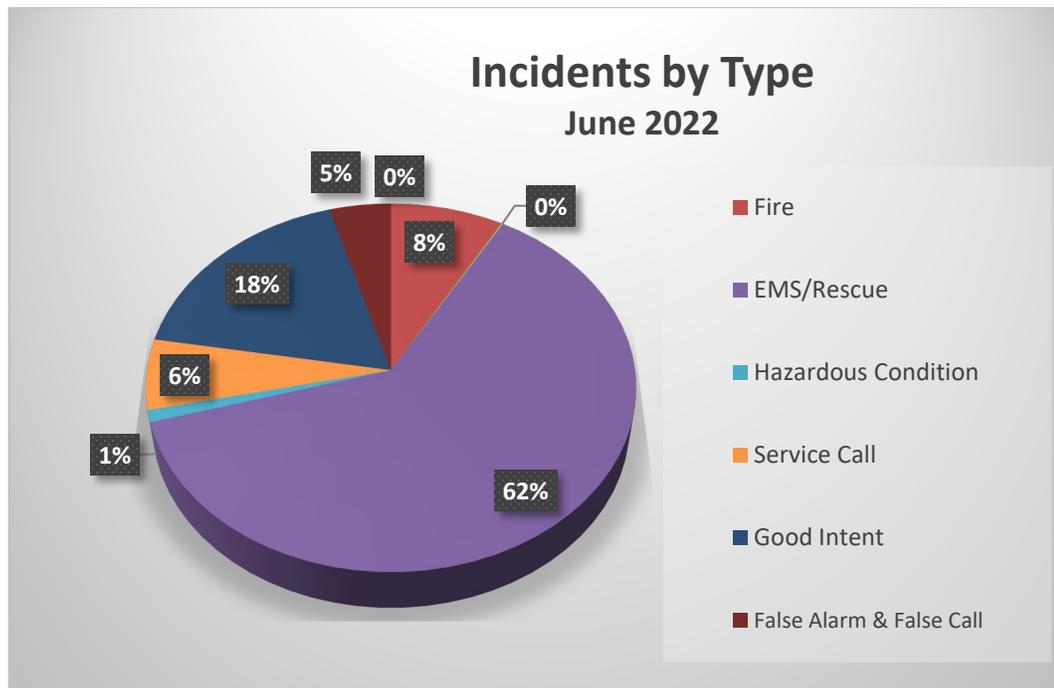
*Fire in Corral Hollow Canyon (June 23, 2022)*



*Fire in Corral Hollow Canyon (June 23, 2022)*

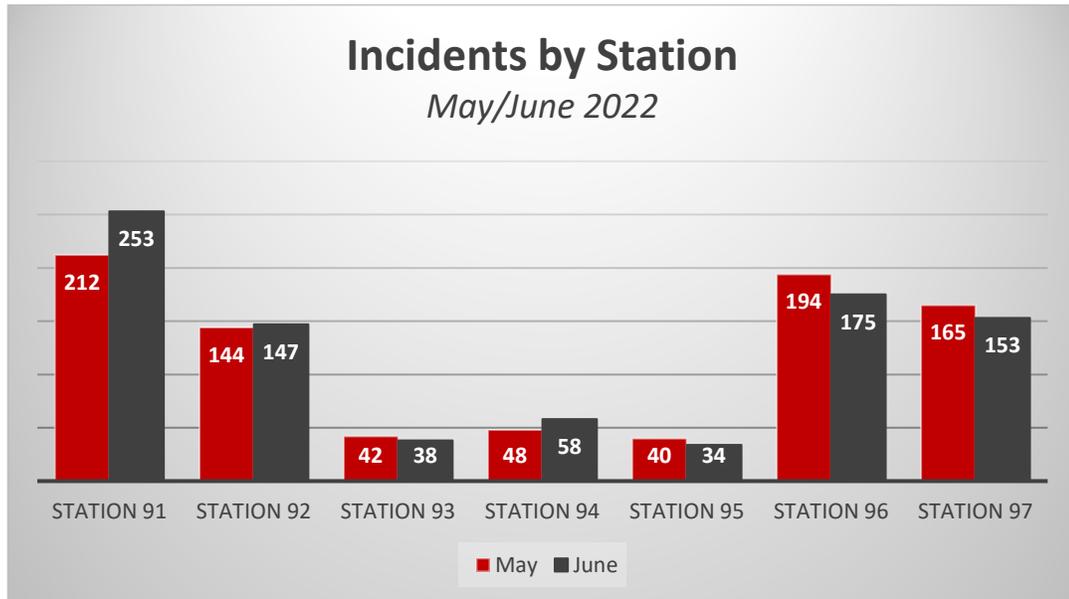
**June Response Data**

There were 875 total reported incidents in the month of June 2022. The charts listed below reflect only those incidents (858/875) where the incident report has been completed and reviewed. The remaining 17 calls are pending review prior to inclusion in the following charts. EMS incidents continue to be the predominant incident type (534 incidents comprising 62% of all calls for service).



Incident by Type	#Incidents	% of Total
Fire	70	8.16%
Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, no fire	1	0.12%
EMS/Rescue	534	62.24%
Hazardous Condition	9	1.05%
Service Call	53	6.18%
Good Intent	153	17.83%
False Alarm & False Call	38	4.43%
Total	858	100.00%

Station 91 continues to be the busiest fire station in the month of June. There are two staffed units responding from Station 91; Truck 91 and Engine 91. All other fire stations are staffed with a single fire engine. Station 91, 92 and 94 all saw increases while the other stations experienced modest decreases.



The Joint Powers Agreement of the South San Joaquin County Fire Authority states the Chief Executive Officer will provide the Board of Directors a report on the staffing levels at each station. Authority fire engines and the ladder truck are staffed with 3 persons each. There is one Battalion Chief on duty each day to supervise one of three shifts.

# Community Risk Reduction Statistics

Fourth Quarter FY 21/22

April - June

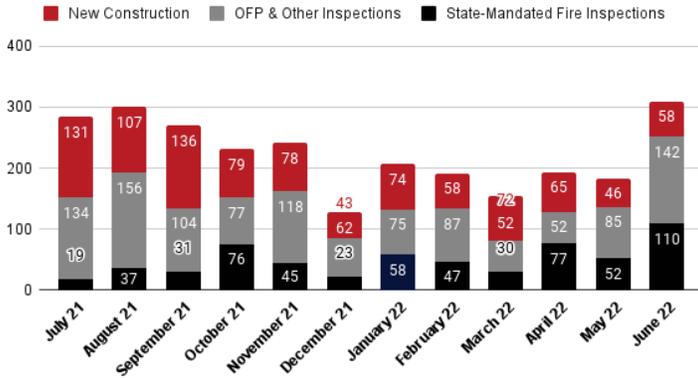
## QUARTERLY REVENUE

## FIRE INSPECTIONS

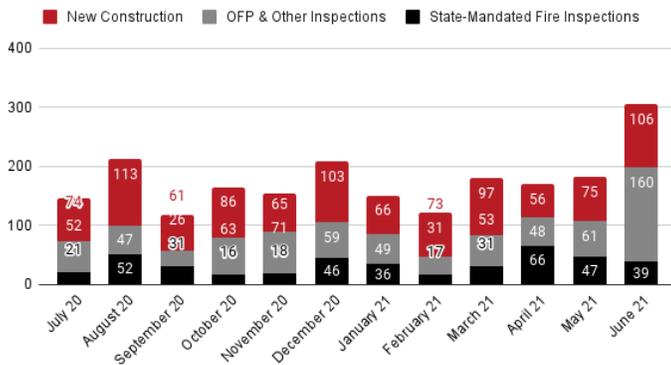
### Fire Inspection Totals:

	April 22	May 22	June 22
Invoiced	\$34,333.54	\$32,959.70	\$29,609.44
Collected	\$31,004.55	\$25,944.24	\$34,060.57

FIRE INSPECTIONS FY21/22



FIRE INSPECTIONS FY 20/21



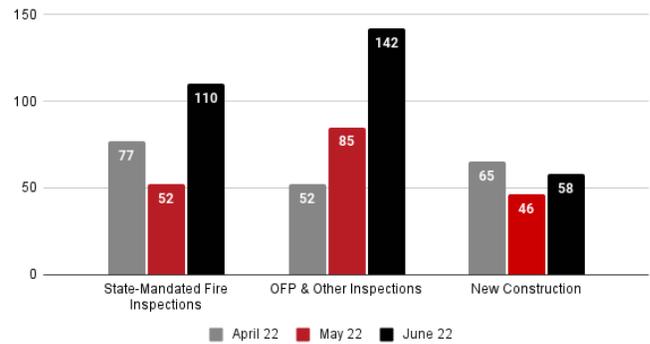
## YTD STATE-MANDATE INITIAL FIRE INSPECTIONS

	Completed	Total	%
Multi-family Residential and Hotel/Motels	Pending	Pending	
Schools (K-12)*	Pending	Pending	

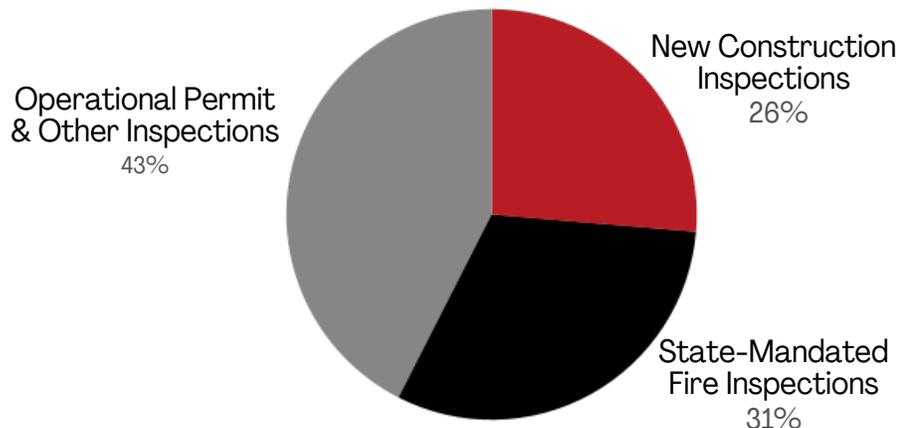
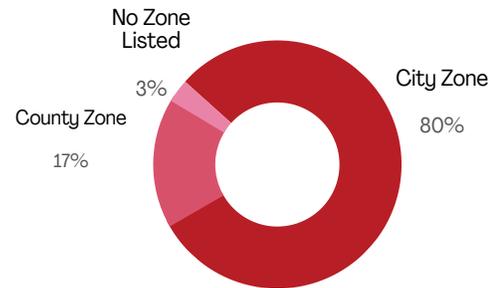
## Annual Revenue

COT CRR Fees	\$607,718.54
TRFPD CRR Fees	\$80,917.77

MONTHLY COMPLETED INSPECTION COMPARISON



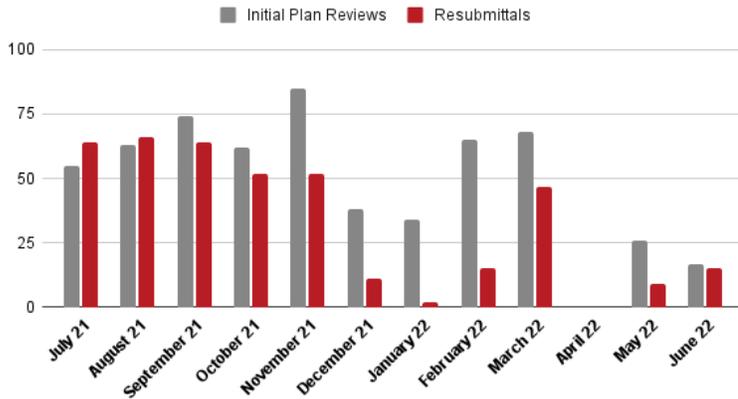
## 4RD QTR FY21/22 INSPECTION OVERVIEW



# Community Risk Reduction Statistics

Fourth Quarter FY 21/22  
April - June

## PLAN REVIEWS FY21/22



## PLAN REVIEW ACTIVITIES

- There were 32 plan check activities in June
- The average plan check turn around time in June was 23 days
- There were 18 occurrences where a plan check exceeded 20 days in May

## PERMIT ACTIVITIES

- 32 new construction permits were issued in June
- 16 operational fire permits were issued in June

## PERMIT ISSUANCE FY 21/22

