



OFFICE OF THE FIRE CHIEF

South San Joaquin Fire Authority
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MEMORANDUM

Date: May 9, 2023
To: Board of Directors
From: Chief Bradley
Subject: Monthly Fire Chief Update – April 2023

Automatic Vehicle Locator (AVL) Dispatching

On April 11th, we began to dispatch our emergency response units by closest vehicle or AVL. Previously, units were dispatched by pre-determined dispatch zones. The advantage of AVL is that it looks at available units in “real-time” and dispatches the closest unit. The transition to AVL has been a smooth and has been implemented without any major setbacks. We continue to work with Stockton Fire Dispatch Center to find ways to enhance our response times to emergencies.

Battalion Chief Exam

On April 20th the South San Joaquin County Fire Authority conducted an internal Battalion Chief exam. Four individuals took the competitive exam which evaluated emergency response management and leadership skills. All four candidates passed the exam and we will certify the candidates to work “out of class” once they complete an in-house Battalion Chief Academy. I’d like to congratulate each one of them and applaud them on their outstanding performance and dedication.

EMS Manager Recruitment

On March 8th the Board approved the temporary over hire of the EMS Manager position and approved a 10% pay increase for the position in an attempt to attract highly qualified candidates. The SSJCFA worked with the City of Tracy to launch the recruitment on March 9th and the recruitment period was originally scheduled to close on March 29th. This position is currently being filled by Captain Meineke due to an extended absence of the EMS Manager. This position is essential to the organization and is also a contractual obligation for our agreement with the San Joaquin County EMS Agency to provide ALS services. The recruitment is still open due to receiving a small number of qualified applicants during the initial recruitment period. Recruitment efforts continue and we currently have the position advertised on various job posting sites including Cal Chief’s EMS and LinkedIn.

Chief Bradley Return to Office

As you know, I was out of the office beginning March 2nd on medical leave. I returned to work April 11th on limited duty with an anticipated return to full duty on May 26th.

South San Joaquin County Fire Authority's Quarterly EMS Report to the County EMS Agency

The SSJCFA's EMS Division completed and submitted the quarterly report to the San Joaquin County EMS Agency. The report covered the first quarter (January – March) and highlights from the report include;

- Out of the 26 full arrest calls that the SSJCFA ran, four achieved Return of Spontaneous Circulation (ROSC)
- Narcotic usage is trending up for the first quarter and SSJCFA administered Fentanyl nine times and Versed twice
- Stylets for ET intubations were reauthorized and provided to all stations

CALJAC Conference

Staff attended the CALJAC Conference in Southern California during the week of April 19th. CALJAC is co-sponsored by the Office of the California State Fire Marshal and the California Professional Firefighters to blend the partnership of management and labor to create a balance that benefits California fire departments, firefighters, and ultimately the communities they serve. Staff attended courses focused on working with five generations in the workforce, strategies for leading an inclusive recruitment, firefighter behavioral health and cancer awareness, and crisis media planning. They were also able to practice mock television interviews for emergency situations. Additionally, this conference allows a great networking and resource opportunity.



Fire Prevention and Safety Grant

On March 15th, the South San Joaquin County Fire Authority was awarded \$39,000 through the FEMA Fire Prevention and Safety (FPS) Grant Program. The funding for this grant will be utilized to prepare a Community Risk Assessment. The Request for Proposal (RFP) was made available to the public on April 5th and closed on May 1, 2023. We received two responses for this RFP and the grant proposals will be reviewed in early May.

Collective Bargaining

The collective bargaining process is still underway and staff continues to meet regularly with the Board of Directors, attorneys and the Local 3355 to negotiate collective bargaining terms. Some progress has been made and negotiations are being conducted in good faith. Meetings are held at least monthly in hopes that the parties can produce the contract in time for it to go into effect on July 1st.

Training Facility Update

Staff continues to meet regularly to make forward steady progress on the development of the Training Facility. A new Project Manager, D'Evelyn Spekner, was assigned in April, and Chief Officers have met with her and our consultants with Schack & Co. to bring her up to speed. The construction drawings are now approximately 65% complete and the CEQA Study is now at the City Attorney's office awaiting approval. Once the CEQA process concludes, the item will go to City Council for dedication of the land. We are hoping that this continued progress will allow us to complete the public bidding process for a general contractor by the end of September, 2023.

Training

During April, the South County Fire Authority Division of Training continued to facilitate all risk emergency training events.

- All personnel completed the manipulative portion of the Wildland Training conducted on the Altamont Pass
- Open Water Swimmer class was completed by 16 SSJCFAs personnel over the course of four days
- All personnel attended a PPE class presented by LN Curtis
- All personnel attended EMS training with a focus on EMS trauma and new personal tourniquets
- HAZMAT team members attended a Train Car Specialist class hosted by DLA

At the company level our firefighters are training daily to better prepare themselves for mitigating emergencies in our community. The Authority logged over 1,300 hours of training during the month of April.

The Division of Training is dedicated to supporting the mission of the Fire Authority and its' duty to provide a well-trained and professional fire department to serve our community.

Vacant Property Obtained for Training Purposes

In March, the South County Fire Authority received approval to utilize an abandoned property on Arbor Road for training purposes. During the month of April, crews worked to prepare the property and were able to effectively remove all hazards in preparation for live burns, including securing power with PG&E's assistance. While on site, individual companies used the property for practice runs on pulling hose and throwing ladders. The training drills also serve as an opportunity to implement and exercise training in accordance with our Residential Structure Fire Policy (Policy 200). An Incident Action Plan (IAP) was created specific to this burn in preparation for the live scenario training exercises to be held from May 8th through May 12th.

Boat Operations

During the week of April 3rd sixteen of our members attended Open Water Rescue Swimmer training. The four-day course included classroom and on the water training, which was conducted at Brown Sands off of Mossdale Road in Lathrop. During this training crews practiced removing victims from open water and familiarizing themselves with boat capabilities, maneuverability, throttle control, trailering the boats, backing the trailer to a launch ramp, and personnel transitions from one vessel to another on both moving and stationary boats.

The boat was available during the month of April for emergency responses at the discretion of the Battalion Chief on duty and will be officially staffed on May 5th.



Vehicle Accident on Windsong Drive and Morning Brook Lane

On April 12th, crews responded to a vehicle accident on Windsong Drive and Morning Brook Lane just before 10 PM. A single vehicle crashed into a tree and one victim was transported with only minor injuries. The SSJCFA continues to respond to vehicle accidents on an almost daily basis.



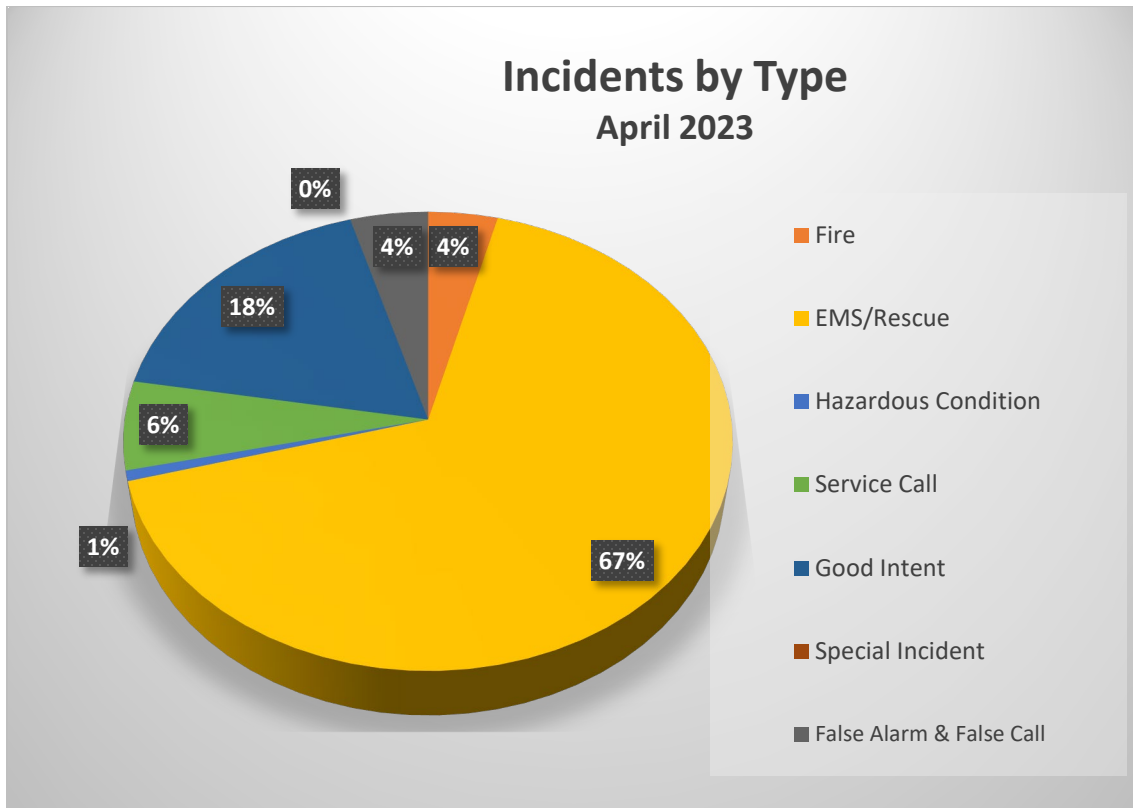
Community Events

- **April 15, 2023** – Our South San Joaquin County Fire Explorers set up a booth during the Farmer’s Market with a goal of reaching the public about the Explorer Program. Many visitors came to our booth and the Explorers were able to provide information to several potential candidates for the Explorer Program.
- **April 29, 2023** – Staff attended the Downtown Tracy Earth Day event sponsored by the Tracy Earth Project. This year’s focus was on the power of the bicycle. The event was hosted just outside of the Administration Building from 9 AM – 3 PM and the South San Joaquin County Fire Authority was an event sponsor. We passed out items geared towards bicycle safety and also sponsored a giveaway for two children’s bicycles that had South County gear on them!



April 2023 Response Data

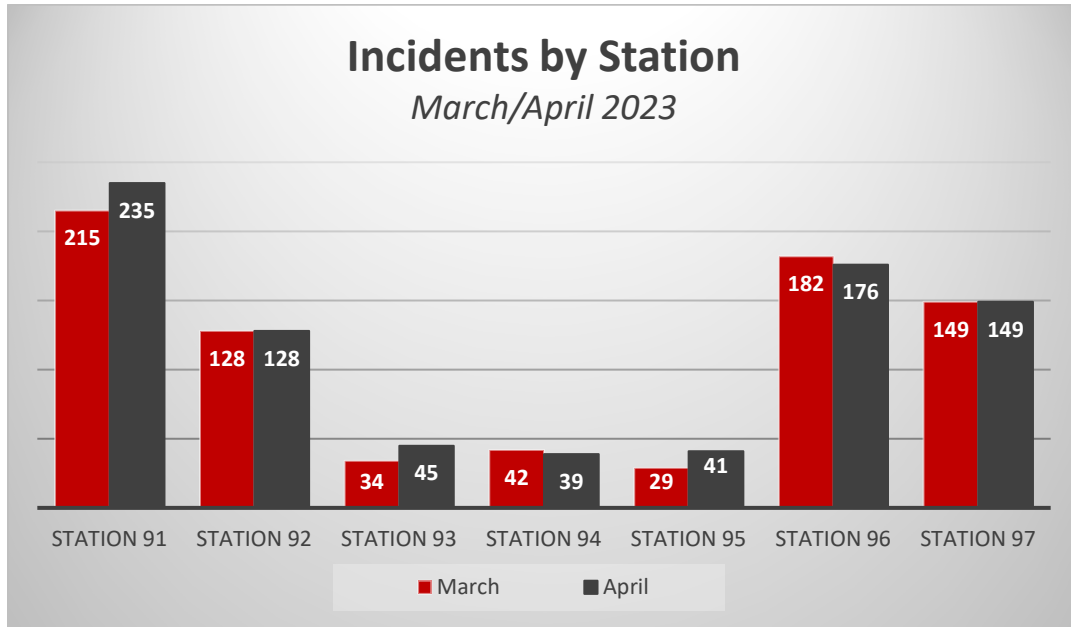
There were **782 reported incidents** in the month of April 2023. EMS incidents continue to be the predominant incident type (545 incidents comprising 67% of all calls for service). While there were 782 calls for service, it is important to note that some calls require multiple apparatus. In total there were 1,315 apparatus responses in April.



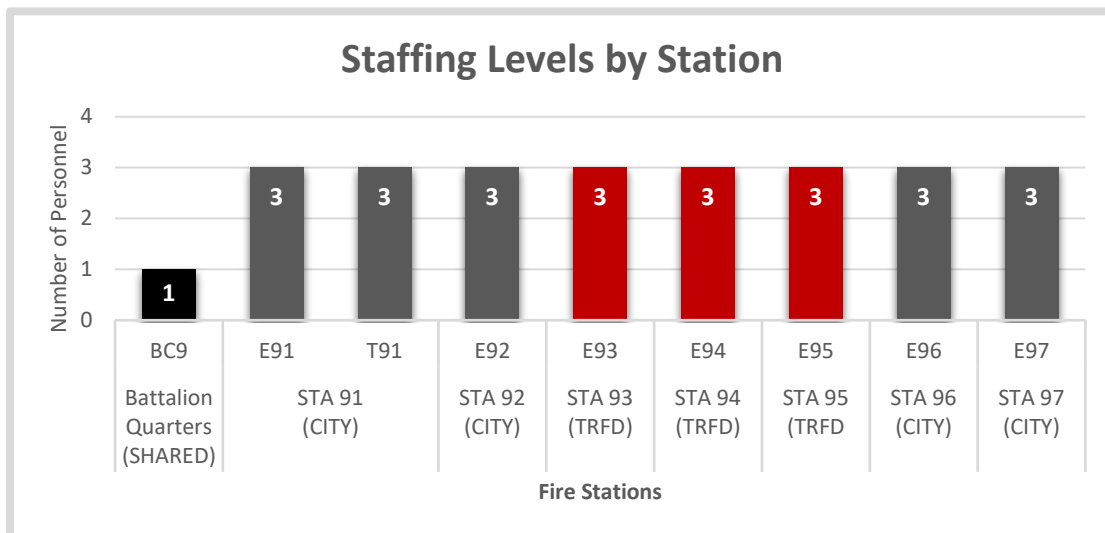
Incident by Type	#Incidents	% of Total
Fire	33	4.04%
Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, no fire	0	0.00%
EMS/Rescue	545	66.71%
Hazardous Condition	6	0.73%
Service Call	51	6.24%
Good Intent	145	17.75%
Special Incident	0	0.00%
False Alarm & False Call	37	4.53%
Total	817	100.00%

April 2023 Response Data (continued)

Station 91 continues to be the busiest fire station in the month of April. There are two staffed units responding from Station 91; Truck 91 and Engine 91. April was slightly busier than March and we expect call volume to increase as the weather warms.



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.



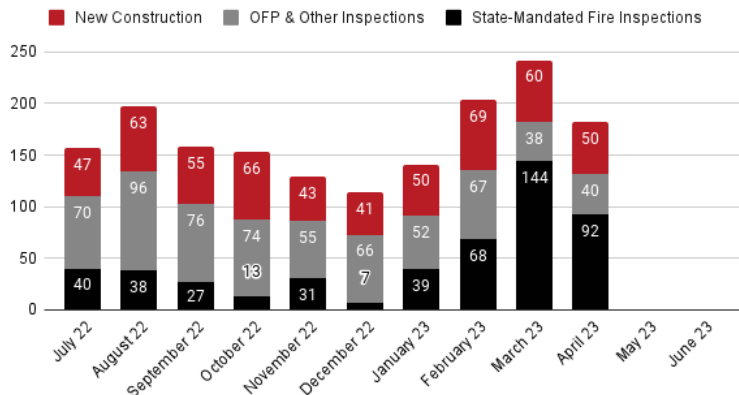
Community Risk Reduction Statistics

April FY22/23

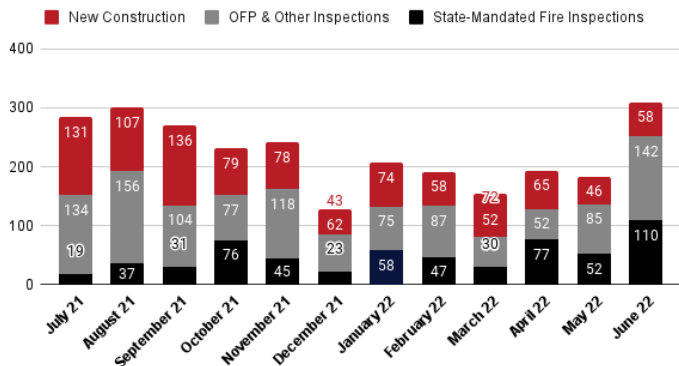
FIRE INSPECTIONS

Fire Inspection Totals:

FIRE INSPECTIONS FY 22/23



FIRE INSPECTIONS FY21/22



YTD STATE-MANDATE INITIAL FIRE INSPECTIONS

	Completed	Total	%
Multi-family Residential and Hotel/Motels	174	175	99%
Schools (K-12)*	35	35	100%

Annual Revenue

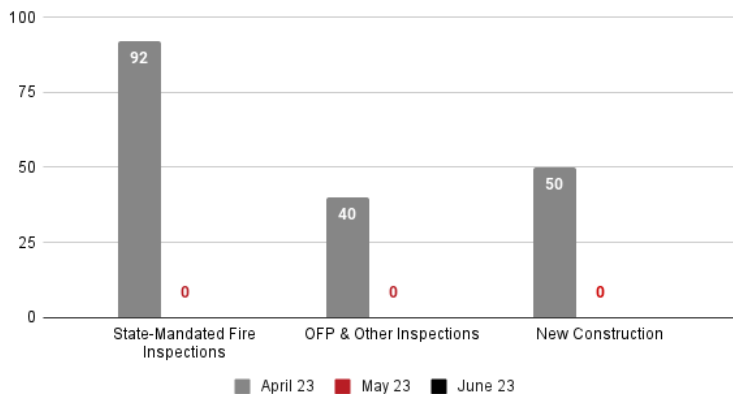
COT CRR Fees

\$456,838.87

TRFPD CRR Fees

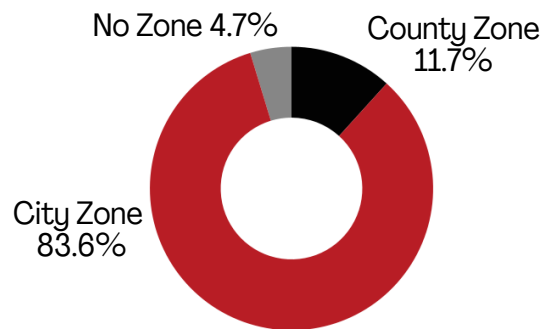
\$52,185.66

MONTHLY COMPLETED INSPECTION COMPARISON

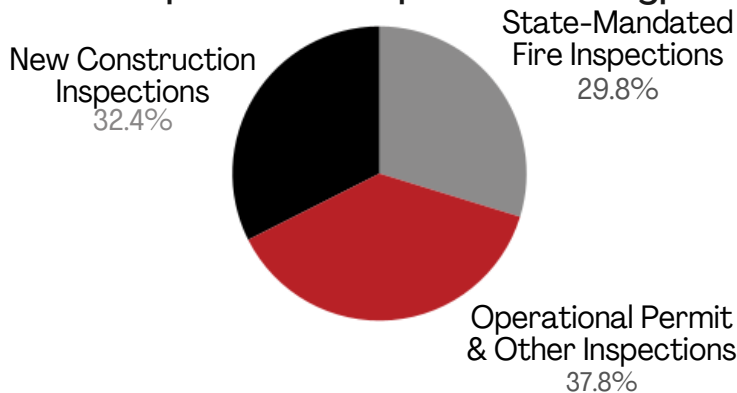


YTD FIRE INSPECTION OVERVIEW

Completed Fire Inspections Per Zone:



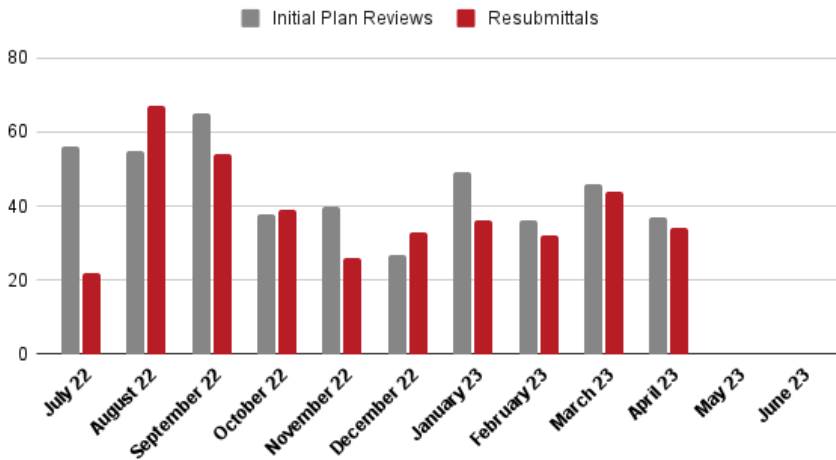
Completed Fire Inspections Per Type:



Community Risk Reduction Statistics

April FY 22/23

PLAN REVIEWS FY22/23



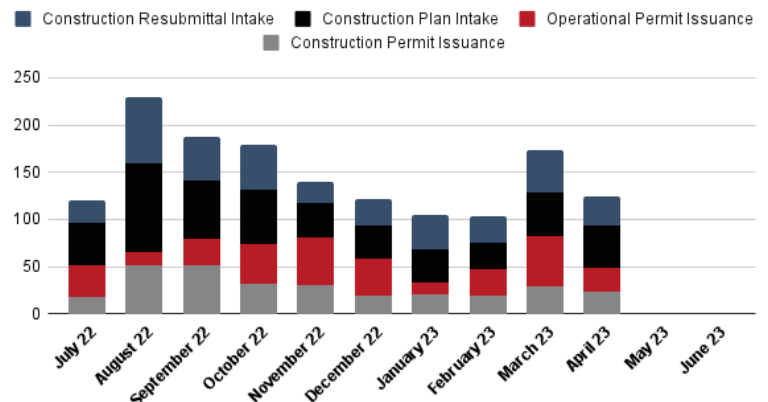
PLAN REVIEW ACTIVITIES

- There were 71 plan check activities in April
- In April, 52% of the plan check activities were initial submittals and 48% were resubmittals
- The average plan check turn around time in April was 1 days
- In April, there were no occurrences where a plan check exceeded its due date

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

- 23 new construction permits were issued in April
- We received and processed 44 new plan submittals
- We received and processed 32 resubmitted construction documents
- 26 operational fire permits were issued in April

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES FY 22/23



APRIL SOCIAL MEDIA OVERVIEW

4.1K

Facebook Page Followers

20

New Facebook Followers

8K

People reached on Facebook

1.2K

People reached on Instagram



Happy Administrative Professionals Day to the individuals that keep our organization running! South San Joaquin County Fire Authority is blessed to have a group of the best administrative...
Wed, Apr 26

Post reach 1,796 Engagement 578

On Saturday evening, some of our Chief Officers and SSJCFAs Firefighter of the Year, Captain Kevin Meineke attended the annual Law & Order Awards Dinner hosted by the American Legion Post...
Mon, Apr 24

Post reach 788 Engagement 342

