



South San Joaquin County Fire Authority  
835 N Central Avenue  
Tracy, CA 95376

FIRE ADMINISTRATION

MAIN: 209.831.6700

FAX: 209.831.6732

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

# Memorandum

Date: June 14, 2022  
To: Board of Directors  
From: Chief Bradley  
Subject: Monthly Fire Chief Update – May 2022

---

## Strategic Planning

On May 17, 2022 the South San Joaquin County Fire Authority 2022-25 Strategic Plan was approved by the Authority Board of Directors. The collaborative strategic planning process identified strategic initiatives and supporting objectives that will serve as an organizational road map for the next three years. 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.

## Captain Dennis Robison Retires



Captain Robison has retired from South County Fire. His last shift was on June 10, 2022 and he and his wife have moved to San Diego to enjoy their much-deserved retirement. Captain Robison was originally hired by the Tracy Rural Fire District in April of 1990 and was assigned to Station 94 (Lammers/Byron). He was promoted to Engineer in March of 1992 and to Captain in April of 1996. Pre-consolidation, Dennis spent much of his career at Station 94 and post-consolidation at Station 97. In 2018 he transferred to Station 91 to be a C Shift Captain on the truck company. During his tenure he served on the apparatus committee, the station design committee and ran the reserve firefighter program (1990's). Dennis was responsible for purchasing and maintaining the physical fitness equipment at all fire stations. He was also responsible for the purchasing and maintenance of all auto extrication equipment.

After a 32-year career, I hope everyone will join me in thanking him for his service and wishing Captain Robison a happy and healthy retirement!

### **EMS Legislation**

The Fire Chief 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 over local rights to provide paramedic services within our jurisdictional boundaries. Although late in the legislative process, Senator Hertzberg (Author of SB 438-Dispatch Bill) has agreed to author and carry the legislation. Senate Bill 443 will soon be considered by the legislature and the hopefully the governor for approval.

### **California Fire, EMS and Disaster (CFED) Conference**

The Fire Chief attended the CFED Conference and the Cal Chief's Fire Chief Summit on May 22 through May 25 in Indian Wells. At the Fire Chief's summit, South County Fire was a major focus due to the impact of our current EMS litigation on the California Fire Service. Meetings at the conference led to the pursuit of the EMS litigation identified above. The remainder of the conference was heavily focused on PTSD and firefighter mental health concerns and treatments. Firefighter Health and Safety is one of the primary initiatives in South County Fire's newly adopted strategic plan and the information obtained at the conference provides a framework to begin to address firefighter PTSD challenges.

### **Training**

In the month of May the Fire Authority continued a comprehensive training program that meets state mandates and ensures personnel remain in a state of readiness to respond to medical, fire, rescue and hazardous material emergencies. During May, the Fire Authority Division of Training completed:

- Trench Rescue Class for department Rescue Technicians (Fresh Water Treatment Plant)
- SCFA hosted a Driver Operator 1A class for our firefighters (Fire Admin & Airport)
- Annual Wildland Training had multiple make up days to ensure all personnel have been trained to the State Level
- In house HazMat Training was conducted at station 96 (PEAC and weather station)
- Probationary Firefighters retested on the seven-month evaluation (All passed)
- SCFA worked with DLA and MDA on an MCI event that included the ACE train
- Swift Water Awareness training was conducted with Dept. personnel
- Dept. Rescue Technicians participated in a swift-water drill at Knights Ferry

- Dept personnel were trained on BR93 and new components
- All crews were trained by Phillips Monitors clinical team in rhythm identification, settings menus, electrical therapy, and mega code scenarios.

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.



### **Brush 93 Placed in Service**



On May 27, 2022 Brush 93 was placed in service. The Type 3 engine was purchased by the Tracy Rural Fire District through a partial grant from the San Joaquin County Air Pollution District. Brush 93 was assigned to Station 93 to increase operational effectiveness on wildland fires and to reduce maintenance costs on Engine 93. Brush 93 is the Fire Authority's third Type 3 engine. Thanks to Tracy Rural Board member Craig Miller for spear heading the effort to obtain the

grant and purchase the engine.

### **Firefighters Complete Probation**

The following members of recruit Class 21-1 successfully completed their probation on June 1, 2022.

- Firefighter/Paramedic Trent Perkins
- Firefighter/Paramedic Eric Valencia
- Firefighter/Paramedic Addison Gibson
- Firefighter/Paramedic Logan Crosby

This is just the beginning of their journey and I look forward to watching them continue to progress and have successful careers with South County Fire. I also would like to thank everyone who assisted with their probationary training and evaluation.

### **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 will be presented to the Board 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 regular Authority August Board meeting.

### **Firefighter Recruitments**

The Authority received over 250 applications through the current firefighter recruitment. After screening applications, 50 firefighter candidates were invited to interviews on May 10, 2022. The top candidates were interviewed by the Fire Chief. After Fire Chief interviews, nine candidates were selected to go through 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.

### **Training Facility**

At a special Tracy Rural Fire Protection District Board meeting on May, 5, 2022, the Board approved their share (\$252,000 in addition to \$200,000 originally funded) of funding for the Phase 1 of the proposed training facility. The Tracy City Council planned to consider approving their share of the additional funding at their City Council Meeting on May 17, 2022.

Unfortunately, there was a miscommunication concerning the site CEQA process and the project will be delayed until an environmental review can be completed and approved. The project will now have to be re-bid after the CEQA process is completed. We are anticipating a delay of four to six months.

Phase 1 includes site selection, the erection of a grant funded training tower, utilities, asphalt and site improvements for parking and drainage. The Phase 1 now has an expected completion date of December 2022.

Phase 2 of the project will include a classroom, restrooms, shower facilities and extension of the paved training area. The engineer's estimate for the second phase of the project is \$2,599,235. Staff is working to identify grant funding opportunities for Phase 2 of the project. The site was designed to accommodate Phase 3 of the project based on the future public safety training needs of the community. Phase 3 could include additional classrooms, drafting pit, rescue and fire props and emergency vehicle operator's course.

### **Deuel Vocational Institute**

The Deuel Vocational Institute was closed in September of 2021. Since that time, the Authority has been working with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to develop a contractual agreement to provide fire protection to the expansive state facility. Unfortunately, the efforts to negotiate an agreement have stalled and the Authority has responded to emergencies at the facility (15 Acre grass fire). Staff will begin to work our local state elected officials to see if we can influence the speed of obtaining a contract to protect the facility.

### **South County Fire Hazardous Material Team**

In the past, South County Fire has participated in San Joaquin County hazardous material response program that utilized fire department members from throughout the county to respond to an incident and form a mixed hazardous materials team to mitigate emergencies within the county. Due to a variety of circumstances, that team is no longer active and there currently is not a joint county fire agency hazardous material response capability. Fortunately, in 2018, South County Fire was chosen to be one of twelve State OES Hazardous Material Teams. Since that date, with significant financial support from the state, South County Fire has developed into a well trained, well equipped and well supported Type II Haz Mat Team (soon to be a Type I Haz Mat Team). Due to the development of South County Fire Haz Mat Team, South County Fire will no longer participate as a member of the joint San Joaquin County Haz Mat Team that is in the process of being reconstituted. South County Fire will continue to be a resource to the County and to other agencies within the county that requests the use of our Haz Mat Team during emergencies.

### **Regional Hazardous Material Response Drill**



On June 8, 2022 the members of the Fire Authority's Type II Hazardous Materials response team participated in a multi-agency hazardous material training exercise at the Port of Stockton. Hazardous Materials Specialists from South County Fire, Stockton Fire, Lodi Fire and the 95<sup>th</sup> Regiment Civil Support team worked alongside law enforcement from SJ Sheriff's Office, Port of Stockton PD, and the FBI to mitigate mock incidents involving leaking railcars, trailers and water

vessels. Realistic Training exercises are critical in preparing our personnel to effectively and safely mitigate actual incidents within jurisdiction boundaries.



May 1, 2022 - Grass fire at DVI



May 1, 2022 - Fire at Tracy High in Pool Room



May 22, 2022 – Outside fire that extended to structures

### Memorial Day Ceremony



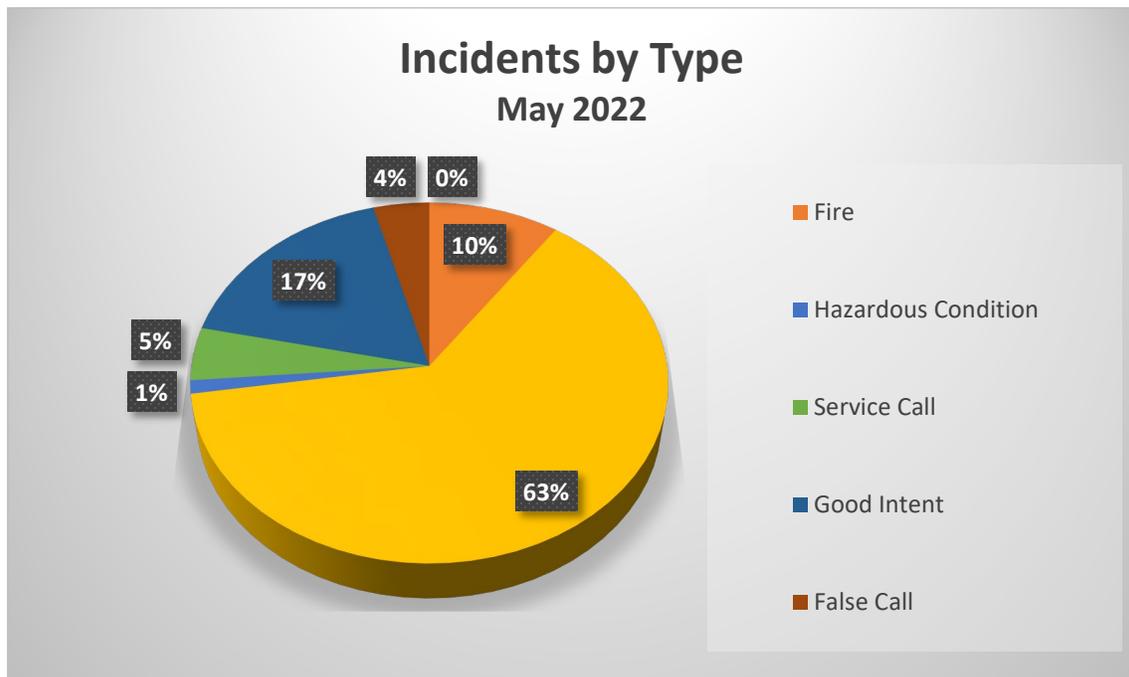
To honor those who served and who gave the ultimate sacrifice, members of the South County Fire Attended the Memorial Day Ceremonies at the cemetery and at Tracy Veterans Memorial.



May 22, 2022 - Structure Fire

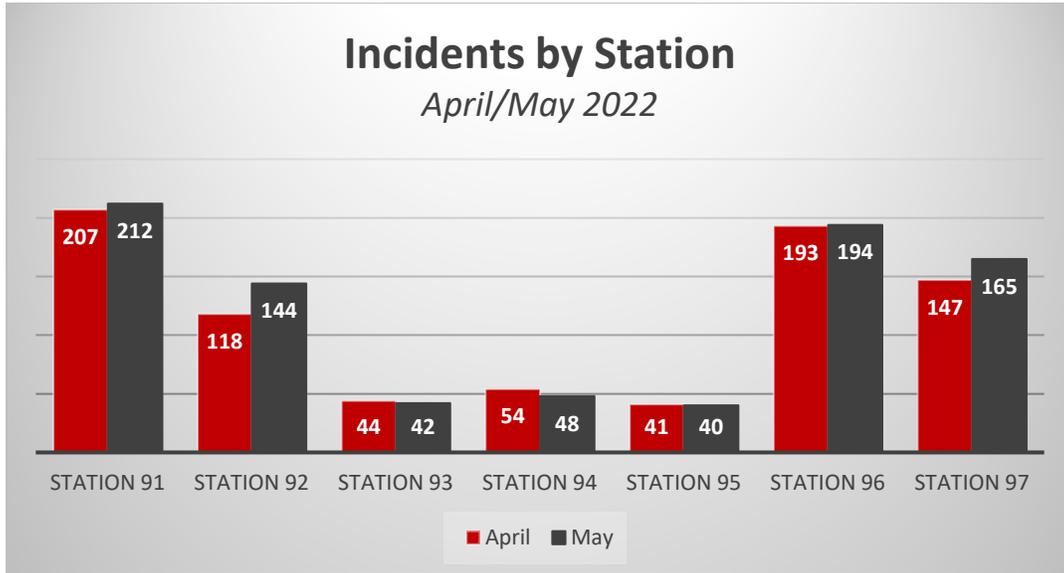
**May Response Data**

There were 899 total reported incidents in the month of May 2022. The charts listed below reflect only those incidents (845/899) where the incident report has been completed and reviewed. The remaining 54 calls are pending review prior to inclusion in the following charts. EMS incidents continue to be the predominant incident type (531 incidents comprising 63% of all calls for service).

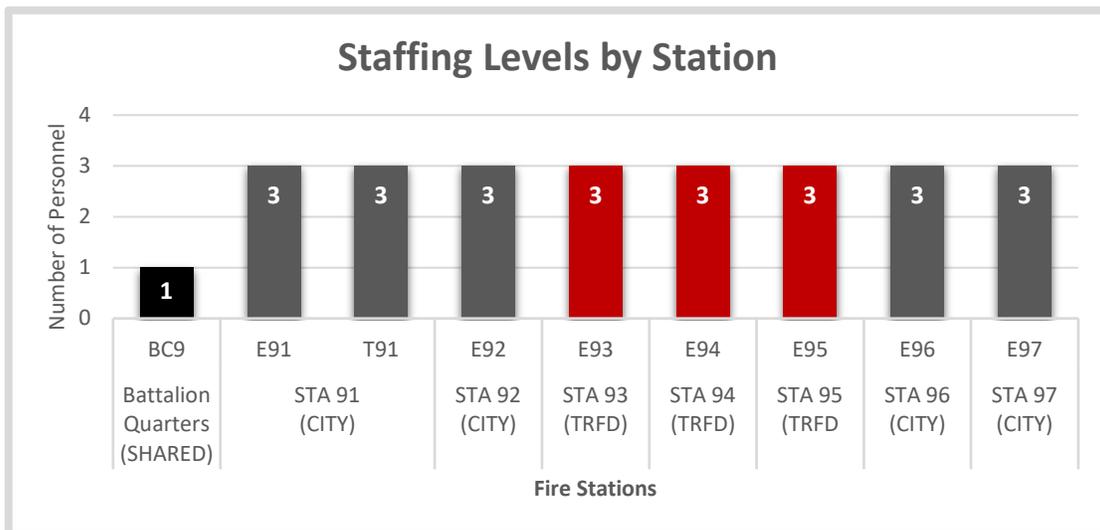


Incidents by Type	#Incidents	% of Total
Fire	82	9.70%
EMS/Rescue	531	62.84%
Hazardous Condition	10	1.18%
Service Call	40	4.73%
Good Intent	147	17.40%
False Call	35	4.14%
<b>Total</b>	<b>845</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Station 91 was the busiest fire station in the month of May. 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. Every station within the city limits saw a modest increase in call volume during the month of May.



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.



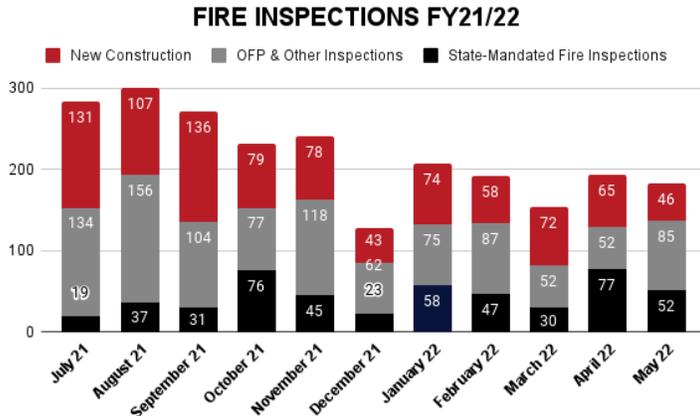
# Community Risk Reduction Statistics

Fourth Quarter FY 21/22  
April - June

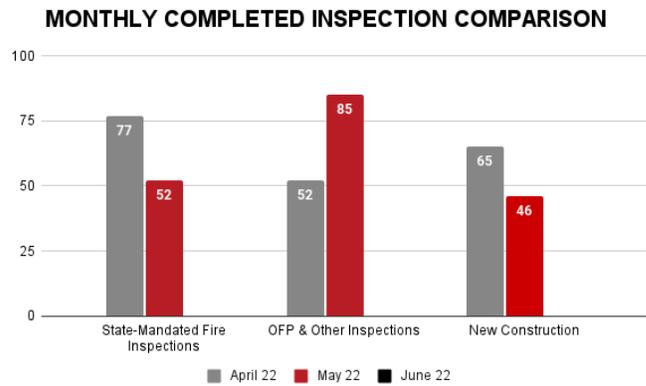
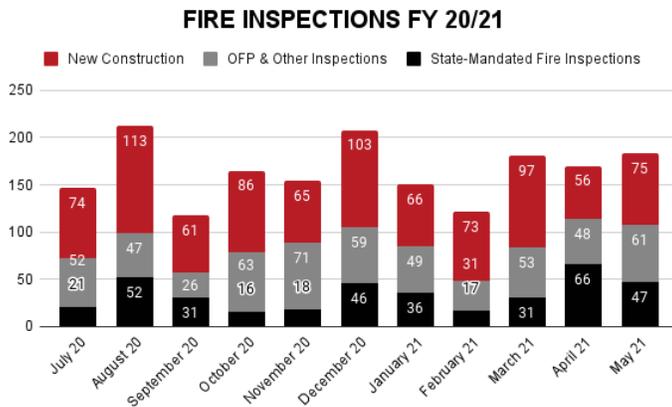
## FIRE INSPECTIONS

### Fire Inspection Totals:

## QUARTERLY REVENUE



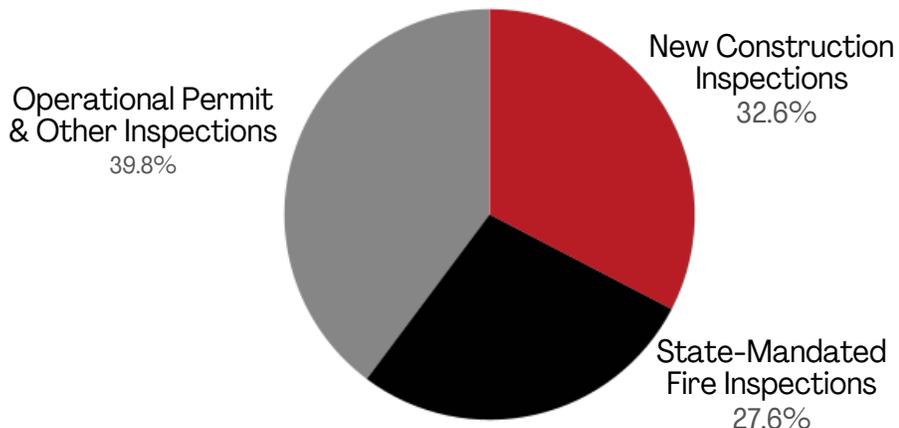
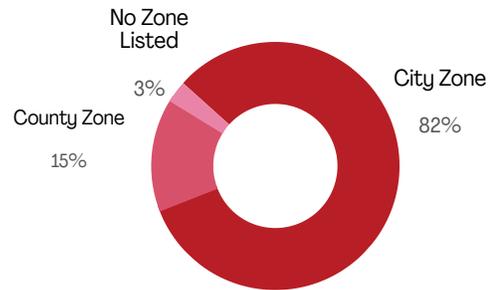
	April 22	May 22	June 22
Invoiced	\$34,333.54	\$32,959.70	
Collected	\$31,004.55	\$25,944.24	



## YTD STATE-MANDATE INITIAL FIRE INSPECTIONS

	Completed	Total	%
Multi-family Residential and Hotel/Motels	147	166	89%
Schools (K-12)*	38	43	88%

## 4RD QTR FY21/22 INSPECTION OVERVIEW

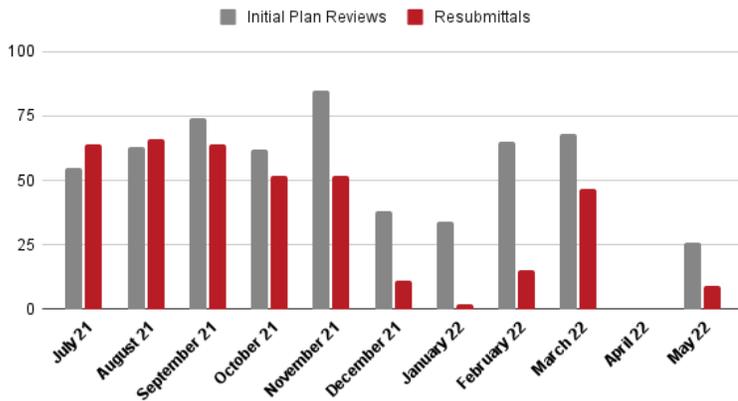


\*CORRECTION: The total number of school locations needing inspection and number of completed inspections this fiscal year has been updated. Review showed several occupancies and completed inspections were incorrectly included in this portion of the report.

# Community Risk Reduction Statistics

Fourth Quarter FY 21/22  
April - June

## PLAN REVIEWS FY21/22



## PLAN REVIEW ACTIVITIES

- There were 35 plan check activities in May
- The average plan check turn around time in May was 12 days
- There were 11 occurrences where a plan check exceeded 20 days in May

## PERMIT ACTIVITIES

- 31 new construction permits were issued in May
- 34 operational fire permits were issued in May

## PERMIT ISSUANCE FY 21/22

