# OVERVIEW AND HISTORICAL LOOK AT SEDONA FIRE DISTRICT

**SFD Citizens Advisory Committee** 

**Meeting Number 1** 

## \*We started as 2 separate, but adjoining fire districts:

Sedona-Oak Creek FD in Coconino County:

- \*April 7, 1957 First meeting
- \*1971 Hired 1st paid employee

Sedona-Red Rock FD in Yavapai County:

- \*1960 Began operating
- \*1972 Hired its 1st paid employee

On June 27, 1985, Sedona-Oak Creek and Sedona-Red Rock enacted an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) to combine operations and be known as "Sedona Fire Department" and...

On January 5, 1993, the two districts legally merged and became Sedona Fire District through a special election

- \* SFD was started by volunteers and primarily run by volunteers for over 30 years
- \* In the late 90s, transition began from volunteer to career
- \* SFD became an all career organization by late 2001
- \*We have made multiple attempts at a Reserve Program the latest was in 2013-2015, but none were successful



FASTER RESPONSI TIMES made possible by the early interlocking alarm system couldn't save Mayhew's Oak Creek Lodge from destruction by fire in 1963.

# Trip Rown Memory Lane

- \* Volunteers provided an excellent service
- \* Volunteers created an amazing foundation for what SFD is today
- \* Decisions were made over 15 years ago to take SFD where we are today

# Thank You to all who have served SFD

## Fire Departments vs. Fire Districts

What is the difference?

#### Fire Departments:

- Part of a municipal (city) government
- Funded through a city's general fund revenues derived from sales tax, state shared revenues, and property taxes
- Overseen by city council along with all city departments, and generally only protects areas within city boundaries

#### Fire Districts:

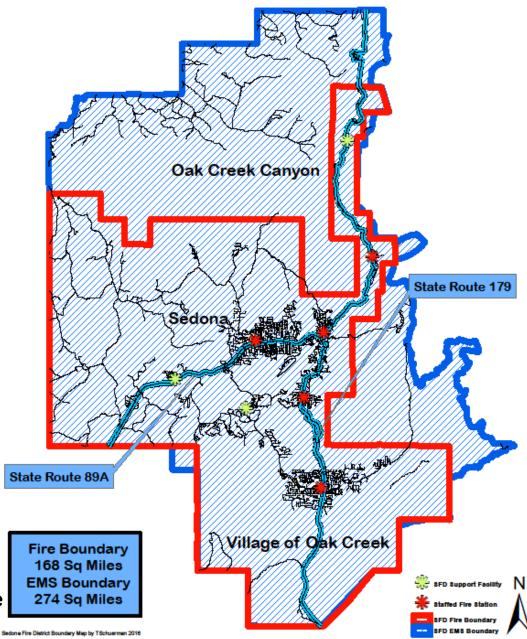
- Special districts separate from city/county governments
- Serve rural & unincorporated county areas, and 1 or more municipalities
- Range from all-volunteer with budgets of <\$100,000 to large career districts with multi-million \$ budgets
- Primarily funded by property taxes
   within district's boundaries
- Overseen by elected Governing Boards

## Technically Speaking - What is a Fire District?

Arizona Revised Statutes (ARS) Chapter 48-805

- Political subdivisions of the State of Arizona
- Formed for protection of persons and property in an area approved by a county
- Governed by 3 or 5 member Boards (based on district population) elected by voters to alternating 4-year terms elected every 2 years
- More than 150 fire districts provide fire, rescue, and emergency medical services to 1,500,000+ Arizona residents every day
- Provide fire protection to 15,000+ sq. miles and EMS to 27,000+ sq. miles of Arizona
- Funded primarily by taxes and other revenue, such as ambulance billing, grants, fire prevention permits and fees, and wildland billing

#### **Sedona Fire District Boundaries**



## What Keeps SFR Busy?

A glimpse into the things we do as your all-hazards response-ready Fire District

- \* Basic Life Support (BLS)
- \* Advanced Life Support (ALS)
- \* Motor Vehicle Crashes
- \* Community Integrated Paramedicine



## Emergency Medical Services - EMS

- \* Structure Fires
- \* Car/RV Fires
- \* Wildland Fires
- \* Natural Gas and Propane Leaks
- \* Water Leak/Damage



## Fire Suppression

- \* High Angle Rescue
- \* Helicopter Rescue
- \* Swift Water Rescue
- \* Trench Rescue
- \* Structural Collapse
- \* Hazardous Materials
- \* Confined Space



# Special Operations Team

- \* Fire Inspections
- \* Plans Review
- \* Permitting
- \* Public Education:

Schools, Businesses and Citizens at large



## Community Risk Reduction

\* Leadership:

Governing Board
Fire Chief

- \* Finance
- \* Human Resources Management
- \* EMS Billing
- \* Governing Board Liaison



## Administration

- \* Fleet Maintenance Division
- \* Telecommunications:

Information Technology
Software, Hardware, Networking,
Complex Radio Tower Infrastructure

\* Geographic Interface Systems (GIS)

Mapping and Data Management



## Technical Services

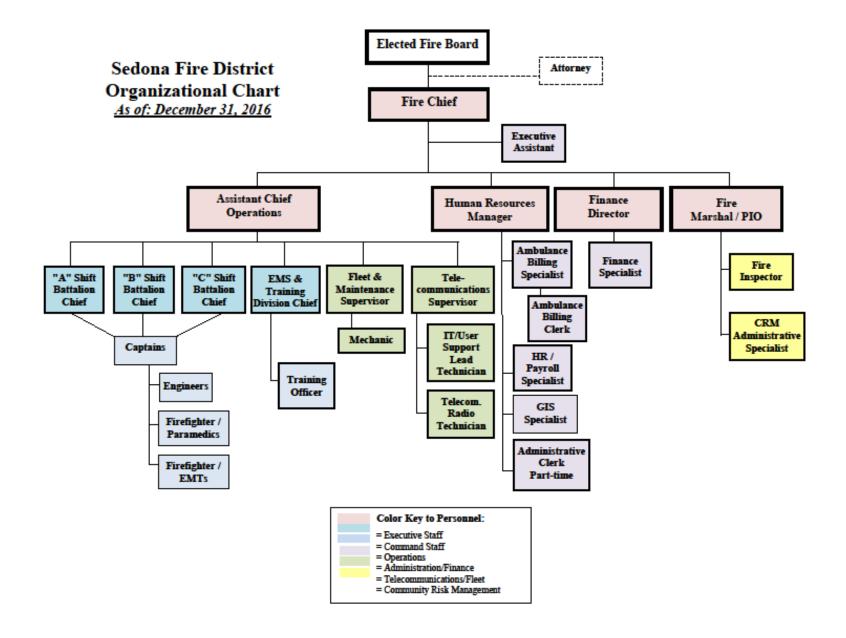
- \* CISM Critical Incident Stress Management Team
- \* Sedona-Verde Valley Firefighter Charities
- \* CPR Classes
- \* Car Seat Installations
- \* Emergency Operations Center
- \* Telecom Services for Neighboring Agencies Sedona Police Department Copper Canyon Fire District
- \* EMS Billing Services for another District Mayer Fire District



## Special Services

- \* 75 Operational Shift Staff
- \* 4 Administrative Operations Staff
- \* 13 Administrative Support Staff
- \* 2 Fire Prevention Specialist Staff
- \* 1 Contract Member
- \* 5 Governing Board Members
- \* 1 Legal Counsel
- \* Interns

## So How Po We Po All That?

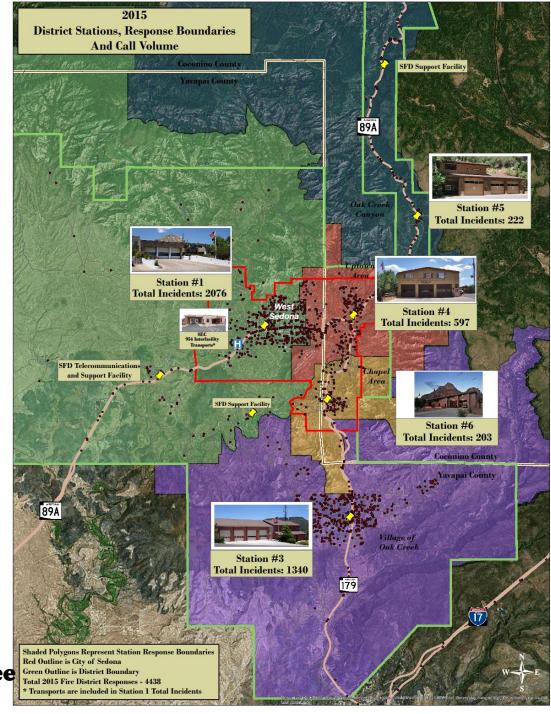


- \* Federal Laws
- \* AZ State Laws
- \* Governing Board
- \* OSHA / NIOSH
- \* AZ Department Of Human Services
- \* National Fire Protection Association

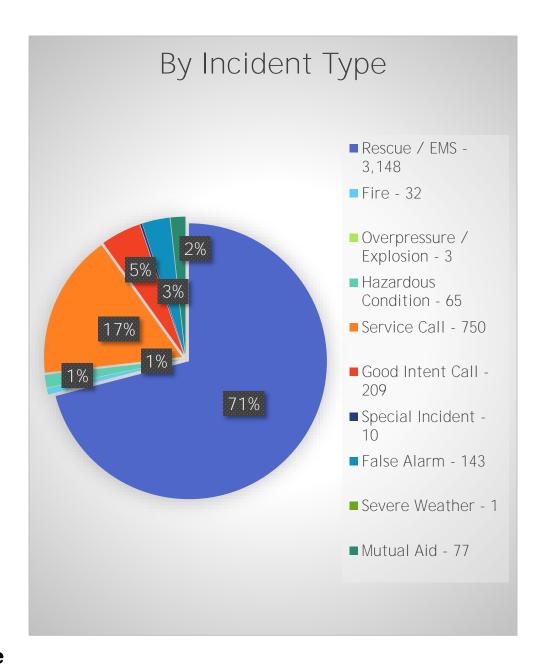
# Who Governs Our Operations?

SFD Map with
Stations &
2015 Call
Numbers

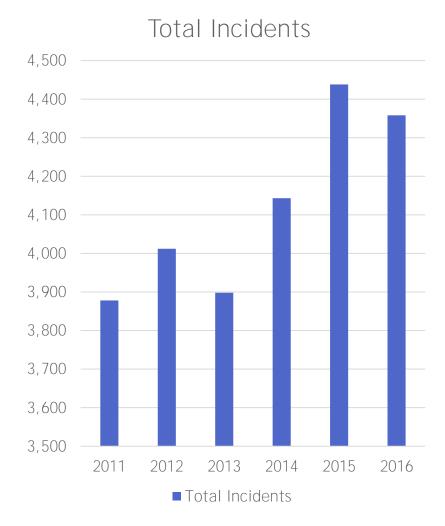
2016 Annual Report will be published by the middle of March



2015 Incidents



Call Volume Trend for past 6 years



- \* Increase in call volume & call loading challenges
- \* Training requirements
- \* Ability for community / business owners to operate with people coming and going
- \* Challenges finding and maintaining volunteers
- \* Litigious society

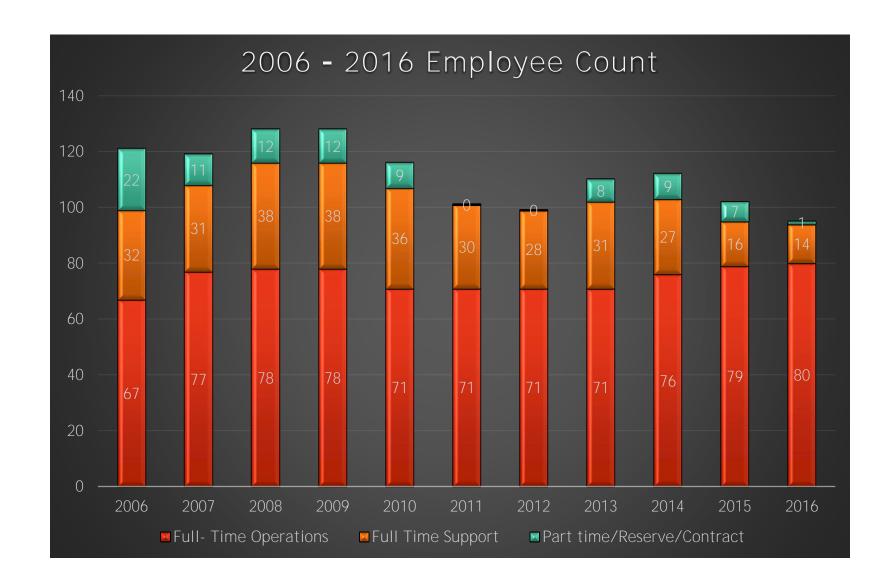
## Remands and Expectations Have Changed

## Fires are not the same

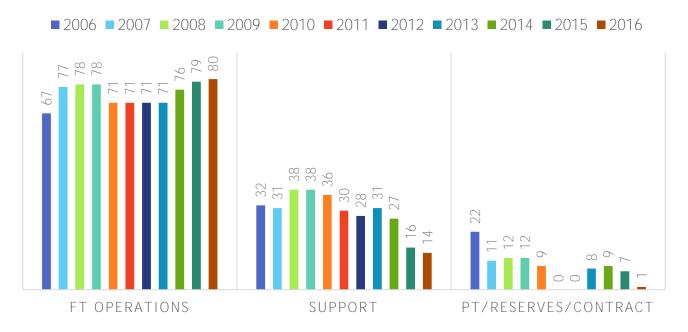
- Dynamics of fire behavior have changed
- Fires burning faster
- Tactics have dramatically changed



# What has SFD Done to get to where we are today?



#### STAFFING 2006 - 2016



## Focus on Emergency Response Capabilities

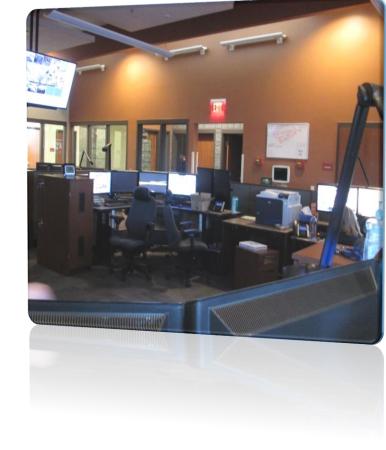
#### \*Station 6 Opened

- Built and put station into service in 2014
- Enhancing emergency response capabilities throughout the districtspecifically, the Chapel area and Village of Oak Creek
- Hired 1 additional firefighter per shift (3 total) in late 2015 to facilitate a more efficient staffing model



- \*SFD operated a regional dispatch for 30+ years
- \* 2015 Transferred operations to Cottonwood Public Safety Communications Center (CPSCC)
- \* Estimated a \$400,000 savings annually realized by SFD
- \* No longer have capital project expenses

Building and equipment



## Outsourced Dispatch

## Always Seeking Alternate Revenue Sources

- \*Aggressive Grant Writing
- \*Outsourcing SFD services:
  - Telecom
  - EMS Billing
- \*Co-Op purchasing for items:
  - Discounted pricing
- \*Zero Interest financing options for items

- \* Continuously working hard to create an organization and a budget that is as lean as possible
- \* Work to develop a practical long term plan to take care of aging fleet and buildings
- \* Invest in our workforce to assure top quality talent in all aspects of our organization
- \* Looking long range and working to make sure we balance our needs and financial capabilities



# Responsible Fiscal Allocation

# 2001 Proposal about needing attention at Station 4

An excerpt from the Proposal - Chief Larry Drake to Coconino County Representative Susan Brown

SEDONA FIRE DISTRICT

SEDONA, ARIZONA 86336. TEL. 5201 282-6800 . . .

In 1982 the SFD, built and wood

May 20, 2001

Ms. Susan Brown

Property Manager

Property County

In 1982 the SFD, built (on Parcel 019E) Fire Station #4, a two story-on-slab, masonry and wood frame building. Fire Station #4 was constructed on Coconino County property under a Warranty Deed approved by the Coconino County Board of Supervisors on April 4, 1983. A copy of this Warranty Deed granting parcel #019E to be used "for the purpose of public fire protection by the Sedona-Oak Creek Fire District" is included as ATTACHMENT #2.

This fire station is currently showing signs of aging, and in its current configuration, is not fully adequate to serve the fire protection needs of the area. Due to continued residential and especially commercial development in uptown Sedona, the area would be better served by the addition of an aerial ladder apparatus at Fire Station #4. With the station's low ceilings and limited vehicle access and parking, an aerial ladder will physically not fit. Due to the station's age, and the need for a larger apparatus room, the SFD has made re-construction of Fire Station #4 a high priority in its strategic planning process. A permanent resolution to ownership of this property would be one of the first steps in this re-construction process.

This vital fire station and its full-time staff of 12 firefighters and 3 battalion chiefs provide emergency fire, rescue, and medical response to uptown Sedona, Oak Creek Canyon, and the Sedona-side of unincorporated Coconino County 24-hours a day, 7-days

### 2007 Citizens Advisory Committee Findings

Citizens Committee met for 3-4 months to discuss the same issues we are facing today

#### Sedona Fire District - Citizens **Strategic Planning Task Force**

#### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS RECOMMENDATION

2007 Citizens Advisory Committee Findings	Project Description	Initial Priority Placement	Committee Priority Placement
	Chapel Area Fire Station	1	1
	Oak Creek Canyon Fire Station	5	2
	Communications Center	2	3
	New Station #4 (Uptown)	3	4
	Fleet Maintenance/Repair Facility	8	5
	Station #1 Refurbishment	4	6
	Station #8 Refurbishment	6	7
	Red Rock Loop Area Fire Station	7	8
SFD Citizens Advisory Commit Meeting Number 1	tee Airport Fire Station	9	9

# \*Where are we today

We simply want to consider what our needs are to continue to provide services in effective and efficient manner.

- \*We built Station 6
- \*We know we have been kicking the can down the road for other facility needs identified nearly 20 years ago
- \*We have no plans for many of the items listed in 2007
  - Airport Station
  - Lower Loop Station
  - Station 8
  - Dispatch Center

#### Sedona Fire District – Citizens Strategic Planning Task Force

#### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS RECOMMENDATION

2007 Citizens Advisory Committee Findings

**Status Update** 

Project Description	Initial Priority Placement	Committee Priority Placement
Chapel Area Fire Station	1	1
Oak Creek Canyon Fire Station	5	2
Communications Center		3-
New Station #4 (Uptown)	3	4
Fleet Maintenance/Repair Facility	8	5
Station #1 Refurbishment	4	6
Station #8 Refurbishment — — — — —	6	7-
Red Rock Loop Area Fire Station	77	8-
Airport Fire Station	9	9-

- \*We want to look at what SFD requires to be fiscally responsible
- \*We want to look at what needs we have to maintain effective emergency services
- \*We have a lot of important work to do in the next few months

## Focus of Going Forward

# YOU NEED THE FIRE DEPARTMENT PLEASE HELP! HEY, CHIEF, IS THIS THE BEST WE CAN DO FOR A FIRE HOUSE? GRANT SEDONA OAK CREEK FIRE DEPT.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT NEED YOU . . . .

1971 Cartoon

**SFD Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Number 1** 

# \*Reminder about Open Meeting Laws