



HOPKINS FIRE DEPARTMENT

2019

ANNUAL REPORT

LETTER FROM THE CHIEF

To the Hopkins City Council, Hopkins City Manager, and citizens of Hopkins:

I submit the annual report for the Hopkins Fire Department for the year 2019. This year in review compares the past 12 months with previous years. Fire Departments across the nation and the State of Minnesota are no longer just responding to fires, and the Hopkins Fire Department is no exception. *(For a full list of the services the department provides, see page 14.)*



In 2019, we presented our strategic plan that will paint a path for the future of the Hopkins Fire Department. The department continues to place a strong emphasis on fire prevention and maintains a focus on inspections. Through the efforts of Fire Marshal Garrett Grniet, effective fire and life safety inspections, pre-planning, public education and public relations continue to be conducted throughout Hopkins. These efforts help to make Hopkins a safe community.

Training is also a focus. Thanks to the work of Assistant Chief of Operations/Training Mike Wenshau, Training Captain Paul Odden and Lieutenant Derek Mann, highly skilled firefighters serve the Hopkins Fire Department. Our training covers firefighting, all types of rescue, medical, hazardous materials and other special skills. The members and officers of the department devote much additional time and effort in developing firefighting, leadership and management skills to more effectively lead the department. In addition, the department's State Chemical Assessment Team (CAT) continues to train and be ready for response to any incidents in our response area thanks to the efforts of Assistant Chief Jim Scanlon.

I would like to express my utmost thanks to the members of the Hopkins Fire Department, who carry out dedicated and effective service day and night. They provide unselfish and dedicated response, training and prevention 24 hours a day. It is the efforts of this group, combined with the efforts of others, that have allowed us to meet our accomplishments noted within this report. Additionally, I would like to acknowledge the families of the members of the Hopkins Fire Department. They are the true heroes of our department. They sacrifice as much, if not more, than our members and for that we are thankful.

I would also like to express thanks to our administrative specialist Courtney Pearsall for her dedicated efforts that happen behind the scenes and may go unnoticed, and to the City Council and all City staff who have been so supportive and have assisted the members of the fire department in our accomplishments.

The past year was both busy and challenging. Our fire responses were down from 2018, and both our training hours and public education hours were up. But, the Hopkins Fire Department continues to face increasing adversity today and into the future, including financial stability; all-hazard preparedness and training; recruitment and retention of firefighters and staffing; and increasing training requirements. We are struggling to find men and women who want to be a part of our organization, and will be doing some rebranding and communicating through our website and social media in 2020 to encourage participation.

The personnel of the Hopkins Fire Department continue to perform their duties with the highest regard. Continuing dedication by the personnel to both training and emergency response provides the highest quality emergency response for the citizens of the City of Hopkins.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dale Specken".

Dale Specken
Hopkins Fire Chief
February 2019





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SUPPRESSION

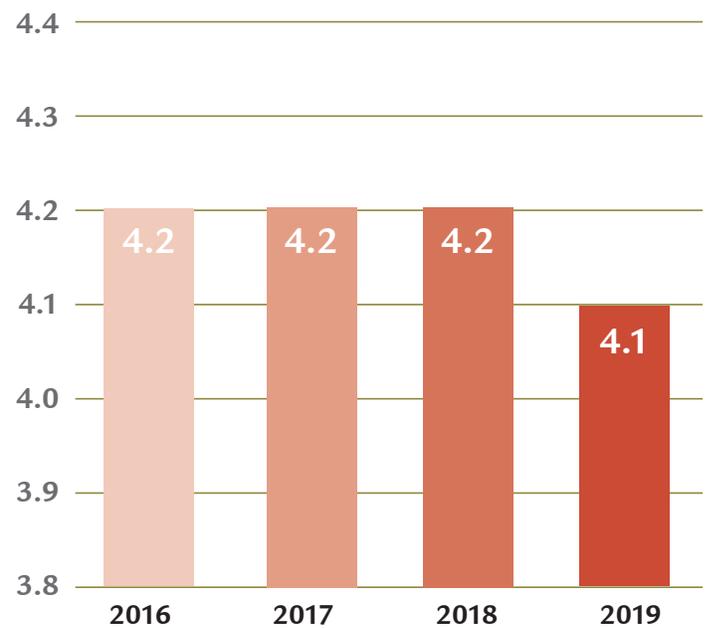
In 2019, the Hopkins Fire Department responded to fires, fire alarms, gas leaks, gas line breaks, smoke, and downed or arcing wires. The data for fire call responses is listed below and detailed in the charts on these two pages.



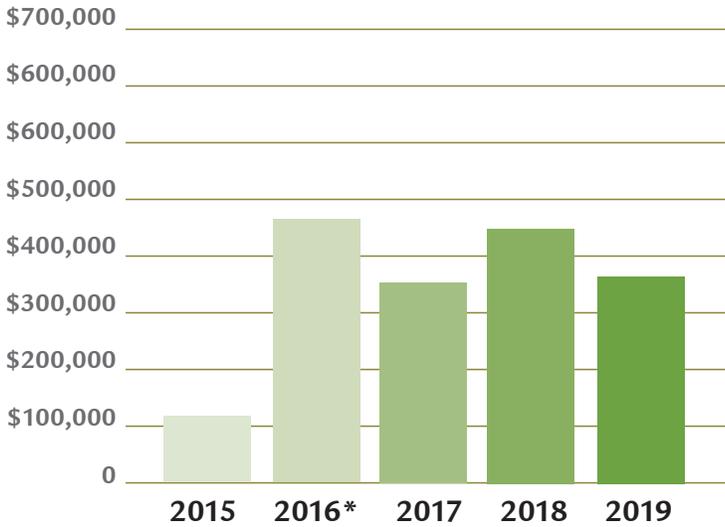
2019 Call Responses

Home Fires	12
Other Structure Fires	13
Total Structure Fires	25
Car Fires	6
Non Structure Fires	8
Total Fires	39
Hazardous Condition	45
Service Calls	27
Good Intentions	46
False Alarms	29

Average Response Times (Minutes)



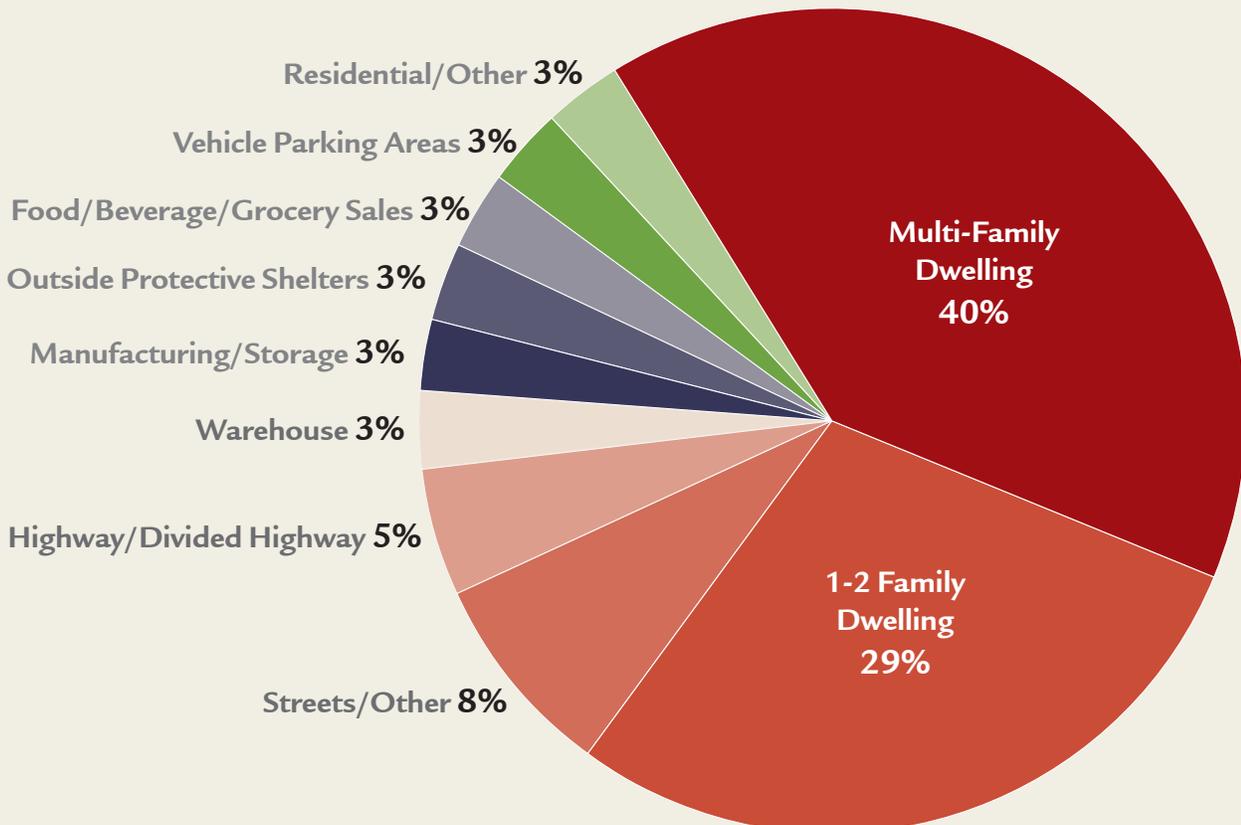
Dollar Loss



*Does not include dollar loss from Jacob's Trading fire, which totaled \$25 million



2019 Fires by Occupancy



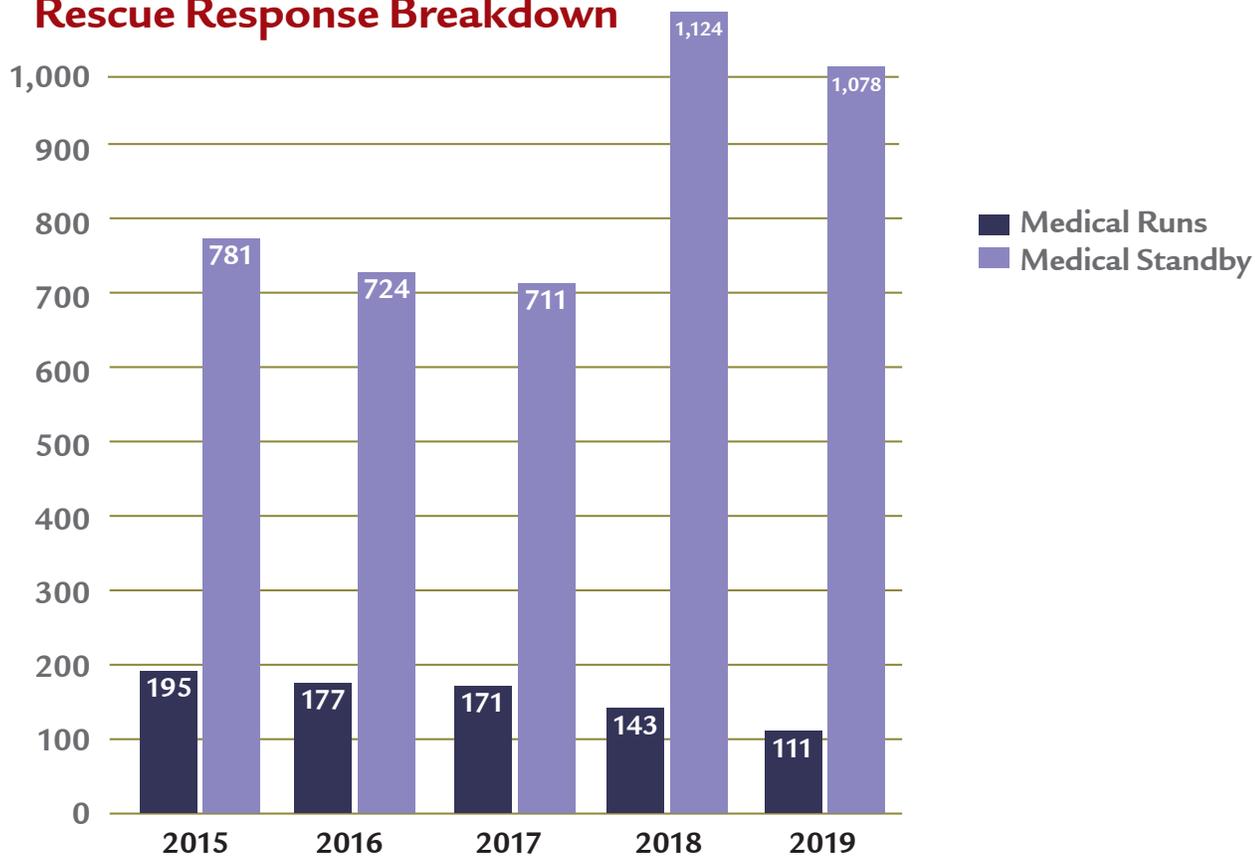
RESCUE



The Hopkins Fire Department responded to medical calls and crashes, and provided personnel to ride along in the ambulance with critical patients. It also assisted police departments when additional personnel was needed to provide lift assist to citizens and responded to mental health incidents.

The fire department provides duty crew response Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday night from 7 p.m. to 3 a.m., and Saturday from 1 p.m. to 3 a.m.

Rescue Response Breakdown

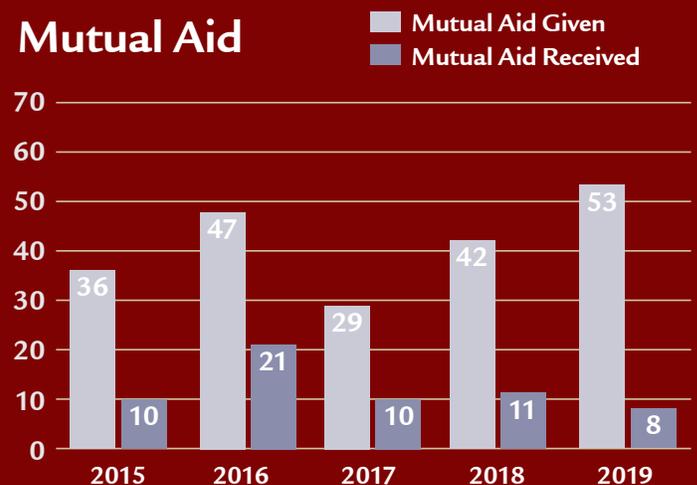


SPECIAL RESPONSE

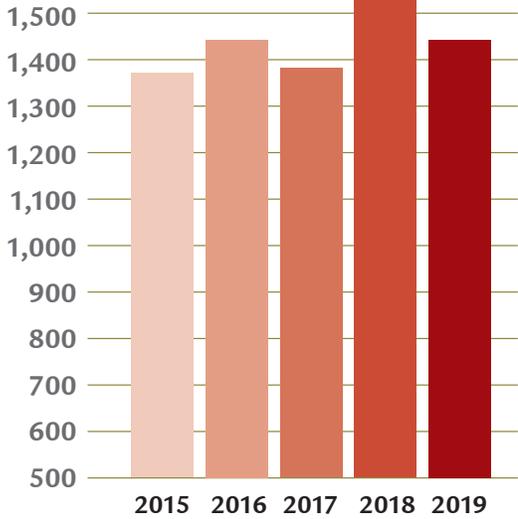
In addition to fire and medical calls, the Hopkins Fire Department provided **weather stand-by** at the fire station and responded to **incidents resulting from severe weather**. It also responded to **missing persons** and **hazmat incidents**, including gas spills, leaks and carbon monoxide alarms.

Additionally, the Hopkins Fire Department responded to mutual aid and auto aid calls for assistance to other cities and agencies.

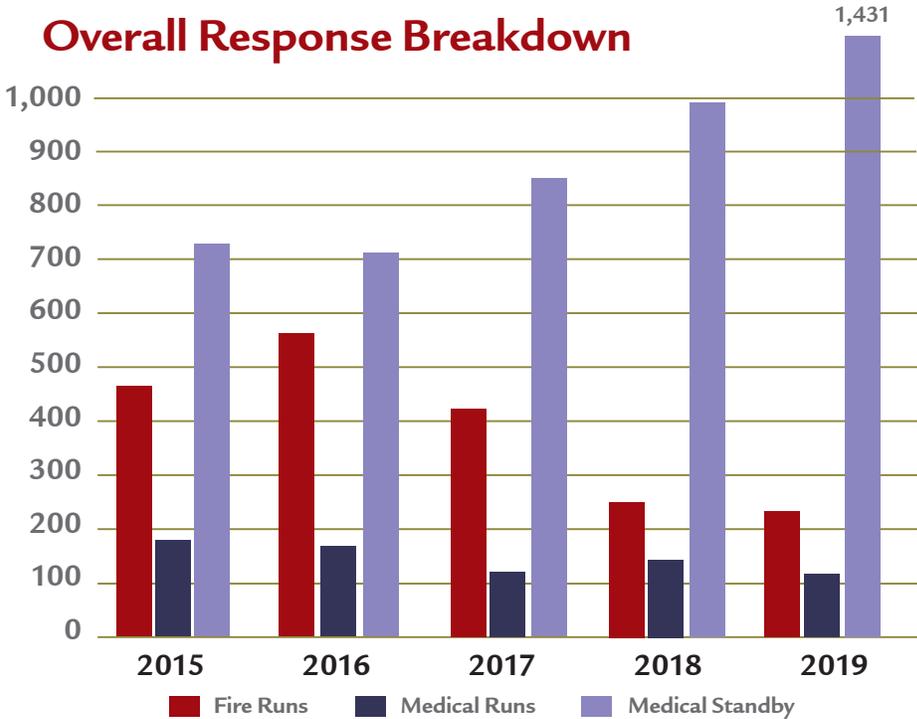
Mutual Aid



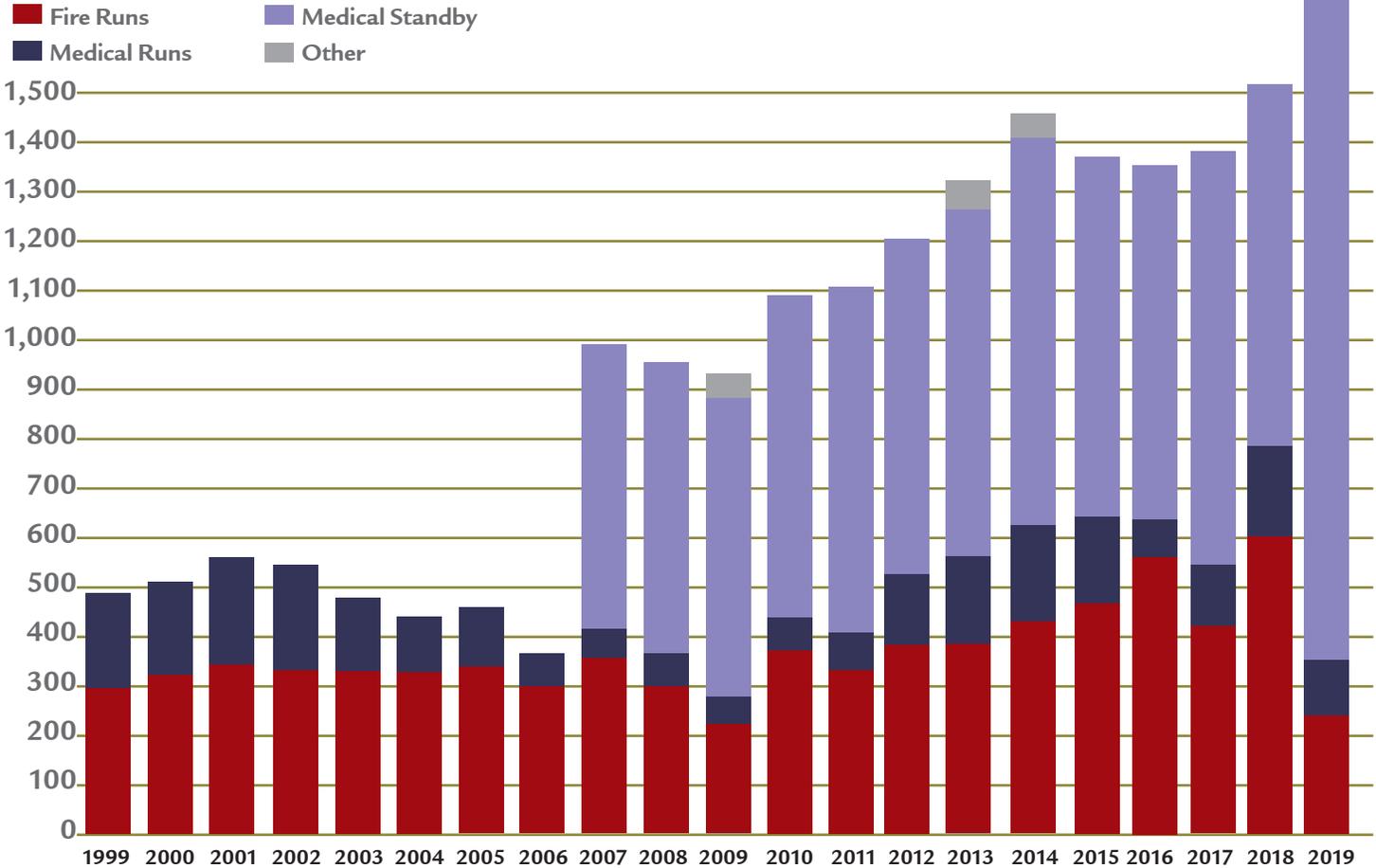
Total Calls



Overall Response Breakdown



20-Year Comparison - Total Call Breakdown



PREVENTION



2019 Public Education Events Per Month



In 2019, the Hopkins Fire Department's prevention activities included coordinating and conducting the following events and activities:

- Fire Department Open House
- Training in the schools
- Station tours
- Public education CPR classes
- Fire investigations
- Home fire safety inspections
- Fire extinguisher training for the public
- Life safety classes:
 - Scout badges
 - Fire safety
 - First aid
- Business/industry fire and life safety training

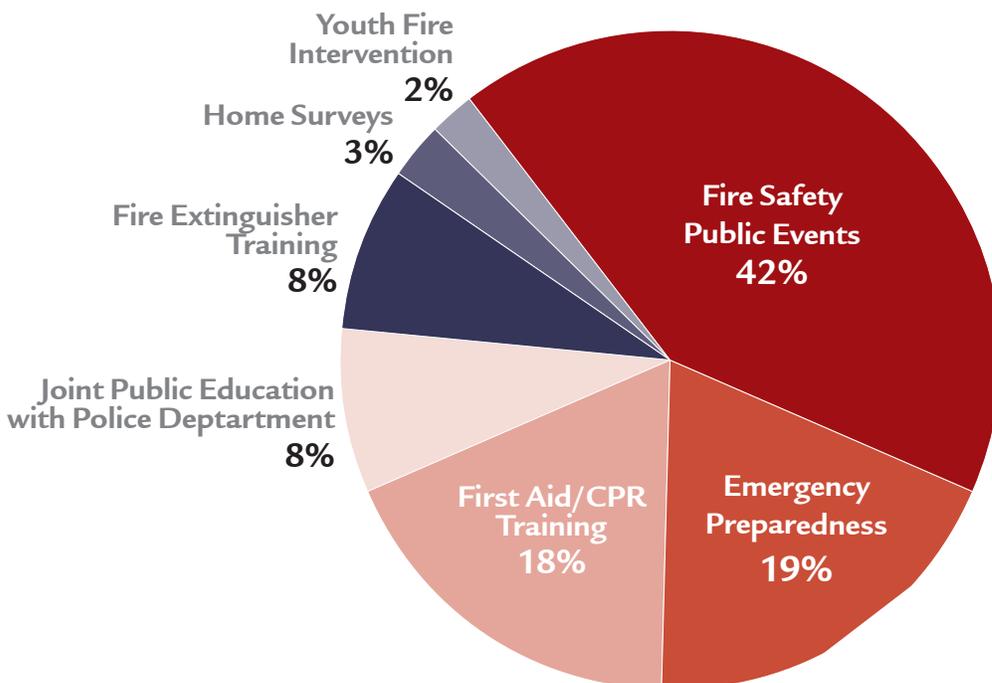


The Hopkins Fire Department participated in the following special events in 2019, continuing to develop special event plans for those events requiring more strategy.

- Activity Center Health Fair
- Block Parties
- Boy Scout/Girl Scout Tours
- CPR/AED Training for Business and Public
- Firefighter Day at the Capitol
- Fire and Police Safety Day
- Fire Department Open House
- Fire Prevention VIP Events
- Fire Truck Ride to School
- Funerals
- Home Remodeling Fair
- Juvenile Firesetters Program
- Mainstreet Days
- MN Fallen Firefighter Memorial at the State Capitol
- National Night Out
- Parades
 - Interlachen 4th of July Parade
 - Raspberry Festival Grande Day Parade
 - Avenues Parade
- Park Valley and Knollwood Picnics
- Raspberry Family Days
- School District Activities / Fire Safety Camp



2019 Public Relations — By Category



APPARATUS

The Hopkins Fire Department maintains and repairs the apparatus fleet pictured below:

Engines	Engine 3
Aerial	Ladder 7, Ladder 9
Rescues	Rescue 8
Duty Vehicle	Squad 4

Chief Vehicle	Squad 1, 2, 3, 4
Utility	Utility 1
Hazmat	Hazmat 23



Engine 3



Ladder 7



Rescue 8



Squad 1, 3 and 4



Utility 1 and Squad 2



Hazmat 23

In addition to apparatus maintenance, the Hopkins Fire Department maintains, repairs and conducts monthly checks of the following equipment:

- Air Monitors
- Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBAs)
- Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs)
- Extrication Tools
- K-12 Saw and Chainsaws
- Small Engines
- SCBA Fill Station and Compressor
- Thermal Imaging Cameras

The department also coordinates and conducts annual testing on all:

- Apparatus and spare hoses
- Ladders on all apparatus
- SCBAs
- Firefighter personal protective equipment

The department maintains a Lucas Device (CPR Machine), and provides maintenance and coordinates rental of oxygen bottles for both the police and fire departments.



Thermal Imager



Apartment Packs



Fan



Extrication Tools



Set of Irons (Halligan Tool and Axe)

TRAINING



The Hopkins Fire Department is committed to training in all areas of service. In 2019, the department:

- Developed and implemented a training plan
- Planned and conducted weekly drills for 12 months
- Attended conferences and sectional schools to enhance firefighter, leadership, and technical rescue skills and abilities
- Coordinated and sent firefighters to Firefighter 1 (FFI) Training
- Conducted Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) refresher training
- Developed and conducted specific fire officer training
- Conducted annual medical surveillance and fit testing for all firefighters
- Conducted hazmat, bloodborne pathogens and confined space awareness training
- Conducted pumps training
- Conducted training in the National Incident Management System (NIMS)
- Conducted driving drills to maintain and enhance emergency vehicle operations
- Developed and conducted new elected officials orientation for new council members
- Conducted fitness and safety training, and promoted fitness improvement
- Participated in Incident Management Team (IMT) training
- Coordinated and sent members to outside of department training
- Participated in Joint Operations Training

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Strategic efforts to be prepared for emergency situations continued in 2019. These activities included:

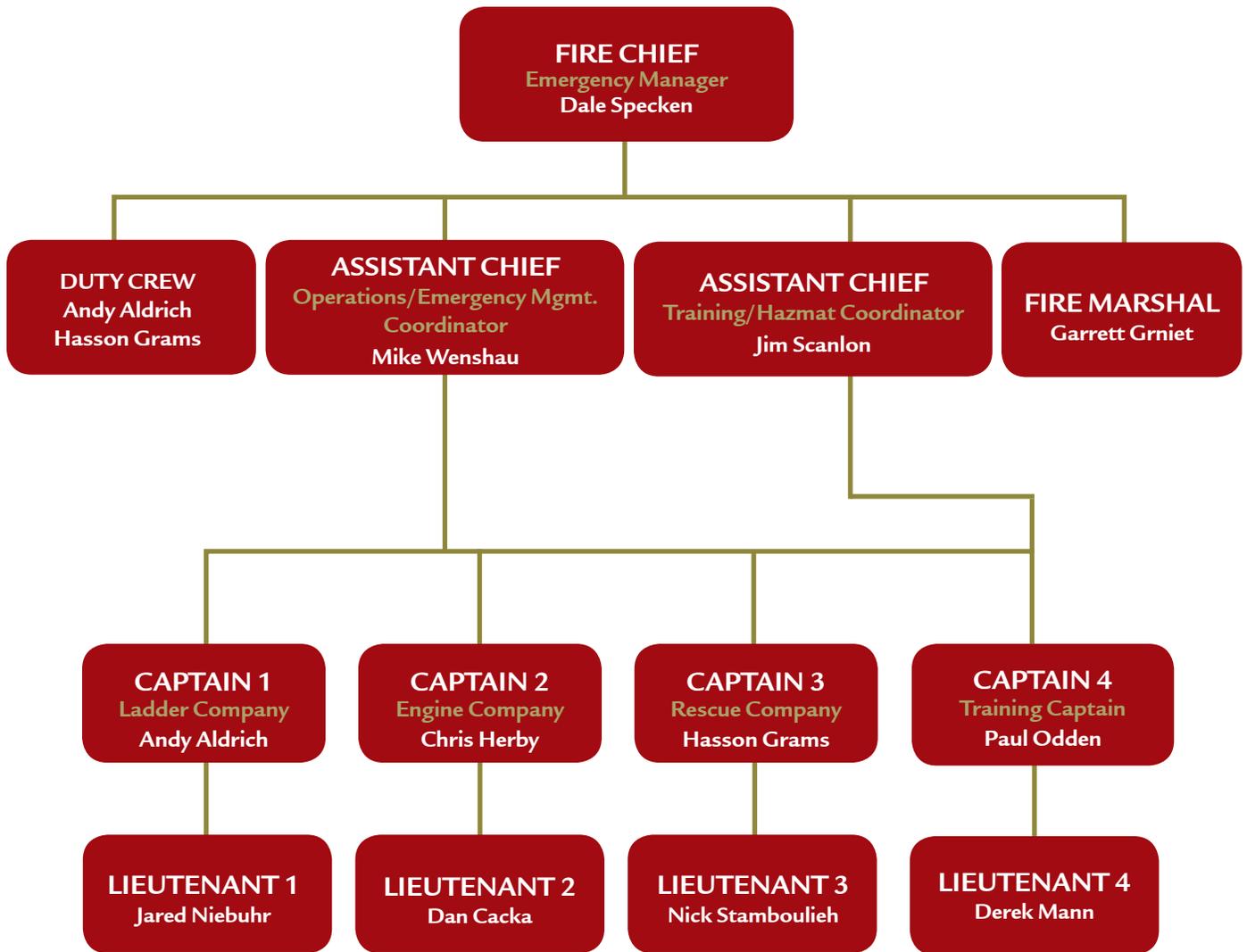
- Participating in South West Emergency Management Group meetings and Hennepin County Emergency Management meetings
- Serving in a coordinator role with police in the area emergency management program
- Delivering overall emergency management orientation to newly-elected officials
- Emergency Management Assistance Compact training and coordination with the state
- Participating in the All Hazards Incident Management Training
- Conducting monthly training for Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
- Developing a Mitigation Strategies Plan for the City of Hopkins for the Hennepin County Mitigation Plan
- Continuing the assessment and completion of an effective Emergency Operations Center (EOC). This included:
 - Purchasing equipment to create effective operations in the room
 - Conducting ongoing testing of operations in the EOC
 - Coordinating and conducting awareness training for administrators and public works staff on EOC set-up and operations



In 2019, Hopkins Fire Department Administration continued to forge partnerships with other cities and associations, secure grants, manage budgets and personnel, and keep the department prepared and fit to provide excellent public safety service for the citizens of Hopkins. Specific activities included:

- Conducting four business meetings with Hopkins Fire Department personnel
- Developing and operating within the 2019 Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Program
- Developing the 2019 Operating Budget and Equipment Replacement Budget
- Researching, evaluating and dealing with personnel issues
- Finalizing and implementing the updates to the Standard Operating Procedures/Standard Operating Guidelines for the Hopkins Fire Department
- Participating in multiple community meetings that included cities, businesses, schools and community associations
- Coordinating and participating in multiple public safety meetings with area fire, police and EMS teams
- Providing development and delivery of training with the Hennepin County Fire Chiefs Association
- Participating in Hennepin County Life Safety Unit meetings and equipment upgrades
- Reviewing mutual aid agreements with local, regional, state and national areas
- Assisting other agencies with the recruitment and promotional process
- Conducting a recognition event for firefighters
- Attending state and local meetings
- Participating in the following associations:
 - Hennepin County Fire Chiefs
 - S.W. Joint Operations Group
 - Metro Fire Chiefs
 - United Firefighters
 - Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association
 - Minnesota Fire Department Association
 - South West Emergency Management Group
 - Association of Minnesota Emergency Managers
 - Southwest Fire Marshals Group
 - South Emergency Managers Group
- Implementing enhanced communications within and outside of the fire department by:
 - Utilizing a weekly email update to the firefighters
 - Conducting monthly officer meetings
 - Problem-solving and developing operational improvements for the department's computer systems
- Attending funerals of retired Hopkins Fire Department firefighters, retired firefighters' family members and community members
- Participating in meetings with the Joint Powers Agreement for turnout gear

FIRE DEPARTMENT BREAKDOWN



FIRE SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Response – Fires, emergency medical services (EMS), personal injury crashes, hazardous materials, natural disasters, heavy rescues, terrorism, grass fires, mass casualties, high angle rescues, and confined space rescues
- Investigations – Fire cause and origin, arson investigation
- Fire Code – Adoption, inspection, plan review, enforcement, education
- Public Education – Working with children, schools, homeowners, elderly, business owners
- Public Relations – Parades, open houses, National Night Out, Citizens Assist
- Planning – Emergency preparedness, pandemic flu, anti-terrorism, special events

CITY OF HOPKINS DEMOGRAPHICS



Population	18,500
Area	4 square miles
Community Parks	15
Total Housing Units	8,390

Unique Areas/Businesses

- Regional Trail – LRT
- Hopkins Center for the Arts
- Multiple special events
- Historical Society
- Adult care facilities
- Pavilion
- Nature areas

Total Schools.....7

- Public (2)
 - Alice Smith Elementary
 - Eisenhower Elementary
- Private (5)
 - Chesterton Academy
 - Ubah Medical Academy
 - Harley Hopkins
 - The Blake School
 - Adult Options

**THE HOPKINS
FIRE DEPARTMENT
WILL PROVIDE
QUALITY FIRE RESPONSE,
PREVENTION SERVICES,
EMERGENCY MEDICAL,
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
THAT MAKE A POSITIVE
DIFFERENCE EVERY DAY.**