

LIVERMORE-PLEASANTON  
FIRE DEPARTMENT  
ANNUAL REPORT

2024



# Chief's Message

I am pleased to present the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department's (LPFD) 2024 Annual Report. The LPFD continues to be a leader in the fire service and to tackle new challenges with innovation and enthusiasm. This is only possible through the amazing team at the LPFD. Between Firefighters and Fire Inspectors, the LPFD has over 90% of its staff directly serving the community. Our focus remains on serving you.

The LPFD entered the last year of its 5-year Strategic Plan in 2024. As a part of that plan, and to prepare for the next 5 years, the LPFD completed a Community Risk Assessment. This is a study that looks at the risk to the community, the service level expectations of stakeholders and the LPFD's ability to deliver service.

In 2025, the results of this study will be shared with stakeholders, and in the areas needed, strategic planning will take place to align service expectations with LPFD's capabilities.

On a personal note, this will be the final time I deliver an annual report message as your Fire Chief, as I will be retiring from the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department after 29 years of service. The cities are committed to working collaboratively to recruit a new Chief who embodies the values of both communities and the Joint Powers Authority. I am confident that LPFD will attract a leader of the highest caliber, and I look forward to welcoming the department's seventh Fire Chief to this exceptional organization.

On behalf of all the members of the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department, we thank you for your support. The LPFD could not do the work we do without the unwavering support of the Mayors, City Councils, city staff and the community.



Sincerely,

Chief Joe Testa

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read "J. Testa".

**Integrity – Duty – Courage – Honor – Professionalism**

## LPFD Accomplishments

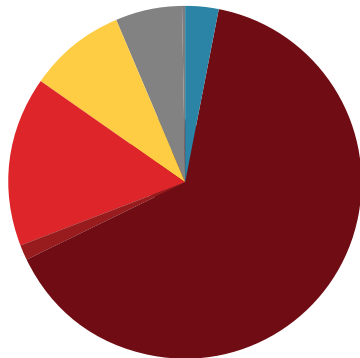


Completed **Community Risk Assessment and Standards of Cover (CRA/SOC)**, a comprehensive analysis of local hazards, service demands, and response capabilities. This essential planning tool helps ensure resources are aligned with community needs and supports data-driven decisions for future growth and service delivery.



# Year in Review

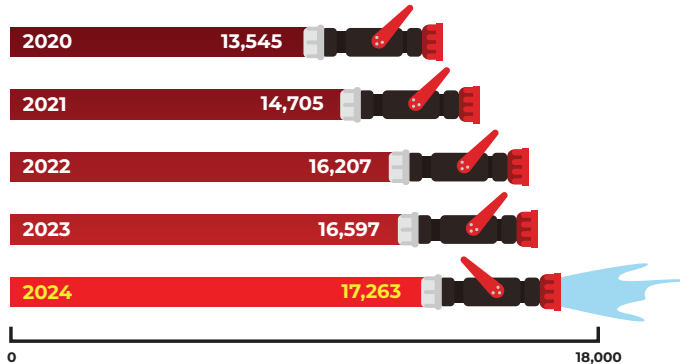
**17,263** Calls for Service (excluding Auto Aid)



## 2024 INCIDENT BREAKDOWN

- **562** Fire Incidents
- **11,184** Emergency Medical Incidents
- **226** Hazardous Conditions Incidents
- **3** Explosions / Ruptures
- **2,673** Good Intent
- **1,525** Public Assist
- **1,068** False Alarms
- **22** Weather and Other

## 5-Year Call Volume



## Understanding Incident Call Volume

In 2024, the LPFD responded to 17,263 total incidents. While this number represents the total calls we were dispatched to and generated reports for, it does not fully capture the scope and intensity of our operational activity. Many incidents—especially complex emergencies such as structure fires—require a multi-unit response.

For example, a confirmed structure fire may involve five or more LPFD units on scene, each with a distinct role, such as fire suppression, search and rescue, ventilation, incident command, and medical support. Although each would be noted as a single incident, the actual deployment of resources is significantly greater.

In addition, the LPFD operates under an automatic aid agreement with Alameda County Fire (ACFD), allowing agencies to seamlessly support one another across jurisdictional boundaries. While this system improves response times and public safety, differences in records management systems between agencies means that the LPFD is unable to fully track all calls handled by ACFD. As a result, our reported call volume does not fully reflect the total number of emergency responses that the LPFD responds to.

## Average Response Time

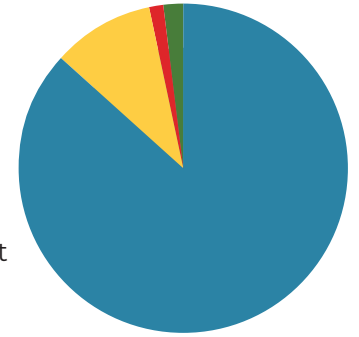


# Budget







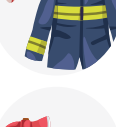

Livermore and Pleasanton are each responsible for paying their share of the overall expenses, which cover key areas such as administration, fire prevention, operations, and support services. Additionally, Livermore and Pleasanton manage their own fleet and facilities, with input and guidance provided by our team to support effective asset management.

## 2024 Budget

- **\$45,353,228**  
Personnel
- **\$5,191,871**  
Service and Supplies
- **\$685,700**  
Equipment Replacement
- **\$1,000,000**  
One-time Expenditures







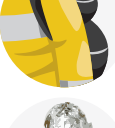
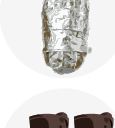

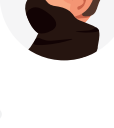
## Firefighter Equipment

-  **Helmet: \$2,000**
-  **SCBA Mask: \$465**
-  **Hood: \$136**
-  **Turnout set: \$4,700**
-  **Structure Gloves: \$130**
-  **Structure Boots: \$670**
-  **Flashlights & Coat: \$130**
-  **Axe Belt: \$230**

**Total: \$8,461**



## Wildland Firefighter Equipment

-  **Helmet & Shroud: \$167**
-  **Goggles: \$125**
-  **Wildland Top & Pants: \$865**
-  **Gloves: \$60**
-  **Mystery Ranch Pack: \$310**
-  **Shelter: \$741**
-  **Haix Boot: \$400**
-  **Hot Shield: \$99**

**Total: \$2,767**





# Strategic Communications and Engagement

LPFD elevated its internal and external communications to strengthen community connection and staff engagement.

## Quarterly Newsletters

Launched and maintained a consistent newsletter to share department updates, employee spotlights, training highlights, and community engagement efforts with both internal staff and the public.



Scan here to view the latest issue!

## Annual Report

Developed a comprehensive and visually engaging annual report to highlight the LPFD's operational achievements, special programs, and strategic goals.



## Chief's Chat

Introduced a new communication channel from leadership, offering regular updates and open dialogue on department priorities, initiatives, and news.

## Enhanced Online Presence

Increased social media activity and website content to provide timely updates, promote public safety messaging, and showcase the Department's work and culture.



# LPFD Accomplishments



Upgraded communications system to **AT&T FirstNet**, a network designed exclusively for first responders. This enhancement ensures crews stay connected during major emergencies, even when regular networks are congested, helping us respond faster and more effectively when it matters most.

# Emergency Medical Services

The EMS Program continued to enhance the quality of prehospital care through key initiatives and advancements.

One major improvement was the successful **trial implementation of the McGrath Mac Video Laryngoscope (VL)**. By improving airway management capabilities, the VL supports more effective treatment in critical medical emergencies and builds greater confidence among field personnel.

These efforts reflect the LFPD's continued commitment to clinical excellence, innovation, and high-quality emergency medical care for the communities of Livermore and Pleasanton.



**Total EMS Calls:**

**2023: 10,763**

**2024: 11,184**

## Lifesaving Response Recognized



On December 19, Firefighter-Paramedic Daniel Estrada was honored by the Alameda County Emergency Medical Services Agency for his swift and skilled response during a life-threatening medical emergency.

When responding to a call involving an 82-year-old woman, Firefighter-Paramedic Estrada quickly recognized the signs of a possible stroke. Relying on his advanced training and experience, he initiated immediate, life-saving interventions.

Thanks to his decisive actions, and the seamless coordination of the responding crew, the patient was rapidly transported to a nearby hospital, where she received prompt treatment. She made a full recovery and was later discharged without any lasting effects.

This incident is a powerful example of the expertise, compassion, and dedication that define the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department. Firefighter-Paramedic Estrada's recognition highlights the exceptional care our employees deliver to the community every day.

# Special Programs

Special programs strengthen our connection with the community and honor the traditions of the fire service.

## LPFD Honor Guard

While Honor and Color Guards are often associated with branches of the military, fire departments around the world have adopted these traditions over the past several decades.

Retired Deputy Chief Tom Bramell launched the LPFD's Honor Guard program. Since its inception, the team has proudly represented the department at events such as the annual 9/11 Commemoration Ceremony, promotional ceremonies, and memorial services held in honor of past members.

Today, the LPFD Honor Guard is proudly served by several dedicated members of the organization who take great pride in upholding the tradition and representing the department with honor.



## 2024 Mutual Aid Deployments

The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department participated in multiple statewide mutual aid responses in 2024, providing critical support during a particularly active fire season. These responses are **reimbursable by the State of California**, allowing the department to assist in times of need while maintaining fiscal responsibility.

California Office of Emergency Services Engine 340, was deployed to the **Shelly Fire** in Siskiyou County.

The unit subsequently responded to the **Gold Complex** and was assigned to the **Park Fire** near Chico, the largest fire of the season and the **fourth largest in California history**, burning **429,603 acres** and destroying over **700 structures**.

In **November**, Engine 97 was deployed to the **Mountain Fire** in Southern California.

Additionally, one LPFD member served on a **California Incident Management Team**, deployed to the **French Fire** in Mariposa County and the **White** and **Rancho Fires** in the Tehachapi Mountains.

These deployments reflect the LPFD's continued commitment to the statewide mutual aid system, helping protect communities across California while gaining valuable experience that enhances our local readiness.



# Fire Prevention Division

The Fire Prevention Division is critical in ensuring community safety by overseeing the design, installation, and maintenance of fire and life safety systems in new and existing buildings.

A few examples of the work that was completed was the construction of the Fairfield Inn and Suites in Livermore and the successful completion of the Costco in Pleasanton. Both large-scale developments involved complex fire and life safety systems, requiring close coordination and detailed oversight by both Fire and Hazardous Materials Inspectors.

## Fairfield Inn and Suites in Livermore

**Inspectors** provided oversight of these key systems:

- Fire Sprinkler System
- Fire Alarm System
- In-room Smoke Detection
- Emergency Evacuation Maps

Now that these systems are operational, the Fire Prevention Division will continue to **conduct regular inspections** to ensure ongoing compliance and proper maintenance in accordance with safety codes and standards.



## Costco in Pleasanton

**Inspectors** provided oversight of these key systems:

- Underground fire mains
- Five fire sprinkler systems
- Two fire alarm systems (store and fueling center)
- Fire pump
- Emergency Responder Radio Coverage System
- Two kitchen fire suppression systems
- High-piled combustible storage
- Smoke and heat vent systems
- Underground storage tank system for the fueling center
- Underground Storage Tank (UST) system for the fueling center
- Aboveground Storage Tanks (AST) for fire pump fuel and cooking grease waste
- Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) storage and detection systems

## STATISTICS

- 1,418** Annual Fire Inspection Permits Completed
- 883** Violations Identified/Remedied
- 171** Staff Reviews for future projects
- 385** In-house Plan Checks

- 1,162** Construction Oversight Inspections
- 356** Construction Projects Finalized
- 105** Fire Permits Issued
- 153** Community Service Requests

# Training Division

## Training • Recruitment • Evaluation

The Training Division plays a critical role in ensuring all personnel are prepared to respond effectively to a wide range of emergencies. The Division designs, implements and oversees comprehensive training programs aligned with local, state and national standards.

LFPD launched Academy 2024-01, marking a significant milestone as the first academy conducted in partnership with Las Positas College. Eleven recruits completed 18 weeks of training at the college, followed by four additional weeks at LFPD's training facility in Pleasanton.

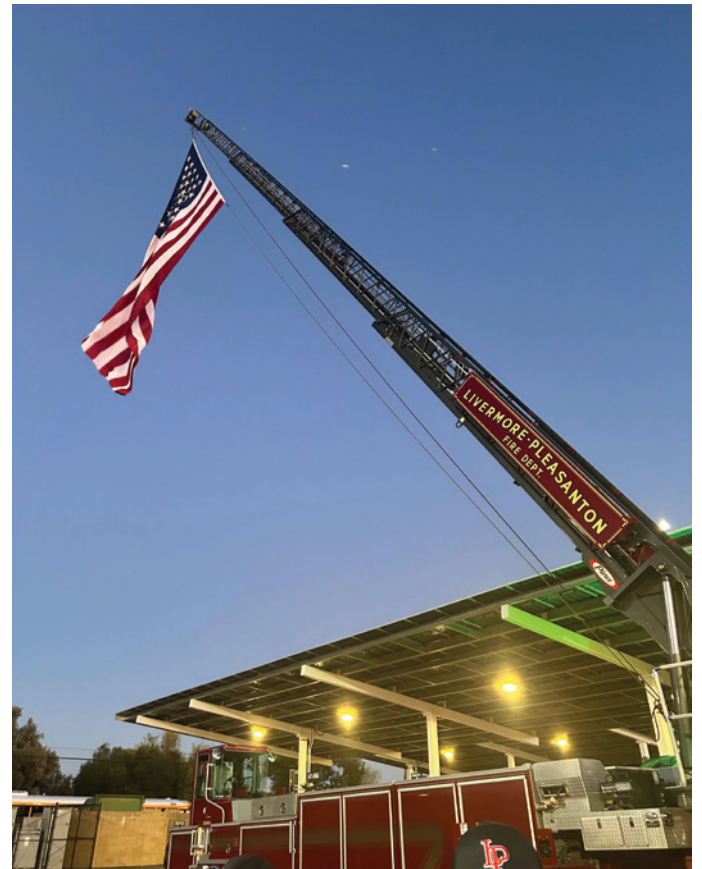


## Training Division Highlights

The Training Division supported department-wide readiness and professional growth through a range of key accomplishments.

- The LFPD personnel completed a total of **18,419 hours** of training.
- A **Battalion Chief Academy** was facilitated for seven Fire Captains, all of whom completed the program. The academy combined classroom instruction with two 12-hour ride-alongs with on-duty Battalion Chiefs to provide real-world leadership experience.
- **Ten firefighters** participated in the Engineer promotional exam — the **highest number in over eight years**. Nine candidates passed and were promoted.
- The LFPD proudly served as the **host agency for the Bay Area Fire Conference**, welcoming attendees from **all corners of the United States**, along with a delegation of firefighters from Mexico.

These training efforts reflect the Department's ongoing commitment to developing future leaders and fostering excellence in fire service.



# Emergency Preparedness

## Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

The CERT Program empowers community members with the skills and confidence to respond effectively during emergencies. The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department proudly hosted two CERT sessions, one in the fall and another in the spring, providing hands-on training in disaster preparedness, basic medical aid, fire safety, and search and rescue. This vital program strengthens community resilience and builds a strong network of trained volunteers ready to support their neighbors and first responders when it matters most.

### STATISTICS

- 59** 2024 CERT Class Graduates
- 207** Active/Semi-Active members
- 101** volunteer opportunities resulting in
- 3,075** volunteer hours in 2023

These numbers reflect the ongoing dedication of CERT volunteers in supporting community preparedness and emergency response throughout Livermore and Pleasanton.



# Fire Safety Expo

## A Community Celebration of Safety, Service, and Engagement

The **Fire Safety Expo** was a tremendous success, bringing together over **1,800 community members** for a day filled with education, engagement, and hands-on experiences centered around fire safety and emergency preparedness.

The event offered participants a chance to learn critical fire prevention information, ranging from **kitchen safety tips** to **wildland fire readiness**. Interactive demonstrations and educational displays helped families of all ages better understand how to protect their homes and loved ones.

A key contributor to the event's success was the presence and support of our dedicated **CERT volunteers**. In addition to showcasing the CERT Program and encouraging community involvement, volunteers provided valuable on-the-ground support throughout the day.



The Fire Safety Expo also featured the participation of key partners, including:

**Las Positas College Fire Service Technology Program**

**Livermore Police Department**

**Pleasanton Police Department**

These agencies joined the LPFD in offering information and demonstrations focused on **community safety, emergency response, and public awareness**.

A highlight of the morning was the beloved **pancake breakfast**, prepared and served by the **Livermore-Pleasanton FireFighters Foundation**. Their efforts helped kick off the event with a strong sense of community spirit and hospitality.

The Fire Safety Expo not only educated and empowered residents but also reinforced the strong partnerships that make our communities safer, stronger, and more connected. We look forward to continuing this tradition in the years to come.

# Recognition Ceremony

In September, the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department held a special ceremony to honor the graduates of Academy 24-01, celebrate recent promotions, and recognize distinguished service award recipients. The event was well-attended by family, friends, and colleagues, creating a meaningful opportunity to reflect on the accomplishments of our personnel and express pride in the dedication and excellence that define our organization.

## Academy 2024-01 Graduates

Blake Babbitt	Chase Rochin
Christopher Hard	Benny Sanchez
Zachary Knox-Wrobel	Jeremy Silva
Jeremy Nelson	Taylor Thompson
Kyle O'Connor	Ezra Zamora
Scott Petersen	



## Annual Service Award Recipients

**FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR**  
Frank Nasca

**FIREFIGHTER-PARAMEDIC OF THE YEAR**  
Derek Green

**PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR**  
Monique McLaughlin

**RESERVE FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR**  
Chaye Cliff

## VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Janet Vigallon

## FIRE EXPLORER OF THE YEAR

CJ Johnson



## LPFD Appointment

**Fire Inspector:** Tyler Hays



## LPFD Promotions

### ENGINEERS:

Nathan Bassignani  
Gerard Elong  
Chase Herring  
Alex Hickerson  
Justin McKenzie  
David Rudberg  
Andrew Ruiz  
James Schulz  
Eugene Smith

### CAPTAINS:

Brian Chapin  
Sabel Maguire  
Grant Sine  
Kyle Suchland  
Russell Williams

### BATTALION

### CHIEFS:

Frank Nasca  
Matt Thau

# Employee Spotlight

## Blake Babbitt Receives Prestigious Dennis Laurence Award

The Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department is proud to recognize Firefighter-Paramedic Blake Babbitt as the recipient of the Dennis Laurence Award for the LPFD 2024-1 Fire Academy. This esteemed award, determined by a peer vote, is given to the recruit who best embodies the values exemplified by late Deputy Chief Dennis Laurence, including leadership and a commitment to excellence.

A Livermore native and Granada High School graduate, Blake began his fire service journey as a reserve firefighter with LPFD from 2011 to 2015. After briefly working with other departments, he returned to LPFD in 2024. Returning to the department that first inspired his passion for the fire service has been deeply meaningful to him, as he now works alongside some of his earliest mentors.

Receiving the Dennis Laurence Award has been a humbling honor and a career milestone. He hopes to uphold Chief Laurence's legacy throughout his time

with the LPFD. Reflecting on his journey, he offers this advice to aspiring firefighters: "Work hard, set goals, be passionate about the job, care for others and yourself and build strong relationships."

Please join us in congratulating Blake Babbitt on this well-deserved recognition!



# LIVERMORE-PLEASANTON FIRE DEPT.

## A Message from Our Team

As we reflect on the past year's accomplishments, the Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department remains steadfast in our commitment to advancing the organization's mission and preparing for the challenges ahead. We will use the recently completed Community Risk Assessment and Standards of Cover will help inform future planning and enhance service delivery across our communities.

A significant part of this forward momentum includes the development of a new five-year Strategic Plan—an inclusive effort designed to align our goals, priorities, and resources with the evolving needs of those we serve.

We will focus on working collaboratively with internal and external partners to invest in modern facilities and essential equipment, while continuing to support and develop our most valuable asset: our people.

By strengthening partnerships, embracing innovation, and upholding our commitment to excellence, we are building a more resilient and responsive fire department, ready to meet the future with purpose and pride.



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