

DEPARTMENT SUMMARY
FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mission Statement

The mission of the Glendale Fire Department is to prevent or reduce the loss of life and the destruction of property and the environment from fire, medical, hazardous materials and other emergency occurrences.

Department Description

Through nine strategically located fire stations, a Fire Prevention & Environmental Management Center, and the Emergency Operations Center, the Fire Department works to maintain a safe community and contribute to an improved quality of life by providing the highest possible level of emergency services.

Public safety services provided by the Department include: fire prevention and suppression; emergency medical services (paramedics); elimination of fire and life safety hazards in buildings; enforcement of State and City fire codes; hazardous vegetation management; regulation and disclosure of hazardous materials storage, handling and use; underground chemical storage tank inspections and permits; inspections of public assembly facilities and high rise buildings; maintenance of fire protection equipment and systems; disaster preparedness planning; and training of businesses, city staff, neighborhoods and other citizens' groups in disaster preparedness and mitigation.

Relationship to City Strategic Goals
Safe Community

It is the goal of the Glendale Fire Department to ensure that community members and visitors are safe and secure, and that the community is prepared and has the capacity to respond to disasters. We actively work with the community regarding public safety issues.

Major Accomplishments

- During fiscal year 2009, the department's Hazmat Team was "typed" as a California Office of Emergency Services response team available for deployment at any time.
- The Department managed the City's participation in the statewide earthquake preparedness "Golden Guardian" exercise to assess readiness to respond to a major earthquake.
- The Department deployed resources on more than 40 regional fires during what was, arguably, the worst wildfire season in our history.
- The Departments continues to respond to emergencies in Glendale, responding to more than 16,800 incidents in calendar year 2008.
- Verdugo Dispatch began dispatching for the Montebello Fire Department in February 2009.
- Significant progress was made on reorganizing the Verdugo Fire Communication Center's administrative structure and finances.
- Three new fire engines and one Air & Light utility apparatus were purchased and placed into service.

Changes from Prior Year

Budget Changes:

Reimbursement for overtime incurred on mutual aid incidents is now budgeted in Fund 266. This will allow ongoing overtime, used principally to backfill employee leave, to be segregated from extraordinary events such as the statewide fires in 2008.

Overall expenditures have increased for negotiated salary and benefit adjustments.

The Verdugo Fire Communications Center budget has been changed to

reflect the operation of the fund as an enterprise fund for increased transparency and accountability.

Staffing Changes:

The Fire Department's staffing levels reflect the elimination of two sworn positions, Deputy Fire Chief and one Firefighter assigned to Fire Prevention that occurred in March 2009. There is one additional dispatcher position in the Verdugo Fire Communications Center funded by the addition of the City of Montebello to the agencies that we provide dispatch services.

FIRE - GENERAL FUND			
	Actual Expenditures 2007-08	Original Budget 2008-09	Proposed Budget 2009-10
Salaries & Benefits	33,592,996	32,934,059	31,528,585
Maintenance & Operations	4,105,941	3,907,161	4,250,980
Capital Outlay	65,437	95,164	-
Charges - Other Departments	(39,945)	(30,000)	(15,000)
Total Appropriations	37,724,429	36,906,384	35,764,565

FIRE - OTHER FUNDS			
	Actual Expenditures 2007-08	Original Budget 2008-09	Proposed Budget 2009-10
Salaries & Benefits	8,880,062	9,397,843	9,264,181
Maintenance & Operations	7,894,114	7,544,090	8,165,742
Capital Outlay	2,419,300	3,955,722	370,550
Projects	12,581	475,000	-
Transfers to Other Funds	-	100,000	-
Total Appropriations	19,206,058	21,472,655	17,800,473

Future Outlook

As with all City services, the challenge in the coming year will be to manage the Department's resources as effectively as possible, with the recognition that the

Glendale Fire Department is attempting to continue providing the highest quality service in a time of widespread economic hardship.