

POUDRE FIRE AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT **2023** SERVICE ABOVE SELF





A Note from Your Fire Chief

DEAR COMMUNITY MEMBERS,

I am thrilled to share the Poudre Fire Authority's (PFA's) 2023 Annual Report, highlighting a year of remarkable achievements. Our new badge and rank structure has boosted operational effectiveness and provided clear career paths for our firefighters, ensuring opportunities for professional growth. PFA firefighters are well-equipped to deliver the highest level of service to the public, thanks to the diligent efforts of our support staff.

Our community engagement efforts, including events and educational programs, have had a positive impact and strengthened our ties with residents.

The addition of our newly designed red apparatus, showcased in the 2023 Fort Collins Independence Day parade, reflects our commitment to professionalism and staying at the forefront of firefighting technology.

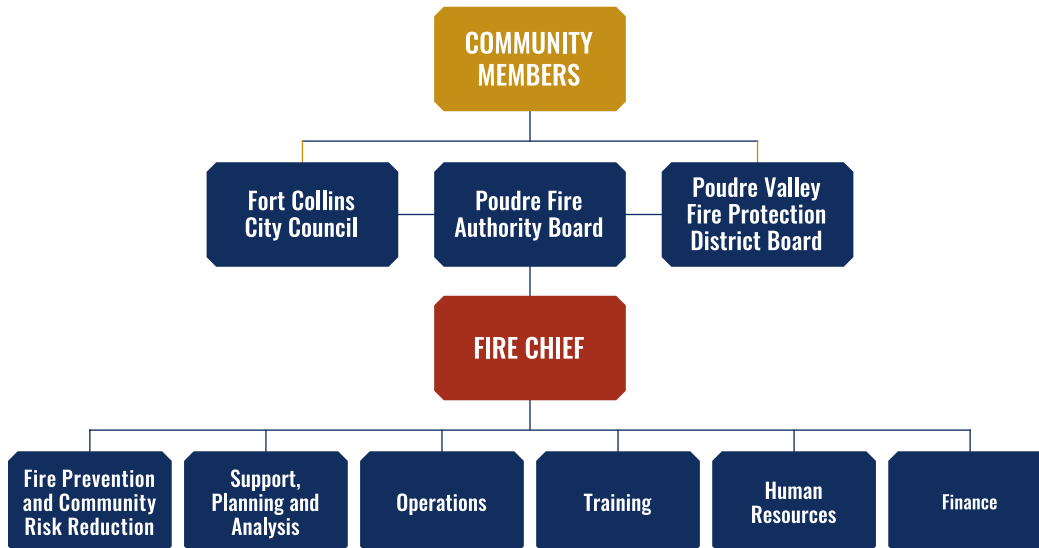
As we move forward, our new Mission, Vision, Principles document continues to shape the Authority's culture, emphasizing values like integrity and teamwork. We are grateful for the unwavering support of our community as well as our board members, and together, we look forward to a promising future of continued excellence in service.

Derek Bergsten | Fire Chief



OUR RANK STRUCTURE

On January 9th of 2023, the new rank structure was implemented, which has improved PFA's organization and opportunity for growth. Three newly formed roles were developed: engineer, lieutenant, and captain.



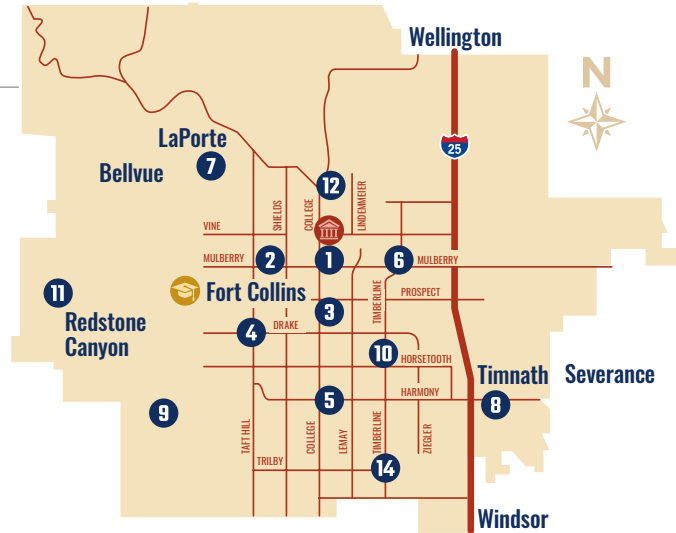
Who We Are

PFA is a partnership of the City of Fort Collins and Poudre Valley Fire Protection District, proudly serving Fort Collins, Timnath, Laporte, Bellvue, Horsetooth, Redstone Canyon, and areas of unincorporated Larimer and Weld counties. Composed of highly trained personnel, PFA is committed to providing exceptional emergency services to protect lives and property in our jurisdiction.

PFA is accredited through the Center for Public Safety Excellence and is committed to public safety through fire suppression and mitigation, hazardous material control, and emergency medical services. Moreover, PFA is an agency that embodies the idea of service above self through public education, appropriate response, and fostering the idea of community.

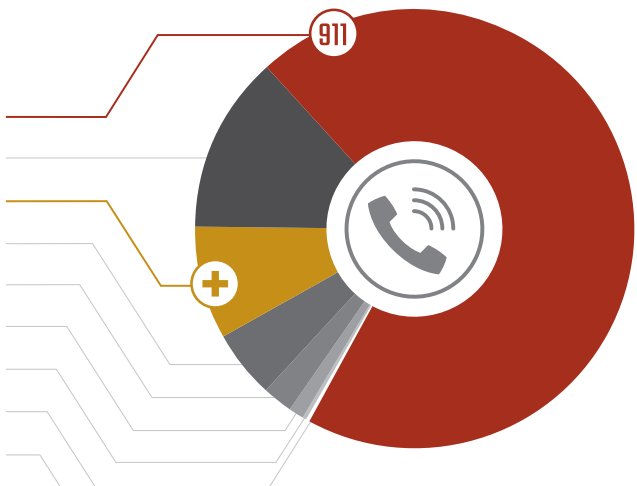
PFA SERVICE AREA 2023 ▶

- 1** Fire Station
- 2** Fire Station
- 3** Fire Station
- 4** Fire Station
- 5** Fire Station
- 6** Fire Station
- 7** Fire Station
- 8** Fire Station
- 9** Volunteer Station
- 10** Fire Station
- 11** Volunteer Station
- 12** Fire Station
- 14** Fire Station
-  Training Center
-  Headquarters



TOTAL SERVICE CALLS 25,349







Rescue & Emergency Medical Calls	17,904
Good Intent Calls.....	3,050
General Service Calls	2,030
False Alarm & False Calls.....	1,436
Hazardous Conditions (No Fire).....	506
Fires.....	287
Special Incident Calls.....	69
Severe Weather & Natural Disasters.....	11
Overpressure Ruptures, Explosions, Overheat (No Fire).....	10



Rescue & Emergency Medical Calls

Emergency Medical Incidents		13,713
Other		2,200
Motor Vehicle Accidents		1,016
Cardiac Arrests		96
Motor Vehicle/Human Accidents		88
Search & Rescue		52

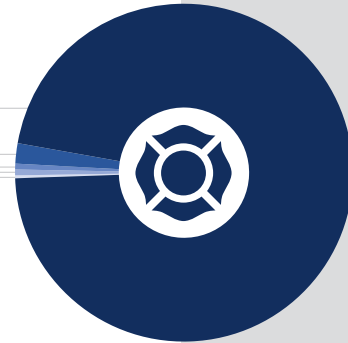
General Service Calls

Lift Assist		912
Other Services		662
Police Department Assist		240
Illegal Fire/Unauthorized Burns		121
Water (Leaks)		102
Animal		39

2023 Budget & Funding Outcomes

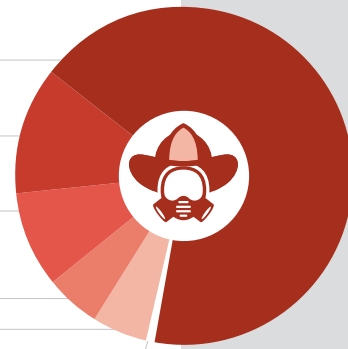
TOTAL REVENUE **\$44,556,506**

Intergovernmental	\$42,988,993
Fees and Charges for Services	\$1,116,024
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$237,489
Earnings on Investments	\$204,000
Licenses and Permits	\$10,000



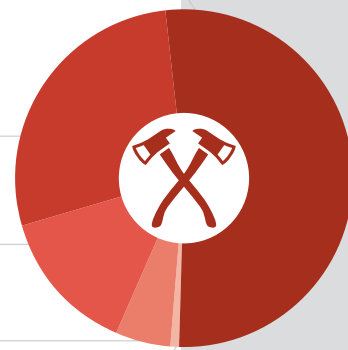
EXPENDITURE – TYPE **\$ 52,206,114**

Salaries & Benefits	\$35,092,219
Transfers to Capital Projects	\$6,377,008
Other Purchased Services	\$4,746,509
Materials, Supplies, & Equipment	\$2,821,359
Capital Outlay	\$2,722,711
Miscellaneous Other	\$446,308



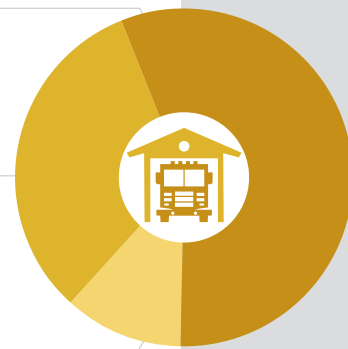
EXPENDITURE – DIVISION **\$52,206,114**

Operations	\$27,490,017
Support	\$14,277,834
Administration	\$7,231,772
Fire Prevention & CRR	\$2,736,649
Grants/Projects	\$469,843




CAPITAL BUDGET **\$8,538,658**

Station 7 Remodel	\$7,120,936
Headquarters Relocation	\$3,711,575
Apparatus Replacement	\$1,417,722



Reserves 
\$14.9 Million

Expenditures 
Underspent by \$1,018,957
1.95% of the Budget

Incidents/Operations

PFA, an all-hazards fire agency, diligently serves the community through its 13 strategically located fire stations. Comprising 11 staffed engine companies, two volunteer stations, two ladder truck companies, and one rescue company, the Authority ensures comprehensive coverage for various emergencies. These stations are strategically positioned to swiftly respond to incidents, showcasing PFA's commitment to rapid and efficient service.

PFA's companies are equipped to handle diverse scenarios from structural fires, wildfires, hazmat, technical rescues, and medical emergencies. Additionally, Engines 4 and 7, Tower 1, Ladder 5, and Rescue 4 play a crucial role in specialized rescue operations, further expanding the Authority's capabilities.

PFA's various resources and specialized units underscore its dedication to addressing a wide array of hazards, ensuring the community's safety and well-being.

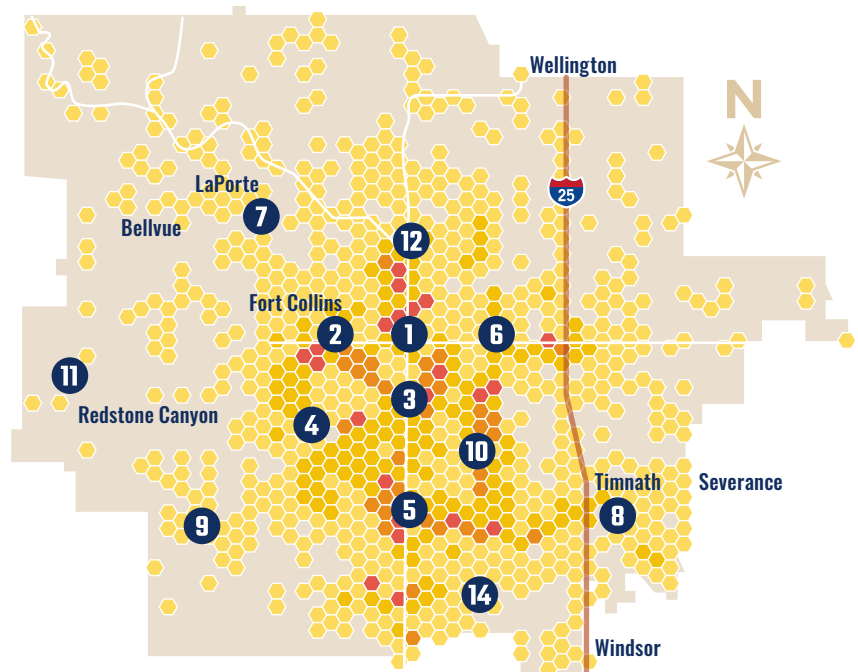


Cardiac Survivors

PFA responded to 120 cardiac arrest events in 2023. Of those, 56 (47%) had **Return of Spontaneous Circulation (ROSC)**. ROSC is the restart of a sustained heart rhythm after a cardiac arrest. Of those 56, 21 (17.5%) walked out of the hospital neurologically intact. Compared to 2022, PFA had 127 arrests and 49 ROSC events with 19 neurologically intact saves.



PFA CALL RESPONSE MAP 2023



VOLUNTEERS/SEASONALS

The PFA volunteer and seasonal program supports responses from Stations 9 and 11 in the Horsetooth and Redstone Canyon areas by staffing Station 9 Friday through Sunday from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Volunteers also support emergency medical services coverage for events including Colorado State University football games.

In 2023, the volunteers worked on meeting goals set in the Strategic Plan. The rank structure of volunteers and seasonal firefighters were aligned with the new rank structure of the entire agency. This change included two promotions to captain and four promotions to lieutenant.

Many volunteers and seasonal firefighters have gone on to have careers at PFA or remain in the program for many years, a defining achievement of their dedication and the program's success.

PFA is thankful and proud of the individuals who give of their time, energy, and skills to serve the community. These individuals respond to calls 24/7/365 and commit to training three nights per month.



HIRING PROCESS

PFA received almost 800 applicants for the 2023 hiring process, all of whom were eager to begin the process. The hiring process includes a written exam, physical ability test, two interviews, a background check, and medical and psychological examinations. Out of this large pool of applicants, 42 made the eligibility list. A testament to PFA's commitment to ensuring public safety with highly qualified personnel.

PFA ACADEMY

This year, eight firefighter recruits graduated from their 16-week academy after approximately 800 hours of hard work and are now online applying their knowledge and training every day.

PFA IS COMPRISED OF



229 FULL-TIME POSITIONS



199 UNIFORMED POSITIONS



30 CIVILIAN POSITIONS



35 VOLUNTEER POSITIONS



20 PART-TIME POSITIONS

A Look Ahead

PARTNERSHIPS UCHEALTH/RED CROSS

The ongoing partnership PFA has with UHealth and the American Red Cross is aimed at ensuring safety and well-being of the community. This year we collaborated to offer several community courses and outreach efforts that added a valuable dimension to our level of preparedness and emergency response. One of the most effective efforts has been the smoke alarm installations PFA participated in across the jurisdiction. We will continue to work with these organizations in order to educate the public, provide emergency medical assistance, and respond promptly to any crisis or disaster.



Capital Projects

Capital projects require a design or construction contract and will take over a year to complete. For PFA, these projects are significant improvements to or replacements for facilities and apparatus. In 2023, PFA finished the Station 6 Mechanic's Shop, obtained permits for breaking ground on Station 7's relocation, and purchased three new apparatus: Engine 1, Engine 5, and Brush 8.



STATION 7 CONSTRUCTION

The planning of Station 7 is underway with construction expected to start in the spring of 2024. The station's response capabilities have expanded to encompass swiftwater, wildland, rope rescue, extrication, and structure protection in addition to emergency medical services. The existing station is no longer sufficient for housing the necessary staff and equipment required to maintain the increased responsibilities.

APPARATUS REPLACEMENT

PFA's first red engines arrived in 2023. These engines set a new standard for future apparatus and will increase the reliability of the response system.



PFA Provides The Following Services To Our Community



Fire Protection Services



Emergency Medical Response



Fire Suppression



Haz-Mat Response



Technical Rescues



Wildland Fire Response



Volunteer Firefighter Program



Fire Investigations



Inspection Services



Public Affairs and Education



PFA Risk Reduction Programs To Our Community

- Friends and Family CPR/AED
- Fire and Life Safety Education (Fire Extinguisher Training)
- Lithium-Ion Battery Safety Class
- National Fire Prevention Month School Visits
- “Stepping On” Fall Prevention Course
- Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Homeowner Education
- Youth Firesetting Intervention



See even more in our annual report online

