

FIRE DEPARTMENT

2019 LSFD Community Risk Standard of Cover

The Fire Department received its initial accreditation status in 2016, after beginning the process in 2012. Accreditation for the Fire Service is commissioned through the Commission of Fire Service Accreditation International (CFAI). The Department is currently at three and one-half years into the five year process to apply for continued accreditation status. The re-accreditation process includes completing a five year strategic plan, completing and continually updating a Community Risk Assessment/Standard of Cover (SOC), and complete the ten categories of the self-assessment manual.

The presentation this evening is to fulfill our requirement to present to the council our updated SOC that was completed mid-year 2019. The SOC updates our current response data, which enhances our ability to make decisions for our organization. The data also allows us to see if prior completed recommendations have made an improvement as expected. You will see as you look through the documents and the updated data sets that several areas have improved, for example low risk EMS responses have decreased below the established benchmark. The improvement in low risk EMS responses can be directly related to the additional staffing authorized for our sixth ambulance, as well as the implementation of closest unit response utilizing automated vehicle location.

While you will see improvements, you will also see that we continue to face operational challenges. An example of an operation challenge is high risk fire incidents (building fires). High risk fires have a bench mark of ten minutes and twenty seconds in regards to the appropriate workforce arriving on scene. In order to meet this established standard of ten minutes and twenty seconds we must have three pumpers, one ladder truck, two ambulances, and two chief officers (total of 18 personnel) on scene. You will see included in our updated recommendations opportunities to assist in meeting this standard.

In addition to recommendations to assists in meeting operational standards such as high risk fire incidents, you will also find updated immediate (within 12 months), near term (within 2-5 years), and long term (within 5-10 years) recommendations. Recommendations are across our entire organization and include items such as: staffing (administration and operations), technology, policy, and deployment models.

We look forward to providing you the updated SOC as well as outlining our recommendations to continuously improve.