

2020

ANNUAL REPORT

SOUTH JORDAN CITY
FIRE DEPARTMENT



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SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT



2020 MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



Welcome, and thank you for taking some time to review the annual report for the South Jordan Fire Department. 2020 has been a very busy year for our department and one filled with both challenges and opportunities. Certainly the COVID-19 pandemic had an impact on our operations, however, our team of professionals were able to continue to provide uninterrupted service to our community and maintain our continued goal to provide the best customer service to our residents.

The challenges associated with the pandemic created an opportunity for our department to review our overall preparedness, as well as our ability to operate within a dynamic environment. This came as a result of the regularly changing guidance and understanding about the threat the SARS-CoV-2 virus presented, especially early on in the pandemic. Fortunately we had equipment and procedures in place in advance of the pandemic, which allowed us the opportunity to provide the safest work practices possible while waiting for PPE supply chains to come back online.

Throughout the changing environment we were faced with during the pandemic, we also had some great successes. We were able to make excellent progress in the construction of our new fire station, Fire Station 64, which we anticipate opening in July 2021. We were also able to maintain our apparatus procurement and replacement plan as well. You can read more about these in this report. Many large and important projects were continued among

the changing work practices brought on by the pandemic. This speaks to the great dedication of all of the employees here in South Jordan, not just those in the Fire Department. We appreciate all of the employees in every department within the City, who worked through unique challenges this year to keep the City operating and maintaining high service levels.

It continues to be my pleasure to work alongside the professional men and women of the South Jordan Fire Department. I hope you find this report informative and helpful to understanding our Department's mission in serving our community. We appreciate the continued support of the residents and businesses in South Jordan. Please don't hesitate to reach out to our administration with any questions or if we can help you in any way.

Thank you,

Chris Dawson

Fire Chief
South Jordan Fire Department



SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

As an all hazards emergency response agency, the South Jordan Fire Department prides itself on providing exceptional service to the community. Our professional firefighters and paramedics operate out of three strategically located fire stations across the city, with a fourth station under construction. South Jordan Firefighters respond to a variety of incidents including fire suppression, emergency medical response and transport, hazardous materials response, technical rescue, fire prevention and community education.

Our Operations Division consists of one Deputy Chief and three Battalion Chiefs who are responsible for the daily oversight of 60 sworn members serving a population of approximately 75,000 within 22 square miles. South Jordan City is located in the rapidly growing southwest corner of the Salt Lake Valley.

Each day the South Jordan Fire Department staffs the following resources:

- 1 – Operations Battalion Chief
- 3 - Advanced Life Support Ambulances
- 1 - Ladder Truck
- 2 - Engine Companies
- 1 - Heavy Rescue
- 1 - Type 6 Wildland Engine

The addition of Station 64 will add:

- 1 - Engine Company
- 1 - Advance Life Support Ambulance



FIRE STATIONS



STATION 61

10758 SOUTH REDWOOD ROAD



STATION 62

4022 W. SOUTH JORDAN PARKWAY



STATION 63

10451 SOUTH 1055 WEST



STATION 64

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATION

FIRE DEPARTMENT COMMAND STAFF



CHRIS DAWSON
FIRE CHIEF



RYAN LESSNER
DEPUTY CHIEF



JON STONE
BATTALION CHIEF - A PLATOON



RYAN RAY
BATTALION CHIEF - B PLATOON



CLAYTON MILLER
BATTALION CHIEF - C PLATOON



MICHAEL RICHARDS
ADMINISTRATION DIVISION CHIEF



MICHAEL BETTRIDGE
TRAINING CAPTAIN



ALEC EVANS
LOGISTICS COORDINATOR

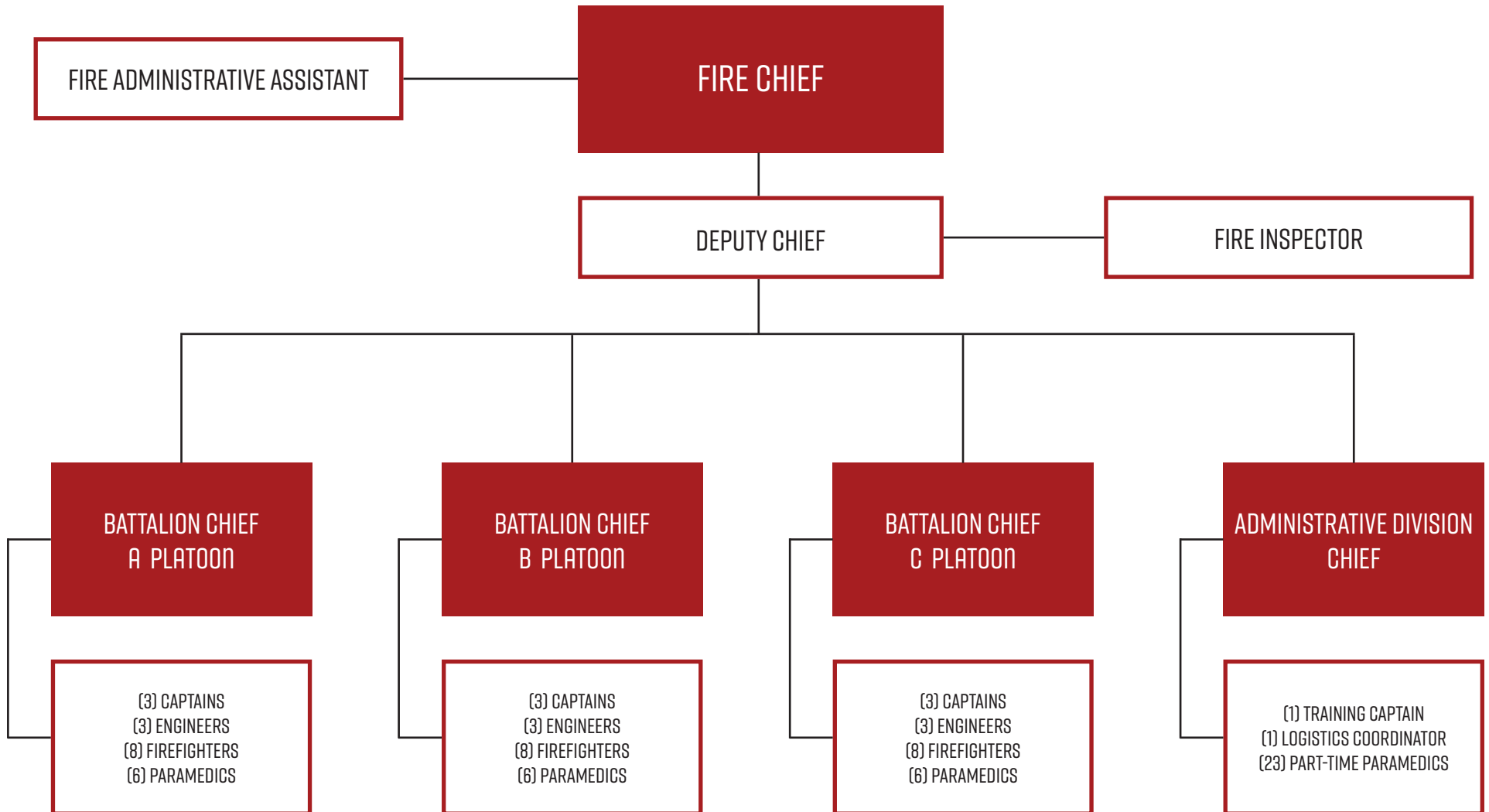


RUSS AVERY
FIRE INSPECTOR



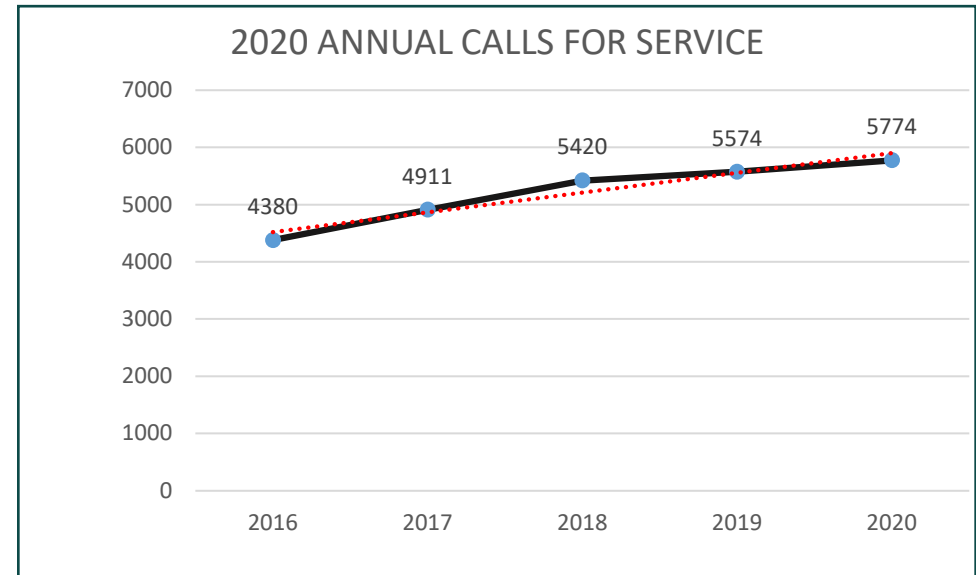
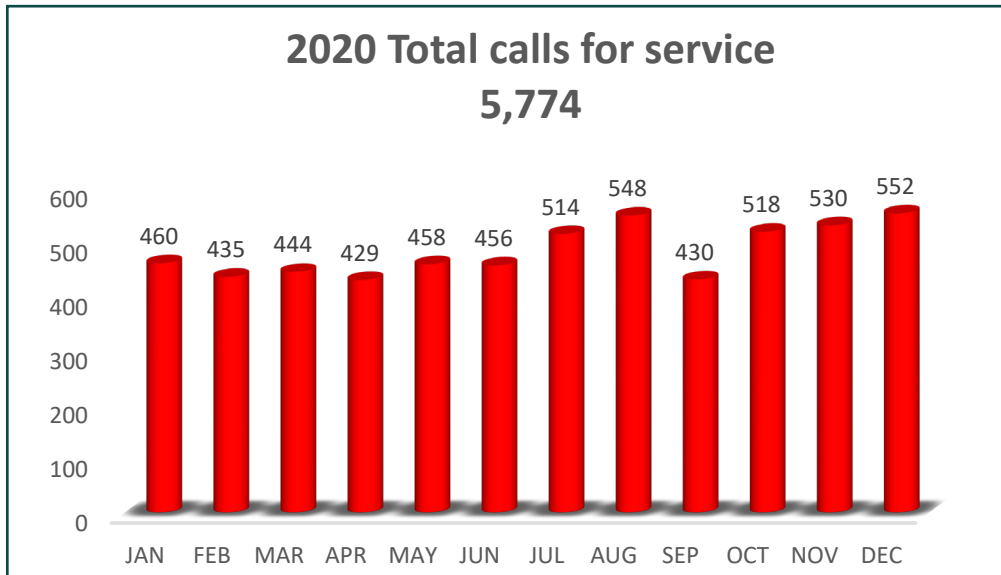
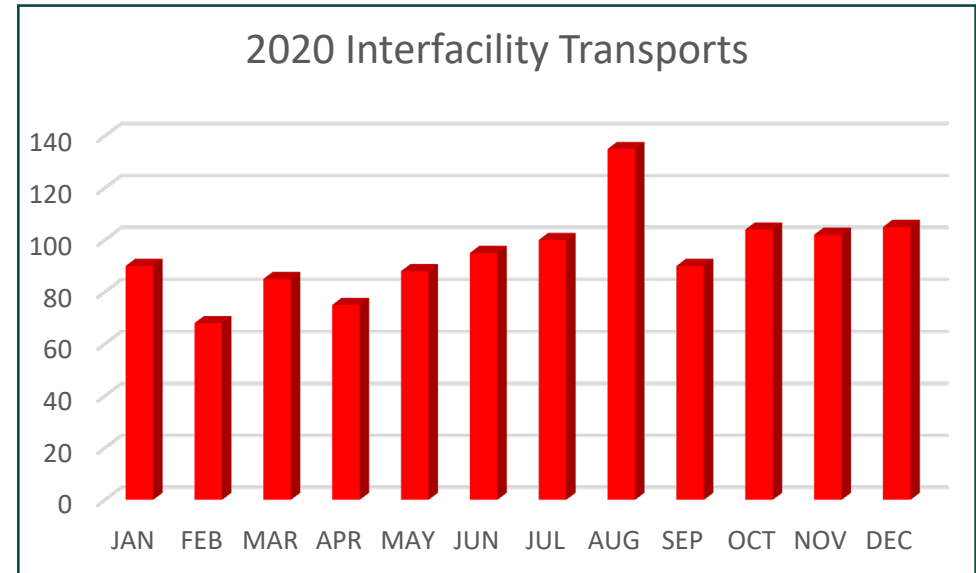
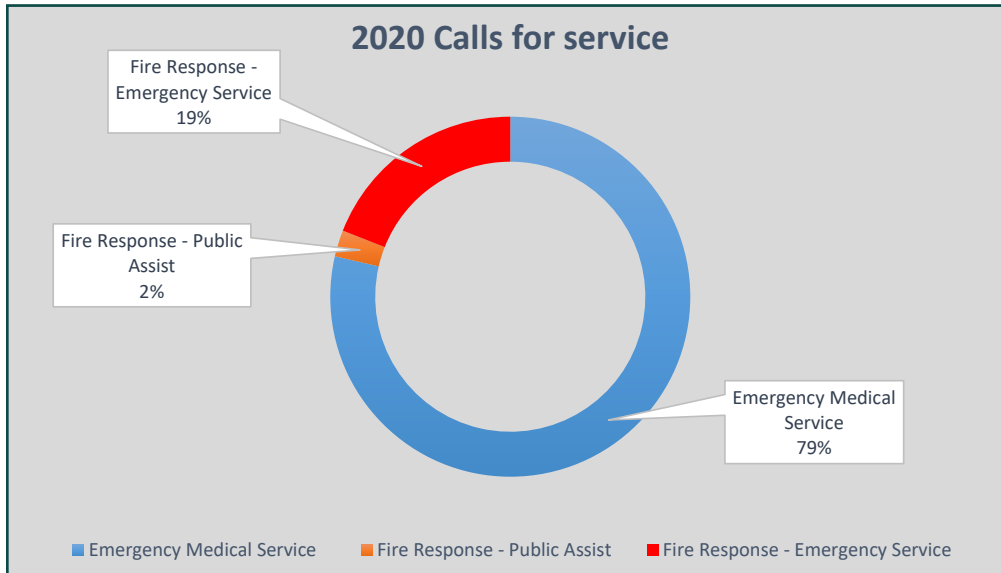
LAURA EARLEY
FIRE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

RESPONSE DATA



FIRE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS

As we look back on 2020, we could not have anticipated the turbulent year we would experience as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Despite the challenges we have endured as a community, the South Jordan Fire Department has been a symbol of strength and courage throughout the tumultuous year. Looking back on the year, we were able to successfully achieve several projects as we continue planning for the future. We would like to highlight the following:

Early in the development of the Covid-19 pandemic, the fire department was aggressive in procuring personal protective equipment and establishing guidelines designed to protect our first responders. We worked hard to provide the most appropriate science-based guidance, while working through the rapidly evolving challenges associated with the coronavirus.

Another milestone this year was the switch in our valley's dispatch software to Versaterm. This large-scale implementation project consumed the majority of 2020. This transition to a new computer aided dispatch system will ultimately provide a more efficient dispatching protocol, which will in turn, provide a better level of service to the community. Some of the internal improvements to our system include an upgrade of our apparatus internet connection systems and the replacement and upgrade of our mobile data terminals housed in each apparatus.

South Jordan Fire Department was invited to become a participating member of FEMA USAR Task Force 1. This partnership involved an extensive amount of work to facilitate, but will undoubtedly be a mutually beneficial partnership, which will provide an opportunity for South Jordan Fire Department personnel to develop skill sets that will directly benefit the community. Three of our firefighters had the opportunity to deploy to Louisiana and Oregon in 2020 as part of Utah Task Force 1.

Construction on Station 64 has continued, irrespective of the challenges of the pandemic. The ribbon-cutting is expected in July 2021. The addition of Station 64 will provide a significant improvement in our ability to deliver emergency services to the rapidly growing west side of South Jordan.

After a rigorous testing process, two of our Firefighter EMT's were selected to attend the Spring 2021 paramedic program at Utah Valley University. These additional paramedics will provide essential Advanced Life Support (ALS) services within the community.

The Fire Department participated in our required 5-year ISO audit. This audit takes a comprehensive look at the South Jordan Fire Department's resources, staffing, apparatus, and training, along with a range of other factors such as the City's water supply, dispatch capabilities, and mutual aid resources. As a result of this audit our department's ISO classification was improved from an ISO Class 3 to an ISO Class 2. This classification represent the top 2% of Fire Departments in the nation.



SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

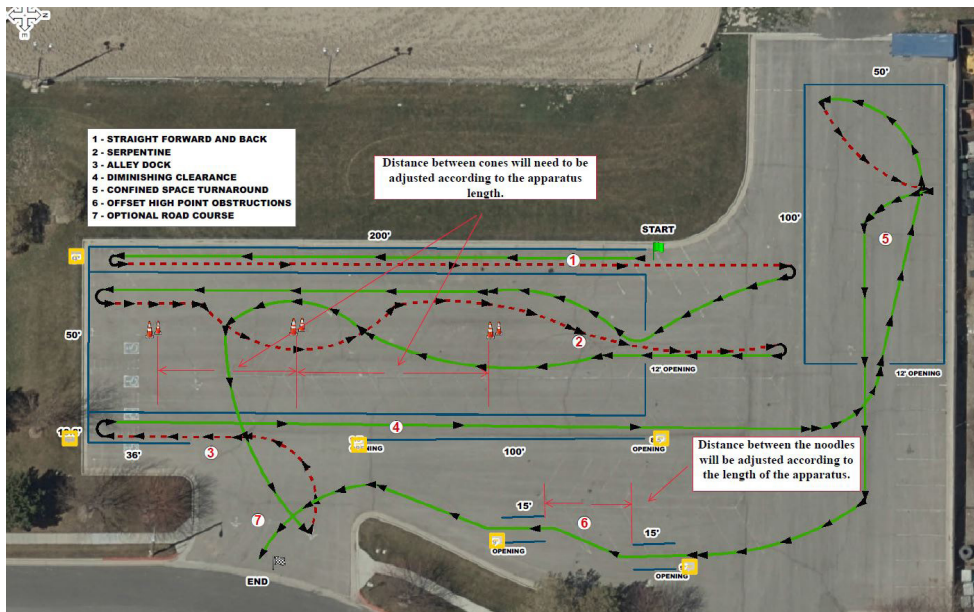
FIRE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS

In an effort to keep our Firefighters safe, the Training Division facilitated the distribution of Firefighter bail out bags, which are personal rappelling systems. This safety device will provide our firefighters an additional tool to protect themselves in the case an emergency evacuation from a structure fire, at height, is required. Along with initial training, Captain Bettridge constructed a bail out training prop that will be used as part of our department's ongoing training program.

This year as part of our cancer prevention initiative, the Fire Department purchased new cleanable gear bags, which are used for storing and transporting structural firefighting gear. This is just one part of a more comprehensive cancer prevention program designed to provide a safe and healthy workplace for our firefighters.

As part of our ongoing driver safety training, the training division continues to work to revise our emergency vehicle operation (EVO) course and to provide training that emphasizes responder safety on the road. The objective of the ongoing driver training is ensure that our personnel have the training and experience to navigate the challenges associated with driving emergency response apparatus, which will increase the safety for our personnel and others on the road. Please remember, when you see an emergency vehicle driving with lights and sirens, please PULL TO THE RIGHT AND STOP!

We look forward to another productive year within the South Jordan Fire Department. We are already operating at full speed in 2021, with many projects underway. We value any and all input from all of our personnel and the community, and we will learn from the challenges of 2020 to make us a stronger and more agile fire department.



2020 EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION



RETIREMENTS

BEN KLUGER - 20 YEARS OF SERVICE
JIM LADLE - 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

PROMOTIONS

BATTALION CHIEF JONATHAN STONE
CAPTAIN MICHAEL BETTRIDGE
CAPTAIN DAVID NELSEN
CAPTAIN JOSH BROWN
CAPTAIN CHRIS WRIGHT
ENGINEER BRANDON SCHROEDER
ENGINEER AUSTIN REKOUTIS
ENGINEER BRANDON SCHROEDER

NEW HIRES

FIREFIGHTER PARAMEDIC JAMES ENGLISH
FIREFIGHTER PARAMEDIC CHRIS WHITE
FIREFIGHTER PARAMEDIC MARK HUTCHINSON
FIREFIGHTER THOMAS TISON
FIREFIGHTER DUNCAN STAHELI
FIREFIGHTER MATT HOUGHENS
FIREFIGHTER RYAN LACROIX
FIREFIGHTER JACOB WATSON

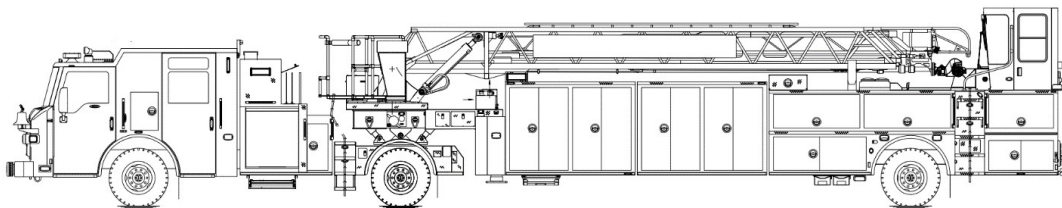
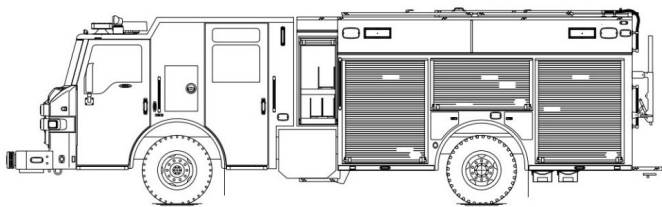
SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

FLEET AND APPARATUS

Irrespective of the challenges of 2020, much work was completed on the Fire Department's vehicle fleet. With the addition of a fourth fire station to our Department, additional vehicles had to be ordered to support the Department's growing operations. In most cases it takes one year to take delivery of a new fire engine or ladder truck (commonly referred to as "heavy apparatus"), and six to nine months to take delivery of a new ambulance. In some cases these timeframes have been extended due to COVID-related shutdowns in the vehicle plants. After delivery, most Fire Department vehicles (apparatus) take another couple of weeks to one month to outfit, mount equipment, and service check, prior to going in to service.

Due to the extended timeframe associated with getting new vehicles in to service and with a new fire station opening in 2021, it was imperative that all Fire Department apparatus were ordered in a timely manner. Additionally, the design and specification work needed to order apparatus typically takes months to complete. Battalion Chief Ray and Chief Dawson spent a great deal of time in the procurement and design of new apparatus that would best fit the growing needs of the community. Due to some of the narrow streets that exist within the City, as well as the addition of new multi-story commercial buildings and multi-family dwellings, it was determined that apparatus should be designed to be more agile and better able to respond within the community.

Based on this goal, fire engines were designed to be shorter, with tighter turning radius, and with a more ergonomic overall design to allow firefighters to put equipment into service faster and more safely. The Department also ordered a new ladder truck to replace an older unit currently in service. It was decided to replace the current dual axle ladder truck with a tractor drawn aerial (TDA), also known as a tiller truck. While the overall length of the TDA is longer than the current truck, the articulation between the tractor and trailer, coupled with the rear axle steering capability of the trailer, makes this apparatus one of the most agile fire trucks in the industry. This will allow our firefighters to access narrow streets, apartment complexes, and commercial properties that may have been previously inaccessible.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS

FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

South Jordan Fire Department has expanded the investigation division to include two detectives from South Jordan Police Department and is working on increasing the number of investigators to six. This will reduce the need for calling back investigators or relying on outside agencies. Training of new investigators has been limited due to the current restrictions in place because of the COVID-19 pandemic. As operations return to normal, training should resume as traditionally scheduled. All fires occurring in South Jordan City in 2020 were investigated and investigation reports were completed. The majority of fires were found to be accidental. One case involving homemade explosives is ongoing.

HEAVY RESCUE/URBAN SEARCH & RESCUE

South Jordan Fire Department has trained all department members as ice rescue technicians, including all new hires. This allows for an immediate response from any station for an ice rescue call in South Jordan City. In the early part of 2020 South Jordan became a participating agency with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team and is now affiliated with Utah Task Force One (UT-TF1). Three members of South Jordan Fire Department deployed twice in 2020. Once to Hurricane Laura as part of rescue efforts, and another deployment to assist in search efforts after the wildfires in Oregon over the summer of 2020.



SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

TRAINING & CONTINUING EDUCATION

2020 saw many challenges in the way we needed to do business in the South Jordan Fire Department. Not only was COVID 19 a factor in our day to day operations, but it necessitated a change in the way training was handled. Because of social distancing guidelines we were not able to train with other member departments of the Valley Training Alliance. However, it was imperative for our crews to maintain their proficiency in all areas of operation. Crews were required to work harder and smarter to maintain their training. Many crews pulled hose and threw ladders onto their own stations. Crews also took advantage of the Target Solutions platform for online training. Crews drove to buildings and did “size ups” and discussed ways to fight fires in them. Even with the restrictions in place, the crews logged a staggering 10,326 hours of total training this year.

The pandemic did not stop the growth of the fire department in 2020. This year the department hired and trained eight full-time firefighters and five part-time paramedics. All of these employees were required to complete driving and medical training modules, while the full-time employees were required to complete additional fire modules as well. Four of these full-time employees also went through an extensive eight-week Recruit Academy. There they were taught the basics of firefighting, as well as fireground tactics and hands on live fire training. This training gave them the basis for everything they will continue to learn throughout their careers. These recruits completed more than 1200 hours of training in Fire Department Operations.

As the City of South Jordan continues to grow, so will the training needs of its firefighters. South Jordan Fire Department is committed to providing the highest quality training for its members and staying at the forefront of our ever-changing industry.



TRAINING & CONTINUING EDUCATION

SOUTH JORDAN FIRE DEPARTMENT

2020 TRAINING HOURS

10,326 HOURS

3,789
HOURS

FIRE TRAINING

3,163
HOURS

MEDICAL TRAINING

1,097
HOURS

DRIVER TRAINING

1,600
HOURS

NEW FIREFIGHTER TRAINING

486
HOURS

WILDLAND TRAINING

191
HOURS

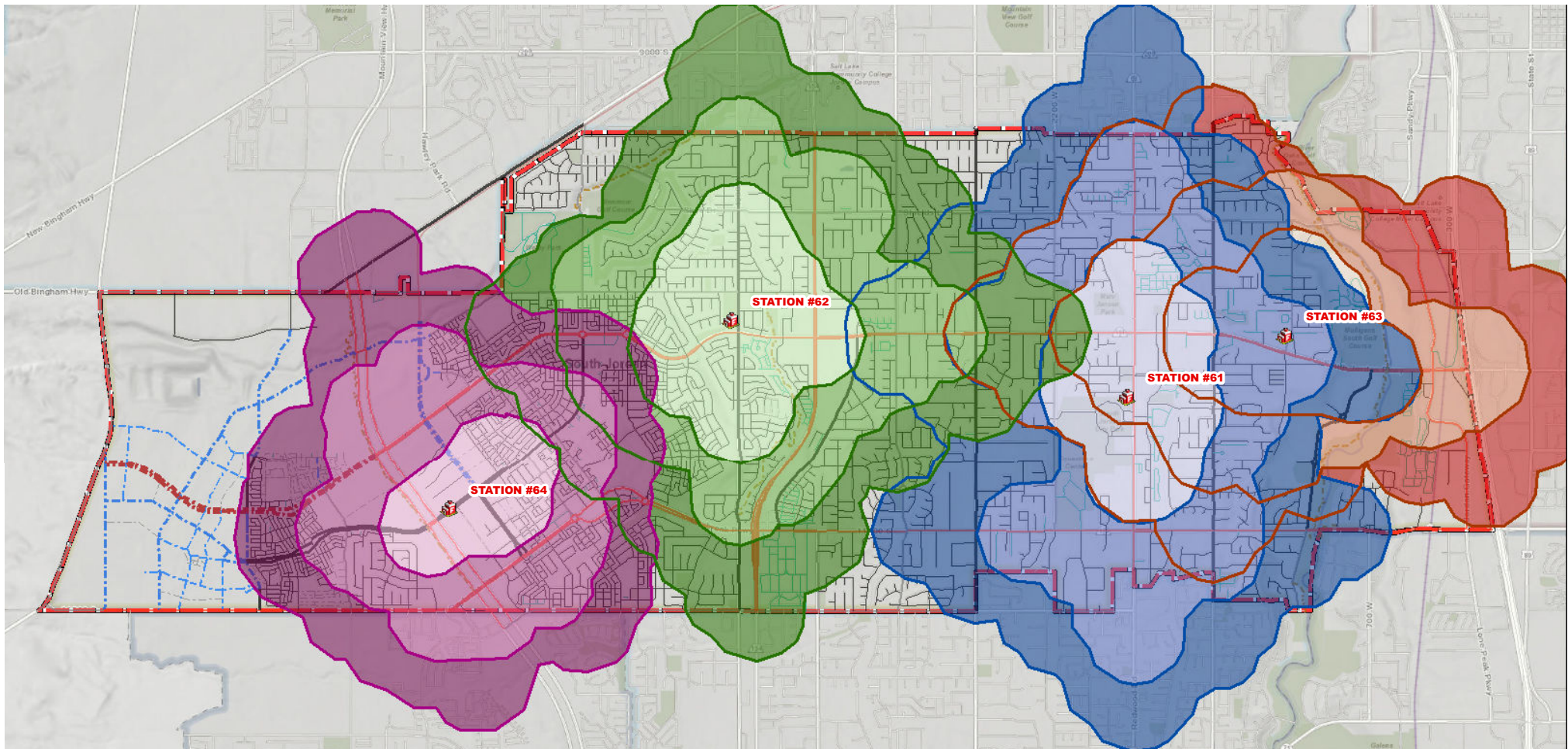
SPECIALTY TRAINING



SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE

The addition of Station 64 on the west side of South Jordan will add much needed Fire Department resources to the new developments and their residents of our community. The purple area in the map below shows the added response area that Station 64 will cover within our community. Having this additional infrastructure on the city's west side will add additional critical public safety resources to our growing community, will bring those resources closer to our residents, and will decrease average emergency response times within the city. The colored "clouds" on the map represent our goal response time of five minutes or less within the city, based on existing roads and speed limits.



SOUTH JORDAN FIRE STATION 64

At the beginning of 2020, Fire Station 64 began to move vertically with elevating courses of masonry block outlining the apparatus bays and the rising, prominent, north stair tower taking shape. Over the course of the next six months, the completion of the interior framing and installation of the metal roof decking would clearly define the numerous spaces housed within the project including the fire station, the City administration building and police substation. By October, the roof received a membrane covering in time for inclement weather and the apparatus bays were dressed with striking red, bi-fold doors, clearly identifying the west end of the project as the fire station. The interior spaces, critical to the functionality of a working firehouse, gained increasing definition, as the installation of the dry wall and door frames took place. At the conclusion of 2020, the project surpassed the 80% completion benchmark, as the installation of millwork and interior painting began.

The progress of the Fire Station 64 project has truly been a collaborative effort between Babcock Design, Nicholson Management Company and South Jordan's project team over the course of the past year. Collectively, this team of professionals has dedicated their focus to ensure that Fire Station 64 meets the service needs of the citizens of South Jordan City today and decades into the future. We look forward to the completion of this project in the summer of 2021.



SOUTH JORDAN CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Even with the challenges faced with COVID-19, South Jordan Fire Department continued to be active in helping the citizens of South Jordan be ready for emergencies. In 2020 the Fire Department taught 16 CPR classes, 13 First Aid classes, and 18 Healthcare Provider classes. There was a total of 304 students taught. The Fire Department had to find creative ways to deliver training while also ensuring the safety of the instructors and the students.

South Jordan Fire Department was aggressive in protecting our employees and its residents against COVID-19. Additional personal protective equipment was obtained to protect our employees as they responded to and cared for potential and actual patients with COVID-19. The Fire Department instituted a testing procedure with rapid COVID tests for department members as well as other city employees. With this new testing procedure, the Fire Department was able to perform about 900 tests.

In 2020, the Fire Department responded to 304 patients that were having symptoms consistent with a heart problem. Of those patients, 20 were identified as having a STEMI (ST elevation myocardial infarction) or heart attack. Because of the Fire Department's ability to provide advanced life support within the community, these patients received immediate life saving care. The South Jordan Fire Department's commitment to providing exceptional care was recognized by the American Heart Association with the Gold Mission Lifeline award. South Jordan Fire Department was the only fire department in the state to receive this award.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

SOUTH JORDAN FIRE DEPARTMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

The South Jordan Fire Department recognizes that the most important resource in any organization is its employees. As such, the Department is committed to developing employees at all levels of the organization. The Leadership Development and Driver Development Programs are essential to our organization's current operations as well as to our succession planning.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING WITH THE CHIEF

In 2020, Chief Dawson began a department-wide training program that emphasizes leadership. All members of the fire department are encouraged to attend the Chief-led discussions that cover an array of leadership topics including professional development, customer service, and the department's expectations for current and future officers. The discussions provide direct access to the Chief's insights, experiences, and recommendations for development into a leadership role.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The South Jordan Fire Department's leadership development program was specifically designed for those who aspire to become a company officer in the South Jordan City Fire Department. It provides our future leaders with a unique opportunity to develop their capacity to lead themselves, other individuals and groups in day-to-day operations and emergency responses prior to achieving the rank of Captain.

The program addresses various skills, objectives, and teaching styles and it has an evaluation process designed to provide the participant with the opportunity to learn specific job-related tasks and develop professional attributes desired in a fire service leader. This is accomplished under the direction of an experienced fire officer mentor who works with the candidate and provides valuable feedback, training, and field experience. The South Jordan Fire Department is proud to report that four Leadership Development candidates successfully completed the program in 2020.

DRIVER DEVELOPMENT

The South Jordan Fire Department's Driver Development Program includes the Advanced Driver Operator Pumper Task Book and the Advanced Driver Operator Aerial Task Book. These task book programs require aspiring Engineers to demonstrate the competency required to drive and operate fire apparatus safely and with proficiency, beyond the requirements of state certification. The program tests a candidate's ability to drive, work a pump at fire incidents, and operate a 105-foot aerial ladder over a series of multiple job-related scenarios with varying degrees of difficulty. The South Jordan Fire Department takes the responsibility of driving and operating all of our emergency response apparatus seriously. We are proud to report that five candidates successfully completed our driver development programs in 2020. These driver development programs provide the critical reinforcement required to prepare our employees for current and future operations as the demand for qualified drivers increases.

In addition to the ongoing driver development programs, the department achieved 100% compliance, with all members successfully passing our internal emergency vehicle operations course twice in 2020. The course tests our employees' ability to safely maneuver emergency response apparatus through a series of obstacles. All South Jordan firefighters are required to demonstrate proficiency in driving the course biannually while also completing at least another 12 hours of other driving-related training each year.



SOUTH JORDAN FIRE DEPARTMENT • 10655 SOUTH REDWOOD ROAD • SOUTH JORDAN • 84095