

SAN MATEO CONSOLIDATED FIRE DEPARTMENT

2019

ANNUAL REPORT





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## OUR MISSION

Enhancing the quality of life for our community through professionalism, collaboration, and public trust.

## OUR VALUES

Respect • Compassion • Integrity • Dedication • Innovation



# Farewell Message from the Chief

## Fire Chief John Healy officially retired on December 27, 2019.

John Healy began his career at age 19 as a Volunteer Firefighter in Foster City and spent 16 years with the City of San Mateo Fire Department. Healy was instrumental in the creation of the San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department, as he oversaw the merger of the three fire departments in San Mateo, Foster City, and Belmont.

Healy said it has been a privilege to work side-by-side with some of the most dedicated fire service professionals in Belmont, Foster City, San Mateo, Hillsborough, and Union City.

“My career has provided me countless life lessons and unforgettable memories. The most important lessons learned were service before self, giving your very best daily, and leaving every situation better than you found it. Those were characteristics taught to me, and I have worked to share these values with the team so that they may pay it forward to future members,” Healy said.

Growing up in San Mateo, he attended local schools and felt fortunate to work in his hometown where he has been an active member of the community. Healy and his wife, Stacey, are raising three sons, two who attend Serra High School and one now in college.

Emergency response service requires a great deal of sacrifice, including being away from family and friends on special occasions and holidays. For Healy, being part of such a great profession was never about personal accolades or recognition, it was about the service the team provided to the community.

“The pride felt from helping others during their most challenging time was a feeling that few professions get to experience. Wearing the uniform and the badge was the greatest honor, and it’s difficult for words to fully express what that means to me,” Healy said.

Over the course of his career, he has seen vital progression of a profession that holds high value on training and education. Healy earned an A.S. in Fire Technology from College of San Mateo and a B.S. in both Fire Administration and Fire Prevention Technology from Cogwell Polytechnical College in Sunnyvale. He attended training throughout the state and has earned his California State Fire Marshal Certification as a Chief Officer, Fire Investigator, and Fire Instructor. Reflecting on his career, he said he will miss the adrenaline rush from responding to emergency incidents.

“I had the honor of responding to help so many communities throughout the state, starting with the Oakland Hills Fire in 1991 and dozens of others up and down the state as a Strike Team Leader. I treasure all the community events where we raised money for those in need. I was proud to be part of the Holiday Toy Drive and Chili Cook-Off and plan to continue being part of those types of events,” Healy said.

He applauded the skilled firefighters and communities of Belmont, Foster City, and San Mateo for their formation of San Mateo Consolidated Fire. After several years of shared services that provided cost savings to the communities while improving their level of service, the new department officially commenced operations on January 13, 2019.

“I will treasure all the memories from my three and a half decades of service. I am confident the San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department will continue to tirelessly look for opportunities to improve our service to the community. The next generation of SMCFD is filled with talented and dedicated members anxious to continue moving forward and grow in their constant pursuit of being the best,” Healy said.

Throughout his career, he held every rank in the fire service. Healy started as a Volunteer Firefighter in 1983, a Firefighter/Engineer in 1984, a Fire Captain in 1995, a Battalion Chief in 2003, a Deputy Fire Chief in 2008, and then Fire Chief in 2015.

“I want to thank the City Councils, City Managers, and community members for allowing me to be part of something so special and for trusting me to lead the organization as Fire Chief for the past five years. I look forward to new and exciting challenges that lay ahead and plan to spend time boating, hiking, and traveling with family and friends,” Healy said.

His first day of retirement was on December 28, 2019. The San Mateo Consolidated Fire Board will be discussing the next steps for hiring a replacement Fire Chief in the coming months.



**Our Fire Department is made up of the finest fire service professionals in the State of California. The members are highly trained, well educated, extremely motivated, and very focused on our mission of service to the community 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.**

# Commencement of SMCFD

The San Mateo Consolidated (SMC) Fire Department officially commenced operations on January 13, 2019. It was formed by the establishment of a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) and represents the merger of the three fire departments in Belmont, Foster City, and San Mateo. It is the first JPA to commence operations in the State of California in nearly a decade. SMC Fire celebrated its achievement with a ceremony at the College of San Mateo on February 2, 2019.

SMC Fire has over 260 years of combined history providing emergency services in its communities. The new department is staffed by approximately 160 personnel that provide emergency services utilizing 10 engine companies and two ladder trucks from the existing nine fire stations. The consolidation allows SMC Fire to continue providing comprehensive emergency response services to all three cities in a more cost-effective way, while maintaining the high level of service the communities rely upon.



# Commencement of SMCFD



Senator Jerry Hill, Council Member Sam Hindi, Council Member Warren Lieberman, and Fire Board Representative Joe Goethals



The Honor Guard



Senator Jerry Hill and Fire Board Representative Diane Papan



The Command Staff



Fire Cadets



Oath of Office

# Fire Board

## Board of Directors

**Joe Goethals**



Board Chair,  
City of San Mateo  
Council Member

**Warren Lieberman**



Board Member,  
City of Belmont  
Vice Mayor

**Herb Perez**



Board Member,  
City of Foster City  
Vice Mayor

## Member Alternates

**Diane Papan**



Representative,  
City of San Mateo  
Mayor

**Charles Stone**



Representative,  
City of Belmont  
Council Member

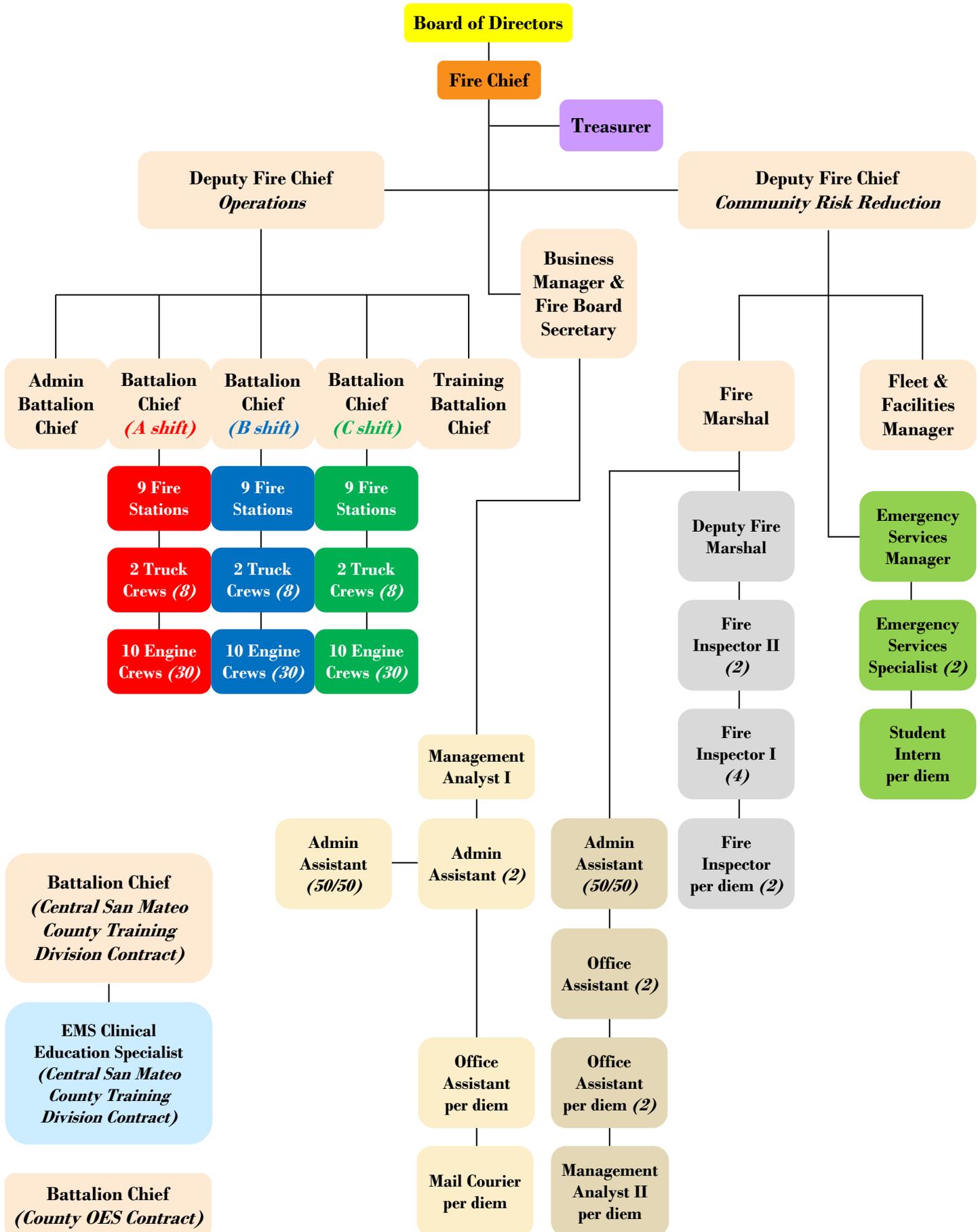
**Sanjay Gehani**



Representative,  
City of Foster City  
Council Member



# Organizational Chart



# Fire Stations



**Belmont Station 14**  
*911 Granada Street*  
Engine 14—3 personnel  
Hazmat 14—cross-staffed



**Belmont Station 15**  
*2701 Cipriani Boulevard*  
Engine 15—3 personnel



**San Mateo Station 21**  
*120 S. Ellsworth Avenue*  
Engine 21—3 personnel  
Truck 21—4 personnel



**San Mateo Station 23**  
*31 West 27th Avenue*  
Engine 23—3 personnel  
Truck 23—4 personnel  
BC 5—1 Battalion Chief



**San Mateo Station 24**  
*319 S. Humboldt Street*  
Engine 24—3 personnel



**San Mateo Station 25**  
*545 Barneson Avenue*  
Engine 25—3 personnel



**San Mateo Station 26**  
*1500 Marina Court*  
Engine 26—3 personnel



**San Mateo Station 27**  
*1801 De Anza Boulevard*  
Engine 27—3 personnel  
OES Engine 405—cross-staffed



**Foster City Station 28**  
*1040 E. Hillsdale Boulevard*  
Engine 28—3 personnel  
Engine 29—3 personnel  
Boat/Jet Ski 28—cross-staffed

# Fire Station 25 Groundbreaking

On November 12, 2019, San Mateo City Council joined the San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department along with City of San Mateo's Public Works, Parks and Recreation, and Planning departments for the official groundbreaking of the new Fire Station 25. The event included a special presentation to former Mayor Maureen Freschet who was instrumental to the project.

Fire Station 25 will be relocated from its current location at 545 Barneson Avenue to a modernized facility at the northeast corner of Borel Avenue and Shafter Street in San Mateo. The new station will be on a 0.41-acre parcel and consist of a single engine bay within a two-story structure totaling 4,950 square feet. The design includes a kitchen, a dining area, an office, a day room, an exercise room, private sleeping rooms with shared bathroom facilities, lockers, storage areas, and an emergency generator.



# Cadet & Explorer Program

## Cadet Program

The Cadet Program is a year long work experience program for young adults in conjunction with College of San Mateo's Cooperative Education Programs. The program fulfills the volunteer requirement for students to earn their California State Firefighter I Certificates. It includes a minimum of 48 hours per month of ride along experience and 60 hours per year in either of the following divisions: Fire Administration, Fire Training, or Bureau of Fire Protection and Life Safety. Cadets ride along as student firefighters with the fire engine and truck companies of the department. In addition to the ride alongs and administrative duties, the Cadets volunteer for many department events throughout the year.



Cadets volunteered approximately 7,768 hours.

## Explorer Post 904

Explorer Post 904 is a program that allows young adults ages 15-21 to explore the career of firefighting, rescue, and emergency medical services. Over the past year, our Explorers attended regularly scheduled meetings and training sessions that were taught by our firefighters. The trainings included topics such as fire science, fire hose, forcible entry techniques, search, and CPR. The Explorers also participated in the department's ride along program where they rode on engine and truck companies to observe and put to use some of their new training and skills. Our Explorers have also put in many hours of community service at multiple events throughout the year, including the San Mateo Consolidated Firefighters' Association's Chili Cook-Off, the Annual Firefighter Toy Drive, and pancake breakfasts.

Explorers volunteered approximately 340 hours.

# Fire Academy

Our Internal Training Division is responsible for probationary training and testing, career development, promotional testing, implementation of safety programs, supporting individual company-level training, driver training, and any training that maintains our mission to keep our personnel and community safe. The Internal Training Division has hosted three intense entry-level firefighter academies at our Foster City Training Complex. Our Fire Academy is a rigorous 10-week program that includes live fire training, water rescue, fire hose management, auto extrication, wildland fire training, emergency medical services training, hazardous material incident awareness, ventilation skills, ladders, forcible entry, and many other basic firefighter skills.



Conditioning



Ladder Training



Jaws of Life & Auto Extrication



Defensive Fire Operations



Fire Academy 3 Graduates,  
Shira Laux & Ryan Baudoin



Water Rescues



Ladder Pipe Operations



Forcing a Locked Door



Rescue Training

## **Ryan Baudoin—Firefighter**



Ryan Baudoin accepted a full-time Firefighter Trainee position with Fire Operations, effective April 1, 2019. After graduating from San Mateo Consolidated Fire's 2019 Firefighter Academy 3, he became a full-time Firefighter/Paramedic, effective June 12, 2019. Ryan's previous experience includes being an Emergency Room Technician with California Pacific Medical Center, a Cadet Firefighter with San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department, and a Combat Medic/68W Healthcare Specialist for the United States Army. He earned his Paramedic Certification from the National College of Technical Instruction. He has an A.A. in Health Science from Kaplan University and an A.A. in Fire Technology from College of San Mateo.

## **Shira Laux—Firefighter**

Shira Laux accepted a full-time Firefighter Trainee position with Fire Operations, effective April 1, 2019. After graduating from San Mateo Consolidated Fire's 2019 Firefighter Academy 3, she became a full-time Firefighter, effective June 12, 2019. Shira's previous experience includes being a Firefighter I with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL Fire) San Mateo—Santa Cruz Unit, Firefighter I with Humboldt Del Norte Unit, and EMT with Royal Ambulance Company. She also has a State Fire Marshal Firefighter I Certificate from Chabot College.



## **Michael Nichols—Firefighter**



Michael Nichols accepted a full-time Firefighter Trainee position with Fire Operations, effective September 23, 2019, and became a full-time Firefighter on October 13, 2019. Michael comes to us from Chico Fire Department where he was a Firefighter. Prior to that, Michael was a Cadet Firefighter with Redwood City Fire Department. Some of his past work experiences consist of being a Game Attendant and Tournament Director at Garden City Casino, District Manager at C&D Real Estate Appraisal Services, Lead Teller at Wells Fargo Bank, Personal Trainer at 24 Hour Fitness, and Shift Supervisor at Starbucks Coffee. Michael's certifications include Firefighter I & II, CPR and AED, EMT Basic, and Firefighter I Academy with College of San Mateo. He earned his B.S. in Business Management from San Jose State University.

## **Matthew Hooker—Firefighter**

Matthew Hooker accepted a full-time Firefighter Trainee position with Fire Operations, effective September 23, 2019, and became a full-time Firefighter on October 13, 2019. Matthew comes to us from Asheville Fire Department located in North Carolina. While working in North Carolina, he was a Firefighter, a Rescue Diver, a member of their Urban Search and Rescue Task Force 2 (type IV), and a public outreach volunteer at a local reading program run by Asheville Firefighters Association Local 332. He was promoted to Senior Firefighter in 2014, and he earned the Certificate of Meritorious Service on account of lives that he helped save on February 9, 2014, and September 9, 2014. Matthew's certifications include Firefighter I & II, Driver Operator Emergency Vehicle Driving and Pumps, HazMat Level II Technician, Technical Rescuer-Ropes, Vehicle Machinery Rescue and Water, Structural Collapse, General Instructor Level I, Fire Officer Level I & II, Rapid Intervention Team, and Rescue Diver. He was also a graduate of North Carolina's Breathing Equipment School, Class 50. Matthew has an A.S. in Fire Protection from Blue Ridge Community College.



## **Jacob Cousins—Firefighter**



Jacob Cousins accepted a full-time Firefighter Trainee position with Fire Operations, effective September 23, 2019, and became a full-time Firefighter on October 13, 2019. Jacob comes to us from Watsonville Fire Department where he was a Captain/Paramedic. Prior to that, he was an EMT/Paramedic of San Benito County American Medical Response. His certifications include California State Fire Marshal—Fire Officer; Command 1A, 1B, & 1C; Instructor 1A & 1B; Fire Management 1; Fire Prevention 1; Fire Investigation 1A; Driver/Operator 1A & 1B; Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator 1A; Firefighter 2; Rescue Systems 1; LARRO; Chief Fire Officer 3C & 3D; ICS I-100, I-200, & I-300; S-130 Firefighter Training; S-190 Intro to Wild Land Fire Behavior; S-290 Intermediate Wild Land Fire Behavior; 67-Hour Wild Land Academy; Confined Space Rescue Awareness; HazMat—First Responder Operations; Fire Control 1, 2, 3, & 6; Basic Fire Chemistry; Basic Operations—Structural; Structural Firefighting; Wild Land Firefighting Essentials; Rapid Intervention Crew Tactics; Santa Cruz County Emergency Medical Services Agency—CPR; Regional Instructor Orientation; and Certification Examination Evaluator. Jacob also has a Firefighter I from South Bay Regional Fire Academy. He earned his A.S. in Liberal Arts from Gavilan College and an A.S. in Fire Technology from Cabrillo College.

## **Charisse Roldan—Administrative Assistant**

Charisse Roldan accepted a full-time Administrative Assistant position with Fire Administration, effective January 13, 2019. Charisse comes to us from City of Foster City Public Works where she was an Office Assistant II in their Engineering Division. Prior to that, Charisse worked for Foster City's and San Carlos' Parks and Recreation Department and for the YMCA in the Health & Wellness and Youth & Family Departments. She has a B.S. in Business Administration with a concentration in Management from San Francisco State University.



## **Nen Dayao—Office Assistant**



Nen Dayao accepted a full-time Office Assistant position with the Bureau of Fire Protection and Life Safety Division, effective January 14, 2019. Nen has served our department as a per diem Office Assistant since August 13, 2018. Nen has previous work experience as a Medical Records Clerk for Warm Springs Home Health, and she graduated with a B.S. in Business Administration from University of Santo Tomas.

## **Sandra Firpo—Emergency Services Specialist**

Sandra Firpo accepted a full-time Office Assistant position in the Office of Emergency Services, effective January 14, 2019. On July 28, 2019, her title was reclassified from Office Assistant to Emergency Services Specialist to more accurately reflect her job functions and responsibilities. Sandra has been an active Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteer in the South San Francisco community. She has delivered bilingual CERT training with San Mateo County and has assisted in regional emergency management exercises. Prior to joining our department, Sandra had a career as a radio producer reporting stories on a number of high-profile public safety incidents in the Bay Area. She has a B.A. in Broadcasting from San Francisco State University.



## **Nehemiah O’Neal—Fire Inspector**



Nehemiah O’Neal accepted a full-time Fire Inspector I position with the Bureau of Fire Protection and Life Safety, effective January 28, 2019. Previously, he was a Fire Inspector I for Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District, Fire Marshal and Firefighter for Crockett Fire Department, and Fire Inspector for Oakland Fire Department. He is certified as Firefighter I & II; Fire Prevention 1A, 1B, 1C, 2A, 2B, 2C, & 3A; Fire Inspector 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 2A, 2B, 2C, & 2D; Public Education I; Fire Investigation 1A, 1B, 2A, & 2B; Fire Management I; and Instructor I. Nehemiah has a B.S. in Fire Protection Administration from California State University Los Angeles and a M.S. in Emergency Services Administration from California State University Long Beach.

## **Saul San Filippo—Fleet & Facilities Manager**

Saul San Filippo accepted a full-time position of Fleet & Facilities Manager, effective April 8, 2019. Saul comes to us from City of San Carlos where he had been a Maintenance Worker since 2015. Prior to that, he worked for South Bay Recycling as the Site Manager and was the Operations Manager for Allied Waste, now known as Republic Services. He has various certifications including Automotive Service Excellence, Electrical Systems & Preventive Maintenance, and a Class A Commercial Driver’s License.



## **Calvin Plascencia—Fire Inspector**



Calvin Plascencia accepted a full-time Fire Inspector I position with the Bureau of Fire Protection and Life Safety, effective April 15, 2019. Calvin comes to us from Contra Costa County Fire Protection District where he was a Fire Inspector I. Prior to that, he worked as a Fire Reserve at Anaheim Fire & Rescue. His certifications include Inspector I, EMT, and CPR. He has completed various California State Fire Marshal Inspector & Plans Examiner courses. Calvin is currently pursuing a B.S. in Fire Protection Administration and Technology.

## **Angela DeNatale—Administrative Assistant**

Angela DeNatale accepted a full-time Administrative Assistant position with Fire Administration, effective July 28, 2019. Angela has served our department as a per-diem Administrative Assistant since April 1, 2019. Angela comes to us from Sonic Automotive where she was the Staff Accountant, performed payroll, and managed their bookkeeping and inventories. Previously, she also worked at Genentech as a Senior Administrative Associate.



## **Sirisha Palakodaty—Office Assistant**



Sirisha Palakodaty accepted a full-time Office Assistant position with the Bureau of Fire Protection and Life Safety, effective October 14, 2019. Previously, Sirisha worked as a temporary Administrative Assistant for our department, as an Office Assistant for Bailard, and as a Community Program Specialist for the San Mateo County Libraries in the Foster City branch. Sirisha graduated with a M.S. in Mathematics from Osmania University located in Hyderabad, India.

## **Kent Thrasher—Deputy Fire Chief**

*1/13/19*



Deputy Fire Chief Kent Thrasher began his fire service career as a Firefighter in Florida in 1992, now known as Jacksonville Fire and Rescue. He became a Paramedic and a member of the Dive Rescue Team in 1994. Kent moved to California in 1996 and worked as a paid-call Firefighter in Santa Cruz and as a Paramedic for American Medical Response. He was hired as a Firefighter/Paramedic in 1997 with Daly City Fire Department, and he later lateraled to South County Fire Authority in 1999, which served Belmont and San Carlos at the time. He went through HazMat Training with South County Fire Authority in 2000 and was promoted to Fire Captain in 2008. In 2014, Kent was promoted to Administrative Battalion Chief with Belmont Fire Protection District. Then on September 4, 2018, Kent was selected to serve as temporary Deputy Fire Chief of the Operations Division during the merger and transition into San Mateo Consolidated Fire and was officially promoted to Deputy Fire Chief permanently upon San Mateo Consolidated Fire's commencement of operations on January 13, 2019.

## **Lee Rossi—Fire Captain**

*5/5/19*



Captain Rossi joined Belmont Fire Department as a Firefighter on August 2, 2006. Lee excelled as a graduate of Cabrillo College with an A.S. in Fire Technology. He is a contributing member of San Mateo Consolidated Fire's Safety Committee and Training Committee. In 2012, he received the Firefighter of the Year Award under Belmont Fire Department, along with the rest of his truck crew, in recognition of a valiant rescue they had performed. He is a certified HazMat Technician/Specialist and is a member of the San Mateo County HazMat team. Lee's certifications include Fire Officer; Command 1A, 1B, & 1C; Training Instructor 1A & 1B; Fire Investigation 1A; Assistant Safety Officer—Hazardous Materials; Fire Management 1; and Fire Prevention 1 & 1A.

## **Gino Timpano—Fire Captain**

*5/5/19*



Captain Timpano joined San Mateo Fire Department as a Firefighter on October 19, 2011. In 2010, Gino was a member of San Mateo Fire Department's Cadet Program. He is currently a contributing member of San Mateo Consolidated Fire's Training Committee. Gino's certifications include Fire Officer; Firefighter II; Command 1A, 1B, & 1C; Rescue Systems 1, 2, & 3; Structural Collapse Technician; Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator 1; Training Instructor 1A & 1B; Fire Investigation 1A; Fire Management 1; Fire Prevention 1; ICS I-100, I-200, & I-700; and most recently, Acting Captain.

## **Kirk Steers—Fire Captain**

*5/5/19*



Captain Steers joined San Mateo Fire Department as a Firefighter on April 19, 2001. Kirk graduated with a B.S. in Business Administration—Finance from California State University Fresno, has an A.S. in Fire Science with Santa Rosa Junior College, and holds an Adult Education Teaching Credential from California Commission on Teacher Credentialing. Kirk is a member of San Mateo Consolidated Fire’s EMS Committee. He is certified in Fire Officer; Firefighter I & II; Incident Commander Type 5; Trench Rescue; Rescue Systems 1, 2, & 3; Structural Collapse Technician; Diversity Awareness; Fire Line EMT; Bloodborne Pathogens; Firefighter Survival; Wildland Firefighting; ICS I-100, I-200, & I-700; Rapid Intervention Crew Techniques & Tactics; Fitness & Health; Pre-Trauma Life Support; EMT-P Accreditation; and American Heart Association Pediatric Advanced Life Support Provider.

## **Angelo Santiago—Fire Captain**

*5/5/19*



Captain Santiago joined San Mateo Fire Department as a Firefighter on March 29, 2012. In 2011, he was a member of San Mateo Fire Department’s Cadet Program. He excelled in Santa Clara County’s Fire Academy and was honored with the Overall Academic Achievement Award. Angelo graduated with a B.S. and M.S. in Mechanical Engineering from John Hopkins and Stanford University, respectively. Angelo is a contributing member of San Mateo Consolidated Fire’s Policy & Procedures and Training Committee. He is certified in Fire Officer; Command 1A, 1B, & 1C; Firefighter Survival; Confined Space Rescue Awareness; Rescue Systems 1; Training Instructor 1A & 1B; Fire Investigation 1A; Fire Management 1; Fire Prevention 1; Fire Control 3A & 3B; S-130 & 190; Rapid Intervention Crew Operations; Low Angle Rope Rescue Operational; and ICS I-100, I-200, & I-700.

## **Bobby Minouei—Fire Captain**

*8/25/19*



Captain Minouei joined Belmont—San Carlos Fire Department as a Firefighter/Paramedic in September 25, 2000. Bobby was a member of San Mateo Consolidated Fire’s HazMat 114 subcommittee and is a certified HazMat Technician/Specialist and member of the San Mateo County HazMat team. His experience includes Fire Control 3; State Certified Fire Officer; 2011 Firefighter of the Year; Seasonal Firefighter, BFC, CDF Driver Operator, CSFTES Firefighter I, and Riverside County Firefighter I Academy; Firefighter II; Low Angle Rescue Certified; AED Instructor; HazMat Specialist; S-205 & 290; Confined Space Awareness; Wildland Fire & EMS Control; ROP Vehicle Extrication, Fire Protection Systems, Fire Service Operations, and Fire Chemistry Course; Best Overall Physical Fitness Award; and County Paramedic Preceptor. Bobby is also a Scott Repair Technician and bilingual with Farsi.

## **Deputy Fire Chief Ray Iverson was promoted to Fire Chief on December 27, 2019.**



Deputy Fire Chief Ray Iverson was appointed Fire Chief on December 27, 2019, upon the retirement of Fire Chief John Healy. Iverson was chosen on November 13, 2019, by the San Mateo Consolidated (SMC) Fire Board, which is comprised of council members from the three cities it serves. He is charged with continuing to lead the new department into its second year. SMC Fire commenced operations on January 13, 2019, and was formed by a Joint Powers Authority, merging the San Mateo, Foster City, and Belmont Fire Departments. SMC Fire is comprised of approximately 160 staff with over 260 years of combined history providing emergency services in the three communities.

“Thank you for the opportunity to serve in this capacity. I have dedicated the last 28 years of my life serving as a fire service professional. I owe all of my accomplishments to the members of this agency. None of us could be where we are today without each other,” Iverson said. “Some people say that a team is only as strong as its weakest link. I would like to think that a team is as strong as the total sum of its parts. The members of this organization are strong, and I am happy to be amongst such great leaders. I am looking forward to serving for many years to come.”

Iverson joined San Mateo Fire Department in 2015 as Deputy Fire Marshal. In 2017, he was assigned to Acting Fire Marshal and was promoted to Deputy Fire Chief in 2018. As Deputy, he managed the day-to-day operations of the Community Risk Reduction Division, overseeing the Bureau of Fire Protection and Life Safety, Office of Emergency Services, and Fleet & Facilities. Prior to his service in San Mateo, Iverson worked as a Fire Service Manager in the private sector. He has an extensive background in fire service from various departments throughout Northern California, which include Assistant Chief/Fire Marshal for Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District; Fire Marshal with Benicia Fire; Fire Inspector with Contra Costa County Fire Protection District and Vacaville; and Firefighter with Union City, Vacaville, and American Canyon Fire Protection District.

Iverson holds a B.S. in Fire Administration and is currently pursuing his M.P.A. with a concentration in Emergency Services Management from Columbia Southern University. He also has an A.S. in Fire Technology from Solano Community College and is a State Certified Chief Officer. Iverson has served in numerous service, academic, and leadership roles, including President for International Fire Service Foundation, Adjunct Faculty for City College of San Francisco, and Sergeant at Arms of the Rotary Club of San Mateo. Iverson was born in Oakland, grew up in Oakland and Vallejo, and is currently a San Mateo resident.

“Chief Iverson is the right person for the job. He’s well positioned to lead our organization well into the future. I love his commitment to his team and his skills as a leader to help everyone improve in their careers,” said Fire Board Chair Joe Goethals, a member of the San Mateo City Council. “Between his experience and passion for service, Chief Iverson will help ensure we maintain the highest level of service to our communities. He’s not just our Fire Chief. He’s a member of our community.”

# Badge Pinnings



Badge Pinning Ceremony on June 5



Deputy Fire Chief Kent Thrasher and his family



Captain Lee Rossi and his son



Captain Gino Timpano and his wife



Captain Kirk Steers and his wife



Captain Angelo Santiago and his wife



Captain Bobby Minouei and his wife



Badge Pinning Ceremony on October 18

San Mateo Consolidated Fire formally congratulates Captain Cowan, Firefighter Wilson, and Captain Lipperd on their retirements. Thank you for your 85 combined years of hard work and dedication to the fire service.

## **Dave Cowan—Fire Captain**



Captain Dave Cowan retired from San Mateo Consolidated Fire on July 24, 2019. Dave started his fire career as a Firefighter with San Mateo Fire Department on September 5, 1989. He received a Fire Science Technology degree from College of San Mateo in 1988, entered the Paramedic Training Program, and earned his Paramedic license in 1997. After 10 years as a Firefighter, Dave promoted to Captain on December 10, 2000. He was the Joint Chairperson of the Safety Committee, was responsible for overseeing all safety-related activities, and assisted many firefighters preparing to become officers by initiating Acting Captain task books. Dave has been a great example for others with his high level of proficiency, attention to detail, strong work ethics, leadership, and care for others.

## **Greg Wilson—Firefighter**



Firefighter Greg Wilson retired from San Mateo Consolidated Fire on December 26, 2019. Greg started his fire career on November 15, 1999. He served as Acting Captain from March 12 to June 3, 2017. He assisted and was commended for fighting the Santa Ana 347,000-acre fire in 2007. During the formation of our department, Greg was an active part of the OES Task Group. He was a member of the Station Design Input Subcommittee, assisted in purchasing bullet proof vests, participated in our Firefighter Mentor Program, and coordinated the Relay for Life Event at San Mateo High School and City of San Mateo Employees Charitable Giving Campaign. Over the years, he was known as Firefighter Greg "Santa" Wilson, providing the San Mateo community with many memories.

## **Scott Lipperd—Fire Captain**



Captain Scott Lipperd retired from San Mateo Consolidated Fire on December 30, 2019. He was hired with Foster City Fire Department on September 17, 1984. Prior to that, he was in the Seasonal Firefighter Academy for California Department of Forestry (CDF), worked in the Santa Cruz/San Mateo County Ranger Unit as a Seasonal Firefighter, attended the Engineers Academy for CDF in Lone Pine, and was an Engineer at the Humboldt Del Norte Ranger Unit. Scott promoted to Fire Captain on January 14, 2000. He was a mentor to many, was in charge of apparatus, tools, and equipment, was a member of the Medical/EMS Supply Committee, and assisted with charity benefits for the Foster City community, including senior citizens' lunches, "Burn Foundation", and "Burn Rally BBQ". He was also District Vice President for IAFF L2400 and active in the Local 2400 Union.

# Community Outreach

## Committed to the Residents

San Mateo Consolidated Fire is committed to serving the residents of Belmont, Foster City, and San Mateo. In addition to responding to fire, medical, and other emergencies, our staff participates in many neighborhood and community events, such as our annual Toy Drive, Chili Cook-Off, and open houses.



Firefighter Chili Cook-Off for the Muscular Dystrophy Association in Central Park



Open House at Fire Station 28



9/11 Memorial Ceremony at Fire Station 21



National Night Out at the Martin Luther King Center

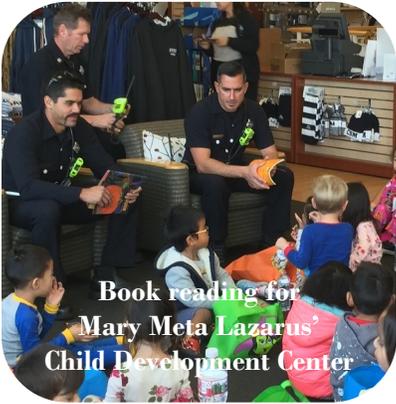


Cornhole Tournament fundraiser for the victims of the Gilroy Garlic Festival shooting



Peninsula Teen Heart Screening at San Mateo High School

# Community Outreach



Book reading for  
Mary Meta Lazarus'  
Child Development Center



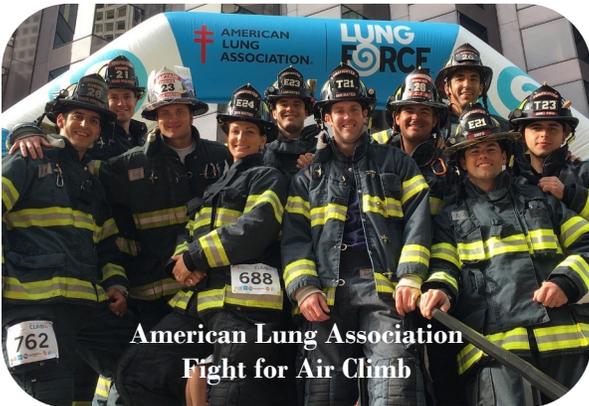
Firefighter Burn Relay for the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation



San Mateo Police Activities League  
Lights & Sirens Awards Dinner



Toy wrapping for College Park Elementary School



American Lung Association  
Fight for Air Climb



Breakfast with Santa at Fire Station 21



Career Day at Aragon High School



Little League Opening  
at Chanteloup Field

# Significant Incidents

Date	Description	City
February 18	Vehicle accident and fire on NB Highway 101 by Fashion Island on-ramp.	San Mateo
February 19	Structure fire in a single-family home on S. Humboldt Street.	San Mateo
February 24	Structure fire in a single-family home on Sylvan Avenue.	San Mateo
March 5	Structure fire in a single-family home on El Verano Way.	Belmont
March 12	Search and water rescue in the San Francisco Bay by Beach Park Boulevard.	Foster City
March 13	Two-story home structure fire on Covington Road.	Belmont
March 22	Vehicle accident involving a fire hydrant on Norton Street.	San Mateo
April 18	Vehicle accident with extrication on SB Highway 101 by Ralston Avenue.	Belmont
April 22	Truck accident with extrication on Tilton Avenue.	San Mateo
May 3	Multi-vehicle accident involving a head-on collision on S. El Camino Real Avenue.	San Mateo
May 23	Recreational vehicle fire on WB Highway 92 by Ralston Avenue.	San Mateo
May 29	Apartment structure fire on Casa de Campo Drive.	San Mateo
June 13	Two-story home structure fire on S. Norton Street.	San Mateo
June 29	Structure fire in a single-family home on Alameda de las Pulgas Avenue.	San Mateo
July 1	Hazardous material incident at Facebook in Menlo Park.	Menlo Park
July 19	Two-story home structure fire on Pegasus Lane.	Foster City
August 9	Two-story home structure fire on E. 5th Avenue.	San Mateo
September 16	Severed fire hydrant on N. Delaware Street.	San Mateo
November 14	Hazardous material incident involving cleaning chemicals on Foxhill Road.	Woodside
December 12	Sheared fire hydrant with rising waters on Cygnus Lane.	Foster City
December 18	Structure fire in a single-family home on Chula Vista Drive.	Belmont



# Significant Incidents



March 13



March 22



May 3



May 23



May 29



June 13



June 29



July 1



August 9



November 14



December 12



December 18

# Mutual Aid Responses

## State Mutual Aid Responses

Deployment	Name/Unit	From	To	Hours per Crew Members	# of Crew Members	Hours per Crew
Red Bank Fire	Firefighter Farrer	9/6/2019	9/11/2019	129	1	129
Walker Fire	Firefighter Ramsey	9/6/2019	9/16/2019	241	1	241
Kincade Fire	OES 405	10/25/2019	11/2/2019	202	4	808
Kincade Fire	Engine 24	10/27/2019	11/3/2019	171	4	684
Kincade Fire	Battalion Chief Thorne	10/27/2019	11/3/2019	171	1	171

**Grand Total: 2,033**

## Federal Mutual Aid Responses

Deployment	Name/Unit	From	To	Hours per Crew Members	# of Crew Members	Hours per Crew
Taboose Fire	Battalion Chief Towns	9/8/2019	9/22/2019	339	1	339

**Grand Total: 339**

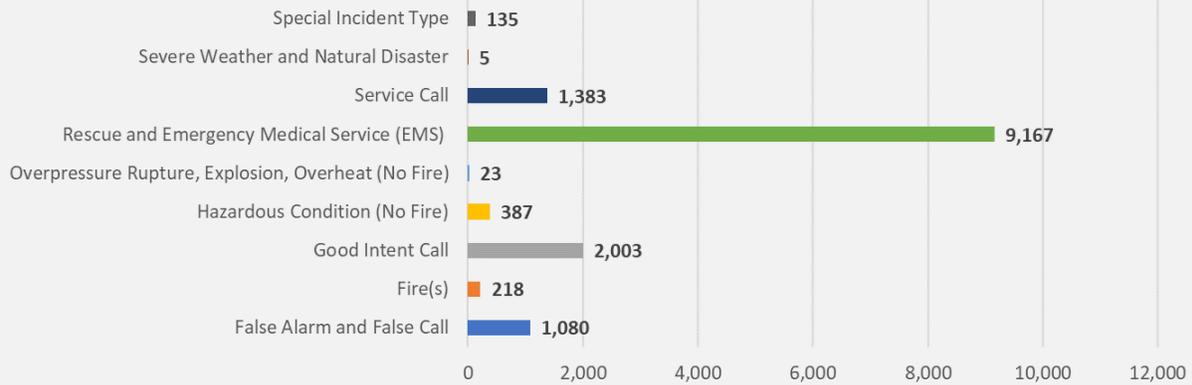


**Kincade Fire—Strike Team OES 405**

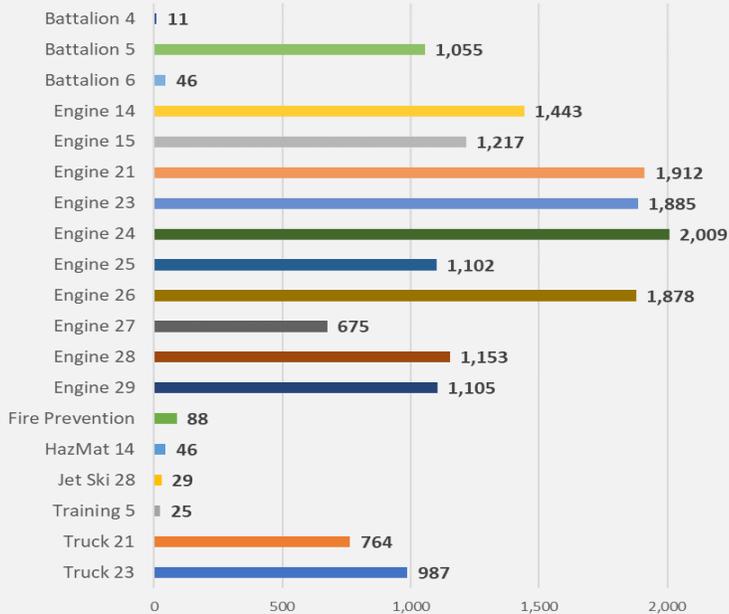
*Note: All deployments are reimbursed by State or Federal Agencies.*

# Department Statistics

## Incidents by Type (14,401 total)



## Responses by Unit (17,430 total)

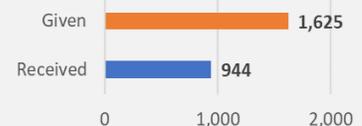


## Average Response Time

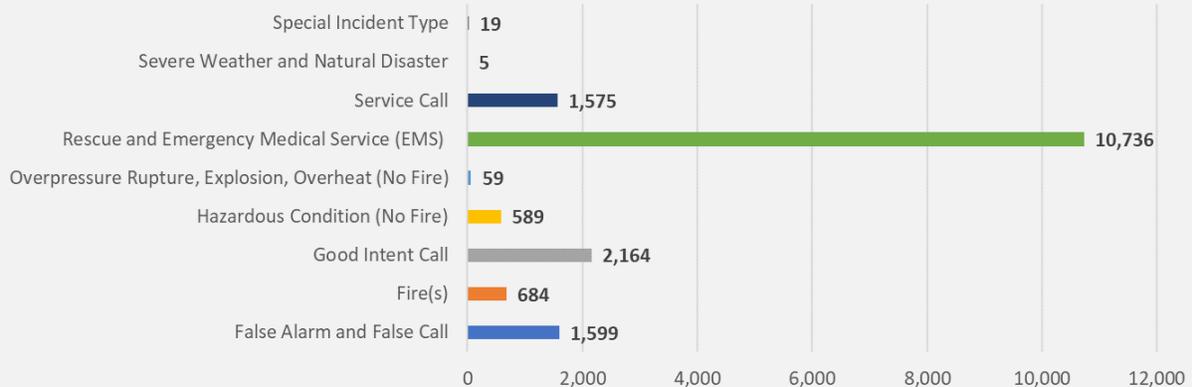
**04:36**  
**4 minutes 36 seconds**

*(only includes priority 1 calls and first engine in)*

## Automatic Aid Responses (2,569 total)



## Apparatus Responses by Type (17,430 total)



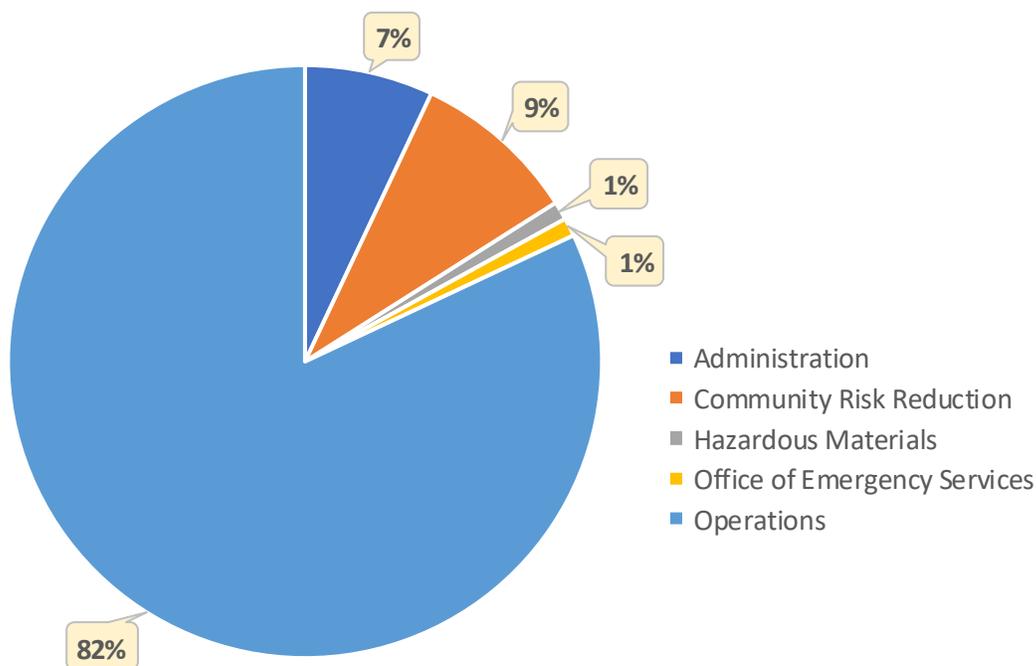
## Department Financials

Financials	2018-2019 Adjusted Budget	2019-2020 Proposed Budget
<b>Expenditures by Category</b>		
Personnel	\$15,438,875	\$36,674,443
Operating	\$2,064,584	\$4,407,770
Capital Outlay	\$691,572	\$1,100,000
<b>Total Expenditures by Category</b>	<b>\$18,195,031</b>	<b>\$42,182,213</b>
<b>Expenditures by Program</b>		
Administration	-	\$2,892,396
Community Risk Reduction	\$1,691,983	\$3,767,200
Hazardous Materials	-	\$643,780
Office of Emergency Services	-	\$467,110
Operations	\$16,503,048	\$34,411,727
<b>Total Expenditures by Program</b>	<b>\$18,195,031</b>	<b>\$42,182,213</b>
<b>Funding Sources</b>		
General Fund	\$16,503,048	\$38,415,013
Special Revenue Fund	\$1,691,983	\$3,767,200
<b>Total Funding Sources</b>	<b>\$18,195,031</b>	<b>\$42,182,213</b>

*Note: 2018-2019 commencement date of January 13, 2019.*

## Expenditures by Program

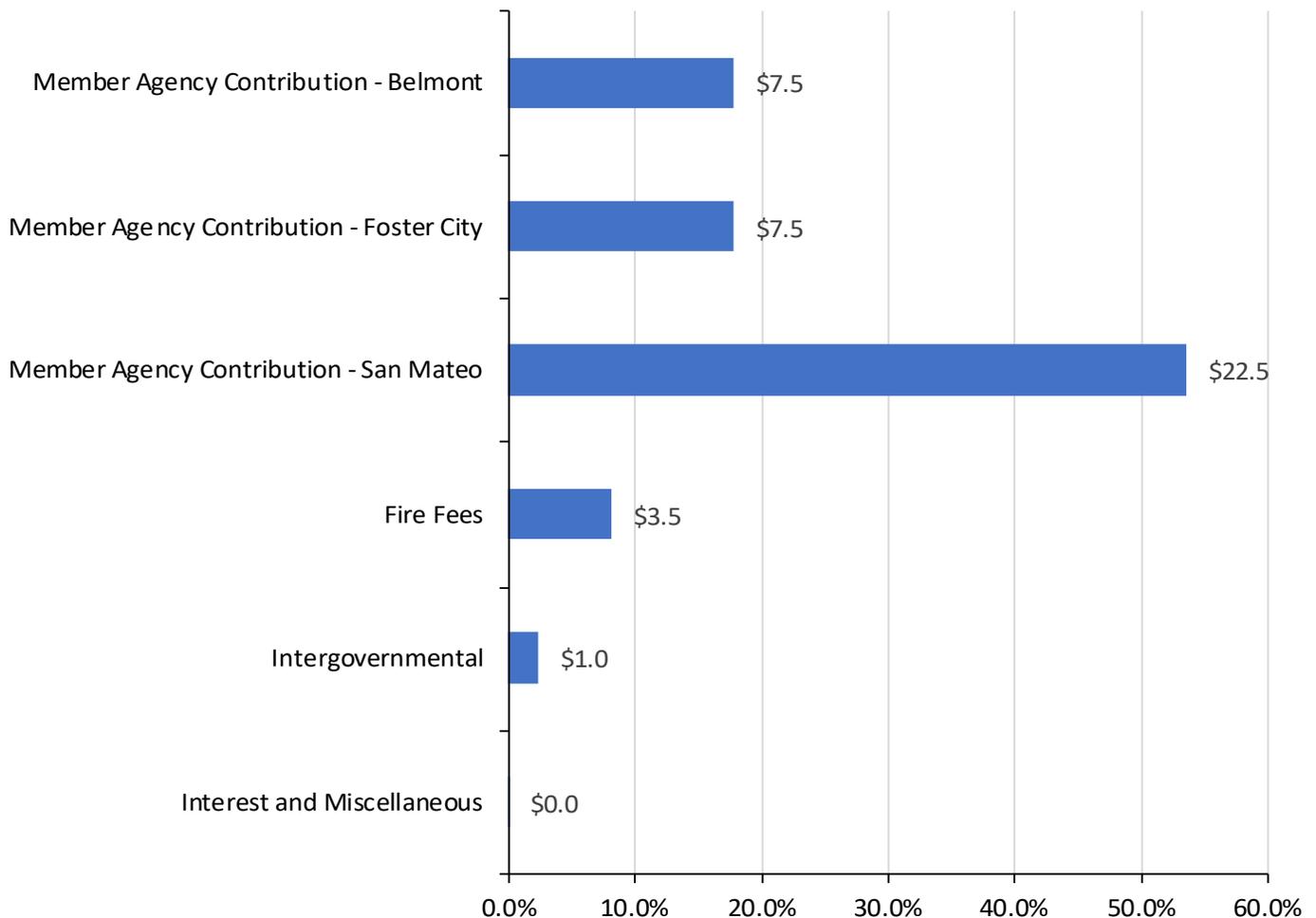
2019-2020 (\$42.2 Million)



## Sources of Funding

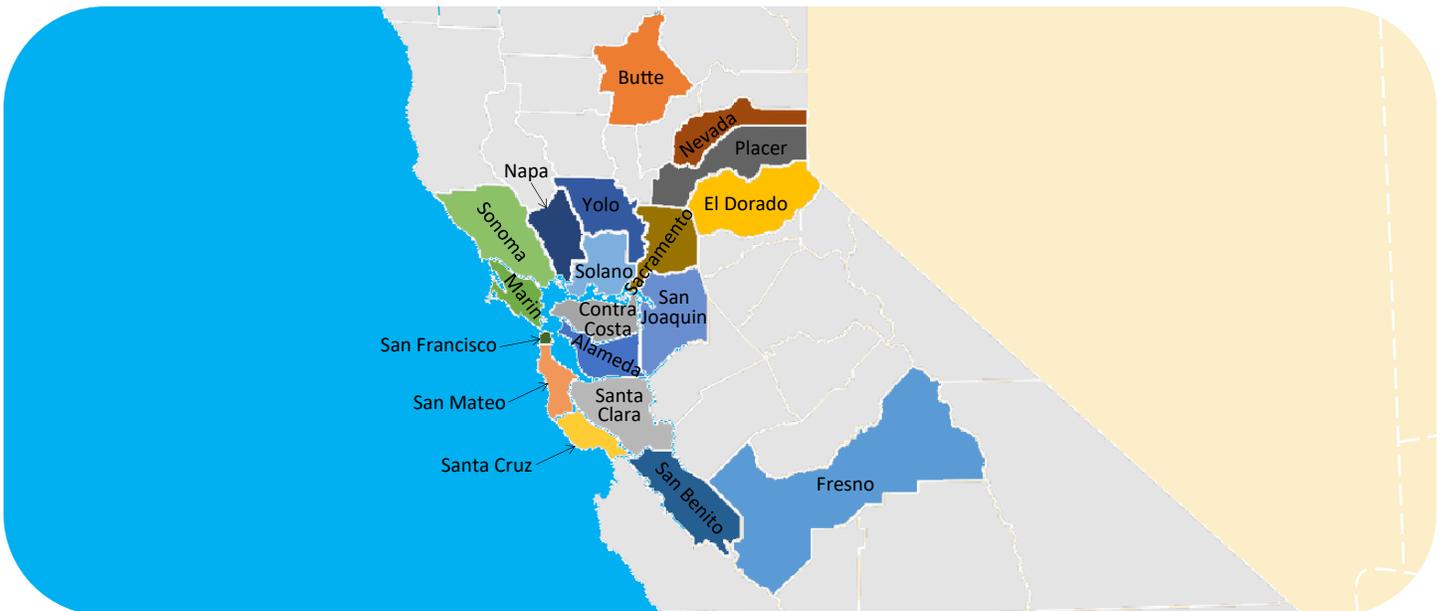
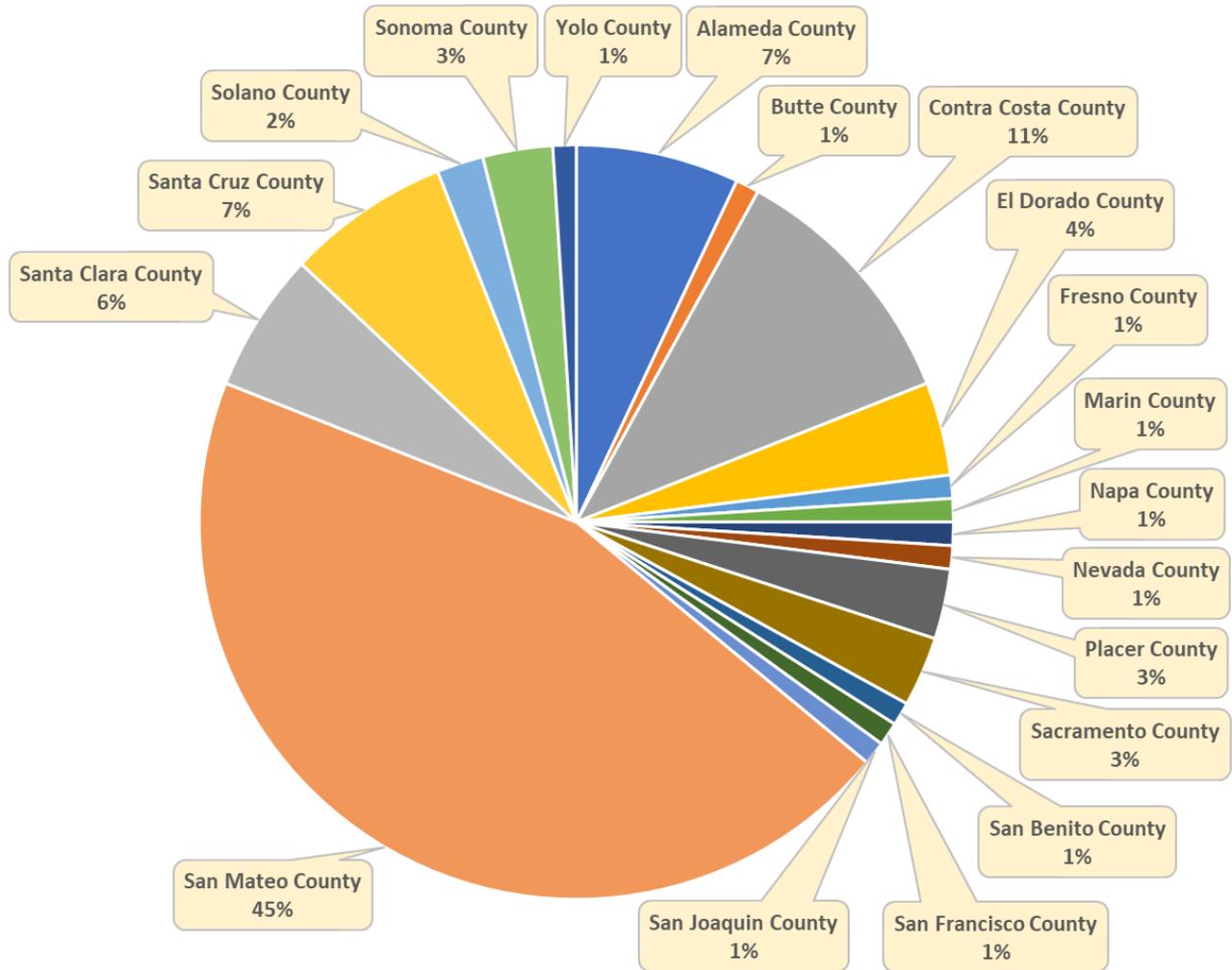
Category	2018-2019 Adjusted Budget	2019-2020 Proposed Budget
Member Agency Contribution - Belmont	\$3,300,610	\$7,487,307
Member Agency Contribution - Foster City	\$3,300,610	\$7,487,307
Member Agency Contribution - San Mateo	\$12,690,879	\$22,461,923
Fire Fees	\$903,284	\$3,450,186
Intergovernmental	\$160,914	\$978,476
Interest and Miscellaneous	-	\$8,160
<b>Total Sources of Funding</b>	<b>\$20,356,297</b>	<b>\$41,873,359</b>

### 2019-2020 (\$41.9 Million)



# Fire Personnel Residences

## Residence by County



## Central San Mateo County Training Division (CSMCTD)

CSMCTD is responsible for all Emergency Medical Services and Operations Training for the Central County Fire, San Bruno Fire, and San Mateo Consolidated Fire Departments.

### Core Values

Professionalism • Integrity • Trust • Service • Respect • Innovation

### 2019 Major Accomplishments

- Provided Simulations Training
- Provided Live Fire Training
- Continued Trauma Certification
- Provided State-required Training
- Improved classrooms at Station 23 and Station 34
- Provided Emergency Vehicles Operation Course
- Maintained all personnel’s Emergency Medical Services Certifications
- Provided Advanced Cardiac Life Support Training and Certification
- Hosted and provided Wildland S-classes
- Provided Confined Space Training
- Continued improvements to training sites
- Provided Infrequently Used Skills Training
- Hosted and provided Company & Chief Officer Classes
- Provided HazMat & Multiple Casualty Incident Training
- Provided Low Angle Rope Rescue Operations Training

### Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Key Program Goals & Strategies

- Coordinate the 2019 SMC Spring Fire Academy
- Provide CPR Recertification Training
- Provide mandatory Sexual Harassment Training
- Continue improvements to training sites
- Provide Live Fire Training
- Provide State-required Training
- Maintain all member Emergency Medical Services Certifications
- Provide Prehospital Trauma Life Support Training and Certification
- Provide Rapid Intervention Crew Training
- Coordinate Promotional Exams
- Provide Wildland Training
- Provide Multiple Casualty Incident Training
- Host S-230 and S-231 Training
- Provide Firefighter Survival Training
- Provide recertification Pediatric Advanced Life Support Training
- Collaborate with San Bruno on use of YouTube building for various training events

Performance & Workload Measures	2019	2018	2017
Completion of Required Continued Education Training—Paramedics/EMTs	100%	100%	100%
Training Hours—Operations	18,995	12,427	16,597
Training Hours—Driver	2,143	1,876	2,697
Training Hours—EMS	3,632	3,549	3,653

# Office of Emergency Services

The Office of Emergency Services (OES) strives to maintain, sustain, and improve upon a comprehensive, multi-city, risk-based emergency management program. This is accomplished through community disaster preparedness; training and exercise; Emergency Operations Center readiness; emergency response roles; and recovery, resilience, and mitigation strategies.

## Community Disaster Preparedness

- Staff trained in CERT Program Management and the Train-The-Trainer program and became certified American Heart Association trainers of CPR and First Aid.
- OES routinely collaborated with partners and stakeholders in the San Mateo County Operational Areas.

## Training and Exercise

- OES implemented a Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan with specific training programs for staff with disaster response roles and also ensured compliance with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and California's Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) training requirements.

## Emergency Operations Center Readiness

- OES partially activated Foster City's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for the July 4th Fireworks Show, including utilization of an Event Action Plan, SMC Alert, and CERT volunteers via radio communication.
- OES partially activated San Mateo's EOC for the PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoffs, including countywide briefings, coordination of information, and preparedness actions and community messaging campaigns.

## Emergency Response Roles

- Staff responded to a multi-family San Mateo fire and assisted the American Red Cross with temporary housing for displaced residents.

## Recovery, Resilience, and Mitigation Strategies

- Staff supported Public Works with their grant submissions related to mitigating the effects of the PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoffs.



# Office of Emergency Services

## 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

OES continued to broaden the engagement of its stakeholders by interacting with the community, city departments, and emergency preparedness stakeholders on local, regional, and state levels.

### PARTICIPATION

3

Exercises with partners of the community: SFO, SMC Health, and CalTrain.

### RECOGNITION

3

City Council proclamations in honor of September National Preparedness Month.

### FIRST AID

42

Community members trained in basic first aid skills.

### CPR

73

Community members trained in CPR and AED skills.

### SUPPLIES

100

People that can be supported in an emergency shelter with supplies procured this year.

### GET READY CLASS

140

Community members trained in basic disaster preparedness skills.

### OPEN HOUSE

500

Community members that attended the 1st Annual SMC Fire Open House.

### GRANTS

\$38,000

Funds awarded by CalWater to purchase one mile of fire hose for regional hose tender.

## SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE, AND PROFESSIONALISM

Due to the frequency of disasters, best practices for emergency management are constantly changing. As communities respond to and recover from disasters, new plans and processes are identified so emergencies can be managed with better outcomes. In 2019, OES participated in workshops and seminars to meet with emergency managers and learn from their experiences.

<p><b>MARCH 13</b> Country Alliance Bay Area Regional Workshop <i>Community stakeholders in emergency response plans</i></p>	<p><b>MARCH 6</b> Debris Management Workshop <i>Post-disaster debris removal efforts</i></p>
<p><b>MAY 28</b> Volunteer &amp; Donation Management Training <i>Best practices for incorporating these topics into response plans</i></p>	<p><b>MAY 1-2</b> 2nd Annual Mass Notification Seminar <i>Public alerts and warnings to obtain best practices and lessons learned</i></p>
<p><b>JUNE 6</b> Critical Transportation Workshop <i>Bay Area critical transportation infrastructure and emergency planning</i></p>	<p><b>JUNE 3</b> California for All Emergency Preparedness Summit <i>Voluntary organizations in emergency response plans</i></p> <p><b>JUNE 14</b> PG&amp;E Power Safety Shutoff Workshop <i>New protocols for turning off power during red flag weather events to minimize wildfires</i></p>
<p><b>OCTOBER 21-24</b> CESA Annual Conference &amp; Training <i>Best practices from California's emergency management community</i></p>	

## TRAINING AND EXERCISE SUCCESSES

221

DISASTER TRAINING CERTIFICATES EARNED BY CITY STAFF

# OF CITY EMPLOYEES THAT ATTENDED "GET READY" CLASSES

100

50

STAFF & VOLUNTEERS IN STATEWIDE HEALTH AND MEDICAL EXERCISE

NEWLY TRAINED EMERGENCY SHELTER WORKERS

40

3

YEARS TIMELINE TO ACHIEVE CALOES TYPE III EOC TRAINING LEVEL

## Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

The CERT program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and exercises, members can assist others in their neighborhood/workplace following an event when professional responders are not available immediately to help. CERT is a dynamic community of volunteers who want to help their neighbors!

### Program Highlights

The CERT program continues to be popular among our residents of Belmont, Foster City, and San Mateo. Since the first CERT course in 2004, almost 2,500 neighbors have been trained in emergency preparedness and response and have become part of a citywide emergency response team program. The program is also offered to City employees, making them better prepared both at home and City Hall if an emergency strikes.

Throughout 2019, CERT volunteers participated in San Mateo Consolidated Fire's delivery of the CERT course to various audiences in the community. We partnered with San Mateo Adult School to teach the course to English as a Second Language (ESL) students, representing five languages. We continued to strengthen our relationship with Gilead Sciences through the delivery of our sixth business CERT course. Finally, we provided the CERT course to community members living or working in Belmont, Foster City, and San Mateo.

The current roster of active CERT volunteers includes doctors, nurses, elected officials, and amateur radio specialists. This year, the team was proud to present over 60 continuing education classes or training events to our volunteers. CERT volunteers also participated in a number of public events and partnerships, including:

- Supplementing the County Sheriff's Search & Rescue Team in the search for a missing senior citizen
- Notre Dame High School Sober Prom Anti-DUI Event
- 5k/10k Fun Run
- San Mateo County's Annual Disaster Preparedness Day
- San Mateo Consolidated Fire's Firefighter Association's Chili Cook-Off
- San Mateo Consolidated Fire's Annual Holiday Toy Drive
- Statewide Health and Medical Exercise emergency shelter simulation, organized by the County Health Department
- San Mateo Consolidated Fire's first Open House, attended by hundreds of residents from all three cities
- American Red Cross "Sound the Alarm" campaign, installed new smoke detectors in over 210 residences in San Mateo

This year, our CERT and Public Education programs successfully received a Listos California Grant from the State of California. The grant's purpose is to engage more of our residents in preparedness activities, with special emphasis on preparedness in the vulnerable population with language barriers.

While CERT is a national program, its heart is at the neighborhood level. CERT volunteers are about neighbors helping neighbors and doing the greatest good for the greatest number. To learn more about the program, visit [www.smcfire.org/CERT](http://www.smcfire.org/CERT).



Disaster Medical Training



Radio Team



Disaster Medical Station



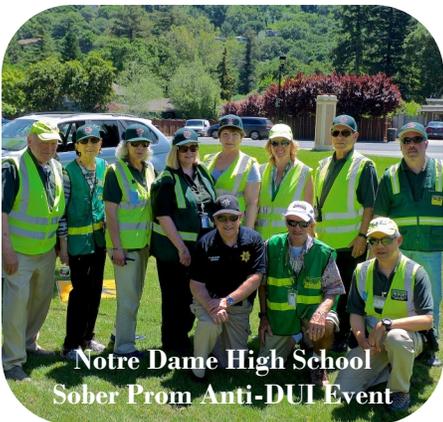
CERT Course Survivor Rescue



Skills Day



4th of July Crew



Notre Dame High School  
Sober Prom Anti-DUI Event



Lifts and Carry Techniques



Silver Alert Search Team



Shelter Registration



City Staff CERT Program



American Red Cross  
Sound the Alarm

# Fire Protection & Life Safety

## Program Overview

The Bureau of Fire Protection and Life Safety provides several services to enhance protection of the citizens of the jurisdiction. The Commercial Inspection Program strives to inspect commercial occupancies, including those mandated by the State, to ensure fire safety. Our plan review program looks at all newly constructed and remodeled buildings to check for code compliance with both the Fire and Building Codes. Once reviewed, our Construction Inspection program verifies that the plans are followed. We also provide fire investigation services, looking at most fires that occur to determine what caused the fire. In 2019, we completed 4,121 commercial inspections, including mandated and non-mandated occupancies, completed 1,100 construction inspections, completed 1,090 plan reviews, and assessed 148 planning applications.

## Mandated Inspections

After the 2017 Ghostship Fire in Oakland, the State Legislature passed SB 1205, which requires that a notification to the governing body of each fire department report on the status of their inspections mandated by law in Section 13146 of the Health and Safety Code. Subsequent to this law, the San Mateo County Civil Grand Jury released a report entitled “Fire Safety Inspection Programs on the Road to Recovery” in which they made a number of recommendations, one of which asked that the department report the results via an annual report no later than March of each year on the status of the inspections.

## Inspection Results

Occupancy	Total # of Buildings	# Inspected	% Complete
High-Rise Buildings	28	28	100%
Schools	56	56	100%
Residential	1,829	1,829	100%
Jails	1	1	100%

## Continued Education

Continuing our education is an important part of what we do. The Fire Code changes every three years for the State of California. As a result, San Mateo Consolidated Fire hosted a fire code update class with the San Mateo County Fire Prevention Officers Association in Foster City’s Emergency Operations Center.



# Fire Protection & Life Safety

## Significant Projects

### **Homewood Suites by Hilton Belmont**

*1201 Shoreway Road, Belmont*

We reviewed and inspected a new hotel in Belmont with parking on the first floor and a pool house at the second level of the building. The Homewood Suites by Hilton was completed in December 2019.



### **Gillead Sciences Lab Building**

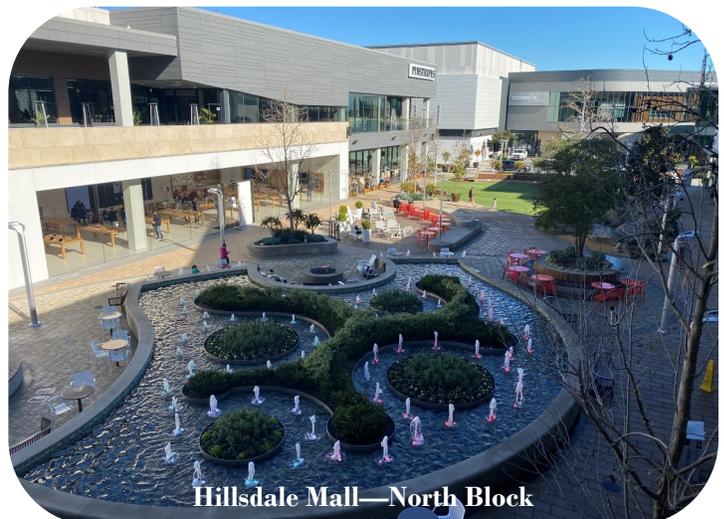
*324 Lakeside Drive, Foster City*

The new Gillead Sciences Lab Building located in Foster City consists of a large office and a lab building with an associated parking structure. The project was completed in the middle of 2019.

### **Hillsdale Mall North Block**

*Multiple buildings in San Mateo*

The Hillsdale Mall—North Block was one of the largest projects of the year in San Mateo. It has a Cinepolis Movie Theater, restaurants, and stores, like Shake Shack and Apple Store. The new building also includes Pinstripes, a multi-functional restaurant and entertainment venue.



# Contact Us

## Administration Office



Phone: (650) 522-7900



Fax: (650) 522-7901



Email: [fire@smcfire.org](mailto:fire@smcfire.org)



Address: 1040 E. Hillsdale Boulevard  
Foster City, CA 94404



Hours: Monday—Friday  
8:00 am—5:00 pm

## Community Risk Reduction Office



Phone: (650) 522-7940



Fax: (650) 522-7941



Email: [fire@smcfire.org](mailto:fire@smcfire.org)



Address: 1900 O'Farrell Street, #375  
San Mateo, CA 94403



Hours: Monday—Friday  
8:00 am—5:00 pm

## Social Media



Facebook: @SMCFireDept



Instagram: @SMCFireDept



Twitter: @SMCFireDept

## Stay Informed

Website: [www.smcfire.org](http://www.smcfire.org)

Classes: [www.smcfire.eventbrite.com](http://www.smcfire.eventbrite.com)

SMC Alerts: [www.smcalert.info](http://www.smcalert.info)





PROUDLY SERVING THE CITIES OF BELMONT, FOSTER CITY, AND SAN MATEO

