

# KIOWA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

## 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Kiowa Fire Protection District

403 County Road 45

P.O. Box 321

Kiowa, CO 80117

Phone: 303-621-2233 [www.kiowafire.org](http://www.kiowafire.org)



# 2022

## Message from the Chief



On behalf of our firefighters, I would like to invite you to read our 2022 Annual Report.

The Kiowa Fire Protection District serves approximately 3000 residents within 324 square miles in Elbert County, Colorado. We provide structural and wild land protection, Advanced Life Support Emergency Medical Services and Community Education. Our equipment, personnel, and training are specially adapted to the challenges of the rural area.

2022 brought a record number of calls for service (535) and growth continues to fuel the need for these service calls. Call volume increased 11% from 2021 and the trend of 10-15% increase each year, for the last decade, continued with the year 2022.

We are committed to provide quality service, organizational success, and individual excellence by each one of our members.

The mission we have set for our organization is to provide the highest level of life and property safety through the extension of Fire Prevention, Fire Suppression, Emergency Medical Response and Public Education consistent with the prudent utilization of funds and community resources.

In addition to our ability to respond under all conditions, we are actively engaged in the community with Fire and Life Safety as one of our primary goals. The KFPD provides residents and businesses with a full range of programs and services, such as Community CPR, annual business inspections and annual fire hydrant testing. It is our goal to ensure all members of our community that their quality of life is safe and secure. Fire prevention is one of the keys to a safe community. The KFPD continues to implement a Public Education campaign encouraging the proper use of fireplaces, heaters, smoke alarms, and carbon monoxide detectors.

Our volunteer membership is what makes our department so special. Over 25, volunteers, hundreds of hours of training, thousands of hours in shift work, state of the art equipment, and that “hometown” neighbor-helping-neighbor mindset is what we call our recipe for success. If you are interested in volunteering or supporting KFPD, we’d like to hear from you. You may contact us at 303-621-2233 visit [www.kiowafire.org](http://www.kiowafire.org) or visit our Fire Station # 1 in the Town of Kiowa, Colorado.

With Respect,

Gerry Lamansky





# History



The Kiowa Fire Protection District covers a 324 square mile area of north central Elbert County and is comprised of approximately 95% undeveloped land, 4% residential properties, and 1% commercial properties. The district runs to the county line at County Road 194 on the North. The Eastern boundary is bordered by County Road 125, the Southern boundary is County Road 94 and the Western boundary is County Road 25.

The Kiowa Fire Protection District has a population of approximately 3000 permanent residents with about two thirds of the population commuting out of the county for work. The district is mainly comprised of rural agricultural lands with low density mixed value housing on lots ranging from three acres up to 35 acres. While the fire district is primarily rural, it also encompasses a small downtown area of about a half of a square mile which includes single and multi-story commercial structures, small residential structures, a mobile home park, the Elbert County Justice Center, the Elbert County Administrative Building and the Elbert County Fairgrounds. It is anticipated that Elbert County will experience an annual growth rate of 3.63% or an overall growth rate of 191.1% from 2000-2030. This is expected to exceed the growth rate of neighboring Douglas County

The Fire District is covered by two fire stations. Station 221 is located at 403 County Road 45 in downtown Kiowa and Station 222 is located off of County Road 53 Road 53 approximately 1.5 miles North of County Road 166. Additionally the Fire District maintains Training Center just east of the Town of Kiowa on Highway 86 .





# Budget Message

In addition to regular fire suppression, EMS, and Fire Code enforcement services, additional activities included ongoing yearly upkeep of firefighting equipment, communications and medical equipment and continuing education programs for paid and volunteer staff. The Kiowa Fire Protection District has a full time Fire Chief and Deputy Chief, who also both serve as paramedics, one full-time Paramedic/Firefighter, one full-time EMT/Firefighter, 5 part-time paramedics, and a part-time Administrative/Finance Officer.

The District is also served by approximately 25 dedicated volunteer firefighters and EMT's and continues to recruit additional volunteers to satisfy the needs of the District. The volunteers have an integrated shift work schedule to help provide a faster response to the community. In addition to paid and volunteer staff, the District has automatic and mutual aid agreements in place with surrounding agencies. All of these systems are the backbone of public safety services provided to our residents.

The District continues to explore grant opportunities for critical emergency equipment infrastructure such as vehicle acquisition, fire suppression and medical equipment.

The Kiowa Fire Protection District has one lease purchase agreement at this time. The lease purchase is with Community Banks of Colorado for the fire station addition in the amount of \$250,000. This lease purchase was entered into in 2017 for a 10 year period at an interest rate of 3.2% with an annual payment of \$29,510 that commenced May 1, 2018 and the final payment due May 1, 2028.

The Kiowa Fire Protection District has seen an increase in assessed valuation resulting in a slight property tax revenue increase. SOT taxes are projected to increase and growth in other District revenues will increase marginally.

The District continues to remain at the same mil levy of 8.689 mils, since we formed as a District in 1984.





# Grants



Grants are a great way for our department to acquire additional funding for equipment and services that exceed our department's operational budget. Grants can help pay for safety equipment, new fire apparatus, EMS equipment or provide funding for additional staff. Securing proper funding allows us to provide a safe work environment for our firefighters and helps ensure public health and safety.

Accomplishing these goals at a time when it is imperative to capitalize on every expenditure and opportunity is challenging. What most people don't understand is the time and energy that is required to search and successfully write the grants, then in turn complete the process if the grant is awarded. Kiowa Fire is extremely proud of our grant seeking efforts and those that are awarded.

## 2022 GRANT AWARDS

- A \$19,561.00 grant from the Firefighter Safety and Disease Prevention Grant. This allowed KFPD to purchase battery operated auto extrication tools including spreaders, cutters, batteries and accessories.
- A \$35,369.00 grant from the State Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Grant. This grant will cover 50% of the \$70,738.00 needed to purchase two cardiac monitors to replace our current heart monitors that are 11 years old and are considered nearing the end of their service life.
- A \$4,910.00 grant from the Volunteer Firefighters Assistance Grant. This covered 50% of the cost to purchase two new demolition saws, wildland hose and an electric winch for our State and Federally deployable Type 6 Brush truck.
- A \$9,000.00 grant/donation of ballistic gear for our First Responders from Shield 616.
- A \$25,000.00 grant from Google Corporation via the Elizabeth Firefighters Foundation for the purchase of Mobile Data Terminals for all District vehicles.
- A \$2,115.00 grant from the Second Round of the Volunteer Firefighters Assistance Grant. This covered 50% of the cost to purchase five battery operated chain saws and accessories.



# Operations

Our departments 2022 Operating budget was \$645,135. Revenue budgeted for ambulance user fees was \$60,000. Our apparatus include 2 Advanced Life Support equipped ambulances, 2 structural engines, 3 brush trucks, 1 water tender, 2 support vehicles, 2 command vehicles, 2 snowmobiles, and a 4 wheel drive UTV.

## Highlights include:

- A record number of calls for service were performed (535).
- All bay doors were replaced at a cost of approximately \$18,000.00. The previous doors were over 30 years old and poorly insulated.
- The fuel tank at the Training Center was decommissioned, as well as a disposal of 300 gallons of hazardous waste that had accumulated for 20 years.
- All seventy one (71) businesses within the District received at least one annual fire inspection.
- Eighteen (18) fire hydrants within the Town had annual inspections and water flow tests performed.
- Firefighter / EMT Corey Nyholm successfully completed and graduated from Arapahoe Community College Paramedic class.
- The Kiowa Fire District and Elizabeth Fire District conducted their first joint Fire Academy with 13 firefighters obtaining their State Firefighter I certification.
- Ninety seven percent (97%) of all staff are certified at a minimum level of Firefighter I and EMT.
- Cistern repair was completed at Station 2.
- We were awarded \$95,954.00 in various grants in 2022.
- Our 1989 Beck Engine was sent to surplus due to the need for expensive repairs.
- Our agency was chosen as a state testing site for the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control. Testing will be offered to applicants throughout the state for firefighter exams and will be done on a quarterly basis.
- New construction throughout the District included the new Elbert County Road and Bridge facility, a Burnco concrete plant and several smaller projects.
- We collected \$155,363.00 in ambulance revenue. This is 258% above our anticipated 2022 Ambulance revenue of \$60,000.00.
- We collected \$48,675.00 in Fire Impact fees in 2022





# Responses



In 2022 the Kiowa Fire District ran a record number of calls for service, 535, up 11% from 2021's call volume of 484 calls.

In 2022 we responded to...

- 11 Structure Fires
- 4 Car Fires
- 21 Brush Fires
- 238 EMS calls resulting in 137 ambulance transports
- 49 Motor Vehicle Accidents
- 9 Police Assists
- 20 Fire Alarms
- 140 Citizen's Assists
- 1 Downed Power line
- 12 Outside Smoke Investigations
- 1 Inside Smoke Investigation
- 1 Gas Leak
- 3 Illegal Burns
- 5 Odor Investigations
- 4 Water Problems
- 2 Lightning Strikes
- 2 Fuel Spills
- 3 Arcing Transformers
- 1 Downed Helicopter
- 2 Animal Rescues
- 4 Carbon Monoxide Alarm



**Mutual Aid Given:** 69 (14 fires, 55 medicals)

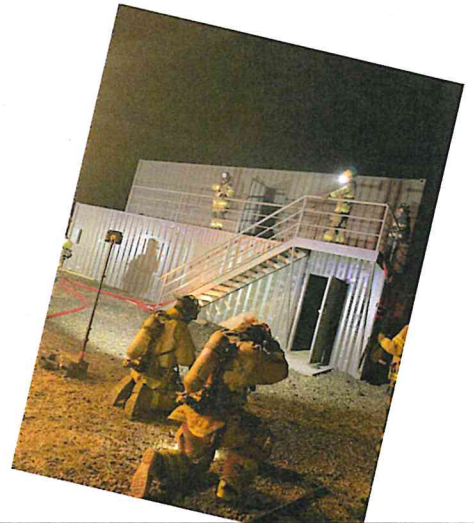
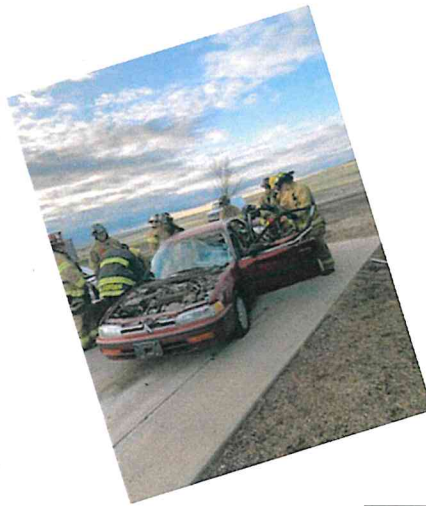
**Mutual Aid Received:** 24 (14 fires, 10 medicals)



# Training

Our firefighters performed over 2,800 man-hours of training in 2022. Trainings included both fire and medical aspects, which include search drills, hose management, vehicle fires, foam evolutions, wildland response, water supply, fire streams, live fire evolutions, hazmat, rope rescue, Basic Life Support, and Advanced Life Support skills. At this time 97% of our staff hold a Firefighter I, Hazardous Operations, EMT, or greater certification.

- 100% of the active volunteers have obtained their basic wildland certifications.
- 1 member became certified as a Car Seat Technician, which allows her to assist community residents in installing child car seats.
- 1 member earned his Firefighter II certification.
- 1 member earned his Paramedic certification.
- 4 members earned their EMT certification.
- 4 members earned their Firefighter I certification.
- We conducted the first joint Fire Academy between Kiowa and Elizabeth Fire District's.



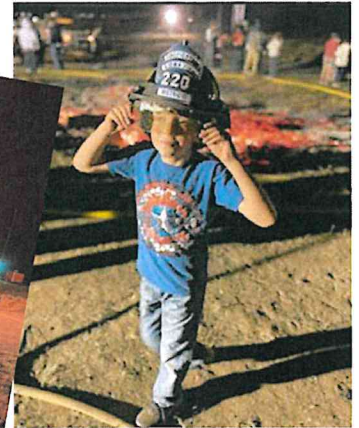
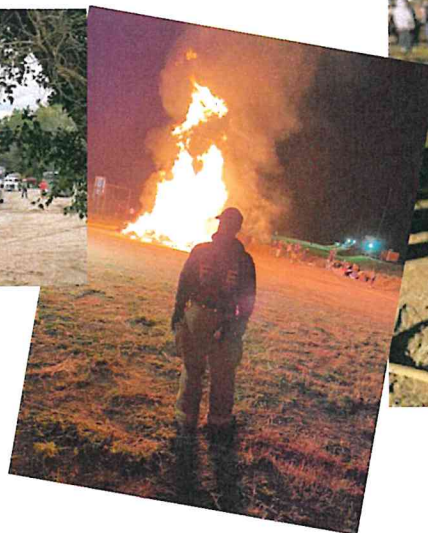




# Community Events

In 2022 our firefighters...

- Performed EMS standby at the Kiowa High School football games.
- Provided medical services coverage for the Elbert County Fair Rodeos, Cowboy Up Rodeo, Bucking Horse Futurity, multiple Messer Arena Events including the week-long Yom Kippur Jewish Holiday gathering.
- Participated in a the Elbert County Fair and Kiowa High School Homecoming parades and the Kiowa High School Bon Fire event.
- Conducted 8 fire alarm drills at the Kiowa Schools.
- Participated in the Town's Parade of Lights delivering Santa to Town Hall.
- Conducted several CPR classes to residents.
- Seventy-one fire inspections on local businesses were performed.
- Members held their annual Halloween Party in October for children of the community.
- Members participated in the Town of Kiowa's Harvest Festival





# Personnel



Trevor Beutner-FF

Paul Budaj—Haz Mat Instructor

Connor Burke— Paramedic/Lt.

Alex Burton-FF/EMT

Ethan Dunlop— EMT

Savannah Elliott— FF/EMT

Adam Erway —FF/EMT

Ben Felts-FF/EMT

Jason Fisher-FF/Paramedic

Robert Fuller-FF/Paramedic

Austin Garza-EMT/LT.

Aaron Harris Deputy Chief / Paramedic

Gerry Lamansky-Chief/Paramedic

Aaron Lutter-FF/EMT

Mariah Majka-FF/EMT

Victor Martinez— EMT

Erik Moller -FF/Paramedic

Sidney Morrison-FF/EMT

Corey Nyholm-FF/EMT

Chris Tatreau-FF

Emma Taylor-FF /EMT

Gage Valdez —FF /EMT

Zachary Vanconnett— FF/EMT

Michael Welk-FF/EMT







# Apparatus



2018 Ford Expedition - Chief 220



2020 Ford Expedition—Chief 221



2008 Ford F-250 - Support 221



2008 Ford F-550 4x4 Brush Truck  
400 Gallon water tank~ CAFS system



2008 Ford F-550 4x4 Brush Truck  
400 Gallon water tank~ CAFS system



2015 Ford F-550 4x4 400 Gallon  
Type 6 Brush Truck



2016 4x4 Ford F-350 ALS Ambulance



2012 4x4 Ford F-350 ALS Ambulance



2002 Sterling 3400 gallon water tender



2000 American LaFrance 800 Gallon  
Water Tank/ 1500 GPM pump



2008 Pierce Velocity 750 gallon  
water tank / 2000 GPM pump



1989 Beck 1000 gallon water tank  
1500 GPM pump



2007 Ford Expedition— Support 222



Twin 550 Artic Cats— Snow Rescue



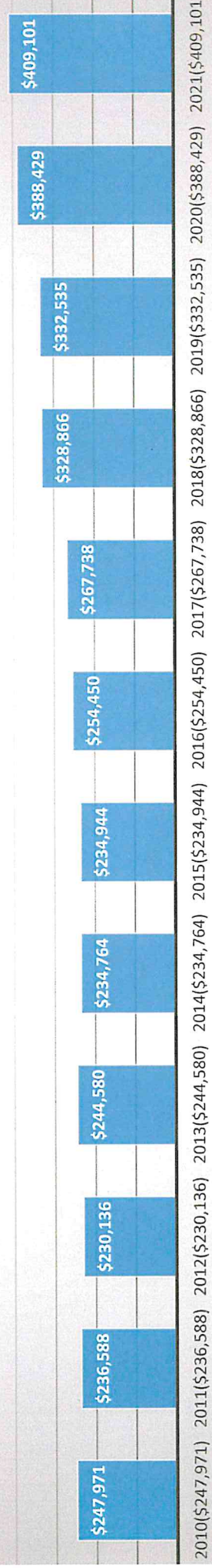
2020 Kabota UTV



## Call Volume

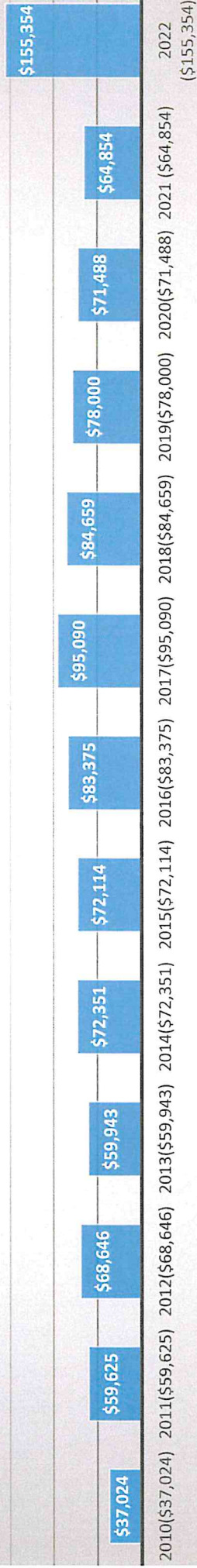


## Property Tax

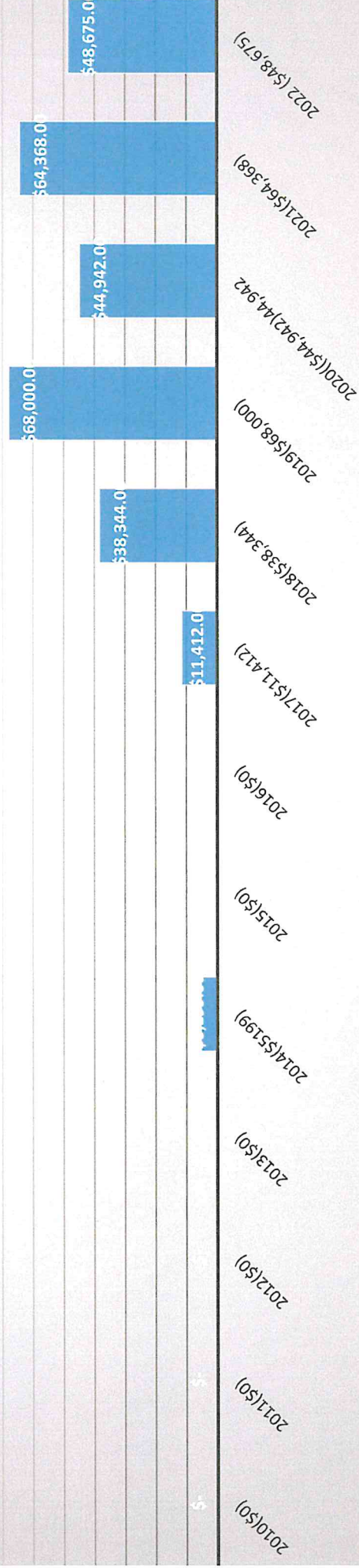




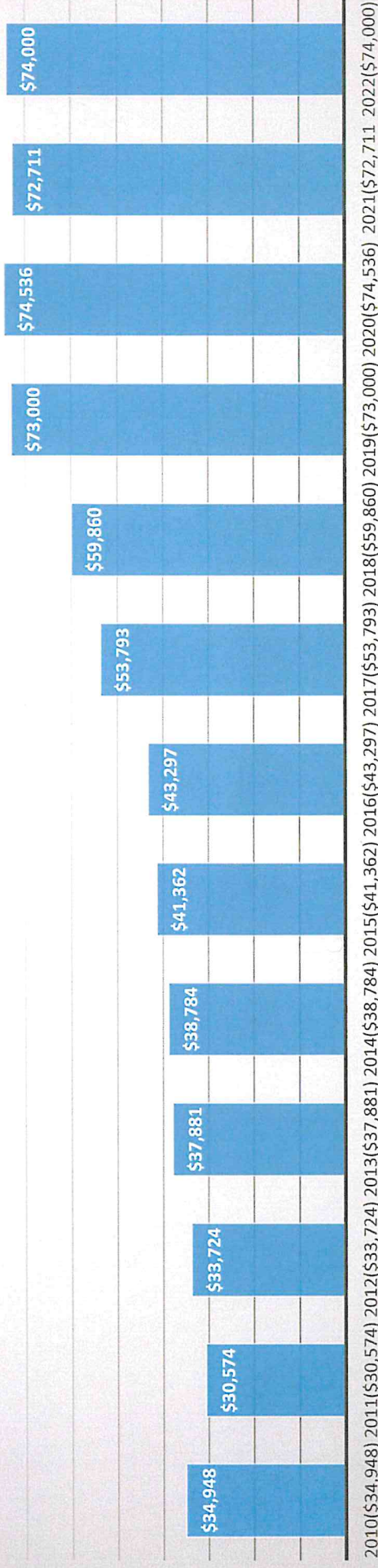
## Ambulance Revenue



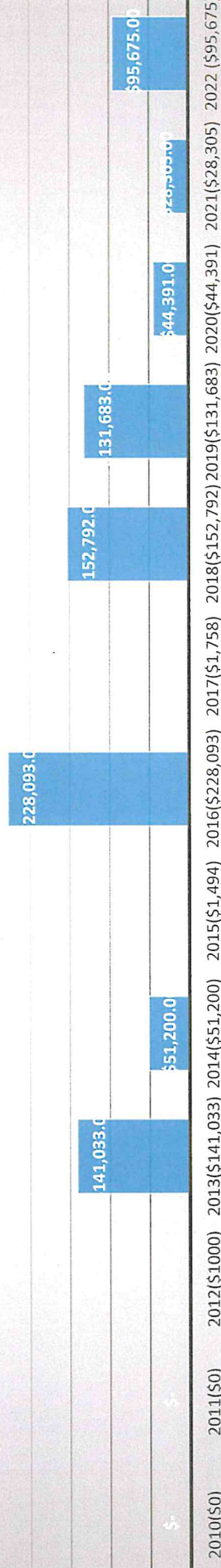
## Impact Fees



## SOT Tax

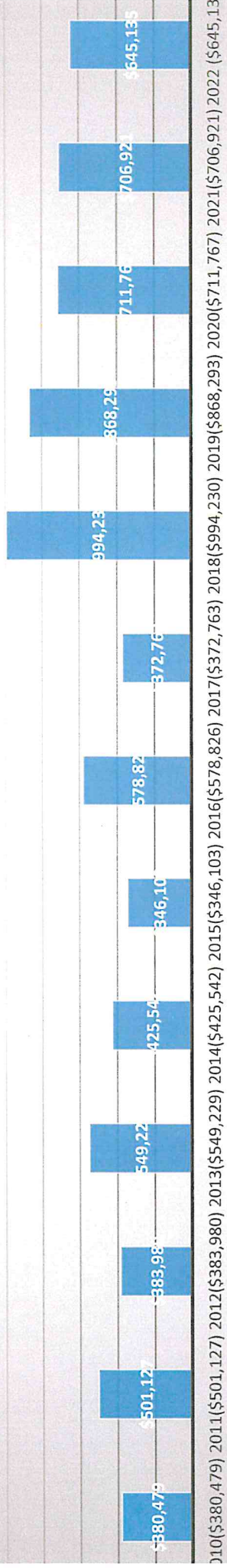


## Grants





## Total Expenditures



## Fund Balance

