



Robbinsdale Fire Department

Serving Our Community Since 1909

2017 Annual Report

Welcome by Fire Chief Guy P. Dorholt

In 2017, the Robbinsdale Fire Department made Firefighter Health and Wellness a top priority in how we do business. It is not enough to just be aware of studies that advise our firefighters on the enhanced cancer risks or increased mental health stresses associated with our profession. It requires a change in thought, a conscious decision to “not do” things the way we used to.

That is why at the beginning of 2017, I challenged the Leadership Staff to develop and implement strategies to address Firefighter Health and Wellness. Research revealed four areas for improvement. First, emphasis was renewed for all firefighters regarding overall hazard awareness, both on the fire ground and at the station. Second, revised protocols were implemented for cleaning firefighter turnout gear. Third, additional investments in firefighter personal protective equipment were made. Finally, we identified external resources for firefighter mental health.

In the end, while we may not be able to completely eliminate the elevated cancer risk or the increased mental health stresses associated with firefighting, the department shall remain committed to implement the best possible protections for our firefighters.

In closing, I would like to thank our firefighters who serve this community for their professionalism and endless commitment to training. It is their constant hard work, despite the daily risks they are exposed to, that allows us to be the exceptional department we are.

Sincerely,
Guy P. Dorholt
Fire Chief

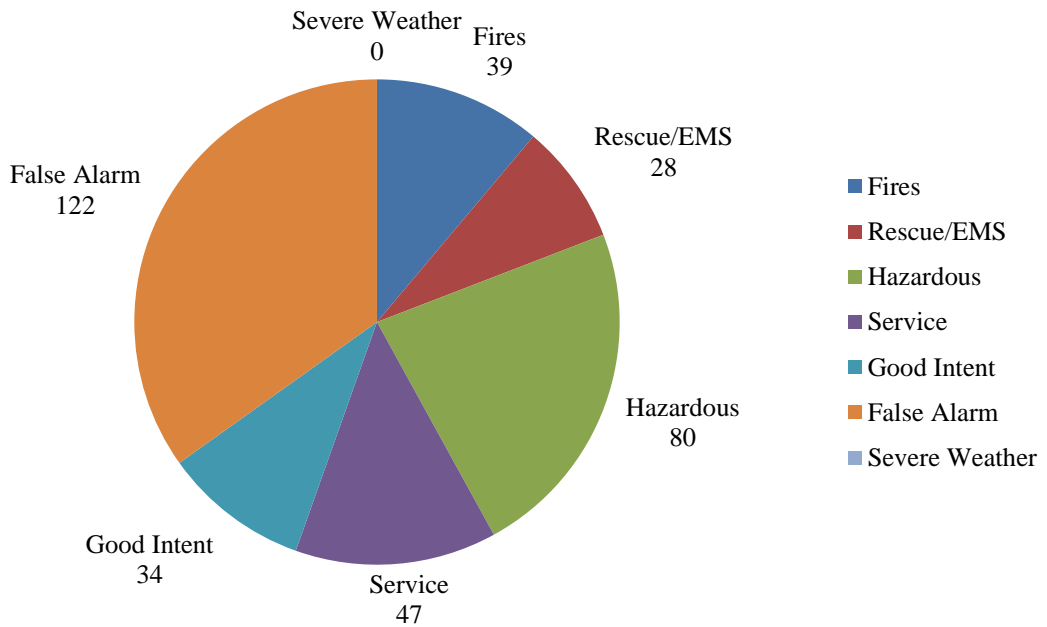
Community Demographics

Robbinsdale, Minnesota is a city of approximately 14,000 people located next to the northwest corner of Minneapolis. Set among lakes and acres of parkland, Robbinsdale offers a vibrant, suburban community setting with a small town atmosphere. While fully developed since the late 1970's, the City continues to reinvent and reinvest in itself via development of retail, restaurant and housing opportunities.

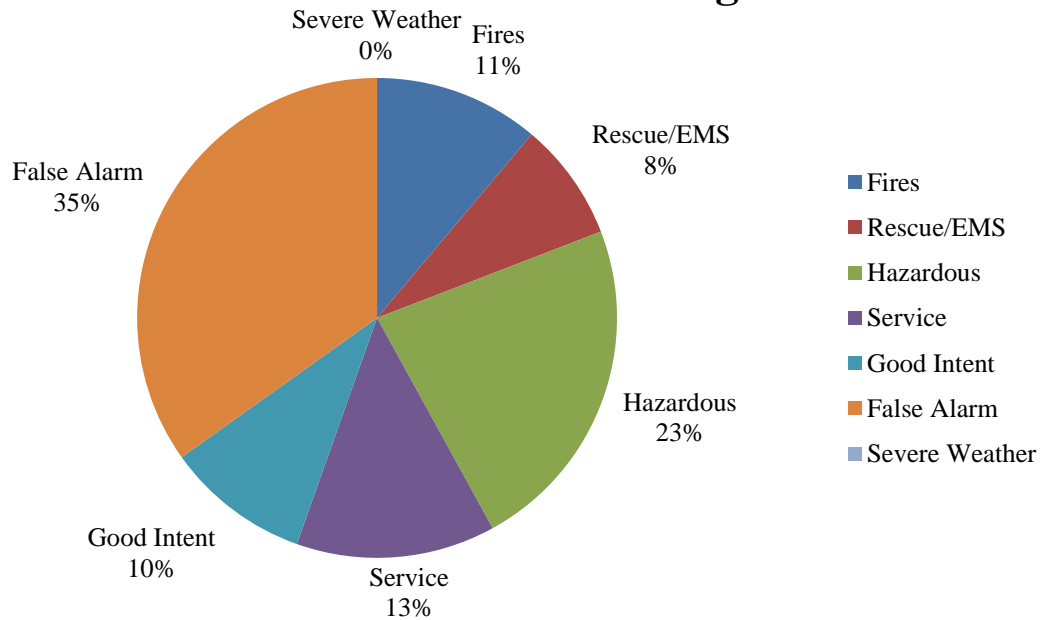
2017 At A Glance

- The Fire Department budget was \$672,880 or 7.1 percent of the overall city budget.
- The department utilized 28 paid on-call members that responded to 350 calls for service. This represents over a eleven (11.11%) percent increase for calls for service from 2016.
- Collectively, our firefighters dedicated 3,083 hours to departmental training.
- Cumulatively, there were 251 years of firefighting experience on the fire department in 2017.
- Years of experience average is 9
- Range of experience: 1 to 29 years
- The fire department improved to an ISO rating of 3.

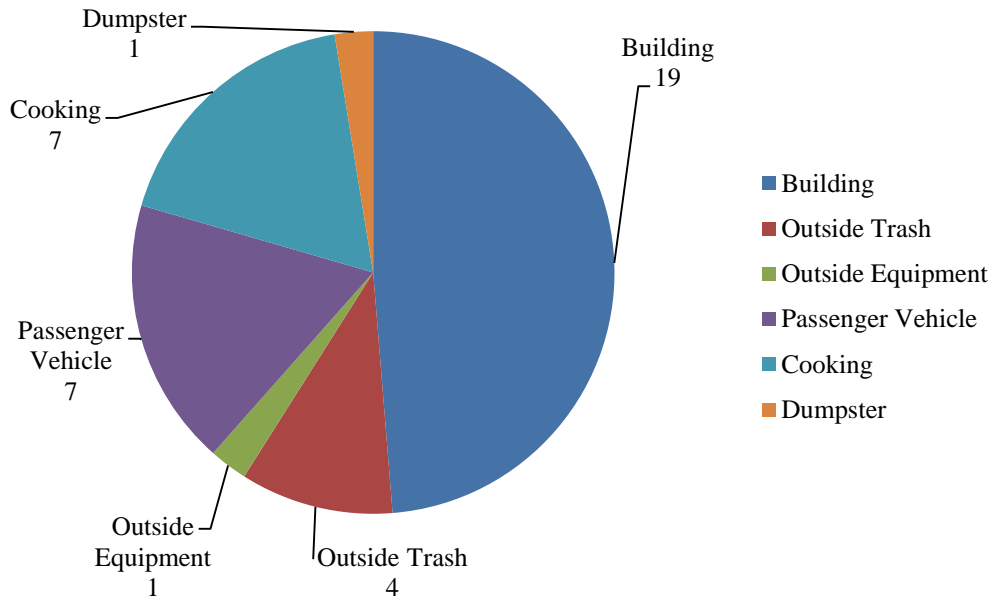
2017 Total Calls For Service



2017 Incidents-Percentage

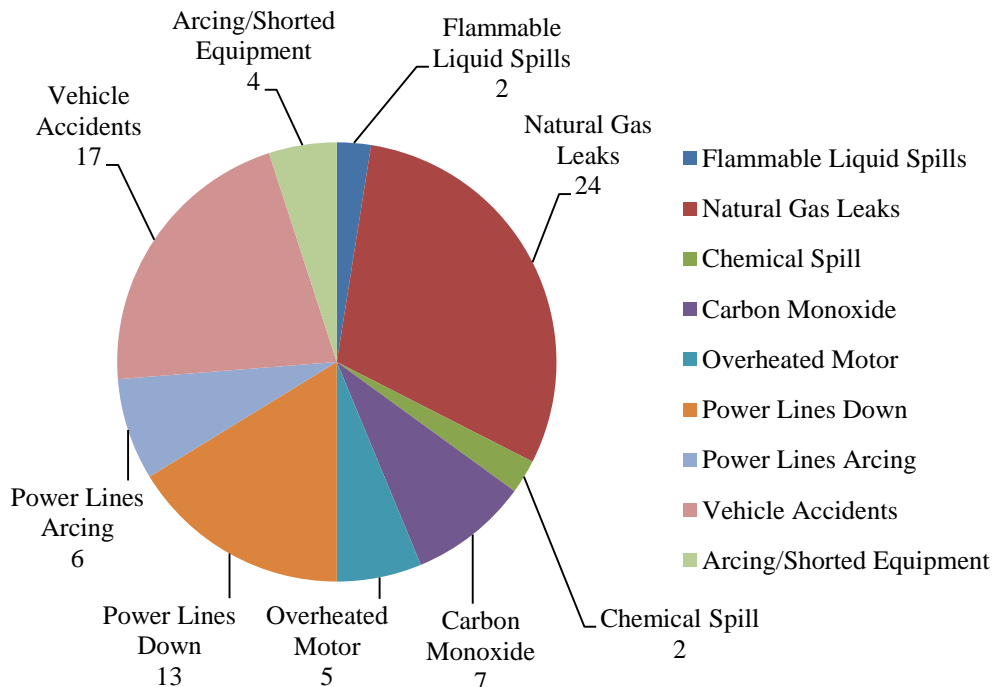


2017 Fire Related Call Breakdown



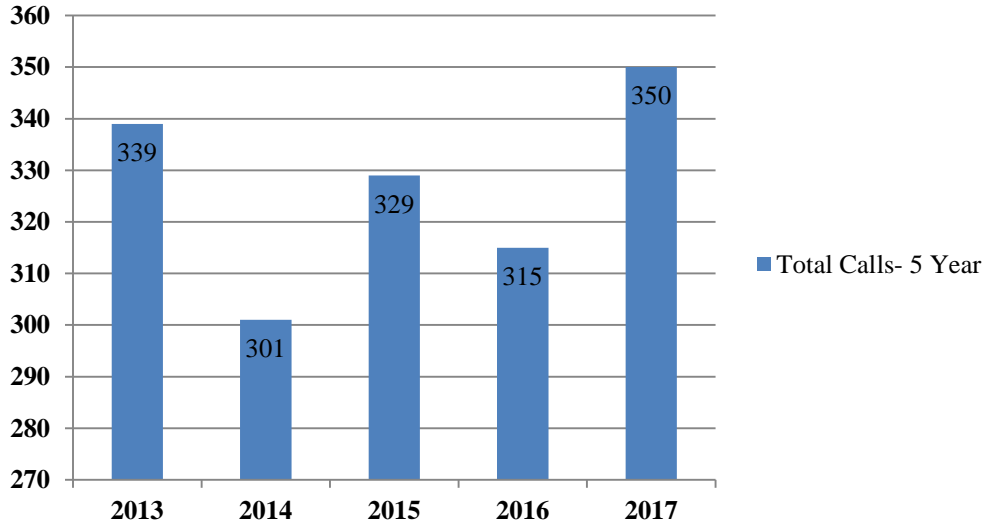
2017 revealed a decrease in overall Fire events by seven (7) calls or 15.2 percent. Events coded Building Fire decreased by five (5) calls or 20.8 percent. This year we sustained one (1) civilian fire related death.

2017 Hazardous Conditions



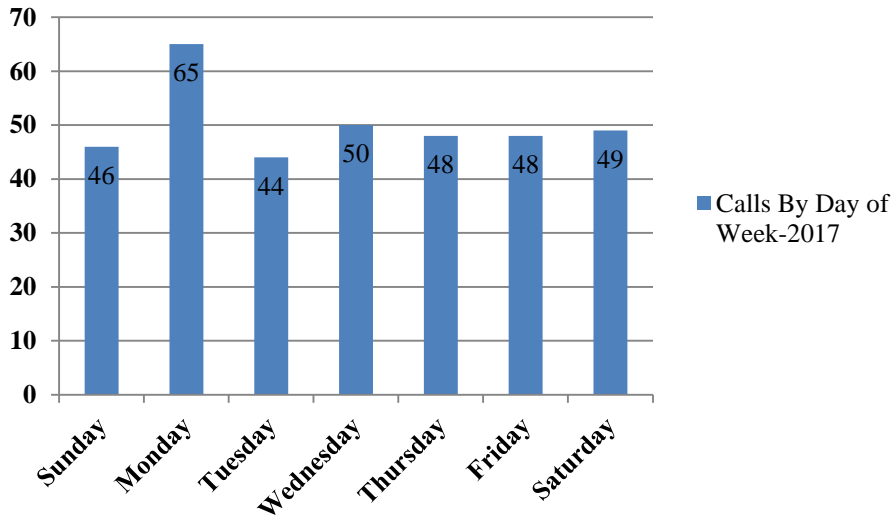
2017 revealed an increase in vehicle accidents by seven (7) calls or 70 percent. Natural Gas Leaks remained fairly flat. Carbon Monoxide events decreased by eight (8) calls or 53 percent.

Total Calls- 5 Year



2017 revealed an increase in Total Calls to 350 events. This represents an increase in service level requests by thirty five (35) calls or just over eleven (11) percent.

Calls By Day of Week-2017



Looking at Calls By Day of Week reveals that Monday was the busiest day for service.

Training Division

Training:

A total of 33 Monday night drills, equaling 63 hours per firefighter, were scheduled and held in 2017. In addition to our Monday night drills, the department collectively took over 555 hours of continuing education throughout the year.

In House Certification:

The apparatus driving and pumping process is still an integral part of our training program. The three year rotating schedule requires all members to renew their skills with designated trainers and testers. The goal of this program is to create a minimum threshold of proficiency for all members in apparatus operation.

Additional Outside Education:

One (1) firefighter took an Advanced Fire Investigation class

One (1) firefighter attended the International Association of Arson Investigation (IAAI) convention

Two (2) firefighters took a Modern Fire Attack class

Two (2) firefighters took a Basic Fire Investigation class

Three (3) firefighters received state certification for Fire Apparatus Operator

Three (3) firefighters took Fire Inspector I

Three (3) firefighters took an Incident Command System (ICS) 300 class

Three (3) firefighters attended the Fire Department Instructors Conference

Four (4) firefighters received state certification for Fire Officer I

Four (4) firefighters took an Auto Extrication procedures and techniques class

Five (5) firefighters took an Incident Safety Officer class

Probationary Firefighter Training:

The department hired one (1) new firefighter in 2017. Their training was conducted through FIRE Inc. along with two (2) other neighboring departments. Our firefighter was trained and state certified to the Firefighter I, Firefighter II and Haz-Mat 472 operations level.



Fire Marshal Division

Fire Marshal Greg Bodin is involved in all construction projects located within the city and routinely provides plan reviews, on-site construction inspections, fire alarm testing and sprinkler testing.

Inspectors Chris Russell, Matt Olson and Brian Nygard are currently working on updating the apartment complex pre-plans

Larger Construction Projects Undertaken in 2017:

HyVee Grocery Store

North Memorial Medical Center - Remodeled floors, offices and classrooms

Oakdale Medical Building - Renamed the Robbinsdale Medical Building and continued remodeling work on several floors

Public Safety Education Highlights:

Fire Prevention Month (October 2017) included visits to two elementary schools, Lakeview Elementary and Sacred Heart Elementary as well as three preschools (Sacred Heart, Redeemer and Children of Peace). The Fire department's safety message was delivered to approximately 400 students.

Further educational presentations were delivered to both the Boy Scouts and Girls Scouts of Robbinsdale as well as several birthday party tours at the station throughout the year. Fire Safety presentations were also conducted with some of our senior citizens at Copperfield Hill and Broadway Court.

Public Safety Open House Activities:

Kitchen Safety Trailer, Stop Drop and Roll Education, Smoke Alarm and Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarm Instruction, Public Education, Live fire demonstrations, auto extrication demonstrations, Children's Safety Hopper, Antique truck rides.



