



# Robbinsdale Fire Department

Serving Our Community Since 1909

2018 Annual Report



## Welcome by Fire Chief Guy P. Dorholt

In 2018, 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 2018, 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.

### 2018 At A Glance

- The Fire Department budget was \$705,880 or 7.1 percent of the overall city budget.
- The department utilized 28 paid on-call members that responded to 367 calls for service. This represents almost a five (5%) percent increase for calls for service from 2017.
- Collectively, our firefighters dedicated 2,340 hours to departmental training.
- Cumulatively, there were 270 years of firefighting experience on the fire department in 2018.
- Years of experience average is 9
- Range of experience: 1 to 30 years
- The fire department remains at an ISO rating of 3.

## Robbinsdale Fire Department Leadership Team – 2018

### Chief Officers

Guy P. Dorholt - Fire Chief                      Office:            763.531.1234  
Email: [gdorholt@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us](mailto:gdorholt@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us)

Mike Powell - Assistant Fire Chief            Office:            763.531.1233  
Email: [mpowell@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us](mailto:mpowell@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us)

### Fire Marshal

Greg Bodin - Fire Marshal                    Office:            763.531.1236  
Email: [gbodin@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us](mailto:gbodin@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us)

### Line Officers

Scott Welle - Captain  
Email: [swelle@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us](mailto:swelle@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us)

Jon Owata - Lieutenant                            Brent Nelson - Lieutenant  
Email: [jowata@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us](mailto:jowata@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us)                Email: [bnelson@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us](mailto:bnelson@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us)

Tom Robertus - Lieutenant                        Dave Gustafson - Lieutenant  
Email: [trobertus@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us](mailto:trobertus@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us)                Email: [dgustafson@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us](mailto:dgustafson@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us)

## Administrative Notes

The Robbinsdale Fire Department remains at a Class 3 rating from the ISO Public Protection Classification (PPC).

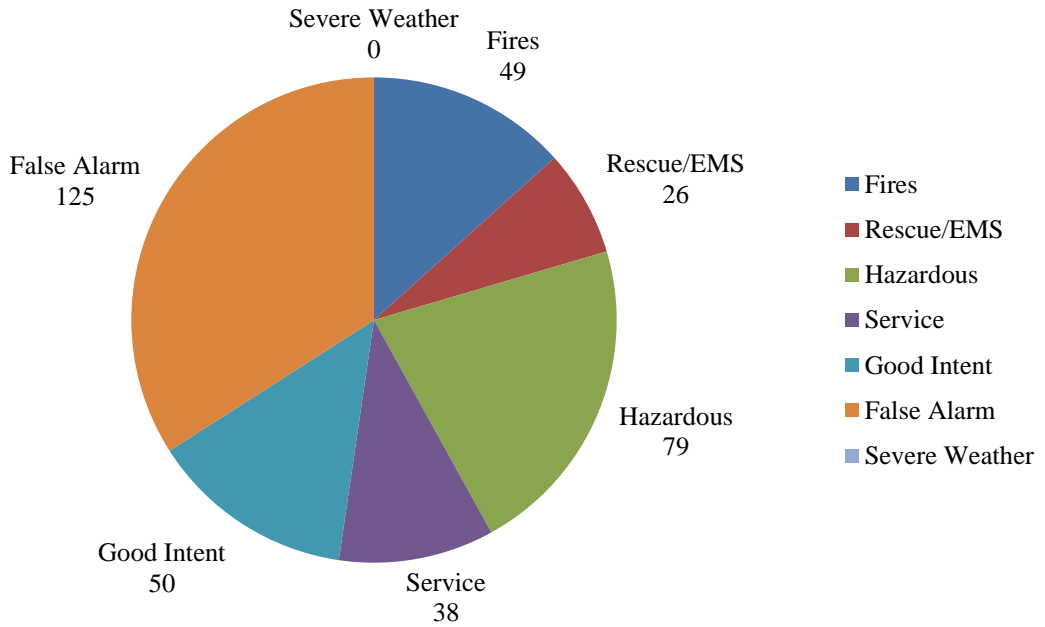
Robbinsdale Fire began the process of designing a new apparatus for the replacement of our current Engine 9. The process of design, build and delivery will take place over the next year. A delivery date will be in the spring/early summer of 2019.

## Save the Date

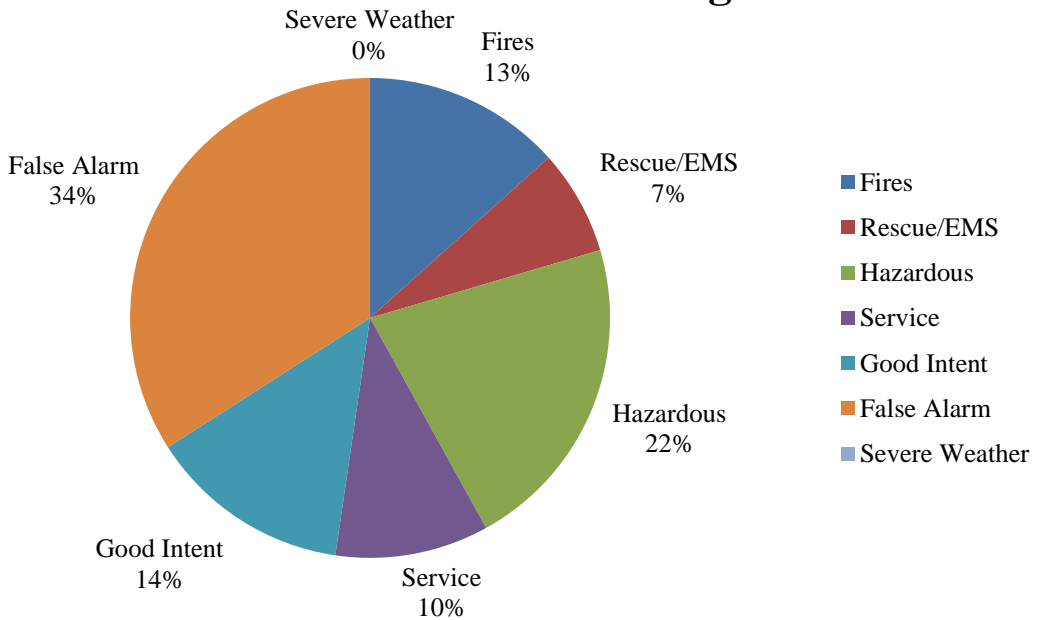
Robbinsdale Public Safety Open House will be held on **Saturday, August 10, 2019 from 11am to 3pm**. This event is an excellent opportunity to interact with both police and fire department personnel, take in several fire safety demonstrations and learn important fire safety tips for your home. We hope to see you there!



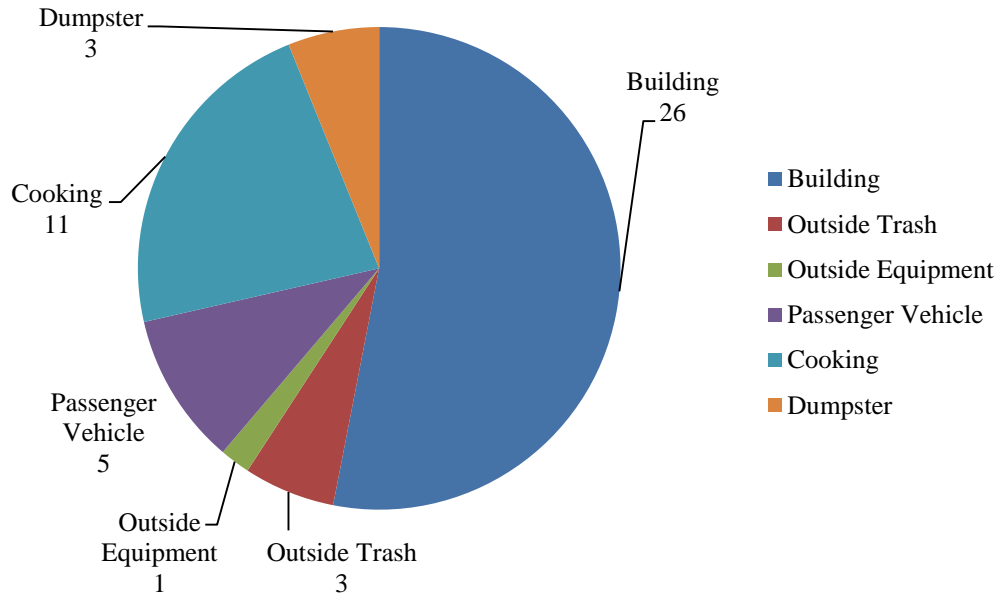
## 2018 Total Calls For Service



## 2018 Incidents-Percentage

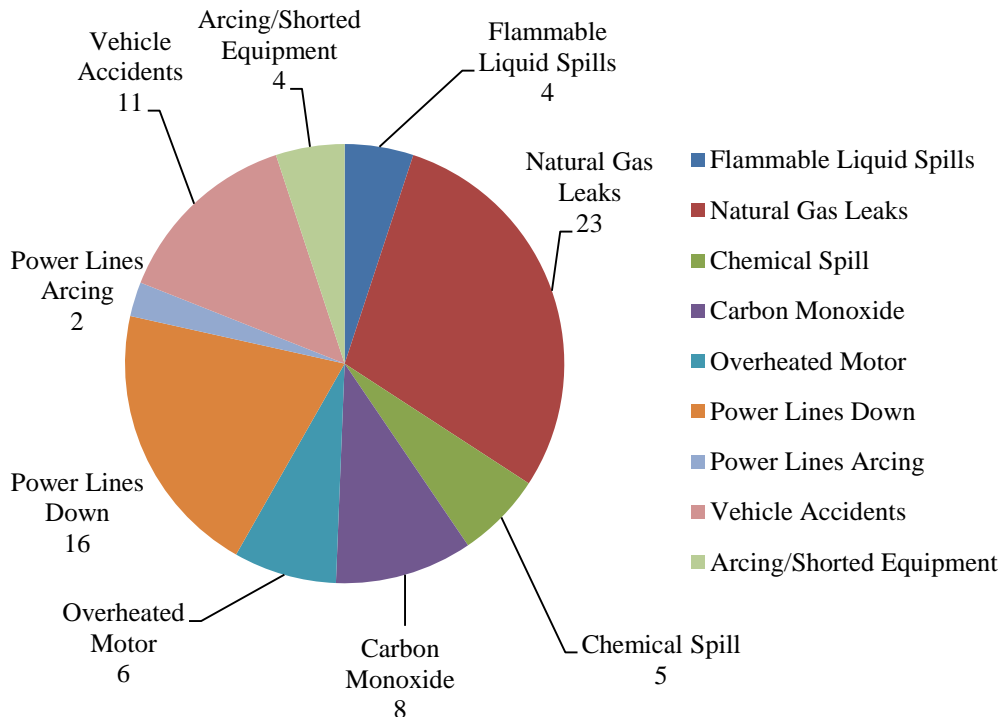


## 2018 Fire Related Call Breakdown



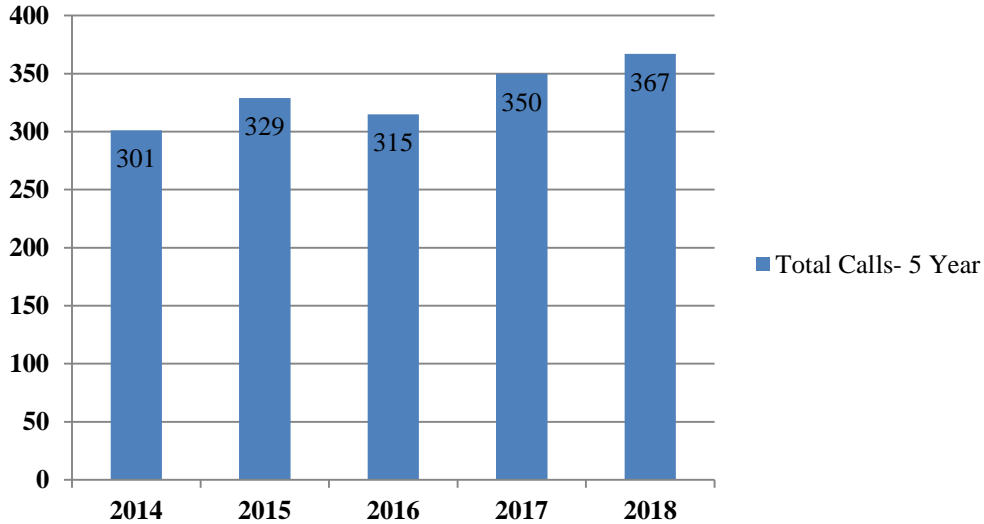
2018 revealed an increase in overall Fire events by ten (10) calls or 25.6 percent. Fire Events coded Building increased by seven (7) calls or 36.8 percent. This year we had no civilian fire related deaths.

## 2018 Hazardous Conditions



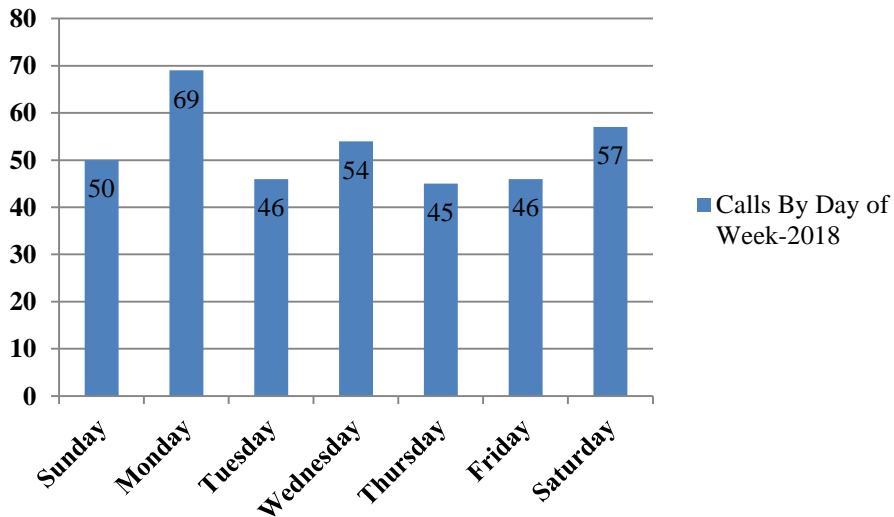
2018 revealed a decrease in vehicle accidents by six (6) calls or 35.3 percent. Natural Gas Leaks and Carbon Monoxide calls remained fairly flat.

## Total Calls- 5 Year



2018 revealed an increase in Total Calls to 367 events. This represents an increase in service level requests by seventeen (17) calls or about five (5) percent.

## Calls By Day of Week-2018



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

## Training Division

### Training:

A total of 32 Monday night drills, equaling 54 hours per firefighter, were scheduled and held in 2018. In addition to our Monday night drills, the department collectively took over 381 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 a PTSD and First Responder Stress class

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

One (1) firefighter received state certification for Fire Apparatus Operator

One (1) firefighter took a Mass Casualty class

Two (2) firefighters took an ICS Critical Thinking class

Two (2) firefighters took a Ice Rescue class

Two (2) firefighters received state certification for Fire Instructor I

Three (3) firefighters took a Managing Company Tactical Operations class

Three (3) firefighters attended the Fire Department Instructors Conference

Four (4) firefighters took a Heavy Rescue Extrication class

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

Five (5) firefighters took a Life Safety class

### Probationary Firefighter Training:

The department hired one (1) new firefighter in 2018.





## 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 and sprinkler testing.

Inspectors Chris Russell, Matt Olson and Brian Nygard are currently working on updating the apartment complex pre-plans along with inspecting service stations, second hand goods stores and gaming licenses.

### Larger Construction Projects Undertaken in 2018:

Birdtown Flats – Preplanning, site prep and ground breaking

HyVee Grocery Store Completion in fall of 2018

North Memorial Medical Center - Remodeled floors, offices and classrooms

### Public Safety Education Highlights:

Fire Prevention Month (October 2018) 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. The Fire Marshal also spoke with the Chamber of Commerce to help business owners better understand fire codes.

### Public Safety Open House Activities:

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



