



GOLDEN FIRE DEPARTMENT

YEAR IN REVIEW
2022



An Introduction from Fire Chief Beal

*Looking ahead,
2023 will be a year
of growth, change,
and clarity, and I am
humbled to lead
a great team with
a storied past into
a bright future.*



2022 was a year of significant change and challenge within the Golden Fire Department and wrapped up with a change in leadership at both the position of Fire Chief and Operations Deputy Chief. Former Fire Chief Jerry Stricker retired with 30 years of service to the City of Golden and I stepped into the Interim Fire Chief role in September of 2022. Fire Inspector Gary Wilmes stepped into my former role as the Interim Operations Deputy Chief shortly thereafter as we continued the hiring process for 3 new career firefighters which were approved by City Council in mid-2022.

The City of Golden was awarded a SAFER Grant last year which will hire 7 additional career staff to the 3 career firefighters previously approved by council in 2022 and consist of an additional Firefighter, 3 Engineers and 3 Lieutenant / Shift Officers, for a grand total of 10 new career positions.

New Rescue 21 was placed into service replacing the previous (Yellow) Rescue 21 on May 22nd, 2023, which was built in 1999. City Council also authorized the purchase of new Tower 21 to replace our exiting Tower which was built in 1995. New Tower 21 is expected in be completed during the second quarter of 2024 and will be built by Pierce Mfg. in Appleton, Wisconsin.

In Spring 2022, Golden Fire embarked upon a campaign to educate our residents about our newly updated Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). Golden Fire staff alongside various elected officials, City Department and Division leaders, and cooperating agencies from Jefferson County and the (Colorado) Department of Fire Prevention and Control, participated in neighborhood engagement sessions outlining what each resident could do to make their homes more resilient in the event of a wildfire, and how to sign up or 'opt-in' to the Lookout Alert system in Jefferson County.

Golden Fire in cooperation with Public Works and the Colorado Department of Transportation began talks to install and implement a traffic preemption system in Golden with the hopes of turning the traffic lights green for fire trucks responding to emergencies, which will reduce response times and risk to other motorists as our heavy apparatus navigate signalized intersections.

Closest Unit dispatching was introduced in an effort to plan for the eventuality of two fully staffed fire apparatus to ensure the closest unit would be sent to an emergency regardless of their location. Initial discussions were held regarding the Arvada Fire Protection District servicing our heavy fire apparatus with certified Emergency Vehicle Technicians (EVT's). Ongoing meetings were held with our regional fire dispatch provider (JeffCom) to ensure alarm levels and notifications occur to all staff (volunteer and career) consistently and appropriately, especially for greater alarm events.

As 2022 ended, Golden Fire and the City Manager's office held discussions relating to the cooperative services study which concluded in September 2021 to finalize a strategic direction for fire and emergency medical services provided to the City of Golden. It is planned to have a future direction identified by early 2023 so the department may initiate a new three year strategic plan or make other medium to long term strategic decisions related to service delivery, capital assets, capital improvements and personnel.

Looking ahead, 2023 will be a year of growth, change, and clarity, and I am humbled to lead a great team with a storied past into a bright future.

Kasey Beal, Fire Chief

DEPARTMENT

MISSION & VALUES

MISSION

The mission of the Golden Fire Department's dedicated professionals is to enhance the quality of life for the Golden Community through fire and injury prevention, education and the protection of life and property.

CORE VALUES

Integrity
Loyalty
Accountability
Service
Trust

VISION STATEMENT:

To be the Best combination fire department in the country.

CITY & DEPARTMENT DEMOGRAPHICS

10.4 - Square Miles

20,858-Population

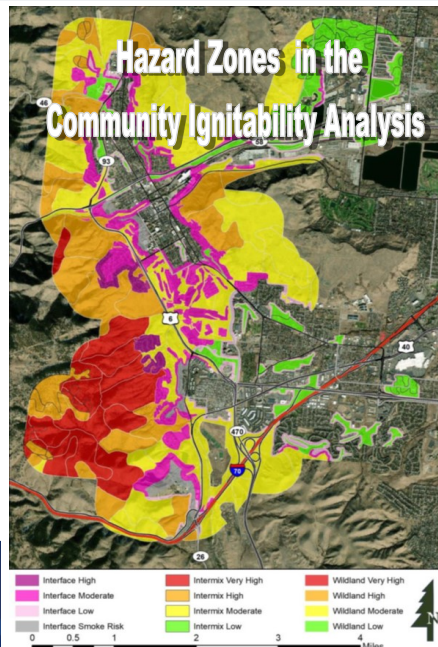
\$3,787,224 Annual Budget

ISO Rating: 2

Uniformed Personnel	69
Civilian Personnel	2
Fire Stations	2
Type 1 Engines	4
Quint	1
Tower Ladder	1
Heavy Rescue	1
Water Rescue	1
Type 3 Engines	1
Type 6 Engines	1

MOTTO:

"To Serve in the Face of Adversity"



Strategic Plan Goal 2: Preserve the community's natural resources by adopting and implementing sustainable practices and procedures that minimize the Department's environmental impact.

GFD worked with the Building Division to contract Anchor Point to develop a Wildland Interface program according to our demographics. In 2022 we implemented city's Community Wildfire Protection Plan by hosting community meetings, engaging HOAs, and assisting individual property owners.

Strategic Plan Goal 4: Reduce barriers to affordable living in Golden implementing and maintaining an effective community risk reduction program.

While we can't reduce the actual barriers to affordable housing in Golden we consistently provide effective community risk reduction through existing programs.



The Station 24 bathroom remodel delayed due to COVID supply and demand issues was completed in March 2022. We also remodeled the watch office for preparation to house new career staff once the hiring and onboarding processes are completed in mid-2023.

RESPONSE STATISTICS

Busiest Time

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Busiest Day

Friday

Busiest Station

Station 21

Average Response Time

6:43

Average On Scene Time

21:47

Auto/Mutual Aid Given

170

Auto/Mutual Aid Received

315

Wildland Fires

12

Steep Slope Evacuation

5

Vehicle Crashes

242

Overlapping Calls

34.05%

Strategic Plan Goal 14:

Provide the highest quality of emergency services by acquiring and maintaining the apparatus and equipment necessary to meet our community's needs, keep our members safe and be fiscally responsible.

We are keeping on track with apparatus replacement schedules for health of fleet. Provide active annual/bi-annual testing of SCBA, hose, ladders and hydraulic lifts as well as all preventive maintenance on all apparatus/vehicles and PPE equipment.

Incident by Type	2021	%	2022	%
Fires	75	3.23	57	2.32
Overpressure, Rupture, Explosion	30	1.29	29	1.18
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	1263	54.39	1333	54.3
Hazardous Conditions (no fires)	58	2.5	68	2.77
Service Call	155	6.55	175	7.13
Good Intent Call	537	23.13	554	22.57
False Alarm & False Call	199	8.57	234	9.53
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	5	.22	1	.04
Special Incident Type	3	.13	4	.16
Total Incidents	2322		2455	
Total Calls by District	2021		2022	+/-
District 1 (North of 24th Street)	966		1103	+137
District 2 (South of 24th Street)	1046		1007	- 41
Out of District Other	310		348	+38



Operations Chief Kasey Beal was appointed Interim Fire Chief on 9/3/22 during Fire Chief retirement and new City Manager search.



Fire Inspector/Investigator Gary Wilmes was appointed as new Interim Operations Chief on 9/22/22.



On May 22 at Station 21 among City of Golden Council members and GFD Firefighters Mayor Laura Weinberg christened new Rescue Truck.

MORE ACCOMPLISHMENTS ACHIEVED IN 2022

- Received \$1.9 M SAFER Grant for seven new FF Staff positions.
- Accela-New permitting on line program went live in April 2022.
- Received Colorado State Health Disease Prevention Grant: 20k to purchase six new sets of bunker gear.
- Purchased Opticom Advanced Traffic Product, emitting to go system with COG and CDOT signal plan.
- Purchased 7 new portable radios, 3 mobile radios and 10 final pagers.
- In cooperation with volunteer members we purchased hose and nozzle replacement.
- Station 24 bathrooms remodel was completed in March 2022.
- Watch Office at Station 24 was updated with a new paint, floor, furniture and computer and was completed in December 2022.
- Purchased additional wildland gear.
- Purchased a new beds for Station 21 crew quarters.
- Replaced refrigerators and ovens at Station 21 shift crew kitchen.
- Ordered new ladder truck in 2022 for a 2024 delivery.
- Conducted comprehensive reviews of our EMS, mutual and auto aid agreements to improve our response capability.
- Worked closely with Jeffcom to improve relations and daily operations with our dispatch provider.
- Went to closest unit dispatching with updated auto aid agreements with our neighboring agencies in Nov. 2022.

Response by Unit

UNIT	2021	2022
Battalion 21	57	60
Battalion 22	202	77
Battalion 23	69	57
Battalion 24	61	7
Chief 21	30	22
Chief 22	29	81
Chief 23	202	186
Chief 24	No Data	2
Brush 21	69	14
BUR 23	3	16
BUR 24	No Data	50
Engine 21	834	1159
Engine 23	101	9
Engine 24	397	97
Engine 25	23	11
Tower 21	55	40
Truck 24	275	459
Rescue 21	143	111
Water Rescue	16	13
Utility 21	28	39
Utility 22	4	1
Utility 23	No Data	9
Utility 24	25	34

Strategic Plan Goal 12: Provide the highest quality of emergency services through the recruitment, development, empowerment, physical and mental well-being, and retention of an inclusive, service-oriented workforce.

Golden Fire Department personnel have been building a regional peer support team called "Never Alone Peer Support Team" which serves Golden Fire, Golden Police, Fairmount Fire and Genesee Fire Departments. With guidance and support from Brower Psychological, Rocky Mountain Police and Fire Chaplains Association, and Responder Strong, the team has been able to support and look after the mental wellness of our first responders. Team members have been ready and able to help when called upon. Whether it's one on one support, incident support, conducting Critical Incident Stress Debriefs after emotionally challenging calls and finally referring those who need individual counseling. The Golden Fire Department is making strides to change the old culture and adopt a new culture of making mental health and awareness a priority.

TRAINING DIVISION

2022 Training Division Hours

Type of Training	Hours
EMS	923
Driver Operator	1156
Fire Academy	0
Fire Instructor	20
Fire & Life Safety	153
Fire Officer	95
Fire Operations	1608
Hazardous Materials	199
Safety & Health	148
Technical & Water Rescue	1738
Wildland & Firefighting	763
Total Training Hours	6803



A recruitment team of staff and volunteers successfully recruited throughout the Golden and Denver Metro area to start the process for a 2023 Volunteer Fire Academy. This included banners and flyers posted in Golden, posts on social media, recruitment at local schools, information on Channel 8, articles, and many other avenues. Seventy-eight applications were received for twenty available volunteers positions.



Golden Fire Department staff and volunteers participated in monthly mutual trainings with neighbors Fairmount Fire and Pleasant View Fire. This included 60 fire skills, hazmat, wildland, active shooter, swiftwater, and technical rescue trainings as well as 12 mutual live fire trainings.



Golden Fire hosted Dive Rescue International for the Swiftwater Rescue Series 1, 2, and Trainer. Six Golden Firefighters as well as firefighters from around the country participated in 10 days of swiftwater rescue training in Clear Creek.



Ten members attended the Arvada Auto-X three-day extrication training.



Thirteen members completed advanced driver training and completed testing process to become Colorado State Driver Operators for Utility, Rescue, Pumper, and Aerial apparatus.



Six members completed Ropes Level I and Ropes Level 2 advanced rope rescue training Certification taught by Golden Fire.



Firefighters participated in numerous simulated fire trainings in acquired buildings in the city including at the CSM offices on Jones Road.

"We do not rise to the level of our expectations. We fall to the level of our Training."
Archilochus

Sixteen members from Golden, Genesee, and Fairmount completed State Firefighter II training and testing presented by Golden Fire. The firefighters completed sixteen hours of hands-on training including extrication, live fire attack, and managing flammable liquid fires.

Strategic Plan Goal 5:
Enable business success by providing the tools, education, and support necessary to allow Golden businesses to thrive.

Updated the fire department fee schedule to reflect actual costs and match the format of surrounding jurisdictions more closely, and more accurately.

Worked with City Council and other stakeholders to adopt the most recent 2021 edition of the International Fire Code and related code.

FIRE & LIFE SAFETY

PLAN REVIEW ACTIVITY

**Fire Permit Plans
Reviews** 225

INSPECTIONS ACTIVITY

**Construction/ Maintenance
& Operational Permit
Inspections** 300

OTHER DIVISION ACTIVITIES

**Development/
Construction Meetings** 50
Alarm Response 12
**Community Outreach
Events** 8
**Fire Origin & Cause
Investigations** 17

\$3,504,848
Total Property Dollar Loss

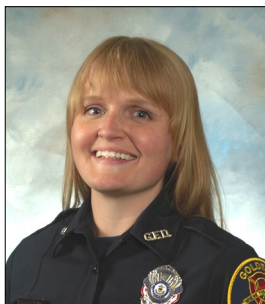
\$38,455,429
Total Property Dollar Saved

Strategic Plan Goal 3: Create and maintain strong connections with our community, among our members, and with all our partners by leveraging technology.

In cooperation with other city departments, launched a new, web-based permitting and inspection portal to allow remote submission of permit applications and documents and to support the city's sustainability goals.



Scott Case was hired end of March 2022 as Division Chief/Fire Marshal, Jennifer Henderson was hired in April as Deputy Fire Marshal. They are valuable support additions to the department.



Our firefighters contained the fire on the night of 9/16/22 involving multiple townhomes under suspicious circumstances, and contained the fire to the building of origin.



Deputy Fire Marshal Jennifer Henderson looking for fire origin and cause. Needs to wear Personal Protective Equipment to shield herself from toxic chemicals in fire debris.

**“We are
Community
Partners in
Fire and
Life Safety”**

Strategic Plan Goal 8: Elevate the level of public safety in Golden by fostering community and member engagement.

Restarted annual Safety Day in person, with over 500 people in attendance. Conducted fire station tours, visited schools to enhance reading programs, participated in annual special events as: Christmas parade, Buffalo Bill days, Pancake Breakfast and many more.

Every year our volunteer members and department staff donate money to purchase toys which are donated to Miracle Shop for children Christmas gifts.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



We hosted five Golden neighborhood engagement sessions to introduce Community Wildfire Protection Plan.



Fire Prevention Week began October 9 with Fire Safety Day at Station 21. Through the week we continued to visit Golden elementary schools and preschools with life saving messages; “Fire won’t wait. Plan your escape.”



Strategic Plan Goal 10:

Enhance our community's safety and well-being by building trusting relationships with residents, businesses, and other city agencies through practicing transparency, engagement, and collaboration.

We work closely with the Community through our posting on Nextdoor, Facebook, Instagram, City Website and local television Channel 8 GCOTV. Since the implementation of the CWPP we have interacted more frequently with our actual HOA communities to give safety instructions.

MEDIA REPORT

Followers	2021	2022
Facebook	3558	3907
Instagram	1424	1477
NextDoor	8988	9734
Twitter	3562	3902

Strategic Plan Goal 7:

Enable people to feel comfortable and welcome in Golden and in our Department by providing an inclusive environment that respects and values all individuals and treats them equitably.

We are keeping with our agreed upon Mission which is I-LAST Integrity, Loyalty, Accountability, Service and Trust through everything we do. We do a monthly stand-up and point out those who have done the above and beyond to reward proactive, leadership type behaviors. We also recognize heroic actions of bystander citizens.



Thank you Captain Tom Young for 40 Years of Dedicated Service to the Golden Fire Department and Golden Community.



Thank you Engineer Rocco Snart, Engineer Wes Polk for 30 Years of Dedicated Service to the Golden Fire Department and Golden Community.

AWARDS AND HONORS



Engineer JJ Risch was nominated by her peers for **Firefighter of the Year Award** in recognition and sincere thanks of her continuing commitment to the citizens and visitors of Golden where she responded to over 700 calls for service, worked multiple shifts to cover career firefighter vacancies, took the lead on the annual volunteer fundraising letter and publishing effort, staffed the aerial on Tower 21 for the annual Candlelight Walk, coupled with her general presence on a weekly basis, her dedication to the community is simply unmatched.



We presented three Golden Police Officers with **Award of Valor** for their selfless acts of Heroism on 9/16/2022. They placed themselves in a life-threatening situation to save the lives of others during a structure fire to bring all occupants to safety.



Captain Will Moorhead was nominated by his peers for the **Jack Harvey Award** in recognition of his professional and inclusive approach to challenges facing the department in 2022, and his continuing commitment to be the voice of the volunteer membership in which he was appointed by acclamation of his peers. His role as President of the Consulting Firm All Clear Emergency Management Group has undoubtedly underpinned his tactful diplomacy and continues to serve Golden Fire well.



Engineer Tony Orlando was presented with the **Award of Honor** in recognition of his work as the lead for our Peer Support Team. He has selflessly organized and attended peer support events to ensure the mental welfare of others was addressed and looked after; even when he was one of the individuals impacted by the same incidents. His selfless service in support of others is a statement to our I-LAST values where he has the fortitude to do what is needed and the humility to serve others first.



Division Chief/Fire Marshal Scott Case was nominated **Award of Honor** in recognition of his commitment to Fire and Life Safety as he led on the Community Wildfire Protection Plan neighborhood engagement sessions held during the Summer of 2022 and for his efforts in updating our fire inspection fee schedule to match our neighboring fire agencies.



Meritorious Citizen Award was presented to three bystander citizens; **Bo Althen** (right), **Chase Althen** (middle) and **Cal Gavin Campbell** for their heroic actions on 7/05/22 in which they instinctively reacted to bystander calls for help, rushed into Clear Creek to aid an unconscious person floating down the waterway, pulled the person to the shore, performed CPR until rescuers arrived, and assisted in transitioning the person to medical personnel.

AWARDS OF MERIT



Firefighter Andrea Crass, Engineer Jacob Harris, Engineer Tony Orlando and Lieutenant Marc Staley were recognized for their efforts on the night of 9/16/22 where after just having resuscitated a victim suffering from Cardiac Arrest, they immediately proceeded to a working fire involving multiple townhomes under suspicious circumstances, and contained the fire to the building of origin.

AWARDS OF DISTINCTION



The Orlando Family: Tony, Lina, Jules and Tasha were recognized for their commitment to the City of Golden and Golden Fire Department members and for their support of many of the events hosted throughout the year at GFD including this awards banquet, Kid's Christmas with Santa, and various fundraisers.



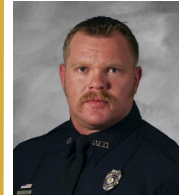
Paramedic Lee Meyer was awarded for his ongoing commitment and dedication to the medical training of the Golden Fire Department and our surrounding agencies by providing multiple monthly high quality EMS trainings and always being available to assist, coach, and guide our firefighters as they develop their EMS skills and knowledge.



Academy Coordinator Lori Brill (middle) and **Administrative Coordinator Debbie Testroet** were awarded for their team work in writing the most recent SAFER Grant, which was approved by FEMA and authorized by City Council, and will have the effect of hiring 7 full-time staff, nearly doubling the number of career firefighters on duty each day, allowing Golden Fire Department to staff Station 24 full-time, year-round.

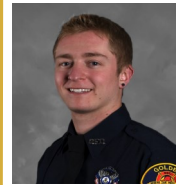
TRAINING DIVISION AWARDS

Safety Awards



Engineer Joe Anderson II (left) and **Lieutenant Marc Staley** were awarded for years of following the highest of Safety Standards while presenting the Golden Fire Department Ropes Level 1, 2, and 3 courses thereby assuring firefighter safety during these multi-day, high risk training classes.

Service Awards



Engineer Cody Kalb (left) for committing countless hours to the development and presentation of our State Driver Operator Pumper program assuring our firefighters receive training of the highest quality and effectively preparing them for the State testing process.

Lieutenant Jason Mulari for countless hours spent above and beyond regular job responsibilities to plan, develop, and present ongoing medical trainings to Golden Fire, our mutual aid agencies, and Stadium Medical, effectively assuring the level of our medical training meets the highest of standards.

2023 Golden Fire Department Staff

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Kasey Beal, Fire Chief
Gary Wilmes, Interim Operations Deputy Chief
Scott Case, Division Chief/Fire Marshal
Debbie Testroet, Administrative Coordinator
Jennifer Henderson, Deputy Fire Marshal
Jonathan Priestly, Fire Inspector/Investigator
Jeanette Kehoe, Training Captain
Tom Young, Volunteer Captain
Dan Watters, Quartermaster/Engineer
Chad Sullivan, Career Firefighter
Anna Trzeciak, Administrative Technician

VOLUNTEER OFFICERS

Bob Burrell, Deputy Chief
Joe Gross, Battalion Chief
Aaron Giesick, Battalion Chief
Dan Roozen, Battalion Chief
Neville Dewitt Pierrat, Captain
Tina Gustafson, Captain
Ben Moline, Captain
Will Moorhead, Captain
John Templeton, Captain
Kris Nagy, Lieutenant
Kyle Diethorn, Lieutenant

CAREER OFFICERS

Jeff Hulse, Lieutenant
Jason Mulari, Lieutenant
Marc Staley, Lieutenant

CAREER FIREFIGHTERS

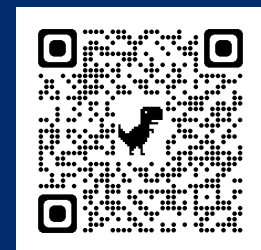
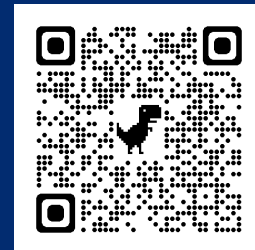
Tony Orlando, Engineer
Kyle Raley, Engineer
Will Watts, Engineer
James Jmieff, Firefighter
Alan Johnson, Firefighter
Dylan Morris, Firefighter

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

Chris Ames, Firefighter
Joe Anderson II, Engineer
Santino Boscia, Firefighter
Lori Brill, Firefighter
Andrew Buijs, Firefighter
Charlie Charbonneau, Firefighter
Harry Christman, Firefighter
Broderick Coe, Firefighter
Andrea Crass, Firefighter
Andrew Crawford, Firefighter
Brandon Dobson, Engineer
Christopher Enright, Firefighter
Steven Flexser, Firefighter
Canaan Forslund, Firefighter
Nathan Globosky, Firefighter
Daniel Glynn, Firefighter
Jacob Harris, Engineer
Scott Hofmann, Engineer
Hayden Holland, Firefighter
Ryan Hyde, Firefighter

Cody Kalb, Engineer
Lauren Labella, Firefighter
Braden Lipker, Firefighter
Charlie Mann, Firefighter
Matthew Mason, Firefighter
Daniel Lewis, Firefighter
Matthew Murphy, Firefighter
Truc Nguyen, Firefighter
Larry Ogden, Firefighter
Michael Palmer, Firefighter
Calob Perry, Firefighter
Penny Reed, Firefighter
JJ Risch, Engineer
Penny Rogers, Firefighter
Ryan Smith, Engineer
Jason Soronson, Firefighter
George Stern, Firefighter
Jackson Webber, Firefighter
Brittnie Weiler, Firefighter
Jonathan Zoetewey, Firefighter

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"To Serve in the Face of Adversity"



*"To be the Best combination
fire department in the country."*