



FIRE - RESCUE

WEST VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT



WHEN YOU CHANGE YOUR CLOCK

CHANGE YOUR SMOKE ALARM BATTERY



ISSUE I - 2025

STRATEGIC PLAN

The District Strategic Plan for 2025-2029 outlines the direction and priorities for the West Valley Fire Department over the next five years. The plan is designed to guide our decision-making, resource allocation, and organizational focus to achieve our mission of preserving and protecting life, then property. The plan emphasizes sustainable growth, innovation, and the strengthening of our core capabilities, ensuring that we are well-positioned to meet the evolving needs of our community.

To achieve our Mission and Vision for 2025-2029, we have identified four strategic priorities, each addressing key issues and goals:

Strategic Priority 1: Personnel Retention, Development, Recruitment, and Selection

Objective: Build a highly skilled, motivated, and diverse workforce by enhancing employee retention, investing in professional development, and refining our recruitment and selection processes.

Challenge: Ensure a full complement of skilled personnel available 24/7 to deliver safe, effective, and professional service.

Goal: Maintain an optimal workforce to fulfill our mission and meet our Standards of Cover.

Strategic Priority 2: Financial Management and Accountability

Objective: Ensure the financial sustainability of the West Valley Fire Department through rigorous financial management, transparency, and accountability.

Challenge: Sustain a robust financial position with sound policies balancing cost-effectiveness and taxpayer impact.

Goal: Responsibly manage financial resources to meet the District's needs, in full compliance with State and County regulations.

Strategic Priority 3: Infrastructure Management

Objective: Maintain and upgrade our infrastructure to support current and future operations, ensuring reliability, efficiency, and scalability.

Challenge: Align staffing, facilities, and equipment with the evolving needs of our community.

Goal: Ensure strategically located stations and well-maintained apparatus to meet an 8-minute response time in high-density areas, while maintaining a WSRB rating of 4 or better.

Strategic Priority 4: Community Engagement

Objective: Strengthen our relationship with the community by increasing engagement, transparency, and collaboration.

Challenge: Meet the community's expectations for operational excellence, financial transparency, and public education.

Goal: Gauge community satisfaction, enhance awareness of our programs, and foster public involvement in District activities.

2025-2029

For an in-depth understanding of how the District plans to address each Strategic Priority identified please visit our website www.westvalleyfire.com under "Quick Links" click on Strategic Plan to view the entire plan, you can also view our Capital Improvement and Business Plans there.

District Operational Assessment

As part of our Strategic Planning efforts, the District is conducting an operational assessment to evaluate current and future needs. This review will ensure our Mission, performance metrics, response plans, staffing, apparatus, stations, training, and equipment all align with operational demands.

The assessment aims to determine the most efficient services the District can provide, establish a framework for improving response capabilities, and develop a data-driven quality assurance process.

To conduct this study, we are partnering with The J Angle Group (JAG) and Pacific Northwest Associates (PNA). They will gather input from internal and external stakeholders. If you would like to participate, please contact us at (509) 966-3111 or email contact@ycfd12.org.

The Member of the Month recognizes an individual for an exceptional contribution to the progress of the District, extraordinary performance or outstanding customer service during the previous month.

The Members selected for 2024 are:

- February: Gregory Melroy- Support
- March: Jessica Finnell- Support
- April: David James- Captain
- May: Jeff Harding- Firefighter
- June: Chris Payne- EMT
- July: Jaden Davie- EMT
- August: Justin Nickolaus- EMT
- September: Mike Gohl- Lieutenant
- October: Brittany Weiler- Firefighter
- November: Travis Schlaman- EMT & Chris Payne- EMT
- December: Drew Butler- Firefighter

CONGRATULATIONS!

Update on Voter-Approved Levy Lid Lift

Thanks to your support in last year's levy lid lift, we are making essential investments to ensure our firefighters have safe and reliable equipment. Since its passage, we have:

- Refurbished Tender 52 (a 1998 Pumper/Tender)
- Put a new command vehicle into service
- Ordered a new brush truck, arriving this summer

Looking ahead our 2025 budget includes:

- Replacement of all District gas meters
- \$300,000 allocated to our Capital Fund for SCBA replacements in 2027
- Installation of remote nozzles on (2) Water Tenders
- Order a replacement apparatus for current Engine 54, set to arrive in the next few years

These improvements help maintain our readiness and commitment to serving our community.

Thank you for your continued support!

Apply Today!



YAKIMA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #12
 WEST VALLEY FIRE-RESCUE
 10000 ZIER ROAD
 YAKIMA, WA 98908

PRSR STD
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Yakima, WA
 Permit No. 1

****ECRWSS****
 Postal Customer

"Protecting And Serving Our Community"

2024 CALL VOLUME



MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	%
Fires	115	12
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	688	67
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	16	2
Service Call	61	6
Good Intent Call	91	9
False Alarm & False Call	46	4
TOTAL INCIDENTS FOR 2024	1017	100%

2024 Department Report

There were a total of 1017 alarms within the Fire District for 2024 of which 67% were emergency medical calls and 12% were fire calls. The other 21% of calls were a mix of hazardous conditions, service calls, good intent calls and false alarms. Losses totaled \$1,123,150 for the year and sadly, we had one civilian fire fatality. A total of 274 acres burned in the District due to wildland fires.

Our members are the backbone of our service to you. In 2024 our members put in 5,182 hours on incidents with 5,884 individual responses. Twenty-four members responded to more than 100 alarms in 2024 with Captain David James topping the list with 207 responses.

Starting out 2025 we have a total of 89 members, 78 on-call, 4 administrative staff, 4 full-time firefighters and 3 Commissioners. Our average length of service is 9.8 years in the department with 26 members having more than 10 years in the department. If you are interested in joining our team visit our website to apply before May 31st.

For an in-depth look at our 2024 report visit our webpage www.westvalleyfire.com and click on 2024 Operational Report on the right side of the homepage under "Quick links." You can also view our Strategic Plan, Capital Improvement Plan and Business Plan there.

Is Your Home Ready For Wildfire?

JOIN WILDFIRE READY NEIGHBORS:
 Reducing wildfire risk starts with our community.

Sign up for a **FREE step-by-step Wildfire Ready Plan**. West Valley Firefighters will come to your property, evaluate it for wildfire risk, and provide you with a plan of steps you can take to reduce the risk of your home being lost by a wildfire. Site visits are only performed outside your home and available now. Please call us at **509-966-3111** and ask for a wildfire property inspection or visit our website and click on "Contact Us" to request a visit.

Yard Waste Recycling Event "Chip It, Don't Burn It"

April 26th dumpsters will be available at Station 51 (10000 Zier Rd) allowing you to clean up your property and safely dispose of flammable vegetation without burning it. All yard waste is accepted.

We cannot accept tires, oil, paint, appliances etc.

C A L E N D A R

MARCH

- 7th Blood Drive (redcrossblood.org) 1pm - 6pm
- 9th Daylight Savings-- SPRING FORWARD
- 11th Commissioner Meeting 4pm*

APRIL

- 8th Commissioner Meeting 4pm*
- 18th Good Friday
- 20th Easter
- 26th Chip It, Don't Burn It Event (10000 Zier RD) 9am - 1pm

* All Commissioner Meetings are held at 10000 Zier Road, Yakima, WA. Those wishing to attend via phone, please call 509-966-3111 to make arrangements ahead of time*



A statute provides that upon the immediate approach of an authorized emergency vehicle making use of its siren [and its special lights], the driver of every other vehicle shall yield the right of way and shall immediately drive to a position parallel to, and as close as possible to, the right hand edge or curb of the roadway clear of any intersection and shall stop and remain in such position until the authorized emergency vehicle has passed.

TO ALL- STAY SAFE OUT THERE!