



2021

County of Los Angeles Fire Department

ANNUAL REPORT



CARING • COMMITMENT • COMMUNITY • COURAGE • INTEGRITY • TEAMWORK

MESSAGE FROM FIRE CHIEF DARYL L. OSBY



The Los Angeles County Fire Department (Fire Department) takes pride in providing fire protection and life safety services 24/7 to over four million residents within our jurisdiction of 60 cities and all unincorporated areas of the County of Los Angeles (County).

As the communities we serve grow and diversify, our County continues to keep up and adjust with changing demands and needs. Together, with the Board of Supervisors, Chief Executive Office, and other County Departments, we partner and collaborate on the many challenging issues confronting our communities (i.e., epidemics, homelessness, mental health, youth programs, etc.).

This Annual Report reflects the many accomplishments, incidents, and programs our Fire Department and its team members have initiated, responded to, or been actively involved with in 2021. This Annual Report documents not only our achievements and successes but also showcases the short and long-term challenges we have overcome and continue to work through.

As you review this Annual Report, I hope you consider the critical role our team members play in the success of our Fire Department and how valuable they are in completing our daily mission. Our Fire Department is built upon our core values and the people who exemplify them every day.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daryl L. Osby".

Daryl L. Osby
Los Angeles County Fire Chief



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration



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ABOUT THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

HISTORY

In 1949, the Consolidated Fire Protection District was established by the Board of Supervisors through the consolidation of numerous fire districts which existed since the 1920s. From 1967 to 1986, there existed four fire protection districts within the Los Angeles County, all of which were governed by the Board of Supervisors: the Consolidated Fire Protection District (CFPD), Universal Fire Protection District, Dominguez Fire Protection District, and Wrightwood Fire Protection District. In addition, there was the Forester and Fire Warden (F&FW) which is a chartered office of the County and was funded by the General Fund. The property tax rate for each district was considerably different.

With the property tax limitations and standardization of tax rates established by Proposition 13 in 1978, there was no longer a need to maintain the separate districts. From 1986 to 1992, the F&FW and the CFPD were the two remaining legal entities that made up what is commonly known as the Los Angeles County Fire Department. In 1992, the CFPD annexed all the remaining unincorporated area in with a corresponding property tax transfer to fulfill the chartered responsibilities of the F&FW.

The Los Angeles County Fire Department has a very rich and unique history, which is full of innovation, and daring accomplishments. From designing the 9-1-1 system and initiating a paramedic program in the 1970's to the current day Urban Search and Rescue and Homeland Security Sections, our Fire Department is a leader and model to fire departments around the world. Our Department's ability to develop new techniques and tactics to fight fires of all kinds has benefited not only the residents we serve, but the fire service in general, both nationally and internationally.

ABOUT US

The Los Angeles County Fire Department (Fire Department) is responsible for protecting the lives and property of 4.0 plus million residents living in 1.25 million housing units in 60 cities and the unincorporated areas of the County, along with the City of La Habra located in Orange County. The Fire Department's service area includes suburban neighborhoods, city centers, commercial districts, sandy beaches, mountain ranges, and more.

There are 5,000 personnel working within the Fire Department's emergency and business operations bureaus, including firefighters, dispatchers, lifeguards, nurses, and administrative support.

OUR MISSION

To protect lives, the environment and property by providing prompt, skillful, and cost-effective fire protection and life safety services.

OUR VISION

The Los Angeles County Fire Department will be an exemplary organization acclaimed for our national reputation, our regional strength, and our hometown attentiveness as we provide fire protection and life safety services.

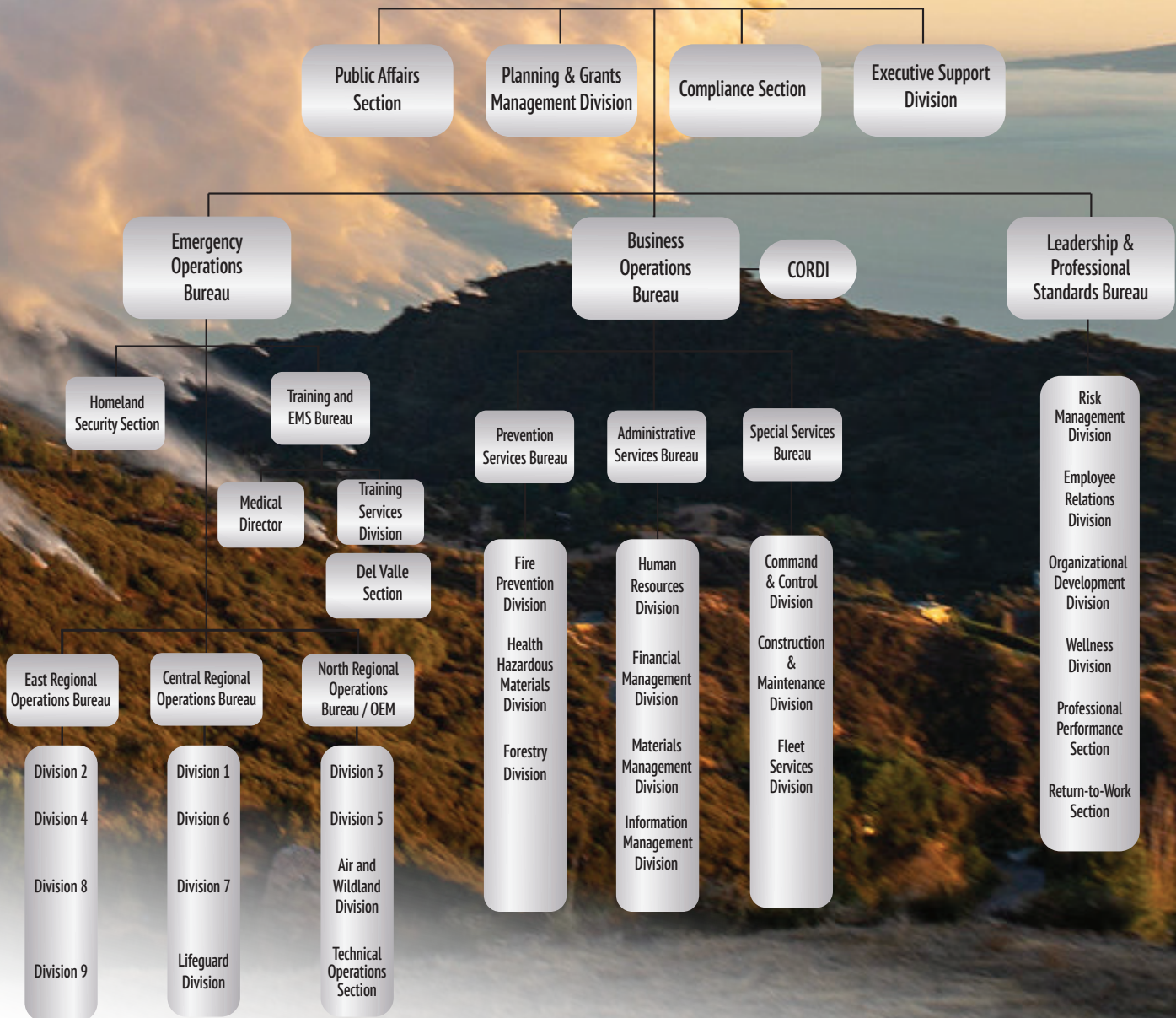
OUR CORE VALUES

CARING • COMMITMENT • COMMUNITY • COURAGE • INTEGRITY • TEAMWORK

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Fire Chief
Daryl L. Osby



2021 HIGHLIGHTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

ADVANCED PROVIDER RESPONSE UNIT

The Fire Department's Advanced Provider Response Unit (APRU) program was launched in 2019 to streamline and enhance emergency medical services (EMS) in the community.

Comprised of a nurse practitioner and a firefighter/paramedic, the APRU responds to 9-1-1 calls for low-to-medium acuity patients (e.g., prescription assistance, pain management, wound care, nausea, etc.), so paramedic units remain available to attend to more severe cases that require specialty skills and ambulance transport to the hospital emergency room (ER).



Since 2019, APRU teams have successfully cared for more than 2,000 patients. Currently, the APRU program operates every day in the Antelope Valley (AP-11) from 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Through the American Rescue Plan Act, the Fire Department plans to continue the program for another three years and implement two additional units. The Fire Department is working with the Los Angeles County (County) Chief Executive Office to determine the best locations to base the expansion units.



SIRENS OF SILENCE

For some children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), lights and sirens become sensory overload and overwhelming. Individuals with ASD are each unique and have a range of challenges, including communication and social skills. Some may be limited in verbal communication or nonverbal which accounts for nearly one-third of people with autism.

To help familiarize and expose individuals with ASD to first responders, the Fire Department's Sirens of Silence program works with local organizations, so children with ASD and their parents/caregivers can meet firefighters and lifeguards and see/touch the equipment and apparatus in a quiet, less stimulating setting.

BOEING CH-47/QRF PROGRAM

Millions of residents in Southern California are among the most vulnerable, living within wildfire-prone areas. Extreme drought conditions and dry vegetation, along with predictions of a dire wildfire season ahead, led to the annual 180-day lease of a Boeing Chinook helicopter in June of 2021 fund by Southern California Edison. Considered the world's largest fire suppression, retardant-dropping helicopter, the Boeing Chinook helitanker (CH-47), housed at the Van Nuys Tanker base, has the capacity to carry 3,000 gallons and can fly during day and night-time operations.

The CH-47 enhances the Fire Department's current air operations fleet which includes five Sikorsky S70 Firehawks, five Bell 412 helicopters, and a seasonal exclusive contract with the Government of Quebec for the 90-day lease of two CL-415 SuperScoopers which arrive annually in late summer.



COVID-19 RESPONSE

Without a doubt, 2020 and 2021 were unprecedented years and the Fire Department adapted and navigated through the COVID-19 pandemic. At the start of the pandemic, the Fire Department took a lead role and remained in constant communication with our County partners, including the Departments of Public Health and Health Services. While the world faced a global health emergency, the Fire Department continued to serve the communities and residents in its care without skipping a beat.



PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Immediately, as the Countywide lead, Fire Department team members were responsible for sourcing personal protective equipment (PPE). It was a major undertaking to secure, house, and distribute over 15 million pieces of PPE from the State and national stockpile to the entire County workforce.

MEGA TESTING & VACCINATION SITES

The Fire Department served as the lead in standing up and running the County's more than 30 mega-testing testing sites during March through May of 2020. In January 2021, we partnered with the Department of Public Health to run five mega pods and two walk-up sites for vaccine administration. In total, we administered more than 1.1 million vaccinations by the time we concluded our involvement in May 2021.



HEALTH PROGRAMS OFFICE

More than 2,600 Fire Department personnel have been diagnosed with COVID-19 since the beginning of the pandemic. Dozens have been hospitalized and, thankfully, there are no deaths among our personnel.

Our Health Programs Office, which once comprised of one nurse who made sure that all of our personnel had their vaccinations, was built out in March 2020 to handle the predicted surge of cases within the Fire Department. To date, the Health Programs Office has triaged thousands of COVID-19 exposures, performed more than 15,000 COVID-19 tests for our personnel, and vaccinated our personnel.

PROJECT ROOM KEY

The Fire Department also lent assistance to the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority with Project Room Key. We assisted in the placement of more than 2,300 individuals in over 30 hotel sites Countywide.

QUARANTINE AND ISOLATION SHELTER PROJECT

The Fire Department assisted Health Services with the establishment of five Quarantine and Isolation (QI) shelters throughout the County, along with the demobilization process to combine sites and preplan for three additional QI sites on County property.



OPERATIONS MULTI-AGENCY COORDINATION SYSTEM

The Operations Multi-Agency Coordination System (OPMACS) is a collaborative of the Region 1 Fire Departments in the Los Angeles area with local health agencies and partners to put together tools and assist agencies in strategically planning the COVID-19 pandemic response. Weekly meetings and daily data collections from the respective agencies provided real-time information for decisions to be made that ensured emergency services were not impacted.

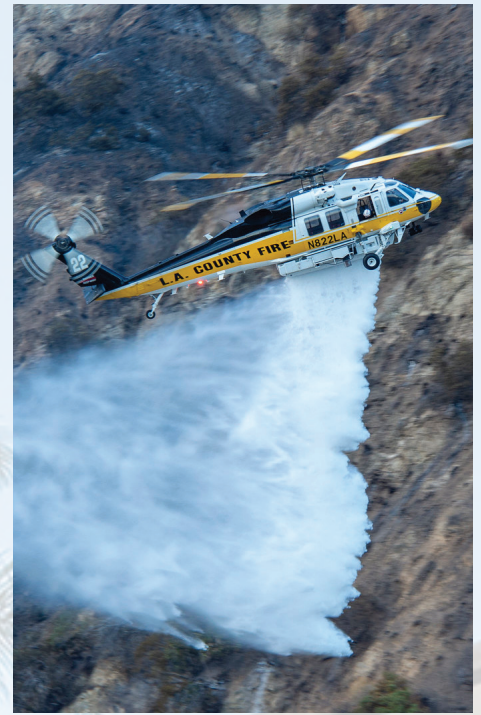
FIRE & RESCUE RESOURCES

- Nearly 3,000 fire series personnel
- 177 fire stations
- 228 engine companies
- 112 paramedic units
- 61 engines
- 33 truck companies
- 22 battalions
- 10 helicopters

SPECIALIZED RESOURCES

- 4 hazardous materials squads
- 2 urban search and rescue squads
- 6 swift water rescue units
- 2 fire boats
- Additional specialized equipment

The Fire Department is also the home of California Task Force 2 (also known as USA Task Force 2), an urban search and rescue team that is qualified to respond to local, national, and international disasters.

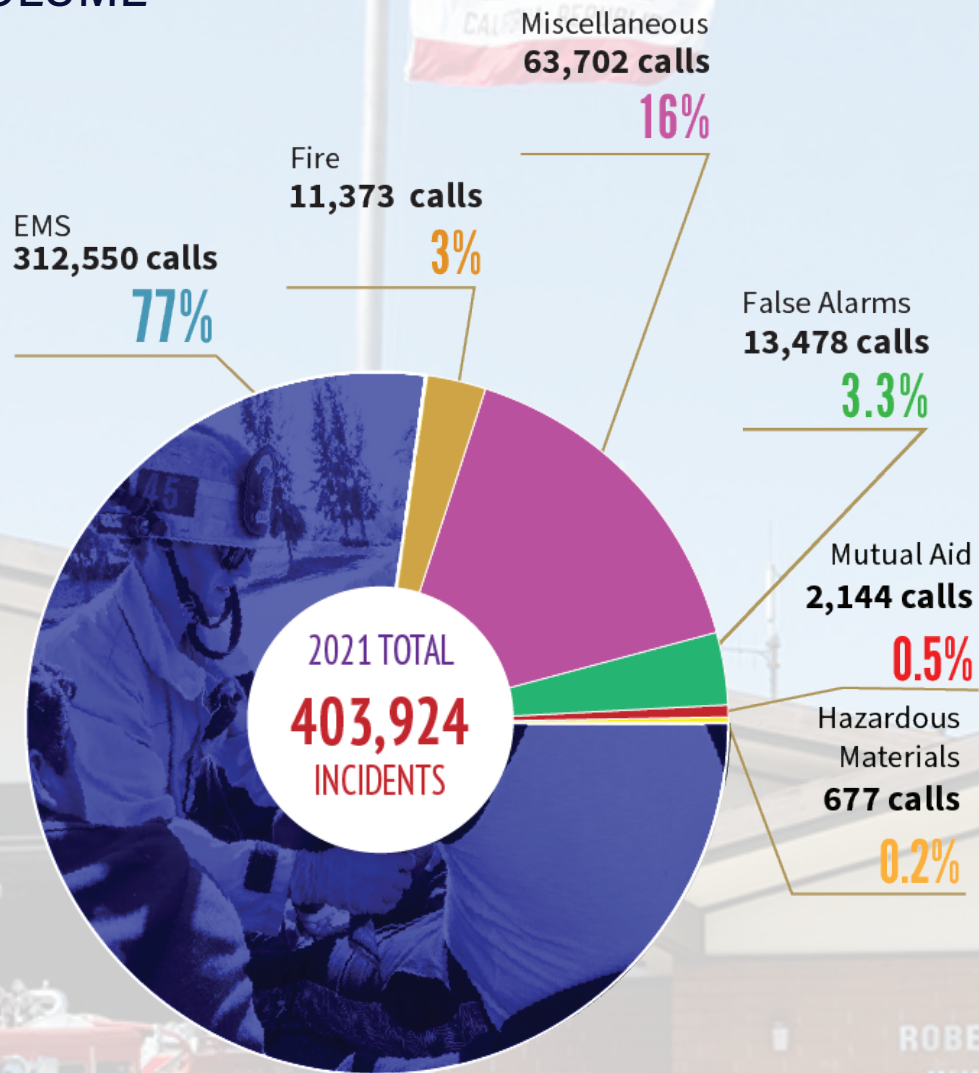


TODAY'S SERVICE AREA

Today, the Fire Department serves all the 122 unincorporated areas within the County, as well as the following 60 incorporated cities, one of which is in Orange County.

- | | | |
|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Agoura Hills | Hawaiian Gardens | Palmdale |
| Artesia | Hawthorne | Palos Verdes Estates |
| Azusa | Hermosa Beach | Paramount |
| Baldwin Park | Hidden Hills | Pico Rivera |
| Bell | Huntington Park | Pomona |
| Bellflower | Industry | Rancho Palos Verdes |
| Bell Gardens | Inglewood | Rolling Hills |
| Bradbury | Irwindale | Rolling Hills Estates |
| Calabasas | La Cañada Flintridge | Rosemead |
| Carson | La Habra | San Dimas |
| Cerritos | La Mirada | Santa Clarita |
| Claremont | La Puente | Signal Hill |
| Commerce | Lakewood | South El Monte |
| Covina | Lancaster | South Gate |
| Cudahy | Lawndale | Temple City |
| Diamond Bar | Lomita | Vernon |
| Duarte | Lynwood | Walnut |
| El Monte | Malibu | West Hollywood |
| Gardena | Maywood | Westlake Village |
| Glendora | Norwalk | Whittier |

2021 CALL VOLUME



2021 BUSIEST UNITS

- Engine 18 (Lennox) responded to 3,977 incidents.
- Engine 33 (Lancaster) responded to 3,015 incidents.
- Engine and Squad 14 (Los Angeles) responded to 1,936 incidents.
- Engine and Squad 41 (Los Angeles) responded to 1,927 incidents.
- Engine and Squad 37 (Palmdale) responded to 1,708 Incidents.

RESPONSE TOTALS

	2019	2020	2021
EMS	333,973	307,025	312,550
Fire	7,114	9,813	11,373
Mutual Aid	2,164	2,066	2,144
Miscellaneous	22,119	39,747	63,702
Hazardous Materials	662	629	677
False Alarms	26,954	20,237	13,478
Totals	392,986	379,517	403,924

BUDGET

The Fire Department is a special district. Revenue streams are separate and distinct from the County General Fund. *Final Adopted Budget for 2021-22: \$1.440 Billion*

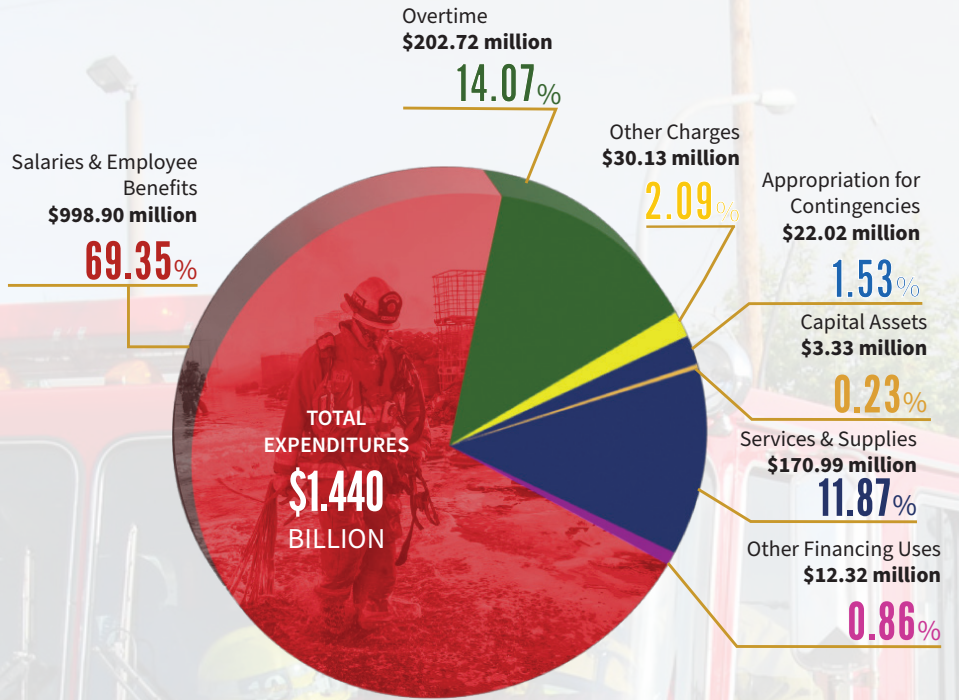
SPECIAL FUNDS	
Capital Projects ACO ⁹ :	\$35.0 Million
Del Valle ACO:	\$1.7 Million
Developer Fees:	\$37.7 Million
Helicopter ACO:	\$17.8 Million
Vehicle ACO:	\$10.3 Million
Hazardous Waste Special Fund:	\$1.0 Million

RESERVE FUNDS	
Infrastructure Growth:	\$0
Capital Projects:	\$0
Budget Uncertainties ¹ :	\$72.5 Million

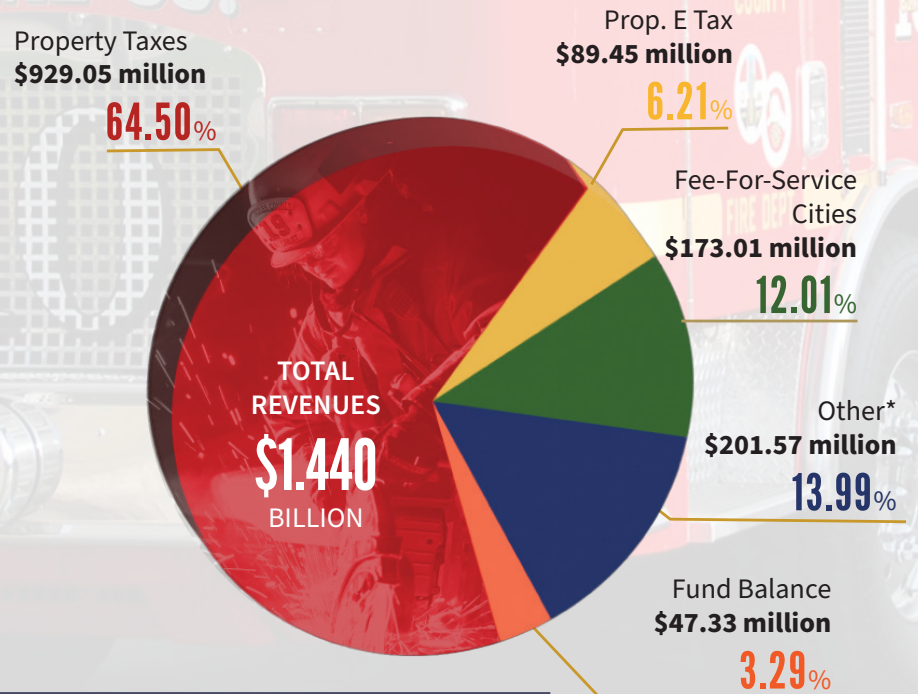
⁹Accumulated Capital Outlay (ACO)

¹The Fire Department is required to maintain at least 5 percent of expenditures in the reserve for budget uncertainties in compliance with the recommendation of the County Auditor-Controller.

EXPENDITURES



REVENUES



*Other (Description/Millions):

Lifeguards \$40.61	Assistance by Hire \$17.17
Measure B \$3.87	SRA/Graybook \$28.82
CDCR \$4.85	HHMD \$27.39
AB109 \$4.58	Prevention \$7.99
Federal Grants \$21.36	Miscellaneous \$25.99
Advanced Life Support \$18.94	

2016-2021 LOS ANGELES COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN

In April 2016, the Chief Executive Office issued a report called *Driving Transformative Change in Los Angeles County*. This report traced the path of Board Priorities and identified certain critical steps to continue moving forward in addressing some of the County's most critical challenges.

In that report, the CEO pointed out the following:

- As the Board continues to drive policy focused on addressing our most challenging social problems, and the Departments work to meet their respective and diverse missions, the CEO needs a mechanism to ensure that the efforts of County Departments are aligned with Board priorities in a way that increases the County's chances of successfully impacting the lives of children, adults, families and business of Los Angeles County.
- That mechanism is a strategic plan - a plan that provides direction to Departments and their partners and a measurement plan to track both performance and outcomes.

GOAL I
Make Investments that Transform Lives

GOAL II
Foster Vibrant and Resilient Communities

GOAL III
Realize Tomorrow's Government Today

2017-2021 FIRE DEPARTMENT STRATEGIC PLAN

The Fire Department's Strategic Plan is the result of a collaborative effort between the Fire Chief, Executive Team, and over 40 managers from throughout the Fire Department. It closely aligns with the 2016-2021 County of Los Angeles Strategic Plan, *Creating Connections: People, Communities, and Government*, and the Board's priorities.

The Strategic Plan serves as our road map with a focus on the most important challenges and opportunities before us. The Strategic Plan is reviewed regularly to ensure our goals and priorities lead to measurable action and results.



GOAL I
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS
Address Societal Challenges Through Non-Traditional Service Delivery

GOAL II
PUBLIC SERVICE
Catastrophic Preparedness and Community Initiatives

GOAL III
ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS
Building Tomorrow's Fire Department



EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

The Emergency Operations Bureau includes the Training and EMS Bureau (TEMSB), nine major firefighting divisions, Air and Wildland Division, and Homeland Security Section. The Fire Department's service area includes suburban neighborhoods, city centers, commercial district, sandy beaches, mountain ranges, and more. The region's varying terrain causes unique emergency incident challenges, including increased EMS calls and variety of fires that can take place on a single day (i.e., wildland, structure, railroad, aircraft, vehicle, etc.) as well as ocean rescues and medical calls across 72 miles of coastline.

TRAINING AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BUREAU

The TEMSB consists of medical professionals and the Training Services Division. EMS personnel are responsible for paramedic training, certification, equipment, quality improvement, and legal aspects for all basic and advanced emergency medical services provided by the Fire Department. Training Services is responsible for training all new firefighters and conducting ongoing in-service training sessions for all members. Training Services develops training materials, and organizes classes and training programs for recruits and refresher courses for other Fire Departmental personnel.



LIFEGUARD DIVISION

The Lifeguard Division protects 72 miles of coastline, including 31 miles of sandy beaches and Catalina Island. Lifeguard resources include, 174 full-time ocean lifeguards, 614 recurrent ocean lifeguards, 24 lifeguard stations, 159 lifeguard tower, and 8 rescue boats.

2020-2021 Lifeguard Division Activity

Ocean rescues	9,286
Medical calls	13,303
Boat rescues (distress)	435
Missing persons	634
Therapy	112
Drownings	3
Beach attendance	51,869,968

HOMELAND SECURITY SECTION

The Fire Department has a very engaged Homeland Security team that works with numerous local, State, and federal agencies and governments to ensure the safety, security, and resilience of the County against terrorism and other all-risk hazards.

AIR & WILDLAND DIVISION: AIR OPS, TECH OPS, AND FIRE CAMPS

AIR OPERATIONS SECTION

The Fire Department maintains a fleet of ten helicopters for paramedic transport, hoist rescues, and wildland firefighting. Contract aircraft are also available during wildfire season.

- 5 Sikorsky S-70 Firehawks
- 5 Bell 412 helicopters
- 2 Bombardier CL-415 SuperScoopers (seasonal lease)
- Chinook Helicopter CH-47 (Helitanker 55) Type 1 (seasonal lease)

TECHNICAL OPERATIONS SECTION

The Technical Operations Section is a functional division within the Fire Department that focuses on technical rescue disaster response and urban search and rescue training. Additionally, the Fire Department has a cooperative agreement with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) where our team is designated as California Task Force 2. CA-TF2 has the responsibility to respond to domestic disasters, providing search and rescue capabilities when called upon.

The Fire Department also has a cooperative agreement with the United States Agency of International Development (USAID) where our team is designated as USA-2. USA-2 has the responsibility to respond to all international disasters with search and rescue capabilities when called upon. The national and international USAR deployments are performed in addition to the Fire Department's state and regional responsibilities for providing search and rescue services.



Locally, in the County, we have Fire Station 103 and Fire Station 136 that are dedicated urban search and rescue stations for response and mitigation of all technical rescues.

FIRE SUPPRESSION CAMPS

Nine camps are staffed year-round for fire suppression, fire road maintenance, fuel modification, and miscellaneous projects.





2021 EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

HOOPER INCIDENT (2/6/21)

Firefighters responded to a two-story commercial structure fire on East Slauson Avenue in the community of Florence. Second and third alarm resources were requested for defensive fire attack. The fire was knocked down with no injuries.



DUNCAN INCIDENT (3/11/2021)

Firefighters responded to a vacant one-story commercial structure fire on East Olympic Blvd in East Los Angeles. Firefighters initiated a defensive fire attack and knocked down the fire with no reported injuries.



ALAMEDA INCIDENT (3/31/21)

At the request of the Compton Fire Department, firefighters were dispatched to an industrial complex fire on North Rose Avenue in the City of Compton. The large pallet yard fire extended to nearby homes, destroying three and causing damage to a fourth home. There were no reported injuries.



NORTH INCIDENT (4/28/21)

Firefighters responded to a brush fire near The Old Road in Castaic and initiated fire attack from the air and ground. The wildfire burned for four days and consumed 650 acres, prompting voluntary evacuations for nearby residents. There was no damage to structures and no reported injuries.



DELTA INCIDENT (5/2/21)

Firefighters responded to a second-alarm wildfire burning in medium brush near West Avenue D in the City of Lancaster. The wildfire burned approximately 400 acres and prompted the evacuation of 16 homes. There was no damage to structures and no reported injuries.



PALISADES FIRE (5/14/2021)

At the request of the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), firefighters responded to a wildfire in Pacific Palisades. On May 15th, we entered into unified command with the LAFD when the wildfire crossed the County line. Mandatory evacuations affected over 1,000 residents. The wildfire burned approximately 1,200 acres. One firefighter sustained a minor injury.

2021 EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

SALT INCIDENT (5/31/21)

Firefighters responded to a one-story commercial structure fire located on East Gage Avenue in the City of Huntington Park with heavy smoke and fire showing. Second and third alarm resources were requested by the incident commander for defensive fire attack. One firefighter sustained a minor injury.



WILLOW INCIDENT (7/16/21)

Firefighters responded to a report of a hazardous materials incident with a fire, involving a truck carrying approximately 7,500 pounds of chlorine tablets and liquid. Residents and businesses were evacuated within a two-block radius of the incident on East Willow Street in the City of Signal Hill. There were no reported injuries.



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES (AUGUST 2021)

In mid-August, firefighters were deployed to multiple wildfires ravaging Northern California and the Pacific Northwest. Engine strike teams as well as numerous aerial assets, overhead, and hand crews responded to aid in the crisis. Our 9-1-1 dispatchers also staffed Region I to fulfill mutual aid requests.



AVALON INCIDENT (9/30/21)

Firefighters responded to a one-story commercial structure fire with heavy smoke billowing into the sky on South Avalon Boulevard in the City of Carson. Second and third alarm resources were requested for a coordinated defensive fire attack. There were no reported injuries.



IBBETSON INCIDENT (11/9/21)

Firefighters responded to a two-story commercial structure fire with heavy smoke and flames on Ibbetson Avenue in the City of Bellflower. The incident commander called for second and third alarm resources to assist with a defensive fire attack. The fire was knocked down with no reported injuries.



DALEWOOD INCIDENT (11/9/21)

Firefighters responded to a commercial structure fire on Dalewood Street in the City of Baldwin Park. The incident commander called for a second and third alarm resource assignment to assist with defensive fire attack. The fire was knocked down with no reported injuries.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE AND LEADERSHIP & PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BUREAU

The Executive Office and Leadership and Professional Standards Bureau oversight includes public information and community outreach, risk management, organizational development, internal and external communications, strategic planning, leadership and career development, employee wellness, succession planning, compliance, and employee relations.

BUSINESS OPERATIONS

Business Operations oversight includes 9-1-1 dispatch and field communications, recruitment, information management, fleet maintenance, construction and maintenance, procurement, finance, and human resources. Prevention services encompass hazards mitigation and specialized inspections, including plan check reviews, fire code and brush clearance enforcement, health hazardous materials, fire investigations, vegetation management, and natural resources protection.



CORDI SECTION

Known as the Community Outreach, Recruitment, Diversity, and Inclusion Section, CORDI supports the Fire Department's mission to cultivate a workforce that represents the diverse communities we serve and creates a more inclusive environment for all of our members.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU



The Administrative Services Bureau oversees the Fire Department's \$1.4 billion budget and provides executive oversight of the Financial Management, Human Resources, Information Management, and Materials Management Divisions. Together they work closely with internal and external stakeholders to improve standard business practices, ensure administrative and fiscal compliance, and provide purchasing and contracting services.

SPECIAL SERVICES BUREAU

COMMAND AND CONTROL DIVISION

Nearly 100 dispatchers answer hundreds of thousands of 9-1-1 calls and dispatch units to approximately 400,000 incidents annually.

FLEET SERVICES DIVISION

Over 50 mechanics and administrative staff maintain and repair about 2,000 fleet assets.

CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE DIVISION

The Construction and Maintenance Division employs a variety of staff — including project managers, building trades, general maintenance workers, and administrative team members — who are responsible for new construction, repair work, and alterations to fire stations, administrative locations, fire suppression camps, training centers, and lifeguard facilities. In total, the Construction and Maintenance Division maintains more than 245 sites, amounting to nearly two million square feet.

PREVENTION SERVICES BUREAU

FORESTRY DIVISION

The Forestry Division is comprised of environmental professionals who deliver high quality fire prevention services to homeowners and public agency stakeholders, and assists Emergency Operations with logistical support. As the Fire Department's leader on environmental issues, it researches and develops solutions to emerging environmental problems, using innovative information technology. Made up of three sections, the Forestry Division's overall responsibilities, as defined in the County Charter, include forest and natural resource management, fire prevention, environmental review, pre-fire planning, and public education.

HEALTH HAZARDOUS MATERIALS DIVISION

The Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) is a fee offset program that protects public health and the environment from improper handling, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials. Under state law, the Health Hazardous Materials Division (HHMD)/CUPA consolidates, coordinates, and maintains consistency of administrative requirements, permits, inspections, and enforcement activities for six environmental regulatory programs. These six programs are Hazardous Waste Generators, Hazardous Materials Handlers, Uniform Fire Code Hazardous Materials Management Plans, California Accidental Release Prevention, Aboveground Petroleum Storage Act, and Underground Storage Tanks.

FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

The mission of the Fire Prevention Division is to educate the community about the benefits of proper safety practices and to identify and eliminate all types of hazardous conditions that pose a threat to life, property, and the environment. The Division is comprised of a mix of civilian and sworn personnel. The Fire Prevention Division completes a wide variety of inspections. These include land entitlement, new construction, commercial and industrial facilities, schools and institutions, and specialized inspections related to film permits. Specialized functions include: land development services; inspection of schools, institutions, high-rise buildings, and County facilities; and arson investigations.

ARSON UNIT 2021 YEAR IN REVIEW



PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAMS

READY! SET! GO!

The Fire Department, along with our partnering agencies, stand ready to respond to contain wildfires, utilizing our firefighting resources from the air and ground to help protect residents and property from wildfires.

The Ready! Set! Go! program is designed to provide residents with critical information on creating defensible space around their home, retrofitting their home with fire-resistant materials, and preparing residents to safely evacuate well ahead of a wildfire. We encourage residents to protect their families, and property from a devastating wildfire by taking the time to learn about Ready! Set! Go!



FAMILY INSTRUCTIONS FOR RAPID ESCAPE (F.I.R.E.) GUIDE & COLORING BOOK

If there was a fire in your home, would you know the best way to escape? In most house or apartment fires, a properly prepared or maintained window can provide the quickest, safest, and most immediate way out.

We encourage families to review the (F.I.R.E) guide and coloring book to help you make your home fire ready, and learn how to safely escape.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TRAINING (CERT)

The Fire Department offers free CERT classes taught by trained and certified firefighters. Learn from the experts about how to prepare for a major disaster. Once the CERT course is completed, individuals will have the skills and tools necessary to take care of themselves, their families, neighbors, and co-workers in the event of a disaster.



SIRENS OF SILENCE

For some children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), lights and sirens become sensory overload and overwhelming. Individuals with ASD are each unique and have a range of challenges, including communication and social skills. Some may be limited in verbal communication or nonverbal which accounts for nearly one-third of people with autism. To help familiarize and expose individuals with ASD to first responders, the Fire Department created the Sirens of Silence program to partner with local organizations, so children with ASD and their parents/caregivers can meet firefighters and lifeguards and see/touch equipment and apparatus in a quiet, less stimulating setting.

Sirens of Silence consists of three components: education and awareness for the Fire Department's first responders; special needs-friendly events; and safety-related items.

CAREER PATHWAYS PROGRAMS



EXPLORER PROGRAM

The Fire Department's Explorer Program introduces the youth of the County to today's fire and emergency medical services, emphasizing community service and civic involvement through positive mentoring, training, education, and career development.

WOMEN'S FIRE PREP ACADEMY

The Women's Fire Prep Academy (WFPA) was developed in collaboration with the Los Angeles County Women's Fire League, to expose adults 18 years and older to the duties and detailed responsibilities of the firefighter position and what to expect in the Fire Department's Recruit Academy.



GIRLS' FIRE CAMP

The Girls' Fire Camp was created to introduce youth, between the ages of 10 to 17 years old, to the career opportunities available within the Fire Department. This one-day camp allows participants to learn the basics of firefighting and gain valuable hands-on experience.

JUNIOR LIFEGUARD PROGRAM

Open to children age 9 to 17, the Fire Department's Junior Lifeguard Program educates participants about ocean and beach safety, physical conditioning, basic first aid, and environmental awareness while developing the next generation of lifeguards and future leaders.



BOOTS-TO-BADGES

The Fire Department's Boots-to-Badges Program is designed for active duty military, reservists, and veterans who wish to explore and/or pursue a career in the fire service. This program provides participants with a potential career and the essential knowledge, skills and abilities to help prepare them for the Fire Department.

INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

The Fire Department consistently aims to recruit, train, and hire individuals that uphold the standards of excellence in the fire service and exemplify our core values (caring, commitment, community, courage, integrity, and teamwork), while reflecting the vast and varied communities in our care. Although COVID-19 presented significant challenges for training, the Fire Department was able to overcome these challenges and provided employees with the tools, training, and processes needed to fulfill its life-saving mission.

RECRUIT TRAINING

Through the demonstrated use of technology, innovative strategies, and fostering of workforce inclusivity and diversity, the Fire Department successfully graduated five recruit training classes in 2021. These newly hired firefighters continually step up, demonstrating grit, resilience, and self-mastery of their skill set.

2021 RECRUIT CLASSES	
Recruit Class 161	46
Recruit Class 162	44
Recruit Class 163	43
Recruit Class 164	37
Recruit Class 165	39
TOTAL:	209

FIRE CAMPS TRAINING

In 2021, the Fire Department graduated three fire suppression aid academies. A total of 80 fire suppression aids successfully completed their respective four-week academies, well-prepared for fire suppression, fire road maintenance, and miscellaneous projects.

Within the Fire Camps, weekly and monthly training took place, including wildland power saws, fine fuel line construction, heavy fuel line construction, mop-up standards, EMS training, tree falling certification, EVOC driver training, power equipment training, and ignitions training.

2021 FIRE SUPPRESSION AID ACADEMIES	
Fire Suppression Aid Academy 82	27
Fire Suppression Aid Academy 83	23
Fire Suppression Aid Academy 84	30
TOTAL:	80

LIFEGUARD TRAINING

Two Fire Department lifeguard academies took place in 2021. Each 140-hour training academy was held over seven consecutive weekends during the COVID-19 pandemic. A total of 33 lifeguards completed and graduated from the academies, ready to begin their assignments as ocean lifeguard recurrents.

In addition to the two Fire Department lifeguard academies, permanent lifeguards also participated in winter EMS and ocean rescue certification training, and marine firefighting and rescue boat operations training in the fall.



IN-SERVICE TRAINING

Throughout 2021, newly promoted firefighters specialists, fire captains, battalion chiefs, and assistant fire chiefs completed their respective week-long, 40-hour academy. The academies provide newly promoted fire series personnel with leadership training, classroom lectures on wildland incident operations, and other fundamental skills needed in their new roles.

2021 ACADEMIES

Fire Fighter Specialist Academy	98
Fire Captain Academy	81
Battalion Chief Academy	7
Assistant Fire Chief Academy	9
TOTAL:	195

ADDITIONAL IN-SERVICE TRAINING:

- Specialized dive rescue training with the Lifeguard Division and USAR team (25 participants from across the U.S.)
- Basement firefighting (80 participants from across the U.S.)
- Nozzle forward class (80 participants from across the U.S.)
- Regional hazardous materials and USAR training, along with multi-disciplinary training with law enforcement, the National Guard, and U.S. Army



INFORMING OUR COMMUNITY

With the COVID-19 pandemic continuing into 2021, many of the Fire Department's public education and community outreach activities were temporarily paused and successfully transitioned to web and social media outreach. Through the Public Information Office and Communications Section team, the Fire Department held many events throughout 2021 to share important information with the media, residents and communities in our care.

Love to Nippon: In March 2021, the Fire Department joined with the Love to Nippon project and Japan House LA to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the 2011 Great East Japan earthquake and tsunami through its webinar, "Be Prepared! Lessons Learned in Readiness and Resilience."



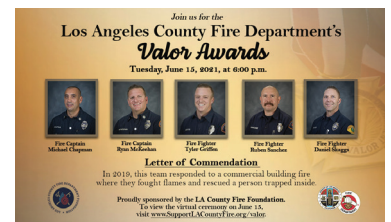
Wildfire Preparedness Week: In May 2021, Fire Chief Daryl L. Osby was joined by federal, state, and local partners to remind residents to do their part to prepare for wildfires and help protect their communities.

Fire Season Outlook News Conference: In June 2021, Fire Chief Daryl L. Osby was joined by Region I fire service peers to share their outlook on the fire season and extreme drought conditions throughout California.



Fourth of July News Conference: In July 2021, Fire Chief Daryl L. Osby joined First District Supervisor Hilda Solis and Fifth District Supervisor Kathryn Barger to discuss the dangers of fireworks.

Valor Awards Ceremony: In July 2021, the Los Angeles County Fire Foundation sponsored the Fire Department's virtual Valor Awards Ceremony to recognize Fire Department members and Good Samaritans for going above and beyond in the performance of their duties.



Contract Aircraft News Conference: In August 2021, SuperScoopers Quebec 1 and 2 safely arrived in Los Angeles County to join the Fire Department's arsenal of aerial firefighting resources, including the Boeing Chinook CH-47, known as Helitanker 55. These aircraft provided critical resources to augment the Fire Department's response during wildfire season.

Spark of Love Campaign: In November 2021, the Fire Department joined with ABC7, Toys for Tots, and Southern California firefighters to celebrate the 29th year of the Spark of Love toy drive. Over 25,000 toys were donated and distributed to underserved children and teens throughout Los Angeles County.



PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE


The Public Information Office provides timely information to the communities in our care. Here is how you can contact us:

🌐 fire.lacounty.gov ▪ 📧 info@fire.lacounty.gov ▪ 📞 323-881-2411

SOCIAL MEDIA

 **92K**
Facebook followers
[facebook.com LACoFD](https://www.facebook.com/LACoFD)

 **103K**
Instagram followers
[@LACoFD](https://www.instagram.com/LACoFD)

 **9.72K**
You tube followers
[@LosAngelesCountyFD](https://www.youtube.com/LosAngelesCountyFD)

 **107.9K**
Twitter followers
[@LACoFD](https://twitter.com/LACoFD)

 **133.2K**
Twitter followers
[@LACoFDPIO](https://twitter.com/LACoFDPIO)

REMEMBERING OUR FALLEN



Active Duty Death of Fire Captain Brian Levasseur:

On March 26, 2021, Fire Captain Brian Levasseur died unexpectedly. A proud protector of life and property with over 30 years of service, Captain Levasseur is survived by his daughter, parents, fiancé, siblings, extended family, colleagues, and friends.

Line of Duty Death of Fire Fighter Specialist Tory Carlon:

On June 1, 2021, Fire Fighter Specialist Tory Carlon was killed in the line of duty. With more than 20 years of fire service, he exemplified what a true hero is – caring, selfless, and brave. Fire Fighter Specialist Carlon is survived by his wife, three daughters, parents, siblings, extended family, colleagues, and friends.



Firefighters' Memorial Ceremony:

On May 12, 2021, the Fire Department remembered all firefighters who died in the line of duty in a hybrid ceremony at the Memorial Wall. Two fallen members were added to the Memorial Wall:

- Battalion Chief Mark Tolbert
- Fire Fighter Paramedic Randall Duarte.



The Los Angeles County Fire Department Foundation was formed to turn your donations into equipment and educational programs that can save lives, such as:



- F.I.R.E.
- Ready! Set! Go!
- Sirens of Silence
- Peer Support
- Explorer Program
- Junior Lifeguard Program
- Life-saving Equipment
- Station Equipment
- Wildland Support
- And More

Learn more on our website: www.SupportLACountyFire.org.



LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Daryl L. Osby

📍 1320 N. Eastern Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90063

🌐 fire.lacounty.gov



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