



Robbinsdale Fire Department

Serving Our Community Since 1909

2016 Annual Report

Hello! From The New Fire Chief, Guy P. Dorholt

“Wow, what a year 2016 turned out to be!” Let’s start by congratulating retired Fire Chief Mark Fairchild. Your 38 years of service have prepared us well for the challenges to come.



At a March council meeting, I presented a vision of what the department would undertake as we move forward. Our initial focus will be in the following areas: continue to provide first class fire protection/EMS/education-prevention and inspections service via our cost effective **paid-on-call** model, refine our recruitment strategy and enhance our training and education platform.

In June, the department demonstrated just one example of our commitment to deliver first class fire protection. A five alarm apartment fire that utilized over 100 firefighters from 13 nearby departments displaced only 12 residents. Truly a job well done in a very challenging environment.

A successful recruitment campaign in September yielded two very qualified firefighter candidates that will start their fire service career in 2017.

And by December, we implemented a new “Training and Education Roadmap” to provide direction for firefighter education and promotion opportunities within the department.

In closing, I look forward to leading this excellent department and invite you to stop in to learn more about how we serve our community.

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.

2016 At A Glance

- The Fire Department budget was \$712,597 or 7.8 percent of the overall city budget.
- The department utilized 28 paid on-call members that responded to 315 calls for service. This represents over a four (4.25) percent decrease for calls for service from 2015.
- Collectively, our firefighters dedicated 3,712 hours to departmental training.
- Cumulatively, there was 239 years of firefighting experience on the fire department in 2016.
- Years of experience average is 8.5
- Range of experience: 1 to 28 years
- The fire department maintained an ISO rating of 4.

Robbinsdale Fire Department Leadership Team – 2016

Chief Officers

Guy P. Dorholt - Fire Chief Office: 763.531.1234
Email: gdorholt@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us

Mike Powell - Assistant Fire Chief Office: 763.531.1233
Email: mpowell@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us

Fire Marshal

Greg Bodin - Fire Marshal Office: 763.531.1236
Email: gbodin@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us

Line Officers

Scott Welle - Captain
Email: swelle@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us

Jon Owata - Lieutenant
Email: jowata@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us

Brent Nelson - Lieutenant
Email: bnelson@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us

Tom Robertus - Lieutenant
Email: trobertus@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us

Dave Gustafson - Lieutenant
Email: dgustafson@ci.robbinsdale.mn.us

Administrative Notes

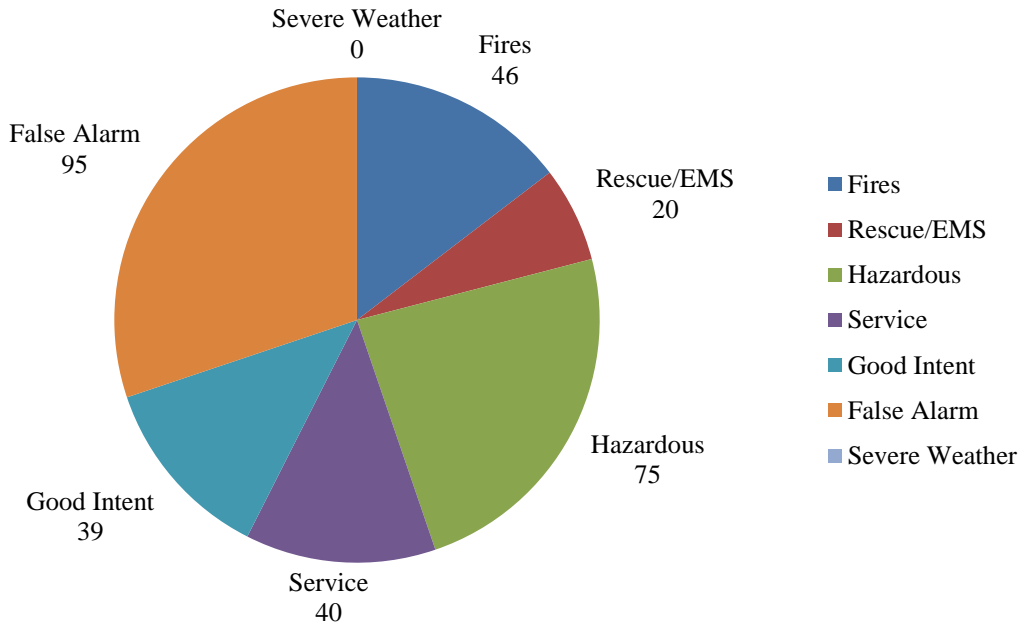
Changes coming to our community:

As the Blue Line Light-Rail Extension discussions continue to move forward, the fire department will work diligently to stay involved from a public safety perspective. As project details evolve, we know that there may be the potential for permanent road closures as well as emergency vehicle access issues along the entire line. The fire department will continue to monitor these developments.

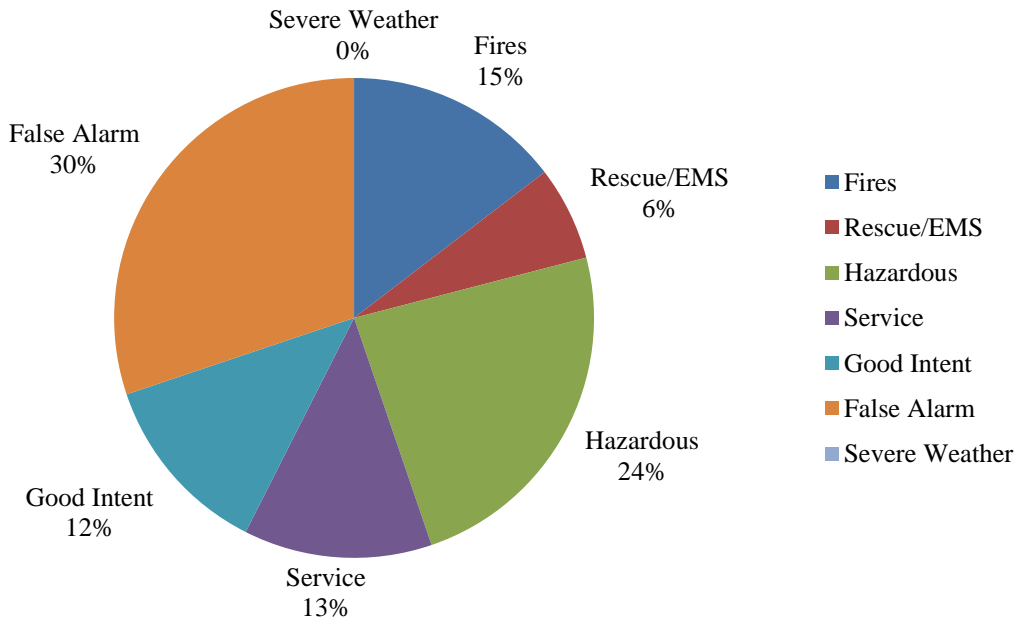
Save the Date

Robbinsdale Public Safety Open House will be held on **Saturday, August 12, 2017 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!

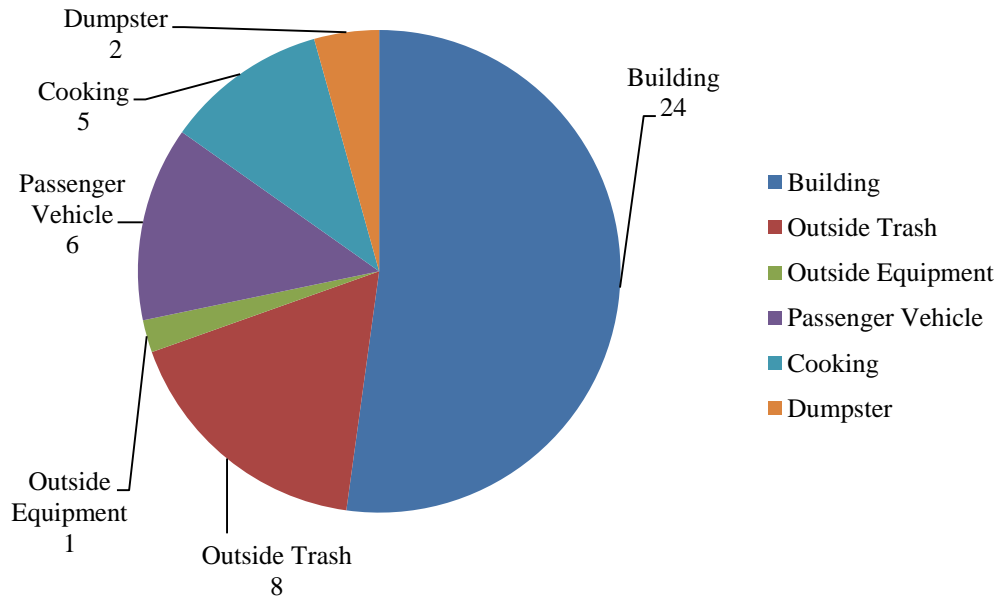
2016 Total Calls For Service



2016 Incidents-Percentage

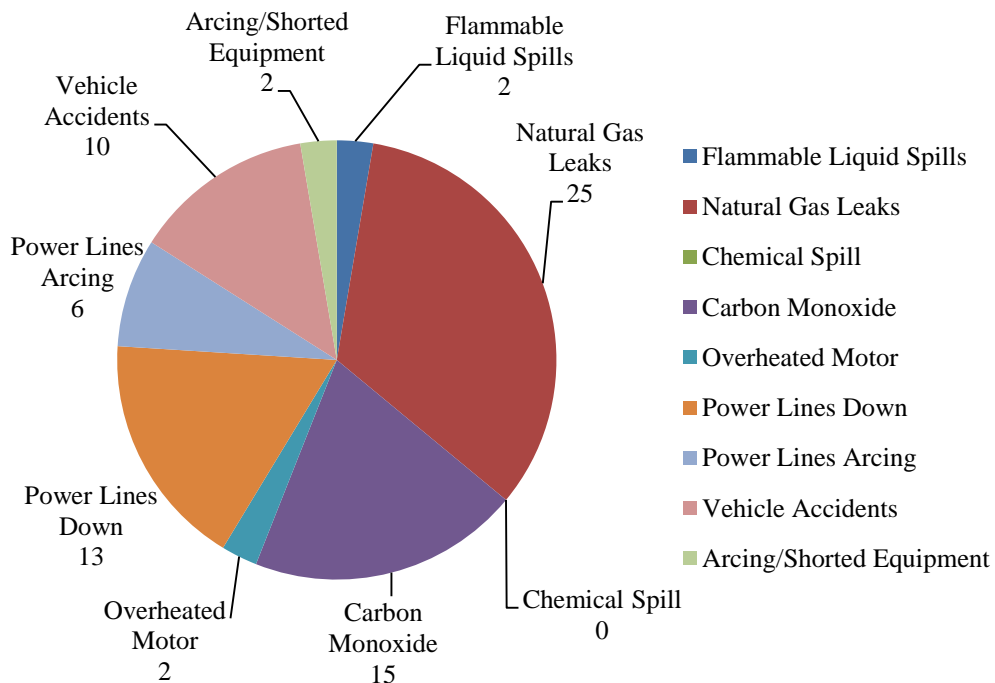


2016 Fire Related Call Breakdown



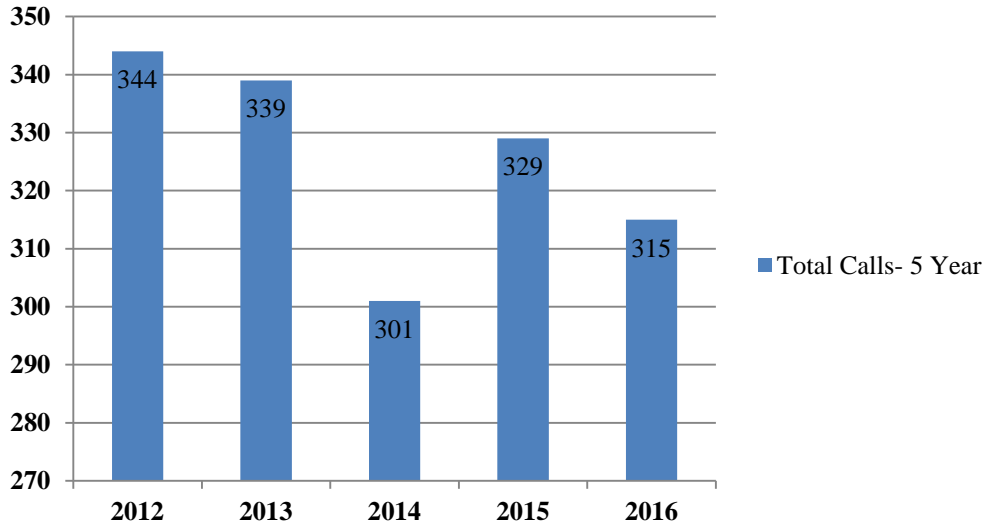
2016 revealed a decrease in overall Fire events by nine (9) calls or 16.4 percent. Events coded Building Fire increased by one (1) call or 4.3 percent. Like 2015, there were no civilian injuries or fire related deaths. However, the department did sustain three minor firefighter injuries while at an Multi Dwelling Unit residential fire in June.

2016 Hazardous Conditions



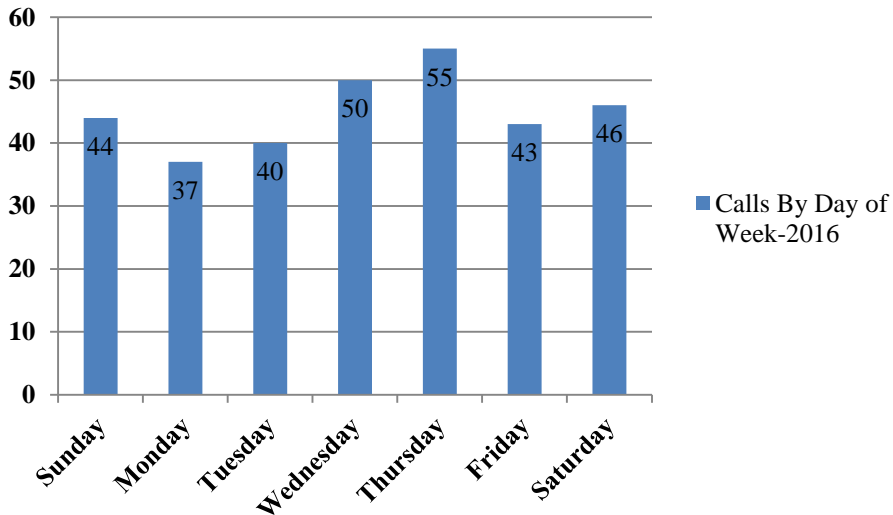
2016 revealed no increase in vehicle accidents. A significant decrease in Natural Gas Leaks by nineteen (19) calls or 43.2 percent due to limited street reconstruction within the city. Carbon Monoxide events remained fairly flat.

Total Calls- 5 Year



2016 revealed a decrease in Total Calls to 315 events. This represents a decrease in service level requests by fourteen (14) calls or just over four (4.25) percent.

Calls By Day of Week-2016



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

Training Division

Training:

A total of 33 Monday night drills, equaling 78 hours per firefighter, were scheduled and held in 2016. In addition to our Monday night drills, the department collectively took over 450 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:

Five (5) firefighters received state certification for Fire Apparatus Operator

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

- A prerequisite for departmental promotion

Two (2) firefighters received state certification for Fire Officer II

Two (2) firefighters took Leadership as a Company Officer class

Two (2) firefighters took a Modern Fire Attack class

One (1) firefighter took a Truck Company Culture class

Two (2) firefighters took a Vehicle Stabilization class

Two (2) firefighters took a Reading Smoke class

One (1) firefighter took a Basic and Advanced Fire /Arson Investigation class

One (1) firefighter took the State Fire Marshal Sprinkler/Fire Code Review class

One (1) firefighter attended the MN State Fire Marshal Conference

Three (3) firefighters participated in HCSO Water and Ice Rescue Class

Two (2) firefighters attended International Association of Arson Investigation

(IAAI) convention

Probationary Firefighter Training:

The department hired two (2) new firefighters in 2016. Their training was conducted through the North Suburban Fire Academy along with four (4) other neighboring departments. Both firefighters were trained and state certified to the Firefighter I, Firefighter II and Haz-Mat 472 operations level.



Fire Marshal Division

Larger Construction Projects Undertaken in 2016:

North Memorial Medical Center - Newly remodeled floors

Oakdale Medical Building - Newly remodeled floors

St. Therese Nursing Center - Located on remodeled 4N/4W floors at NMMC

Smaller Construction Projects:

Wicked Wort Brewery

Marna's Catering

Performance Foods

Embrace the Wobble Yoga Studio

Clare Terrace multi unit residential dwelling

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.

Public Safety Education Highlights:

Fire Prevention Week (October 2016) included visits to two elementary schools, Lakeview Elementary and Sacred Heart Elementary as well as one middle school, Robbinsdale Middle School. 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.

Hennepin County Fire Investigation Team (HCFIT):

Robbinsdale Firefighter/Inspector and HCFIT Supervisor Dave Gustafson receives the "2016 Fire Investigator of the Year Award" for exemplary service provided to the communities located within their jurisdiction. This prestigious award was presented at the MNIAAI conference in Saint Cloud, Minnesota.



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.

