



# Fire and Rescue EMS Service Delivery Update

Safety and Security Committee Meeting

Fire Chief John S. Butler

November 28, 2023





## STAFFING

**1,360** Uniformed personnel

**183** Civilian staff

**362** Operational Volunteers

**DAILY MINIMUM STAFFING: 363**

**93 PARAMEDICS**

### FRONT LINE UNITS

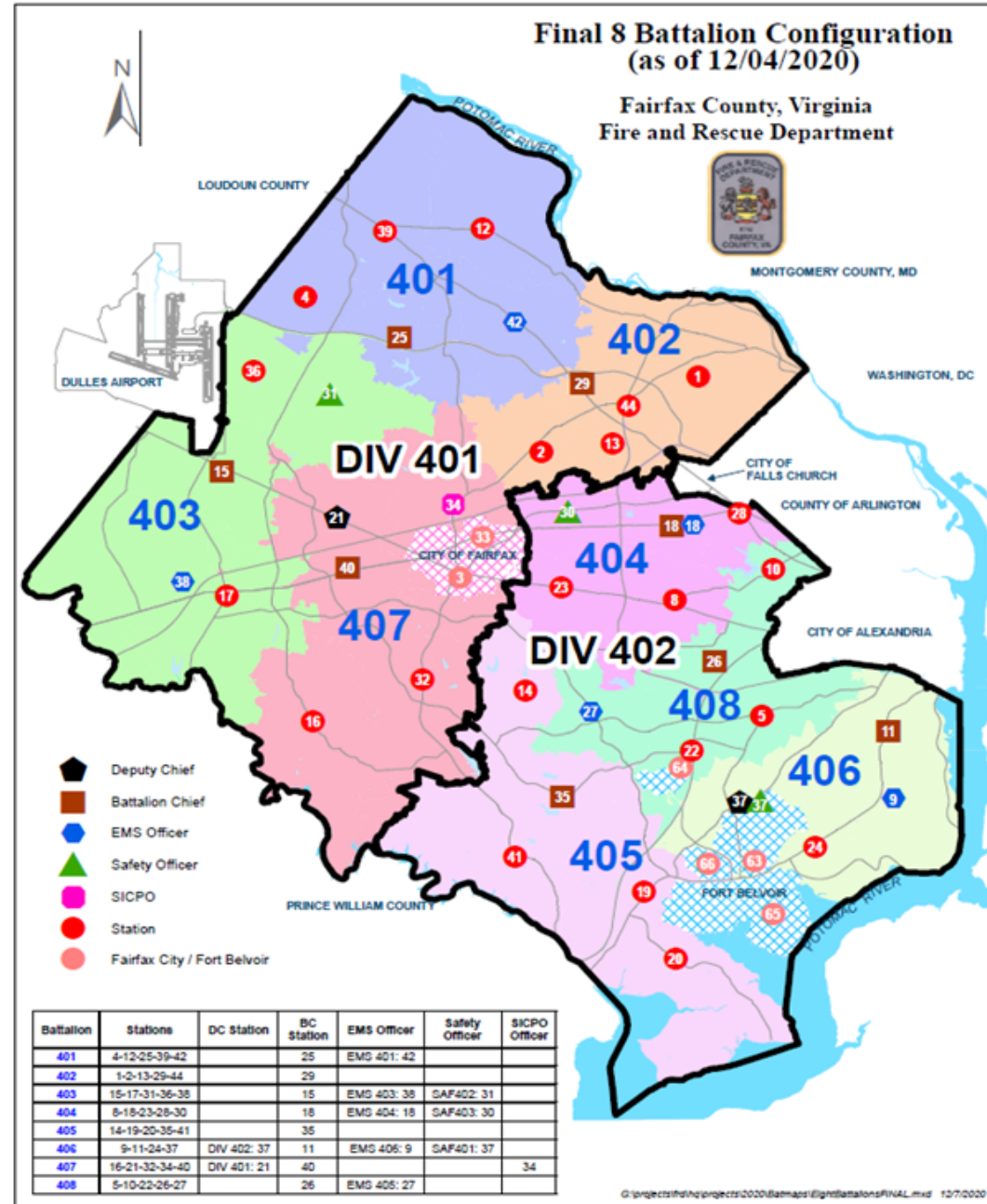
- 43 Transport Units
- 39 Engines
- 14 Trucks
- 8 Rescues
- 6 Tankers
- Haz-Mat Unit and Haz-Mat Support Unit

### COMMAND STAFF

- 2 Deputy Chiefs
- 8 Battalion Chiefs
- 5 EMS Officers
- 3 Safety Officers

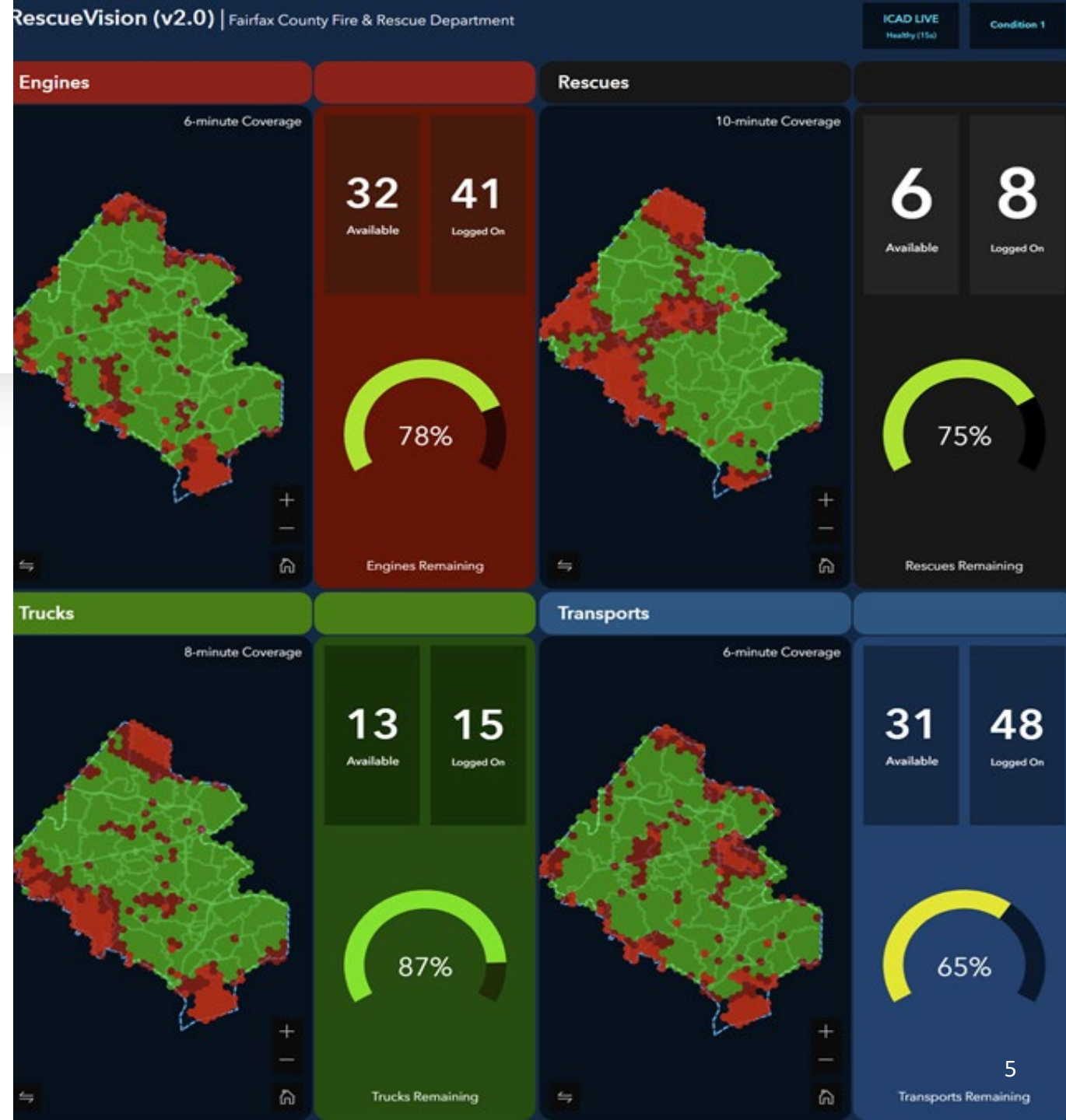


# Battalions



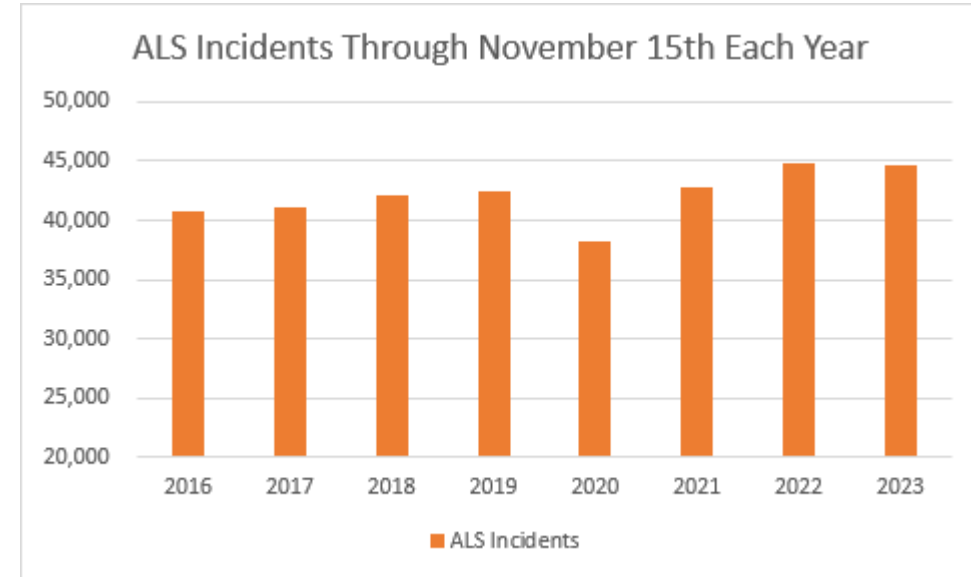
# DATA AND METRICS

- Using data to inform changes to operations, such as medic to ambulance conversions, appropriate unit locations (trucks, rescues, battalion chiefs), mutual aid impacts, etc.
- Replacing vendor provided software with more impactful, Fairfax County specific solutions (RescueVision for UFOs, Survey123 to replace EDGR).
- Educating leaders at all levels on importance of accurate and detailed report writing.



# EMS Service Delivery Reorganization 2021-22

- In 2021, the FRD conducted a thorough assessment of our current EMS resource configuration and deployment along with the impact of staffing and Paramedic shortages.
- The outcome of this comprehensive evaluation was a multi-tiered implementation of our EMS Service Delivery Reorganization.
- January 2022: converted 8 Advanced Life Support (ALS) units to Basic Life Support (BLS) units.
- February 2022: converted 4 more ALS units to BLS after evaluation and ensured we could maintain the high level of care that is appropriate, and expected, for our citizens.



CalendarYear	FirstALSProvider (sec)
2019	282
2020	287
2021	287
2022	292
2023	289

# EMS Service Delivery Reorganization 2023-24

- In 2023, the national shortage of Paramedics has continued to be a recruiting hurdle along with a notable decrease in people pursuing a public safety profession.
- May of 2023, the FRD conducted another study to evaluate our EMS dispatch protocol and EMS Service Delivery and Deployment.
- In September of 2023, the FRD, in conjunction with DPSC, implemented a new Emergency Medical Protocol to ensure the specific need is properly understood, and the appropriate resource(s) is dispatched to handle that emergency.



# EMS Service Delivery Reorganization 2023-24

- In January of 2024, the FRD plans to convert 8 more ALS units to BLS. The FRD will maintain a paramedic in every FRD Fire Station along with deploying 23 ALS and 20 BLS units.
- Additionally, in January of 2024, the FRD will introduce the EMS Specialist position. This Paramedic is an advanced practice provider that can deliver a higher skill set and bring advanced intervention and equipment to the incident.





# Future Challenges

- The FRD continues to face a decrease in a desire of people to pursue a profession in public safety.
- This drastically impacts the FRD ability to maintain our minimum staffing of 363 of personnel without an excessive use of mandatory overtime.
- Currently, the FRD is conducting a thorough analysis of our staffing model, hours of overtime recorded by our personnel, and the deployment of our resources to mitigate emergencies in the County.
- The FRD will continue to strive to deliver the highest level of service that is at or above the level within the region and meeting national standards.





# THANK YOU

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fire-ems](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fire-ems)