



FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 13
ST. TAMMANY PARISH
P.O. Box 2109
COVINGTON, LA 70434
985-898-4913

George Osbourn
Chairman

Mark Cortez
Commissioner

Lonnie Johnson
Fire Chief

Norman Voelkel
Treasurer

Clint Ory
Secretary

Jorge Fernandez
Commissioner

Silton DeVillier
Commissioner

2023 Budget Statement

Members of the Board of Commissioners, Citizens and Personnel of Fire District 13,

Attached we present to you the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2023. The proposed budget was developed based on parameters established by the Board of Commissioners and in accordance with the Fire District Budgetary Process Policy and our Strategic Plan. Through guidance from the Commissioners, planning meetings with personnel and administrative meetings with key staff the proposed budget framework was drafted, and financial priorities set. As in all decisions before us we applied our purpose of protecting lives and property to all budget considerations. We believe the proposed budget improves our ability to meet our purpose, mission, and vision, while responsibly utilizing the tax dollars afforded us by our constituents. The proposed budget highlights include the following:

Operating Budget Overview:

The proposed 2023 Operating budget is \$3,731,500 increased from \$3,533,757 in 2022 and represents an increase of or 5.6% over 2022. As is the case for all professional fire service organizations, payroll expense makes up the largest portion of the operating budget. We recognize that personnel also have the greatest impact on our mission and purpose, and therefore are a focus when prioritizing budget expenses. With the growth the community is experiencing and the continued need to transition to an adequately staffed and structured department the district has set a goal of raising starting firefighter pay to \$10.00 per hour. Due to the cost, a phased proposal of \$9.75 base pay was adopted for 2021 and \$10.00 has been budgeted for 2023. In addition, the district has a need to transition from a part-time training officer to a full-time position. There are several factors for this, such as number of employees, increased training demands and oversight, and law changes in Louisiana that negatively affect hiring retired training officers for part-time work. Quality and consistent training is second only to response and prevention in importance to the success of the district in protecting the community. Included in the proposed budget is the cost of adding a full-time training officer. All total payroll, benefits, taxes, and other obligations are budgeted at \$2,369,860 and represents 63.5% of the total operating budget. All other nonpayroll expenses are budgeted at \$1,361,640 which is an increase of \$99,089. This is mostly due to the increase in inflation impacting fuel, supplies, parts, and goods used annually by the district as well as increases in insurances and workers comp. It also includes an increase for operating expenses should station 134 be constructed.



Capital Budget Overview:

The capital budget funds are primarily earmarked for the following projects:

Station 134 constructed on donated property located near Hwy. 1085 & Diversified Blvd. including furnishings and fixtures for the new station. \$2,000,000

Replacement Cascade air fill station and SCBA and safety Equipment (Grant if obtained).

Replace and rotate Chief vehicle \$50,000

The savings from unspent capital budgets over the last seven years, operating budget savings, along with revenue bonds of approximately 1.3 million dollars, have provided revenue to construct Station 134. This station is needed to reduce Station 132's existing coverage area. Over 70% of the Fire Districts responses historically come from Station 132 and those calls need to be redistributed. Looking to the near future the fire district will need to add a second Ladder company in the Station 134 area and recognize that one truck with equipment will exceed \$1,000,000.00 not including the personnel to staff it or the additional operating costs. In addition, the capital equipment, maintenance, repair, and replacement schedule is running behind. There are several items that should be replaced or remounted but adequate funds are not available currently. Various grants are being pursued to assist with some of these needs, like the aged Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), the need for a new Cascade System, etc. The fire district recognizes the need for budget planning, restricted reserve funds and strategic planning in preparation of the many future needs.

Overall, the fire district is on track to meet the short and long-range goals based off the current adopted strategic plan. Moving forward there is a need to continue to address adequate staffing levels as the district is understaffed on all apparatus per NFPA 1710; the district will continue the volunteer program and the use of part-time trained firefighters to address staffing needs. Long term the goal is to achieve compliance with NFPA 1710 Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Departments by staffing a minimum four personnel per front-line apparatus and five or more for high risk/high volume response areas. Having enough properly trained personnel has the single biggest impact on our fire rating and on emergency incident outcomes; therefore, this will continue to be a high priority. Fire District personnel have worked diligently helping Fire District 13 obtain and maintain a PIAL Fire Rating Class 2. This is the second-best possible rating on a scale of 1-10, saving most homeowners and businesses money on their property insurance. These are just some of the accomplishments achieved using the funding so generously provided by our community, all to improve community safety, reduce risk, and place Fire District 13 on course for an improved fire rating.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Lonnie Johnson, Fire Chief

STFPD No. 13 10/18/2022					
				2022	2023
Ordinary Receipts/Disbursements					
Receipts					
1		Ad Valorem Taxes	3,392,257.00	3,600,000.00	
2		2020 Ad Valorem (Early Receipt)	0.00	0.00	
3		Pilot - ITEP	15,000.00	15,000.00	
4		State Revenue Sharing	30,000.00	30,000.00	
5		Dividends and Interest	30,000.00	20,000.00	
6		Donation	2,000.00	2,000.00	
7		Fire Insurance Rebate	20,000.00	20,000.00	
8		LWCC Insurance Reimbursement	35,000.00	35,000.00	
9		Grants	1,000.00	1,000.00	
10		Property Tax Interest	0.00	0.00	
11		Other Receipts	0.00	0.00	
12		Miscellaneous Receipts	0.00	0.00	
13		Fire Recovery USA	2,500.00	2,500.00	
14		Reimbursements			
15		Fema Reimbursements	0.00	0.00	
16		Reimbursements - Other	0.00	0.00	
17		Total Reimbursements	0.00	0.00	
18		Tower Lease	6,000.00	6,000.00	
19		Total Receipts	3,533,757.00	3,731,500.00	
20		Gross Receipts	3,533,757.00	3,731,500.00	
21		Disbursements			
22		Principal Payments			
23		Administration			
24		St. Tammany Assessor's Fee	6,000.00	6,000.00	
25		Advertising	1,000.00	2,500.00	
26		Bank Service Charges	275.00	100.00	
27		Computer Expense	10,000.00	10,000.00	
28		Dues and Subscriptions	3,000.00	3,000.00	
29		Office Supplies	12,000.00	10,000.00	
30		Postage & Delivery	2,000.00	2,000.00	
31		Printing	1,000.00	1,000.00	
32		Administration - Other	0.00	0.00	
33		Total Administration	35,275.00	34,600.00	
34		Capital Outlay (Debt Service)			
35		Debt Retirement	242,600.00	0.00	
36		Interest Expense-Loans	70,912.72	0.00	
37		Equipment Purchase	100,000.00	0.00	
38		Grants	7,500.00	0.00	
39		STATION TWO ADDITION	0.00		
40		Total Capital Outlay	421,012.72	0.00	
41		Information/Technology			
42		Fire Phone Charges	500.00	500.00	

43		IT Subscriptions	13,000.00	15,000.00
44		Server Fee	25,000.00	25,000.00
45		Hardware and Software	10,500.00	15,000.00
46		Information/Technology - Other	1,500.00	1,500.00
47		Total Information/Technology	50,500.00	57,000.00
48		Insurance		
49		Accident	0.00	
50		Buildings / Gen Liability	38,780.00	70,848.17
51		Vehicles	32,311.00	0.00
52		Workers Compensation	130,105.00	150,883.00
53		Total Insurance	201,196.00	221,731.17
54		Operating Supplies		
55		SCBA-Air Tank Rental & Refills	1,000.00	1,000.00
56		Building Expenses	2,500.00	5,000.00
57		Clothing & Uniforms	12,000.00	15,000.00
58		PPE & Turnout Gear	15,000.00	15,000.00
59		Equipment Purchase		50,000.00
59		Communications		
60		Communications-Other	15,000.00	15,000.00
61		Dispatch Fees	46,000.00	46,000.00
62		Radio Expense	5,000.00	5,000.00
63		Total Communications	66,000.00	66,000.00
64		Equipment	50,000.00	50,000.00
65		Fuel-diesel	32,000.00	65,000.00
66		Fuel-gas	10,000.00	12,500.00
67		Licenses and Permits	500.00	500.00
68		Supplies		
69		Supplies Other	6,000.00	6,000.00
70		Hazmat Supplies	2,000.00	2,000.00
71		Medical Supplies	15,000.00	15,000.00
72		Total Supplies	23,000.00	23,000.00
73		Miscellaneous	0.00	
74		Total Operating Supplies	212,000.00	253,000.00
75		Payroll Expenses		
76		Salaries	385,000.00	401,784.41
77		Regular Scheduled	755,000.00	740,881.82
78		Annual Leave	55,000.00	54,034.07
79		Holiday	27,000.00	28,626.23
80		Sick Leave	33,000.00	73,425.65
81		Scheduled Upgrade	115,500.00	154,363.99
82		Scheduled Upgraded - OT	17,600.00	31,284.07
83		Other Pay Regular	8,800.00	5,481.07
84		Scheduled OT	55,000.00	51,563.12
85		Unscheduled Regular	37,400.00	17,293.21
86		Unscheduled OT	104,500.00	65,943.09
87		Unscheduled Upgrade	1,650.00	1,008.40

88		Unscheduled Upgrade - OT	18,700.00	14,077.71
89		Leave Without Pay	275.00	0.00
90		Unscheduled Downgrade	0.00	0.00
91		Unscheduled Downgrade - OT	0.00	0.00
92		Incentive Pay	35,200.00	40,161.10
93		Other Pay	0.00	0.00
94		Leave With Pay OT	8,800.00	601.27
95		Total Payroll Expenses	1,658,425.00	1,680,529.22
96		Payroll Taxes/Other Obligations		
97		Retirement Expense	285,000.00	327,750.00
98		Deferred Compensation	20,000.00	20,000.00
99		FICA Alternative (3121)	20,000.00	20,000.00
100		Medicare	23,500.00	24,000.00
101		OASDI (Social Security)	18,000.00	18,000.00
102		SUTA	0.00	0.00
103		SSP - In	110,000.00	112,750.00
104		SSP - Out	(110000.00)	(112,750.00)
105		Health Insurance	220,000.00	254,570.69
106		Life, STD, and Other Insurance	0.00	10.00
107		Employee Health and Wellness	25,000.00	25,000.00
108		Total Payroll Taxes/Other Obligations	611,500.00	689,330.69
109		Professional Fees		
110		Accounting/Audit fees	17,500.00	15,000.00
111		Professional Fees	30,000.00	30,000.00
112		Total Professional Fees	47,500.00	45,000.00
113		Repairs and Maintenance		
114		Building R&M	30,000.00	30,000.00
115		Equipment R&M	25,000.00	25,000.00
116		Vehicle R&M	90,000.00	90,000.00
117		Repairs and Maintenance - Other	1,000.00	1,000.00
118		Total Repairs and Maintenance	146,000.00	146,000.00
119		Training/Morale		
120		Morale	5,000.00	5,000.00
121		Training	80,000.00	80,000.00
122		Training / Morale - Other	1,000.00	1,000.00
123		YMCA Dues	18,000.00	20,500.00
124		Total Training/Morale	104,000.00	106,500.00
125		Utilities		
126		Electric		
127		Station One	12,500.00	13,500.00
128		Station Two	7,500.00	8,000.00
129		Station Three	5,500.00	5,700.00
130		Station Four	2,500.00	2,000.00
131		Total Electric	28,000.00	29,200.00
132		Garbage	3,100.00	3,100.00
133		Gas	700.00	700.00

134				Internet/cable	11,000.00	11,000.00
135				Water	2,000.00	2,500.00
136				Total Utilities	44,800.00	46,500.00
137				Total Disbursements	3,532,208.72	3,280,191.08
Net Receipts Over Disbursements					1,548.28	451,308.92
				Transfers from General Fund		
				Capital Outlay		(450,000)
Net Receipts Over Disbursements General Fund						1,308.92
				Capital Outlay (Debt Service)		
138				General Fund Transfer		(450,000.00)
139				Debt Retirement		272,500.00
140				Interest Expense-Loans		41,300.00
141				Equipment Purchase		50,000.00
142				Chassis Remount		175,000.00
143				Grants		10,000.00
144				Station 131		0.00
145				Station 132		0.00
146				Station 133		0.00
147				Station 134		2,000,000.00
148				Total Capital Outlay		2,548,800.00
Net Receipts Over Disbursements						2,098,800.00