



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

Gretta Golden
Administrative Assistant

Jeff Stern
Treasurer

Eryn Jones
Secretary

Jorge Fernandez
Commissioner

Silton DeVillier
Vice-Chairman

2024 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 2024. 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 2024 Operating Budget is \$3,993,500, increased from \$3,731,500 in 2023 and represents an increase of 7.02% over 2023. As is the case for all professional fire service organizations, payroll expenses make 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. All total payroll, benefits, taxes, and other obligations are budgeted at \$2,435,510 and represents 65.3% of the total operating budget. All other non-payroll expenses are budgeted at \$1,557,990 which is an increase of \$97,261. 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 worker's compensation. It also includes an increase for operating expenses as construction for Station 134 is about to begin.

CAPITAL BUDGET OVERVIEW:

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

Station 134: to begin the construction on purchased property located at 425 Leeward Loop, including furnishings, and fixtures for the new station: \$2,000,000.00.



Tender 134: Chassis remount: \$200,000.00

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

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 District's 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 to 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 currently available. Various grants are being pursued to assist with some of these needs, such as 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 Fire District is under-staffed on all apparatus per NFPA 1710; the Fire 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 safety, reduce risk, and place Fire District 13 on course for an improved fire rating.

Respectfully Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Lonnie Johnson'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Lonnie Johnson, Fire Chief

STFPD No. 13 09/15/2023		2023	2024	Comments
Ordinary Receipts/Disbursements				
Receipts				
1	Ad Valorem Taxes	3,600,000.00	3,672,000.00	2022 @ 1.02% Increase
2	2020 Ad Valorem (Early Receipt)	0.00	0.00	
3	Pilot - ITEP	15,000.00	35,000.00	
4	State Revenue Sharing	30,000.00	30,000.00	
5	Dividends and Interest	20,000.00	175,000.00	
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	50,000.00	
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	
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	3,731,500.00	3,993,500.00	
20	Gross Receipts	3,731,500.00	3,993,500.00	
Disbursements				
Principal Payments				
Administration				
24	St. Tammany Assessor's Fee	6,000.00	6,000.00	
25	Advertising	2,500.00	2,500.00	
26	Bank Service Charges	100.00	100.00	
27	Computer Expense	10,000.00	10,000.00	
28	Dues and Subscriptions	3,000.00	3,000.00	
29	Office Supplies	10,000.00	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	34,600.00	34,600.00	
Information/Technology				
35	Fire Phone Charges	500.00	500.00	
36	IT Subscriptions	15,000.00	34,020.00	Includes First Due Quote w/Add-Ons
37	Server Fee	25,000.00	25,000.00	
38	Hardware and Software	15,000.00	15,000.00	
39	Information/Technology - Other	1,500.00	1,500.00	
40	Total Information/Technology	57,000.00	76,020.00	
Insurance				
42	Accident	0.00	0.00	
43	Buildings / Gen Liability	70,848.17	78,284.00	Includes Auto, Cyber & Increased Limits
44	Vehicles	0.00		
45	Workers Compensation	150,883.00	150,000.00	
46	Total Insurance	221,731.17	228,284.00	
Operating Supplies				
48	SCBA-Air Tank Rental & Refills	1,000.00	1,000.00	
49	Building Expenses	5,000.00	5,000.00	
50	Clothing & Uniforms	15,000.00	15,000.00	
51	PPE & Turnout Gear	15,000.00	15,000.00	

52		Equipment Purchase	50,000.00	50,000.00	
52		Communications			
53		Communications-Other	15,000.00	15,000.00	
54		Dispatch Fees	46,000.00	46,000.00	
55		Radio Expense	5,000.00	5,000.00	
56		Total Communications	66,000.00	66,000.00	
57		Equipment	50,000.00	50,000.00	
58		Fuel-diesel	65,000.00	65,000.00	
59		Fuel-gas	12,500.00	12,500.00	
60		Licenses and Permits	500.00	500.00	
61		Supplies			
62		Supplies Other	6,000.00	6,000.00	
63		Hazmat Supplies	2,000.00	2,000.00	
64		Medical Supplies	15,000.00	15,000.00	
65		Total Supplies	23,000.00	23,000.00	
66		Miscellaneous	0.00		
67		Total Operating Supplies	253,000.00	253,000.00	
68		Payroll Expenses			
69		Salaries	401,782.00	415,000.00	2% Longevity
70		Regular Scheduled	740,882.00	735,000.00	2% Longevity
71		Annual Leave	54,034.00	55,500.00	2% Longevity
72		Holiday	28,626.00	35,000.00	2% Longevity
73		Sick Leave	73,426.00	30,500.00	2% Longevity
74		Scheduled Upgrade	154,364.00	135,000.00	2% Longevity
75		Scheduled Upgraded - OT	31,284.00	18,000.00	2% Longevity
76		Other Pay Regular	5,481.00	12,000.00	2% Longevity
77		Scheduled OT	51,563.00	74,500.00	2% Longevity
78		Unscheduled Regular	17,293.00	37,500.00	2% Longevity
79		Unscheduled OT	65,943.00	79,500.00	2% Longevity
80		Unscheduled Upgrade	1,008.00	1,500.00	2% Longevity
81		Unscheduled Upgrade - OT	14,078.00	10,000.00	2% Longevity
82		Leave Without Pay	0.00	0.00	
83		Unscheduled Downgrade	0.00	0.00	
84		Unscheduled Downgrade - OT	0.00	0.00	2% Longevity
85		Incentive Pay	40,161.00	47,000.00	2% Longevity
86		Other Pay	0.00	0.00	
87		Leave With Pay OT	301.00	3,500.00	2% Longevity
88		Total Payroll Expenses	1,680,226.00	1,689,500.00	
89		Payroll Taxes/Other Obligations			
90		Retirement Expense	327,750.00	350,000.00	
91		Deferred Compensation	20,000.00	20,000.00	
92		FICA Alternative (3121)	20,000.00	20,000.00	
93		Medicare	24,000.00	27,000.00	
94		OASDI (Social Security)	18,000.00	20,000.00	
95		SUTA	0.00	0.00	
96		SSP - In	112,750.00	150,600.00	
97		SSP - Out	(112,750.00)	(150,600.00)	
98		Health Insurance	254,570.69	284,000.00	
99		Life, STD, and Other Insurance	10.00	10.00	
100		Employee Health and Wellness	25,000.00	25,000.00	
101		Total Payroll Taxes/Other Obligations	689,330.69	746,010.00	
102		Professional Fees			
103		Accounting/Audit fees	15,000.00	15,000.00	

104		Professional Fees	30,000.00	30,000.00	
105		Total Professional Fees	45,000.00	45,000.00	
106		Repairs and Maintenance			
107		Building R&M	30,000.00	30,000.00	
108		Equipment R&M	25,000.00	25,000.00	
109		Vehicle R&M	90,000.00	90,000.00	
110		Repairs and Maintenance - Other	1,000.00	1,000.00	
111		Total Repairs and Maintenance	146,000.00	146,000.00	
112		Training/Morale			
113		Morale	5,000.00	5,000.00	
114		Training	80,000.00	80,000.00	
115		Training / Morale - Other	1,000.00	1,000.00	
116		YMCA Dues	20,500.00	20,500.00	
117		Total Training/Morale	106,500.00	106,500.00	
118		Utilities			
119		Electric			
120		Station One	13,500.00	13,500.00	
121		Station Two	8,000.00	8,000.00	
122		Station Three	5,700.00	5,700.00	
123		Station Four	2,000.00	2,000.00	
124		Total Electric	29,200.00	29,200.00	
125		Garbage	3,100.00	3,100.00	
126		Gas	700.00	700.00	
127		Internet/cable	11,000.00	11,000.00	
128		Water	2,500.00	2,500.00	Stations 132 & 134
129		Total Utilities	46,500.00	46,500.00	
130		Transfers from General Fund	450,000.00	600,000.00	
130		Total Disbursements	3,729,887.86	3,971,414.00	
		Net Receipts Over Disbursements	1,612.14	22,086.00	
		Capital Outlay (Debt Service)			
131		General Fund Transfer	(450,000)	(600,000.00)	
139		Debt Retirement	272,500.00	272,500.00	
140		Interest Expense-Loans	41,300.00	41,300.00	
141		Equipment Purchase	50,000.00	0.00	Staff Vehicles
142		Chassis Remount	200,000.00	200,000.00	
143		Grants	10,000.00	10,000.00	
144		Station 131	0.00	0.00	
145		Station 132	0.00	0.00	
146		Station 133	0.00	0.00	
147		Station 134	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00	
148		Total Capital Outlay	2,573,800.00	2,523,800.00	
		Net Receipts Over Disbursements	2,123,800.00	1,923,800.00	