



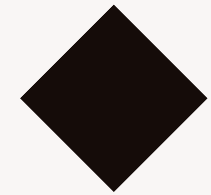
# LAREDO FIRE DEPARTMENT

**PUBLIC SAFETY BOND REFERENDUM MEETING**

Presentation by: Guillermo Heard, MSN, CPM  
Fire Chief/Emergency Management Coordinator



# CURRENT INFRASTRUCTURE

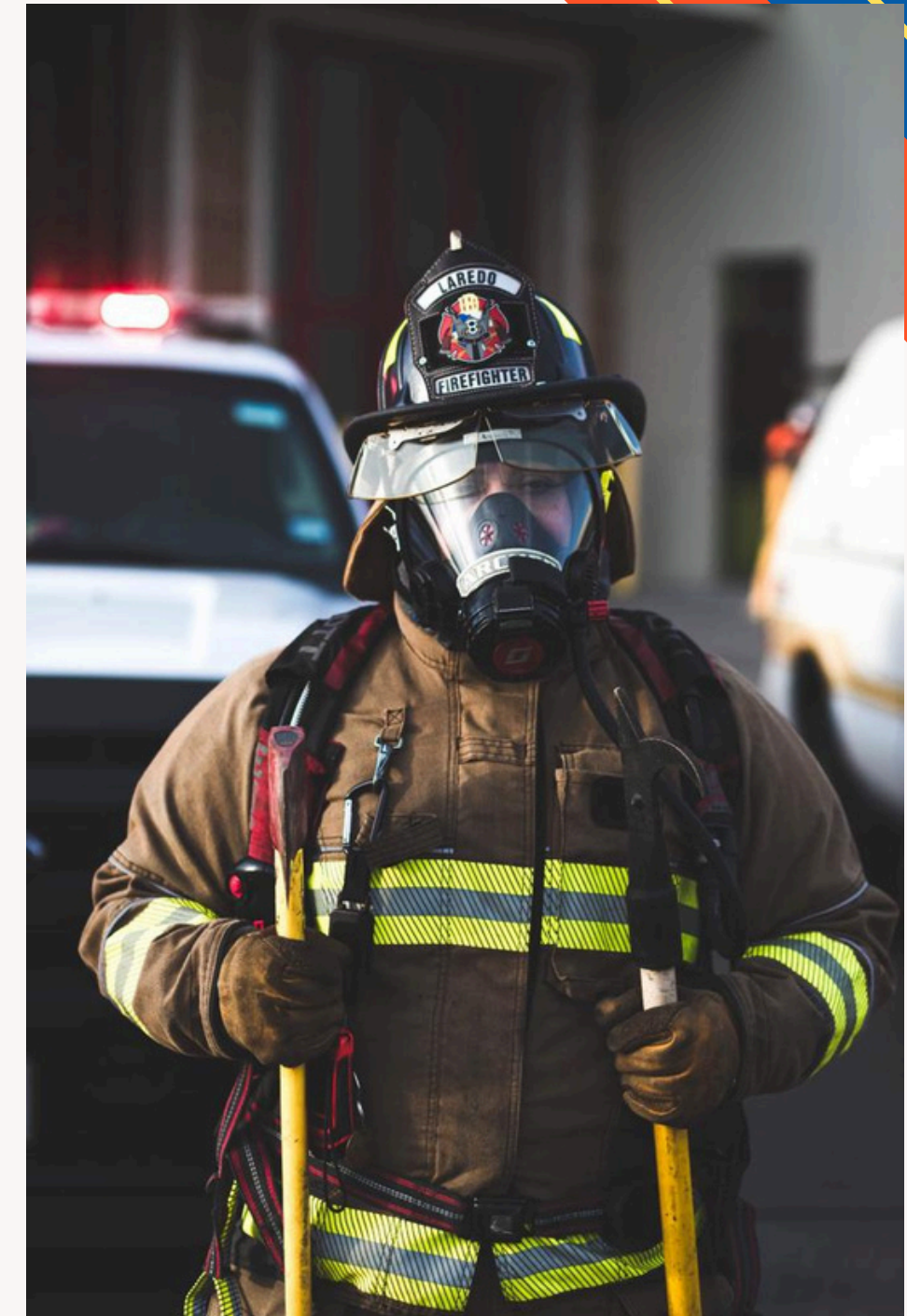


## Fire Stations

- **15 fire stations across the city including an Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) station.**
- **469 Uniformed Personnel**
  - 24 approved for the Buena Vista Station #16.
  - 38 approved for Mile Marker #15 Station #17 (District 4).

**Each Station is equipped to handle various emergencies and serve our community effectively.**

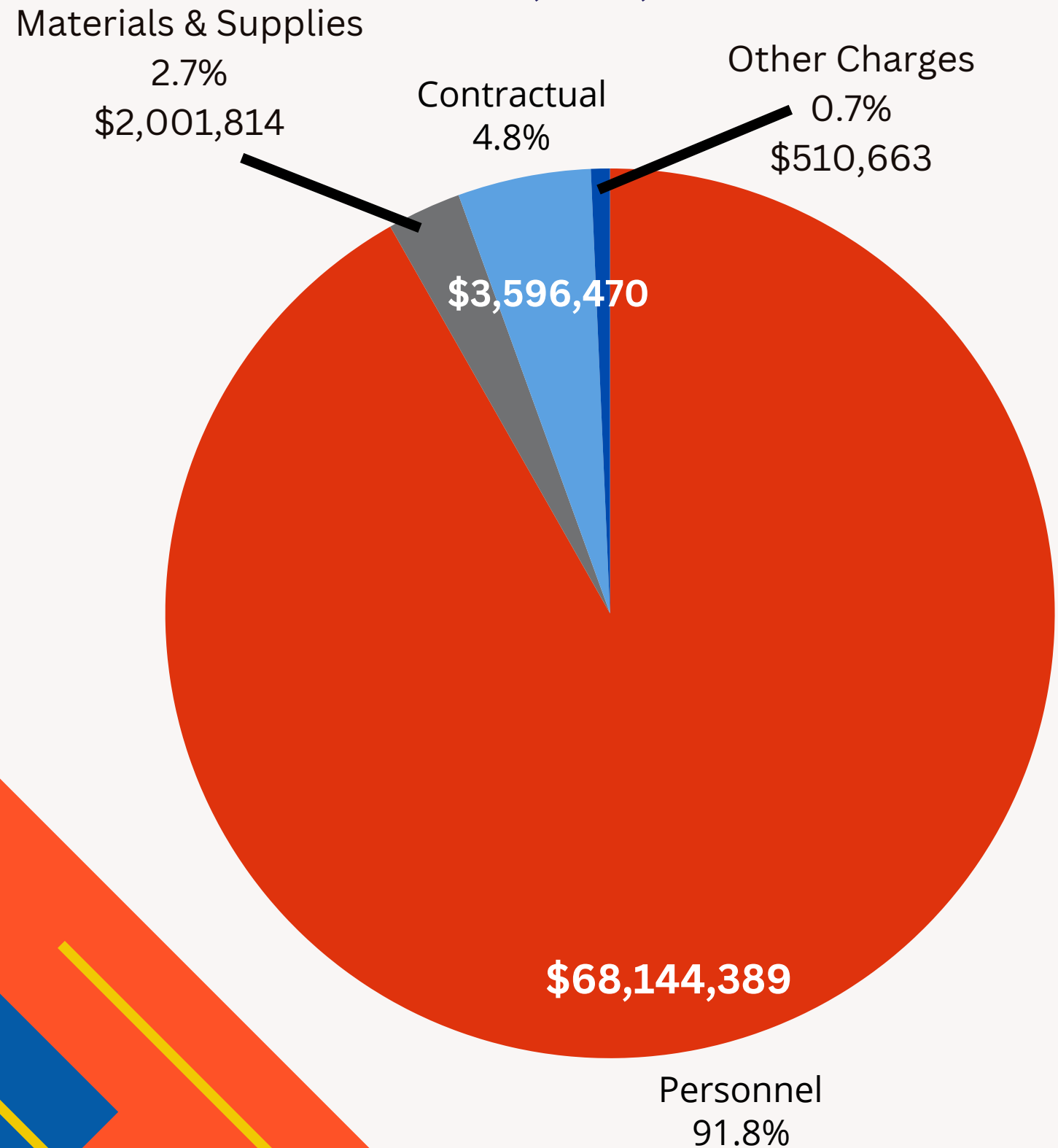
- Fire Suppression
- Emergency Medical Services
- Hazardous Material Response
- Airport Rescue Response
- Rescue Specialty Stations
  - Heavy Duty Rescue
  - High Angle Rescue
  - Swift Water Rescue



# DEPARTMENT BUDGET



**Total Operating Budget:**  
**\$74,253,336**



## Approved Capital Improvement (CIP)

- ✓ Buena Vista Fire Station Construction
- ✓ Fire Engine Replacement Program (2 Fire Trucks)
- ✓ Ambulance Replacement Program (3 Remounted Ambulances)
- ✓ Fire Tanker Replacement (Fast Attack/Brush Truck)
- ✓ Fire Station Alarm & Sprinkler Systems

**Total: \$4,933,000**



# ANNEXATION AND URBAN EXPANSION

**SINCE THE LAST STATION WAS ADDED IN 2003 (20 YEARS AGO), THE CITY HAS ANNEXED AN ADDITIONAL 19,547 ACRES (30.5431 SQUARE MILES) AND IS NOW THE LARGEST INLAND INTERNATIONAL TRADE PORT IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE.**

Our goal as a Fire Department is to ensure that all built upon areas are within a 5-road mile radius of a fire station and emergency services.



# CHALLENGES/ DISPARITIES

- Due to the City's rapid business and population growth, fire personnel and units have been overstretched, having to cover areas beyond their designated districts.
- Not all residents receive equal emergency and fire response time. As a border industrial community, we serve non-residents, which puts extra strain on our resources.



# SOLUTION

A referendum plan to include new facilities to cover the areas of growth in need, renovations to existing facilities and the new additions to LFD fleet and equipment.

# MASTER FIRE STATION LOCATION STUDY

***IN 2023, WE  
COMMISSIONED A  
COMPREHENSIVE STUDY BY  
A CIVIL ENGINEER TO  
DEVELOP A FIRE STATION  
LOCATION PLAN FOR THE  
CITY OF LAREDO.***

The report suggests that strategic placement of existing and proposed fire stations is critical to emergency response and the Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating based on future growth projections.

- 1** Study utilizes the ISO's 1.5-mile fire truck company response boundary (approx. 4–5-minute response time). (Company implies both apparatus and the required staffing for each fire and ladder truck.)
- 2** Build 3 additional fire stations
  - All 3 stations to deploy a fire truck company
  - 2 out of 3 consisting of a dedicated ladder truck
- 3** Deploy a structural fire truck company at Fire Station #15 - Airport Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Station.
- 4** Relocation of 2 Ladder Trucks to increase operational efficiency
  - Station 14 to 2
  - Station 7 to 9





# FIRE STATION FEASIBILITY STUDY

- Recommendation to relocate station closer to McPherson and Calton Rd.
- The current monthly lease for the station and fire shop is \$17,197.26 or over \$200k/year.
- Considered prime real estate and attracts significant buyer interest.

## Phase 2 - Station 6 Relocation



Current Location:  
4903 Maher



Proposed Location:  
4812 N. Bartlett Ave.



Relocation Timeframe:  
10 months to 1.5 years



# STRATEGIC NEW LOCATIONS



## 1 Buena Vista Fire Station #16

**IN PROCESS**

Will be located near the Buena Vista Sports Complex along Cuatro Vientos Road.

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Estimated Construction Costs:

2026: \$3.76M

Construction Inflation Cost Increase

## 2 Mile Marker 15 Fire Station #17

**IN PROCESS**

**LAND ACQUISITION**

Will be located 2 miles East of State Hwy 84. Proposed road is Hachar-Reuthinger Road. Deploying an engine company and dedicated ladder truck.

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Estimated Construction Costs:

2026: \$9.9 M

## 3 Fire Truck Located at Airport Station

Deploy a structural fire truck company at the airport fire station to cover Loop 20/ Hwy 59 area.

## 4 Mines/Green Ranch Station #18

Deploy an engine company in the vicinity of F.M. 1472 and Blue Ridge Pkwy.

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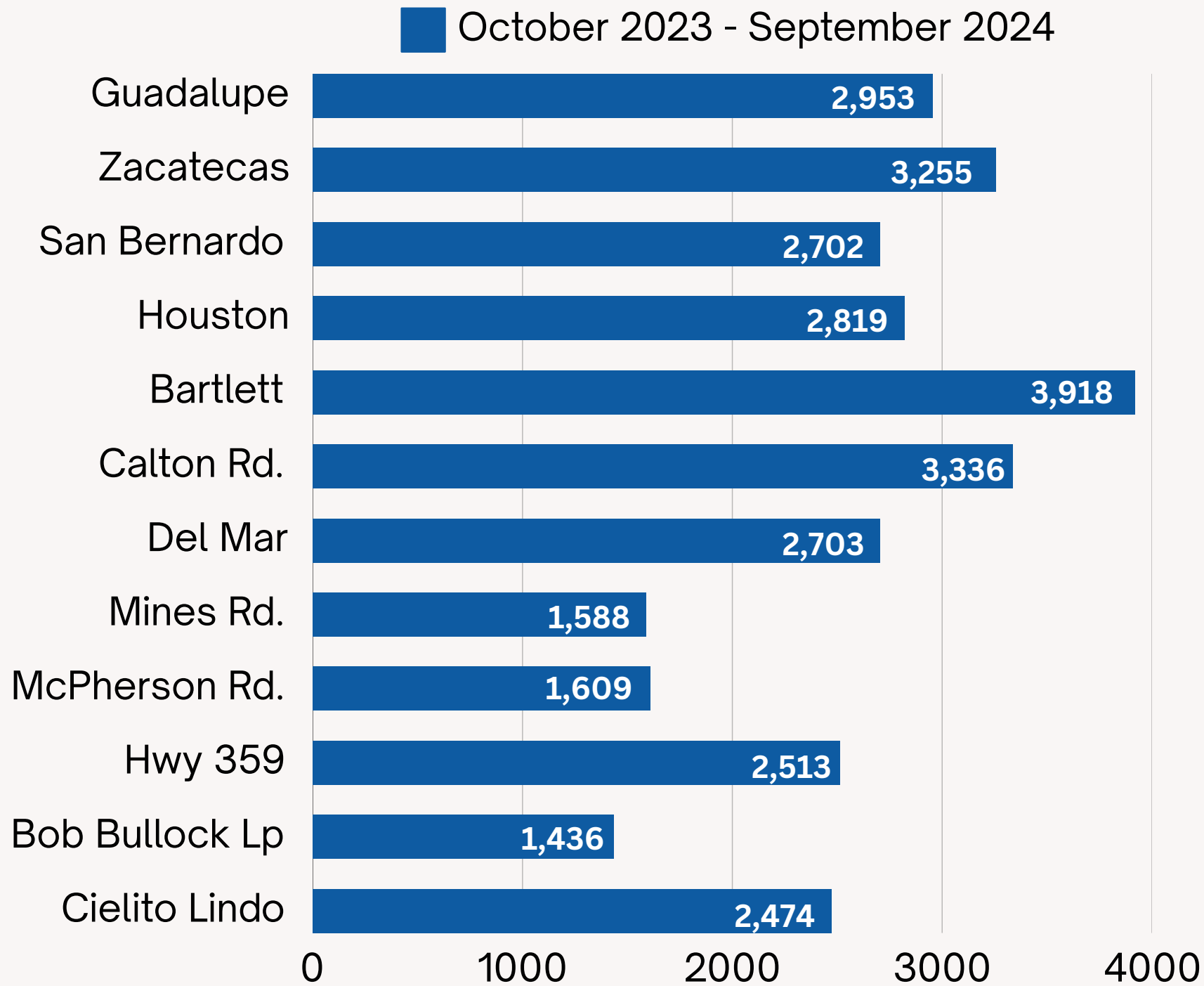
Land Acquisition (2028): \$2M

Estimated Construction Costs (2029): \$10.5M

**\*\* Construction costs are estimated at \$700 per square ft.**



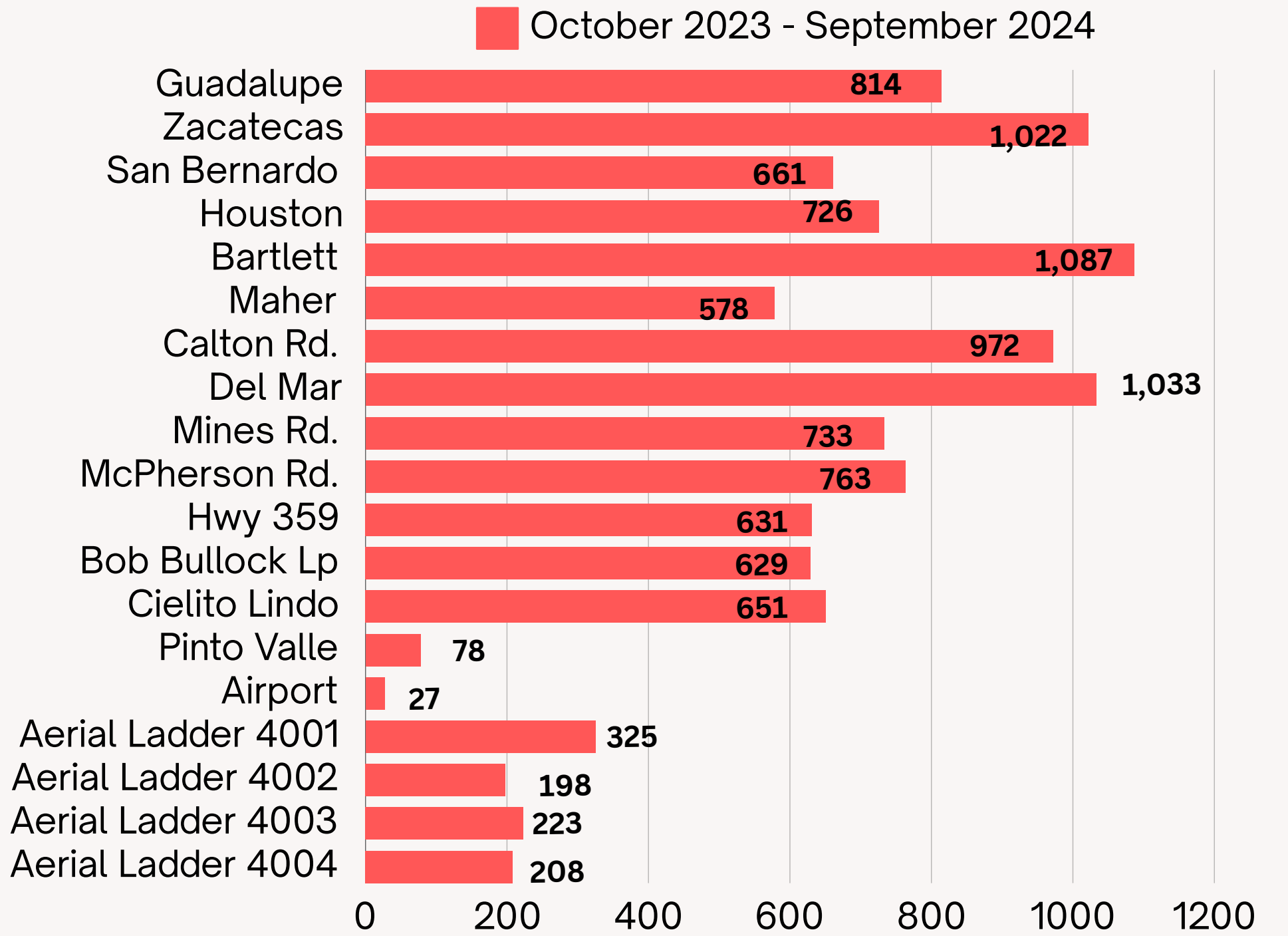
# TOTAL RESPONSE CALLS



**31,306**

**FY 23-24**

**Ambulance Totals**



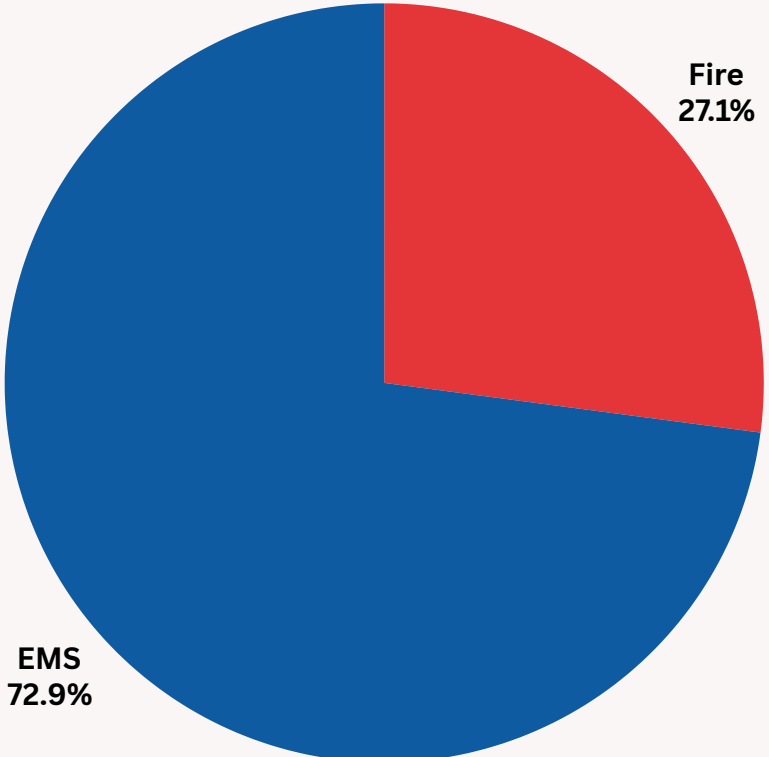
**11,359 CALLS**

**FY 23-24**

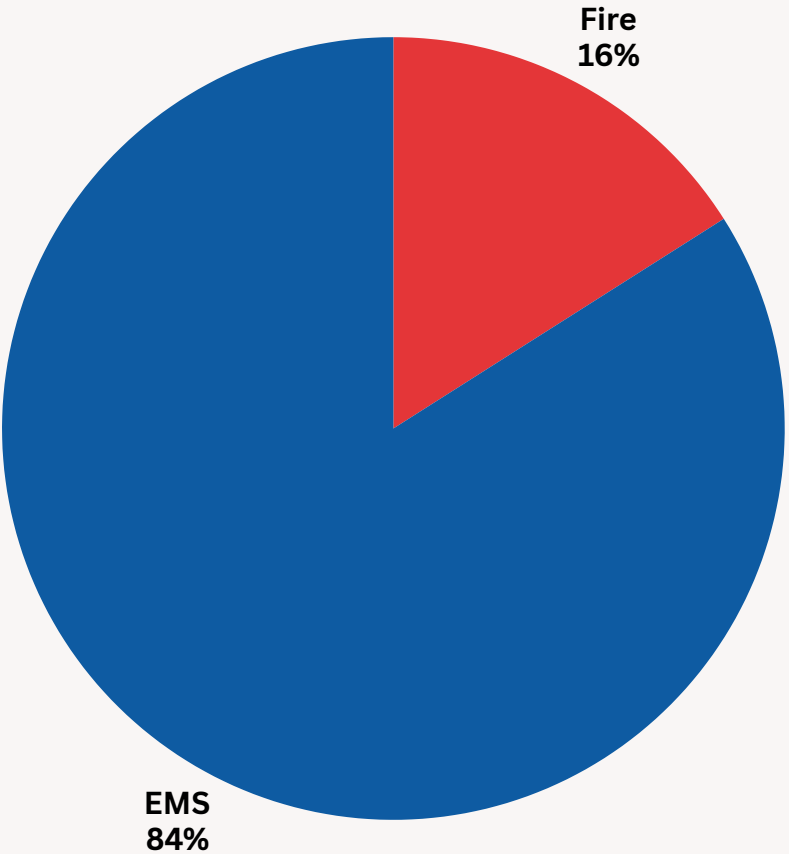
**Fire Totals**



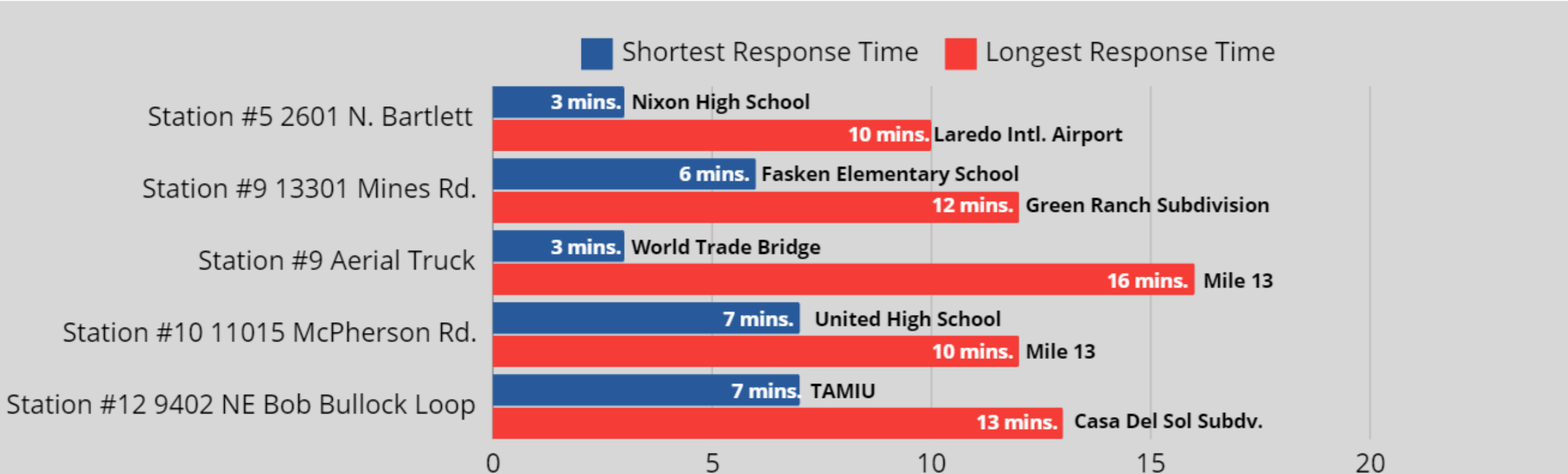
# TOTAL CURRENT RESPONSE CALLS AND TIME

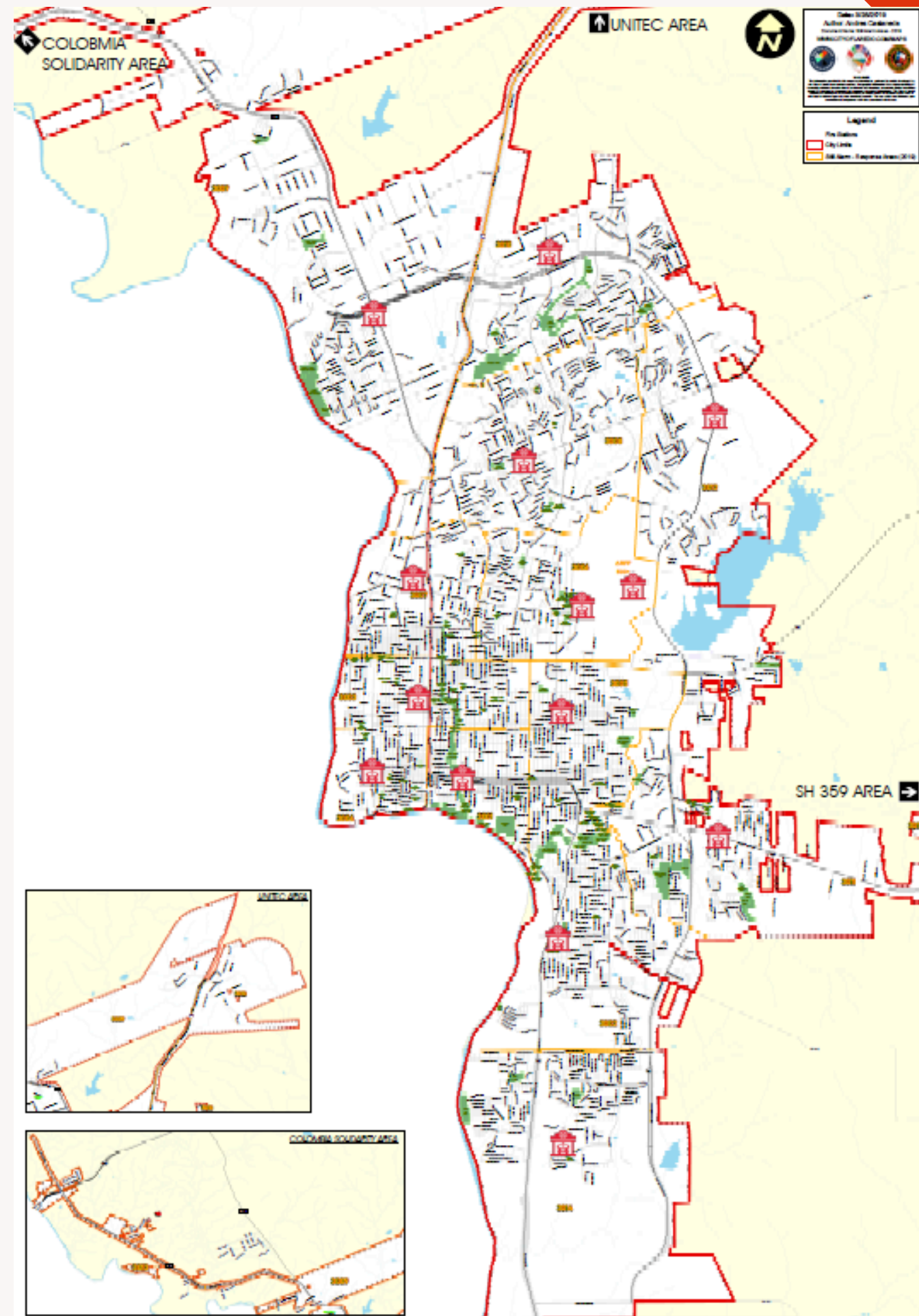
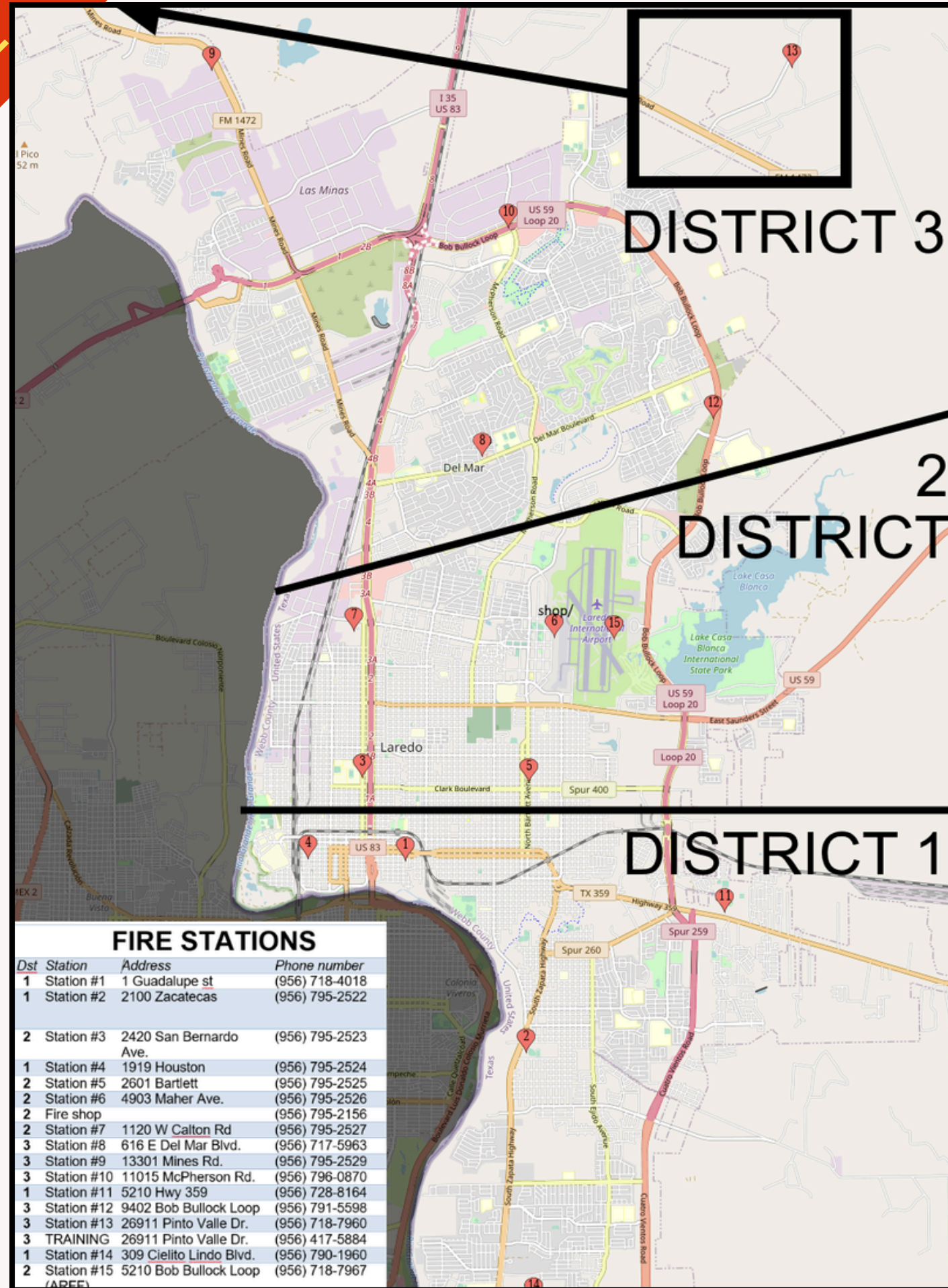


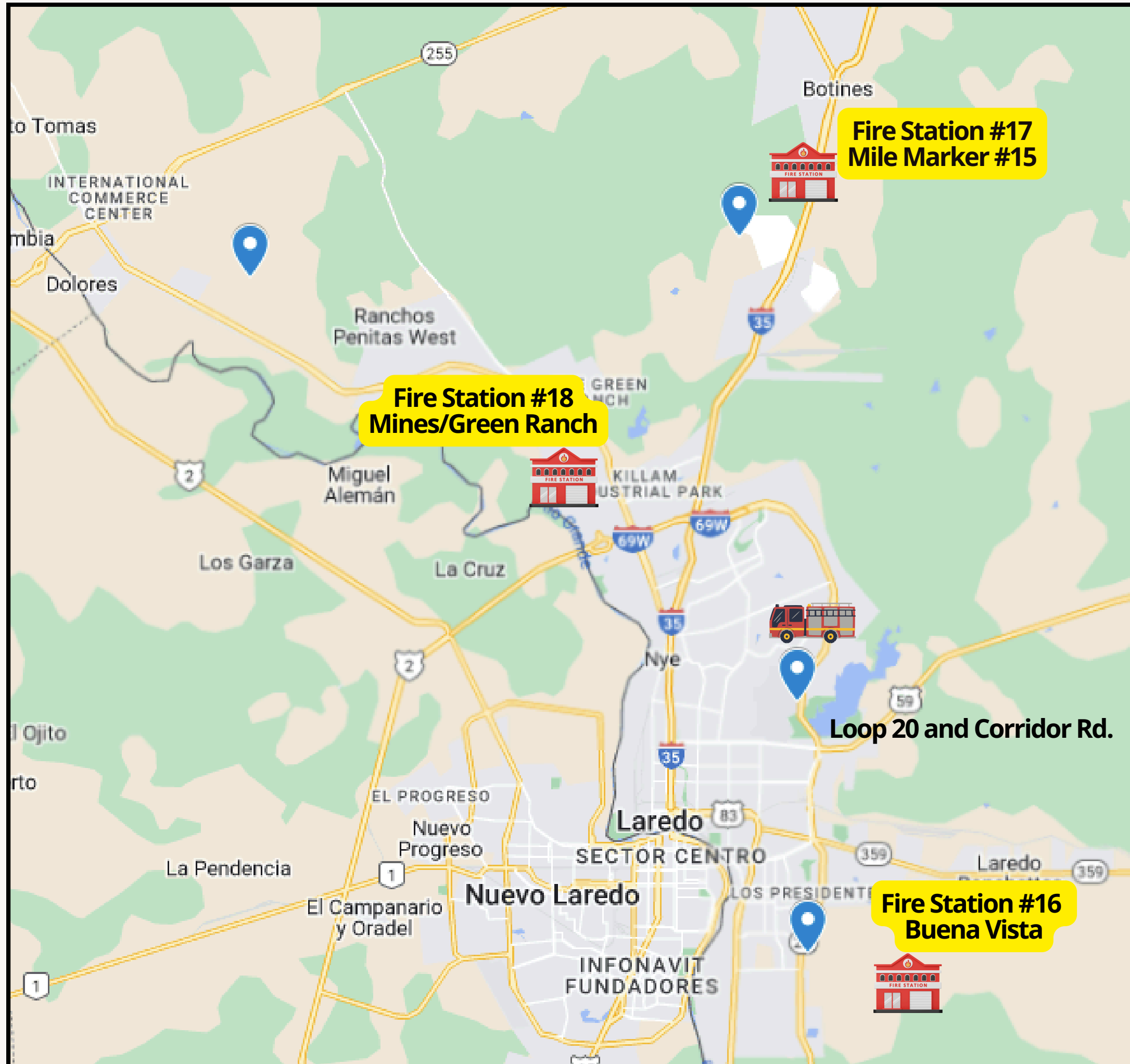
**43,061  
Total Calls  
2022-2023**



**47,500  
Total Calls  
2023-2024**







# New Stations Map

# IMPORTANCE OF ISO DESIGNATION



We are proud to announce that we have received a prestigious ISO rating of Class 01/1X, the highest rating possible.

- Insurance Services Office (ISO) Rating
  - A lower ISO rating is better, with 1 being the best possible rating and 10 indicating that the department did not meet minimum requirements.
  - Benefits of ISO:
    - Insurance cost reduction of residential and commercial buildings.
- As the number one North American land port, our city relies heavily on attracting businesses and investment.
- A good ISO rating enhances our city's appeal to businesses, investors, and residents, fostering economic growth and development. **Laredo is the #1 city in the U.S. to start a business.**
- A lower ISO rating is important to fire departments as well because it provides us with a valuable benchmark and is used as a valuable tool when planning, budgeting, and justifying fire protection improvements.
- ISO certification serves as a powerful economic development tool for businesses as it:
  - Promotes Best Practices
  - Improves Quality of Life
  - Tax Abatement



# PUBLIC PROTECTION CLASSIFICATION



- The Public Protection Classification (PPC) program is a community fire protection scoring system that is based on the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS) used by the Insurance Services Office, known as ISO mitigation. In Texas, a perfect score in the categories below is 109.76.
- Most points available in each PPC category:
  - 10 points - Emergency Communications
  - 50 points - Fire Department Review
  - 40 points - Water Supply Review
  - 5.5 points - Community Risk Reduction
  - 4.26 points - Texas exceptions for training and technology
- Classification Description:
  - Class 1-8: The fire suppression system includes an FSRS creditable dispatch center, fire department, and water supply.
  - Class 1 means the community has superior property fire protection.

- The following Texas agencies have an ISO Class 1:
  1. Cedar Park Fire Department
  2. College Station Fire Department
  3. El Paso Fire Department
  4. Frisco Fire Department
  5. Houston Fire Department
  6. Plano Fire-Rescue
  7. San Antonio Fire Department
  8. Southlake Fire Department



# FACILITY IMPROVEMENT ASSESSMENT



## LFD has assessed new and existing facilities based on the following:

- Age: 50% of the facilities are over 50 years in service.
- Cancer Prevention Program
  - Installing AIRVAC Engine Exhaust Removal System to protect first responders from harmful fire engine and ambulance diesel exhaust.
  - Dividing the station into 3 hazard zones can reduce exposure to cancer-causing chemicals: hot zone, transition zone, cold zone.
- Station Design and Firefighter Health
  - PTSD is as big of a problem for firefighters as it is for combat veterans.
  - Incorporating a stress reducing design to fire stations can promote mental and emotional well-being by adding red lights for sleep deprivation, provide a home-like environment, residential-style kitchen, and an outdoor patio to help firefighters decompress.





# LFD PRIORITIES

Facilities
<b>New</b>
<b>Station 16</b> Buena Vista <b>Station 17</b> Mile Marker 15 <b>Station 18</b> Mines / Green Ranch
<b>Remodel</b>
Fire Fleet Shop <b>Station 9</b> Mines Road <b>Station 2</b> Zacatecas <b>Station 13</b> Pinto Valle Pinto Valle Training Facility <b>Station 5</b> Bartlett <b>Station 4</b> Houston Fire Administration Building
<b>Relocation</b>
<b>Station 6</b> Maher Ave. <b>Station 3</b> San Bernardo

Land Acquisition, Design and Road	Vehicle	Equipment
<b>Station 3</b> San Bernardo - land  <b>Station 4</b> Houston - land  <b>Station 6</b> Maher - land  <b>Station 18</b> Mines/Green Ranch (NEW) - land  <b>Station 17</b> Mile Marker 15 - road  <b>Station 18</b> Mines / Green Ranch	2 New Ladder Trucks  3 New Fire Trucks  3 New Ambulances  Mobile Command Unit  District Chief/EMS Captain Vehicles  ASHER Response Units  Cargo Van  Bucket Truck  Fleet Replacement	Generators  Protective Gear  Portable Radios  ASHER Response Kits  Training Props  Self Contained Breathing Apparatus  Fire Fleet Shop Equipment  Drager Training System  Technical Rescue Equipment

City of Laredo Fire Department		PRIORITIES 1 - 5			Projection Cost: 5 Year Analysis		
Description	Priority Scoring	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	Total
<b>Construction Costs</b>							
Stations 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 13, 18, Fire Fleet Shop, Training Center, Fire Administration Building	1-5	\$ 1,563,050.00	\$ 9,100,00.00	\$ 12,775,000.00	\$ 13,175,000.00	\$ 5,600,000.00	\$ 42,213,050.00
<b>Land Acquisition / Infrastructure</b>							
Stations 3, 4, 6, and 18 / Stations 17 and 18	1-4	\$ 3,000,000.00	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 4,000,000.00	\$ 3,080,000.00		\$ 12,080,000.00
<b>Vehicles</b>							
New Ladder and Fire Trucks, Ambulances, POV District 4 and 5, ASHER Response Units, Cargo Van, Bucket Truck, Replacements to Ladder and Fire Trucks, Ambulances, EMS Captain vehicles, Tankers and Staff Vehicles.	1-4	\$ 5,417,000.00	\$ 10,222,000.00	\$ 5,817,000.00	\$ 4,195,000.00	\$ 4,000,000.00	\$ 29,651,000.00
<b>Furnishings for Stations</b>							
Appliances, Bunker Gear Washers, Alerting System/Data Comm Equipment and Air Compressors	1	\$ 179,500.00	\$ 179,500.00	\$ 261,500.00			\$ 620,500.00
<b>Equipment</b>							
Generators, Protective Gear, Portable Radios, ASHER Response Team Kits, Storage Props, Self Contained Breathing Apparatus, Fire Fleet Equipment, Drager Training System, Technical Rescue Equipment	1	\$ 1,079,000.00	\$ 1,458,000.00	\$ 4,571,000.00	\$ 446,000.00	\$ 320,000.00	\$ 7,874,000.00
<b>Emergency Management</b>							
ATT CRD Internet	1	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 120,000.00				\$ 155,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>							<b>\$ 92,593,550.00</b>

# Personnel Cost for Projected Growth

Description	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	Total
<b>Personnel</b>	CBA 10/1/25						
<b>ARFF Station Fire Truck- (15 FTEs)</b>		\$ 1,278,308.99	\$ 1,278,308.99	\$ 1,577,982.67	\$ 1,577,982.67	\$ 1,577,982.67	\$ 7,290,565.99
<b>Airport Station Ambulance- (9 FTEs)</b>		\$ 766,985.40	\$ 766,985.40	\$ 946,789.60	\$ 946,789.60	\$ 946,789.60	\$ 4,374,339.60
<b>Pinto Valle Station Ladder Truck- (15 FTEs)</b>				\$ 1,278,308.99	\$ 1,278,308.99	\$ 1,577,982.67	\$ 4,134,600.65
<b>Disctrict 5 - (8 FTEs)</b>				\$ 681,764.80	\$ 681,764.80	\$ 841,590.76	\$2,205,120.36
<b>New Pinto Valle Station 13 Ambulance- (9 FTEs)</b>					\$ 766,985.40	\$ 766,985.40	\$ 1,533,970.80
<b>New Mile Marker 15 Station Ambulance- (9 FTEs)</b>				\$ 766,985.40	\$ 766,985.40	\$ 946,789.60	\$ 2,480,760.40
<b>New Mines/Green Ranch Station Fire Truck- (15 FTEs)</b>					\$ 1,278,308.99	\$ 1,278,308.99	\$ 2,556,617.98
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL COST</b>		\$ 3,749,772.38	\$ 3,749,706.38	\$ 7,355,808.35	\$ 8,634,117.34	\$ 9,273,421.18	<b>\$ 24,575,975.78</b>

\*\*\* Fire Department has applied for the SAFER Grant for New FTE's in 2023 and 2024

# HIGH PRIORITY FACILITY IMPROVEMENT NEEDS



New Facility Construction Cost, Land Acquisition and Infrastructure

Station #	New Facility	Construction Cost	Year	Land Acquisition Cost	Year	Road Construction Cost	Year	Council District	CIP YES or NO
16	Buena Vista (additional funding)	\$ 3,760,000.00	2026	N/A		\$ 1,500,000.00	2026	1	YES
17	Mile Marker # 15	\$ 9,910,000.00	2026	N/A		\$ 3,000,000.00	2026	7	YES
18	Mines Rd / Green Ranch	\$ 10,500,000.00	2029	\$ 2,000,000.00	2028	\$ 3,000,000.00	2029	7	YES



# FACILITY IMPROVEMENT NEEDS

## Remodeling and Relocation Costs



Existing Facility Needed Improvements	Year Built / Year Renovated	Estimated Construction Cost	Year	Land Acquisition Cost	Year	Council District	CIP YES or NO
Station 2 Zacatecas - Remodel and add 2nd story / 8,646 sq. ft.	1978 / 2011	\$ 3.5M	2028			2	No
Station 3 San Bernardo Ave. - Relocation and construction / 2,910 sq ft.	1941 / 2015	\$ 5.6 M	2028			8	Yes
Station 4 Houston St. - Demolition and construction of new parking area and bay / 4,950 sq ft.	1990 / 2020	\$ 75 K	2029	\$ 80 K	2029	8	No
Station 5 Bartlett - Remodel, additional bay / 3,000 sq ft	1959 / 2017	\$ 600 K	2029			4	No
Station 6 Maher- Relocation and construction / 13,955 sq ft.	1974 / 2012	\$ 5.6 M	2027	\$ 2 M	2027	5	Yes
Station 9 Mines Rd. - Remodel and bay / 5,474 sq ft.	1991 / 2012	\$ 3.5 M	2027			7	No
Station 13 Pinto Valle- Remodel add new station / 1,023 sq ft.	2001 /	\$ 3.675 M	2028			7	Yes

**\*\* Remodeling costs are estimated at \$700 per square ft.**



# FACILITY IMPROVEMENT NEEDS

## Remodeling and Construction Costs (Continued)

Existing Facility Needed Improvements	Estimated Cost	Year	Council District	CIP Yes or No
Fire Fleet Shop - Additional Funding	\$1.563 M	2026	Citywide	Yes
Training Center Remodel / OEM Warehouse	\$ 2 M	2029	Citywide	No
Fire Administration Center - Educational Building, Office and Lab	\$ 5.6 M	2030	Citywide	No



# NEW VEHICLES



VEHICLES	SCORING NUMBER	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Mobile Command Unit	3				1.495 M	
Station 13 Pinto Valle Ladder Truck	2			2.25M		
Station 17 Mile Marker 15 Ladder Truck	1		2.2 M			
Station 15 Airport Terminal Fire Truck	1		950 K			
Station 17 Mile Marker Fire Truck	1	950 K				
Station 18 Mines Rd. / Green Ranch Fire Truck	3		950 K			
Station 6 Maher Ambulance	1		550 K			
Station 13 Pinto Valle Ambulance	2			550 K		
Station 17 Mile Marker 15 Ambulance	4				550 K	
POV District Chief and EMS Captain District 4	1		300 K			
POV District Chief and EMS Captain District 5	3				300 K	
ASHER Response Units	1	67 K	67 K	67 K		
Cargo Van	1	55 K				
Bucket Truck	1	200 K				

# REPLACEMENT VEHICLES



VEHICLE	SCORING NUMBER	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Ladder Truck Replacement (3)	1	2.2 M	2.2 M			2.5 M
Fire Truck Replacement (2)	1	850 K		850 K		
Ambulance Replacement (11)	1	900 K	1.35 M	900 K	900 K	1 M
EMS Captain Vehicle Replacement (1)	1		450 K			
Tankers (4)	1	450 K	450 K	450 K	450 K	
Staff Vehicle Replacement	2		500 K	500 K	500 K	500 K



<b>FURNISHINGS</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2028</b>	<b>2029</b>	<b>2030</b>
Appliances / Furniture	60 K	60 K	60 K		
Bunker Gear Washers	14,500 K	14,500 K	2,500 K		
Alerting System / Data Comm Equipment	80 K	80 K	174 K		
Air Compressors	25 K	25 K	25 K		
<b>EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2028</b>	<b>2029</b>	<b>2030</b>
Generators	80 K	80 K	100 K		
Protective Gear	266 K	217 K		231 K	105 K
Portable Radios			4.22 M		
ASHER Response Team Kits	370 K	100 K	100 K	100 K	100 K
Training Props	48 K	36 K	36 K		
Self Contained Breathing Apparatus	200 K				
Fire Fleet Equipment		400 K			
Drager Training		510 K			
Technical Rescue Equipment	115 K	115 K	115 K	115 K	115 K
<b>EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2028</b>	<b>2029</b>	<b>2030</b>
ATT CRD INTERNET	35 K	120 K			

# MASTER FIRE STATION LOCATION PLAN

## *5 to 10 YEAR PLAN*



The Fire Station Location Study also recommends new fire station locations based on possible future development incorporated into the 5 -10 year master plan.

- 1** **Fire Station #19 should be erected in the vicinity of Hwy. 255 and F.M. 1472 initially deploying a fire truck company.**
- 2** **Fire Station #20 should be erected in the vicinity of 4-miles west of U.S. 35 along Hwy. 255 initially deploying an engine company.**
- 3** **Fire Station #21 should be erected in the vicinity of Laredo Ranchettes Rd. and Hwy. 359 initially deploying an engine company.**





# THANK YOU



**(956) 718-6000**



**LAREDOMETROFIRE@CI.LAREDO.TX.US**



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LAREDO, TEXAS 78041**

