

# TUBAC FIRE DISTRICT

Cheryl Horvath, Fire Chief

Tubac Fire District is committed to the safety of our community through the delivery of fire suppression, medical services, and public education.



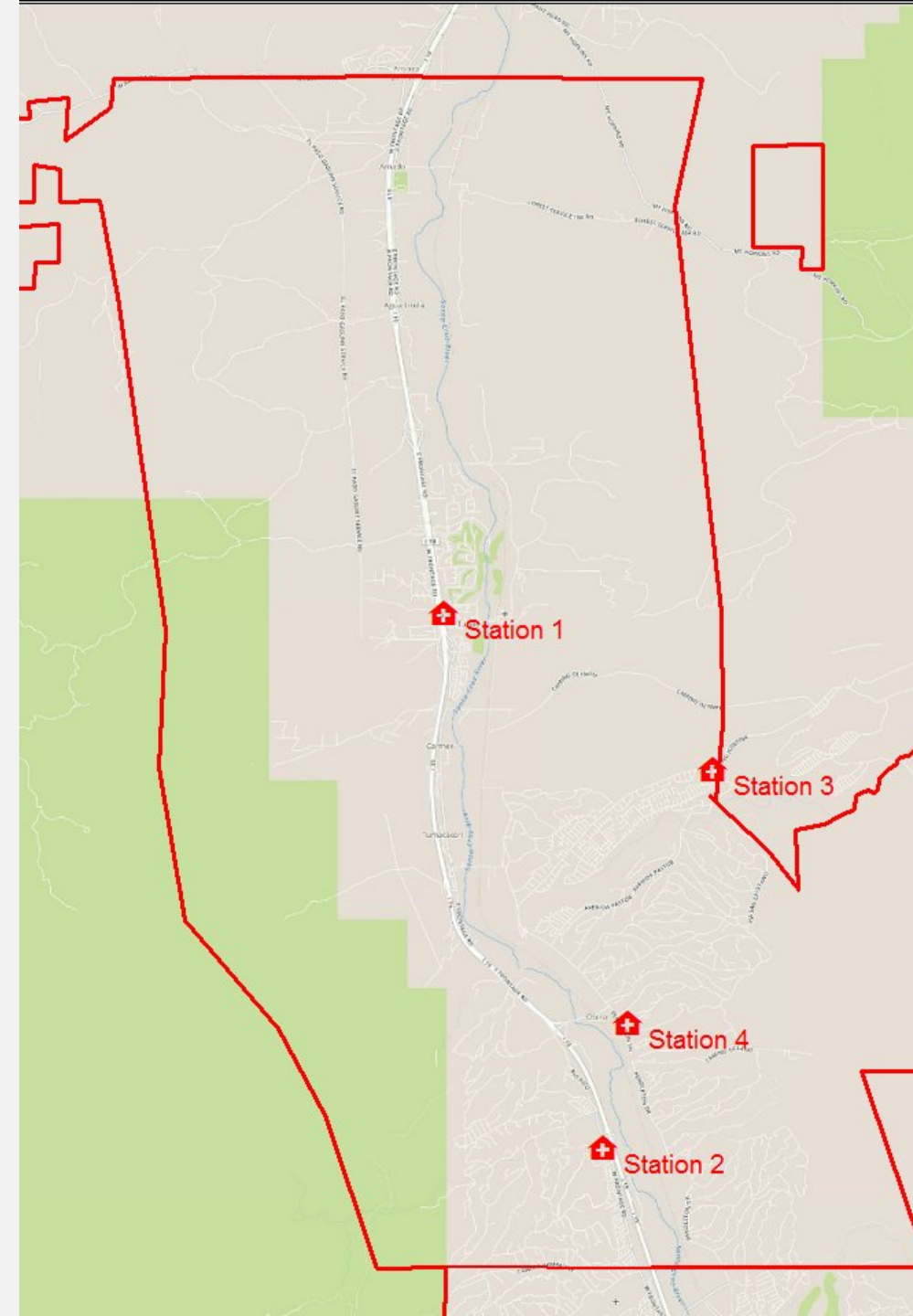
# TUBAC FIRE DISTRICT

- ❖ Established in 1974
- ❖ Operated under ARS Title 48 – Special Taxing Districts
- ❖ Governed by a 5-member board
- ❖ 166 square miles
- ❖ 10,000 residents w/seasonal shifts
- ❖ 4 ALS Engines, 4 Ambulances, 4 Brush Trucks, and 2 Water Tenders
- ❖ 4 Fire Stations
- ❖ 24 First Responders
- ❖ 1 Fire Chief, 1 Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal, and 1 Deputy Chief/Operations
- ❖ 2 Civilian Staff



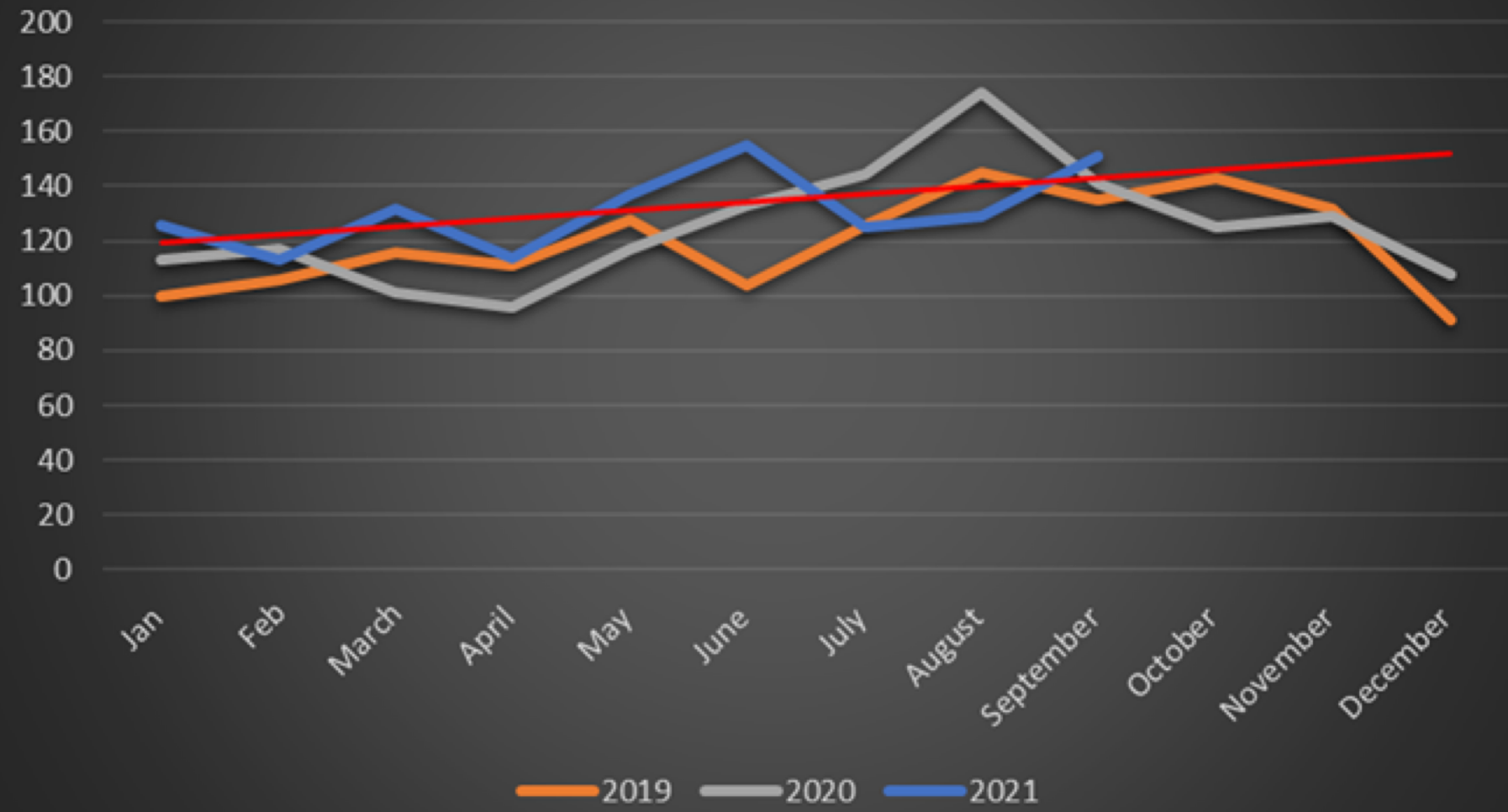
# TUBAC FIRE DISTRICT

- ❖ I-19 Interstate – from Arivaca Rd to just south of Peck Canyon Rd.
- ❖ 65% agriculture, 5% manufacturing or commercial, and 30% residential
- ❖ 6 schools including 1 high school – 3,000 students
- ❖ 30% of the District is protected by hydrants
- ❖ 1 500-acre resort, Madera Canyon, and Whipple Observatory
- ❖ Infrastructure includes Union Pacific railroad and two high pressure gas pipelines and gas facilities
- ❖ 1500 calls for service annually and over 100 burn permits issued annually
- ❖ Large community events including July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks and the annual Festival of the Arts





# Emergency Calls 2019 - 2021



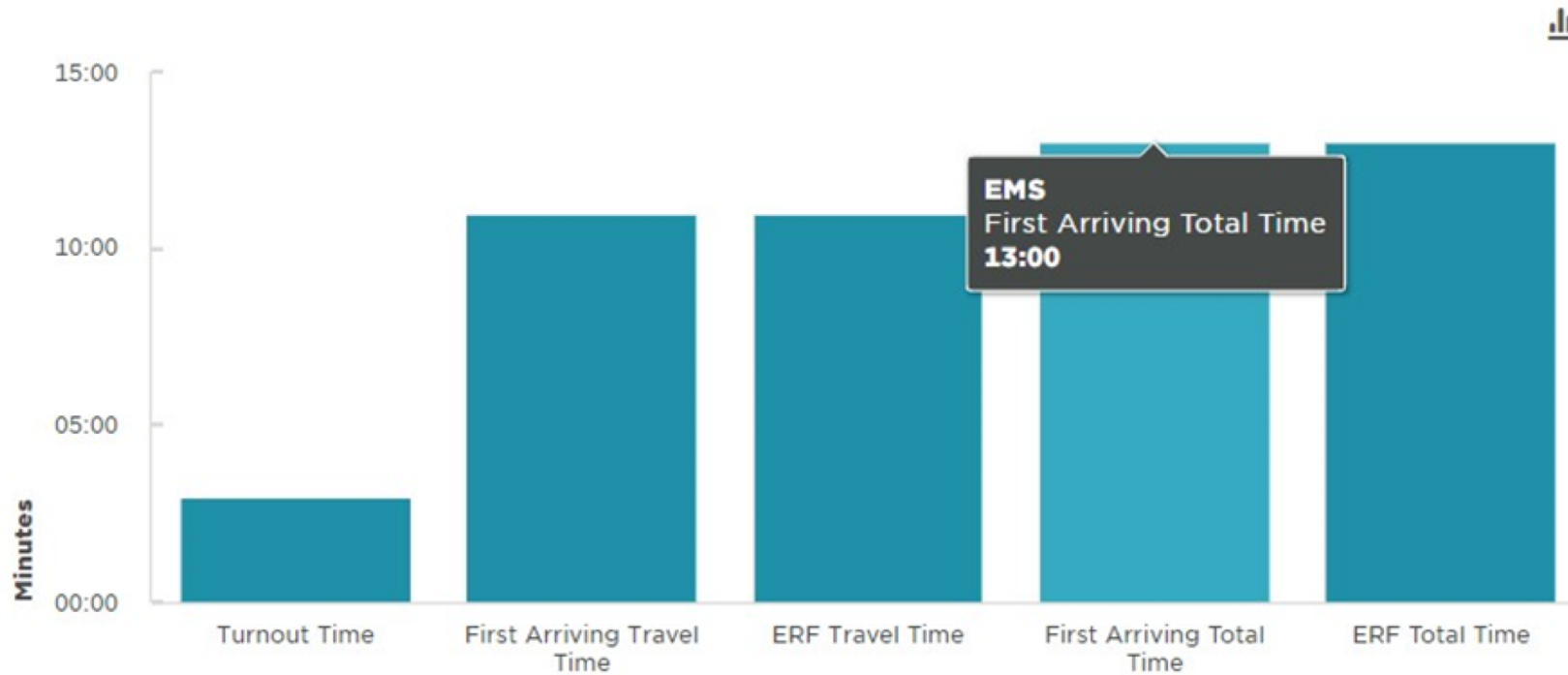




## Response Time Categories by Incident Category



Click into the legend below to turn on/off incident types for a direct comparison.



- EMS
- Structure Fire
- Brush Fire
- Other Fire
- Vehicle Accidents
- Public Assist
- HazMat

This chart indicates YTD response information for all EMS calls. In October TFD responded to 90% of all EMS calls within 13:00 minutes.

TFD CON Response Requirement per AZDHS:

- 50% within 8 minutes
- 70% within 15 minutes

# Fire District Tax Rates

*The District has always had a philosophy of meeting the emergency response needs of the community by providing high quality and cost-effective service. This has been accomplished while maintaining one of the lowest tax rates in the State of Arizona for comparable size fire districts.*

- With a \$4 million budget, the District is primarily financed by:
  - Property taxes assessed within the District
  - Ambulance transport revenues
  - Wildland contract revenues
- TFD 20/21 Operating Budget = \$4 million annually
  - Current Operating Tax Rate = \$2.85 (per 100,000 of assessed property value)
  - Current Bond Rate = \$.5173

# TFD FIRE STATION #1

## AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE

- Building is nearly 50 years old
- Built to be a volunteer fire station
- Full-time staffing lodging currently housed behind the building in double-wide which doesn't meet building codes (sewage)
- Inadequate storage and maintenance space for equipment, fire trucks and ambulances
- Inadequate space for staff and community training
- Does not meet ADA and building codes (can't get vehicles out of the front bay doors)
- Office space not safely separated from apparatus bay due to lack of fire-rated walls
- Lack of sprinklers





## Needs Assessment Process

- Review of Existing Conditions
- No automatic sprinkler system
- Inadequate space
  - Low headroom & small bays limit type of apparatus that can be used
  - Clearance between equipment
- No ventilation of apparatus bays
- Back up into bays



## Needs Assessment Process

- Review of Existing Conditions
- Low and narrow clearance at garage doors
- No site security
- Tower location limits new construction



# FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY STANDARDS FOR FIRE & EMT STATIONS

- Size adequate to meet the needs of the station's fire and emergency vehicles and equipment for storage and maintenance
- Living and training space for fire, EMT personnel, community
- Special storage requirements (e.g., secure spaces for drugs, refrigerated medical supplies)
- Routine handling of medical gases (oxygen)
- Possible segregation of station alerting system (fire versus EMS)
- FEMA recommends 1 acre for every 5,000 square feet of structure
- Differences in vehicle requirements

[https://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/design\\_of\\_fire\\_ems\\_stations.pdf](https://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/design_of_fire_ems_stations.pdf)



# TFD FIRE STATION #1

## AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE

- First authorized for funding as part of the 2008 voter-approved bond package – the need was recognized then. Working since then to establish proper plans and funding to replace the old volunteer station.
- Refinancing of the current voter-approved Bond Debt resulted in savings to taxpayers of over \$500K. The District is responsible with your tax dollars.
- There have been three remodels and money invested in the current location and it is still not up to code. One of the remodels is the addition of the modular for the firefighters to sleep in and that septic exemption expires in October, 2022.

# TFD FIRE STATION #1 AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE

- Equipment size is larger and fleet is more diverse than what we needed 50 years ago.
- Estimated square footage for the new fire station is less than Stations 3 and 4.
- 50% of the square footage for the new station is for storing and protecting apparatus.

# TFD FIRE STATION #1 AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE

- The scope of the project will be dictated by what the District can afford to spend. This decision will not be made until this spring as we wait to assess bond capacity.
  - Potential impact to the taxpayer is reliant on many variables. Could be as low as \$30 annually for a median home value to as much as \$100 annually for a home priced at \$500K.
- In July, the District's Finance Director presented the financial outlook for this project and recommended conservatively that we plan for no more than **\$5 million** in the next year or two.
- The District has cash available to purchase property now. One of the prospective locations (NE corner of Frontage Rd and Bridge) is priced **well under \$500K.** With Station #1 being our busiest station, this location will enable the District to maintain proximity to Tubac and I-19.



# TFD FIRE STATION #1 PROJECT AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE

<b>Scenario #1</b>	
Station Development Cost	<b>\$4,000,000</b>
<b>Funding</b>	
Bond	<b>\$3,000,000</b>
Cash on Hand	<b>\$1,000,000</b>
Assessed Value Growth	<b>5%</b>
Bond Rate Impact	\$0.2010
<b>Annual Home Owner Impact</b>	
Median Home Price	
\$146,000	<b>\$29.35</b>
Home Value	
\$500,000	<b>\$100.52</b>

<b>Scenario #2</b>	
Station Development Cost	<b>\$5,000,000</b>
<b>Funding</b>	
Bond	<b>\$3,300,000</b>
Cash on Hand	<b>\$1,700,000</b>
Assessed Value Growth	<b>6%</b>
Bond Rate Impact	\$0.2191
<b>Annual Home Owner Impact</b>	
Median Home Price	
\$146,000	<b>\$31.98</b>
Home Value	
\$500,000	<b>\$109.53</b>

## ISSUES TO ADDRESS

- Tubac Fire District Station #1 does not meet current ventilation, water and sewer, and safety standards for adequate space to store fire trucks and emergency vehicles
- Front bay doors aren't high enough for vehicles to use for entry and exit
- Building does not meet ADA standards and staffing space providing shift lodging, exercise space and meeting space
- Staff will recommend that the old building and property be sold. New station would be a replacement of the outdated and antiquated current station.

# TFD FIRE STATION #1 AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE

**Fact: There is Community Consensus to Improve the Tubac Fire Station**

**Needed: Best, long-term cost-effective solution to correct long-standing and well-known safety, operational and statutory deficiencies in current structure**

**Answer: New station meeting building codes, environmental and ADA standards and FEMA guidelines currently and well into the future.**



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# Tubac Fire District

"Tubac Fire District is committed to the safety of our community through the delivery of fire suppression, medical services, and public education."

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*Thank you for your  
continued support of  
the Tubac Fire  
District!!*

*<https://www.tubacfiredistrict.org/>*

