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CITY OF SAINT PAUL

Saint Paul Fire Department BLS Program





Objectives

City of Saint Paul

Fire Department EMS History 1972 - Present

- Identified—*significant*—increase in run volume over the past 49 years
- EMS Academy in 2009
- BLS Service began June 2013
- Expanded to BLS 911 Service began October 2019





Increasing Demand for Service

City of Saint Paul

- Aside from being the 1st Paramedics in the State of Minnesota in 1972 volumes increased...
- 9152 runs per year in 1972
 - 3,954 were EMS responses—the first full year of Ambulance Operations
- 50,315 runs in 2020 (740% increase)
 - 39,593 were EMS responses





EMS Academy

City of Saint Paul

- In 2008, the—department born concept—opportunity for Saint Paul Fire to deliver EMS education out of Station 51 was realized through a partnership with Fire, Parks and Rec, HREEO, and Youth Job Corp.
- 2009 the first EMS Academy successfully launched and graduated 10, Charter Member, students.
- The EMS Academy was created to afford the opportunity to young adults that are low income, women, and people of color to become EMT's to better represent a diverse Fire and EMS work force while earning a living wage
- 2012 found the creation of the BLS Unit with graduates of the EMS Academy and the unit was put into service in June of 2013 to assist with the recognized and growing service delivery demand on existing resources





EMS Academy

City of Saint Paul

Over 270 Students have graduated from the 18 EMS Academies hosted since 2009

- The Saint Paul Fire Department has hired **21** former Station 51 personnel, as well as **2** of the 911 BLS EMT's who have all have transitioned to sworn Firefighter EMT's or Paramedics, serving the residents of Saint Paul.
- Graduates of the EMS academy have moved on to become:
 - EMT's/Paramedics at all of the private EMS services in the metro area.
 - Working as a flight paramedic.
 - Police officers for numerous metro departments
 - Techs in metro hospitals including:
 - ER techs and paramedics
 - Aids on the in-patient floors
 - Surgical techs
 - Physician Assistants & Nurses
 - 911 Dispatchers
 - Working for Ramsey county with the homeless population in the numerous shelters set up due to the COVID pandemic.
 - Flight attendant
 - US army (medical unit)
 - 1 currently in medical school at the University of Minnesota.





BLS Unit—Hospital to Home Transport

City of Saint Paul

- Offered experience for non-emergent Hospital to home transport service—real patients that received care from the Saint Paul EMS Academy EMT Graduates
- June 2013 Saint Paul fire moved the BLS unit from the partnership with Parks and Rec solely to the Saint Paul Fire Department and began transports in the City of Saint Paul
- 2015 four full time “Fire Medic Cadets” were hired.
 - The concept of a “pathways” program to get Station 51 Graduates onto the sworn fire side was the next step in the growth of the Station 51 BLS program.
 - As a Fire Medic Cadet, EMT’s would gain promotion rights to become Saint Paul Firefighters once completing the following:
 - 2 year minimum full-time employment
 - Completion of paramedic school
 - Completion of Firefighter 1 and 2
 - Part time employees continue to be hired in order to provide EMT experience to the graduates of the EMS Academy





BLS Unit—Expanded to 911 Service Delivery

City of Saint Paul

2019- Three Saint Paul Fire Department BLS 911 units were created

- Emergency runs in the City of Saint Paul continue to increase each year
- Resources management to assure the best response for the residents was recognized by the fire administration and the city officials
- Three BLS Units were added (one in each district)
- These BLS Units respond to 911 (low acuity) alpha level calls, providing patient care and transportation to area hospitals
- BLS Units also respond to all confirmed fires in the city to assist in firefighter rehab





BLS Unit—Expanded to 911 Service Delivery

City of Saint Paul

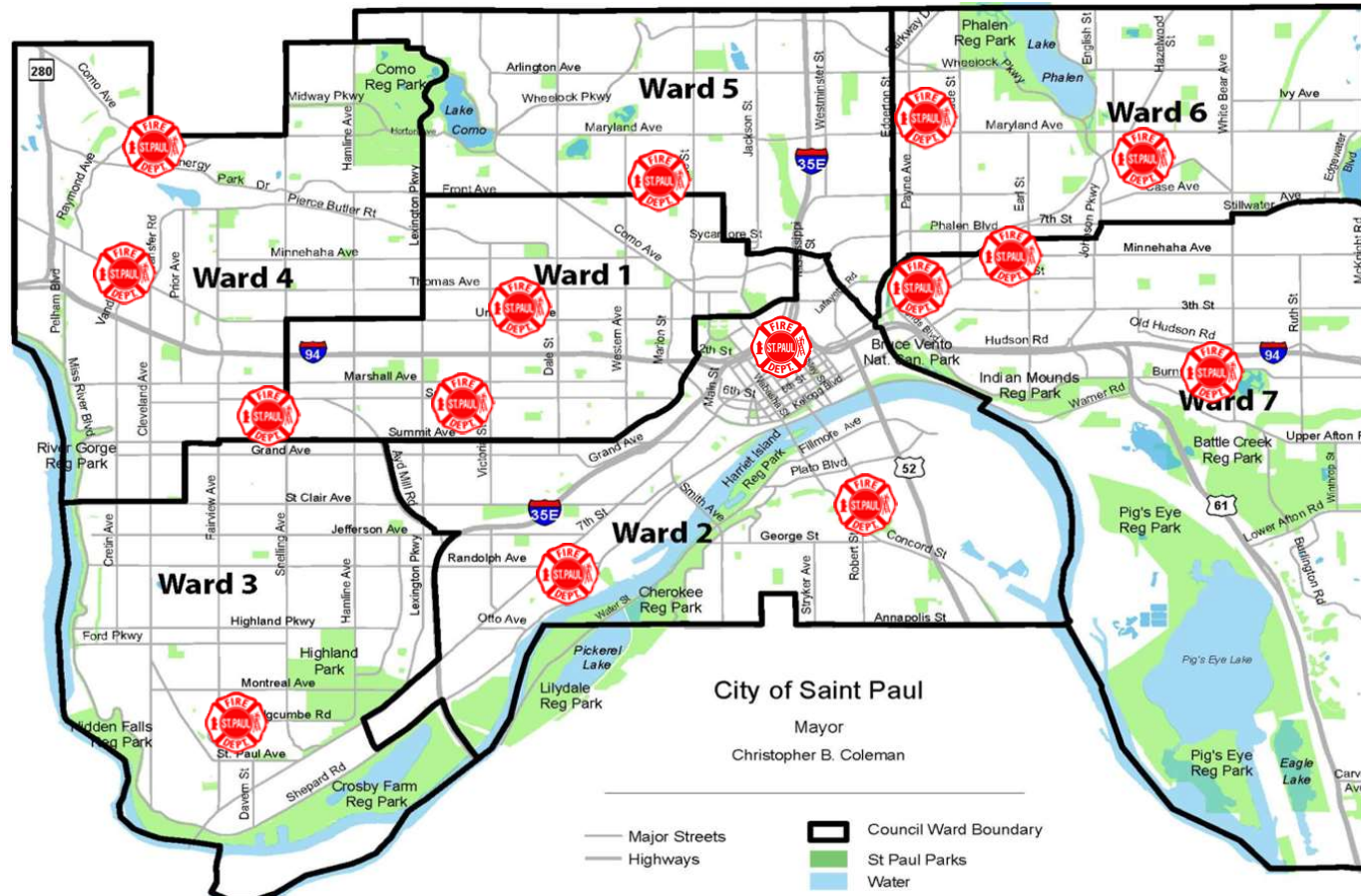
Assurances for sustainable response.

- Added non-sworn personnel and resources to meet expanding demand
- Implement BLS response program to relieve pressure from volume of less-acute calls
- Expand continuous improvement processes, including after-action reviews and quality assurance processes, for all emergency responses, including Lauderdale and Falcon Heights coverage
- Expand shared guidelines for consistent responses across the department, developed by responders and administration
- Increase non-sworn staffing to address the projected increase run volumes.
 - Continue implementation of the BLS program
 - 10 non-sworn FTE positions represented by IAFF Local 21—Authorized 12



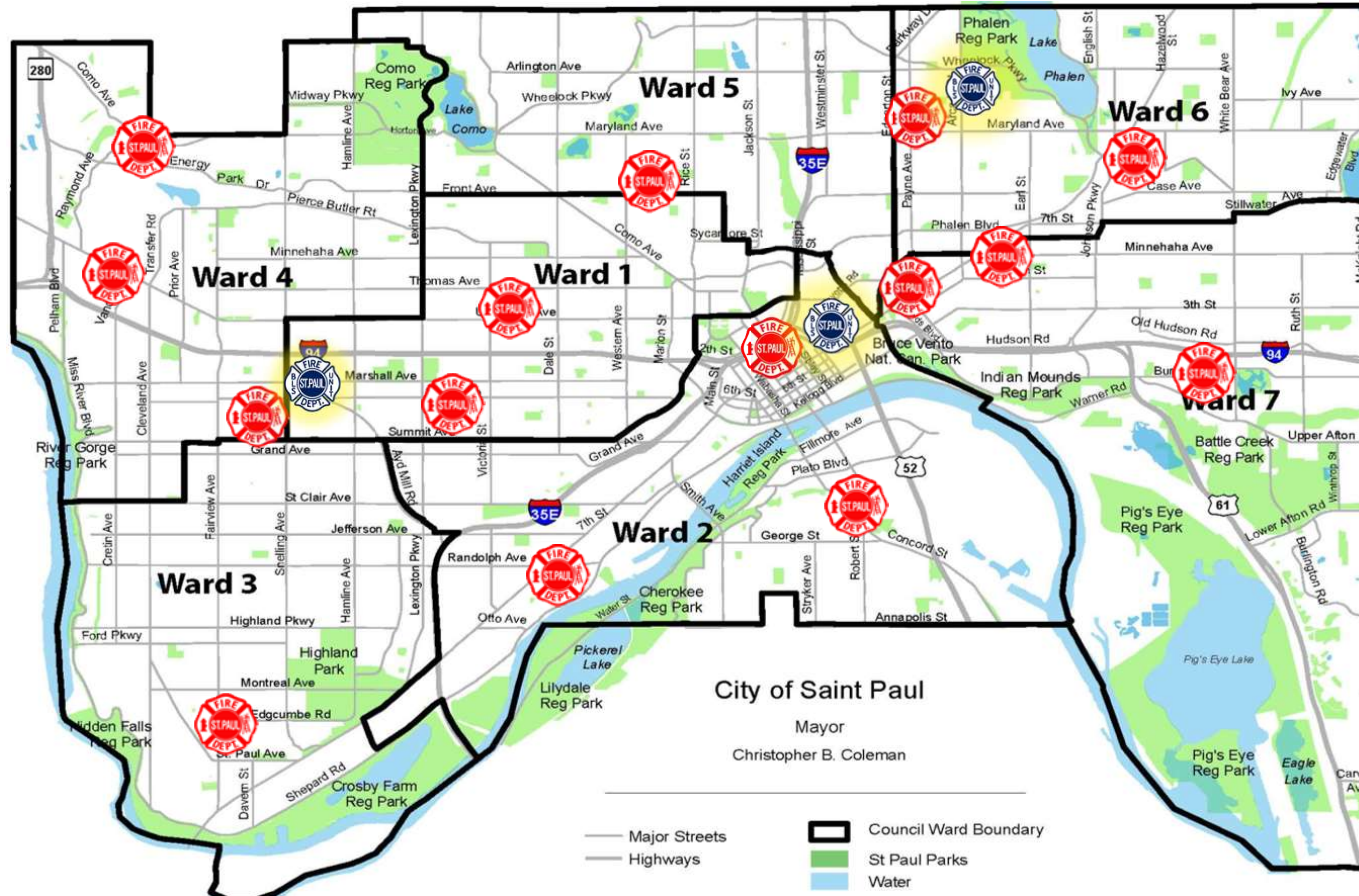


Fire Stations by Ward





Fire Stations by Ward with 911 BLS resource





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Questions?

