



Plain Township Fire Department (PTFD) Strategic Planning Fact Sheet

Historic Context

- Fire service began in Plain Township in 1943.
- First fire station was built in 1945 at 45 Second Street.
- PTFD was an all-volunteer fire service until 1991.
- Current fire station was built in 1997.
- Chief Connor is the 6th fire chief – “Cookie” George (1943-1955), Fred Whitehead (1955-1988), Bernie Obert (1988-1994), John Hoovler (1994-2020), Jack Rupp Jr. (2020-2022)

Current State

- Chief Connor started as assistant fire chief in January 2022 and became fire chief in January 2023. A search is underway for a new assistant fire chief.
- Staffing
 - Firefighters work 24 hours on with 48 hours off in a 3-shift rotation.
 - Shifts are designated as 1 Unit, 2 Unit, and 3 Unit
 - There are 13 full-time personnel assigned to each Unit:
 - 1 Battalion Chief, 1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, and 10 firefighters/paramedics
 - Staffing is supplemented by 14 part-time firefighters.
 - 1 fire marshal, 1 fire inspector, and 1 administrative assistant/educator.
- Services
 - Fire – fire alarm response, fire suppression, fire rescue, fire investigation
 - Rescue – motor vehicle extrication, confined space rescue, building collapse
 - EMS – advanced life support, pediatric life support, basic life support
 - Prevention – plan review, commercial inspections, education, community outreach
 - Community Support – We enjoy engaging the community in many ways outside of emergency response:
 - EMS coverage at 22 special events including Founder’s Day, July 4th, etc.
 - 14 station tours
 - 5 birthday parties
 - 12 block parties
 - 10 engagement events such as escorting NAHS teams, PTFD Open House, etc.
- Service Volume
 - Total runs (combined fire/rescue and EMS) in 2022 averaging 8 per day.
 - Highest volume day in 2022 was 22 runs in a 24-hour shift.
 - 110 days in 2022 (30.2%) with 10 or more runs in a 24-hour shift.
 - Run breakdown:
 - 2017 – 2636 runs (871 fire/rescue and 1765 EMS)
 - 2018 – 2623 runs (916 fire/rescue and 1696 EMS)
 - 2019 – 2902 runs (1044 fire/rescue and 1858 EMS)

- 2020 – 2614 runs (969 fire/rescue and 1645 EMS)
 - 2021 – 2686 runs (890 fire/rescue and 1796 EMS)
 - 2022 – 2922 runs (927 fire/rescue and 1995 EMS) – 10.8% increase from 2017
 - Runs to senior living facilities have more than quadrupled since 2017.
 - 2017 – 81 runs
 - 2018 – 169 runs
 - 2019 – 268 runs
 - 2020 – 291 runs
 - 2021 – 318 runs
 - 2022 – 363 runs
 - Growth in the community has increased plan review
 - 175 pre-construction building plans reviewed in 2022
 - 100 pre-construction building plans reviewed in 2021
 - 42 pre-construction plan review meetings in 2022
 - 154 new construction inspections in 2022 (while new buildings are being built)
 - 90 new construction inspections in 2021
 - 242 building inspections in 2022 – buildings already in use
 - 156 building inspections in 2021
 - 67 code violation complaints investigated
 - 12 code violation complaints investigated in 2021
 - Community education remains a critical element of our work.
 - 2022 Safety Town – 434 staff hours worked over 5 weeks at Safety Town
 - 8 elementary school & pre-school/daycare fire safety educational visits
 - Fire Safety Trailer utilized for education at 5 events
- Service Area
 - We provide primary fire/EMS coverage for 20 sq. miles in Plain Township and the Franklin County portions of New Albany
 - New Albany boundaries in Licking County are served by Monroe Township Fire Department and West Licking Joint Fire District.
 - PTFD was a founding member of the Metropolitan Emergency Communications Consortium (MECC) in 2004 along with five other fire departments to provide group purchasing cost savings, joint dispatching, standardized EMS protocol and physician oversight, common fireground procedures and ICS, and enhanced interagency training.
 - PTFD personnel participate in the Central Ohio Strike Team, an Urban Search & Rescue (USAR) unit comprised of members from central Ohio-area fire departments providing specialized rescue services for building collapse, swift water, heavy machinery, technical ropes, outdoor wide area search, trench cave-in, and confined space.
- Mutual Aid/Automatic Aid
 - Plain Township continues to have a great working relationship with our neighboring communities. All surrounding jurisdictions assist each other based on automatic and mutual aid agreements.
 - These agreements ensure the best possible emergency response by sending the closest most appropriate fire truck or EMS vehicle to every emergency, regardless of location. They also allow each individual agency to assemble a full complement of apparatus and firefighters for every possible scenario that no one agency could accomplish alone.
- Annual Budget
 - \$10.1 million budget for FY23.
 - Primary funding sources include property taxes (94%) and insurance billing for EMS transports (4.5%).