



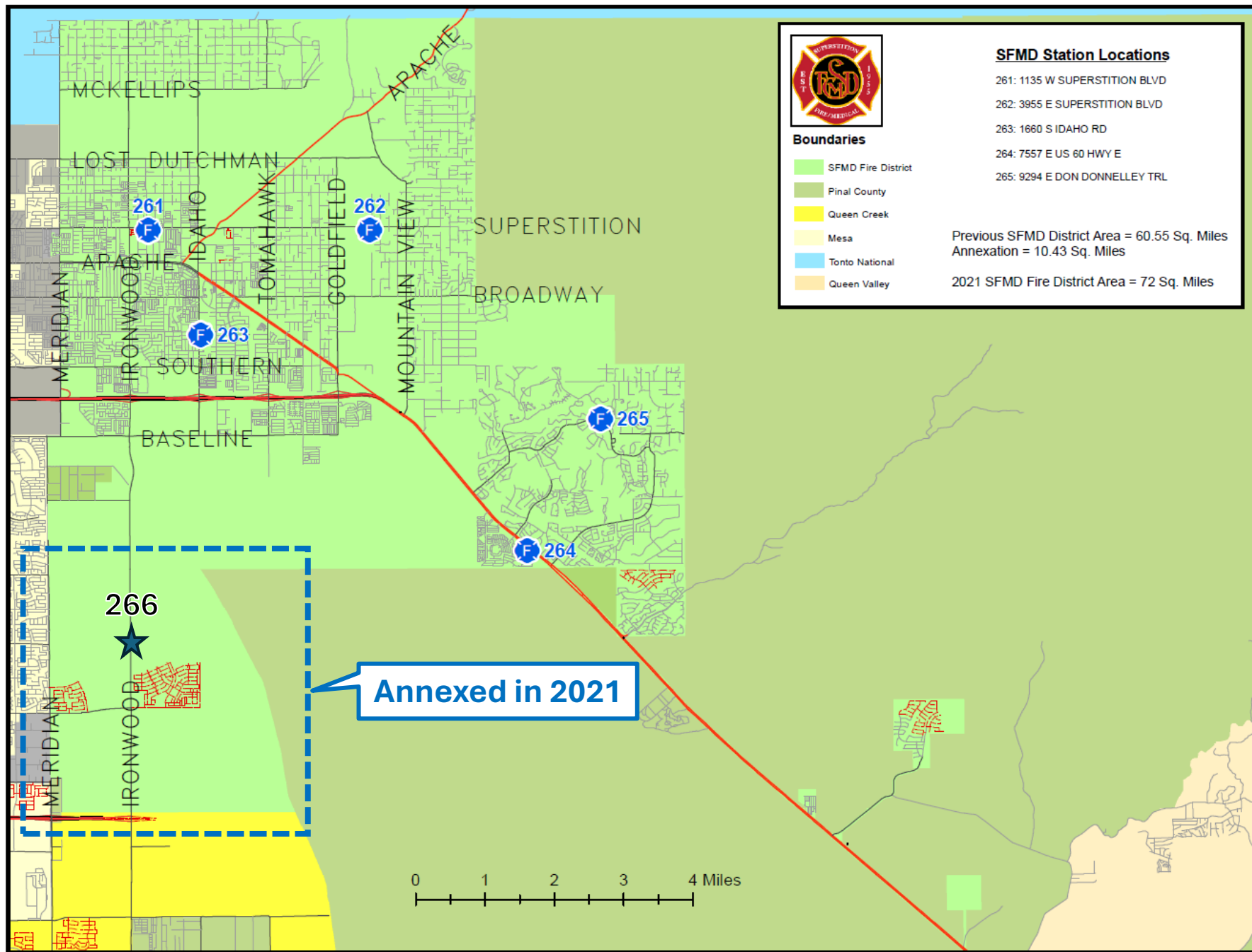
**PROPOSITION 494**

**Superstition Fire & Medical District Bond**

# Superstition Fire & Medical District Snapshot

- Fire District – Established in 1955
- Governed by an elected 5-member board
- 102 sworn personnel, 24 ambulance personnel, 14 civilian staff
- Serving the communities of Apache Junction, Gold Canyon, Superstition Vistas, Entrada Del Oro, Peralta, Maricopa County, and other unincorporated areas.
- 5 stations (6 in 2027)
- All-hazards with specialties: TRT & Wildland





**Total  
Incidents**

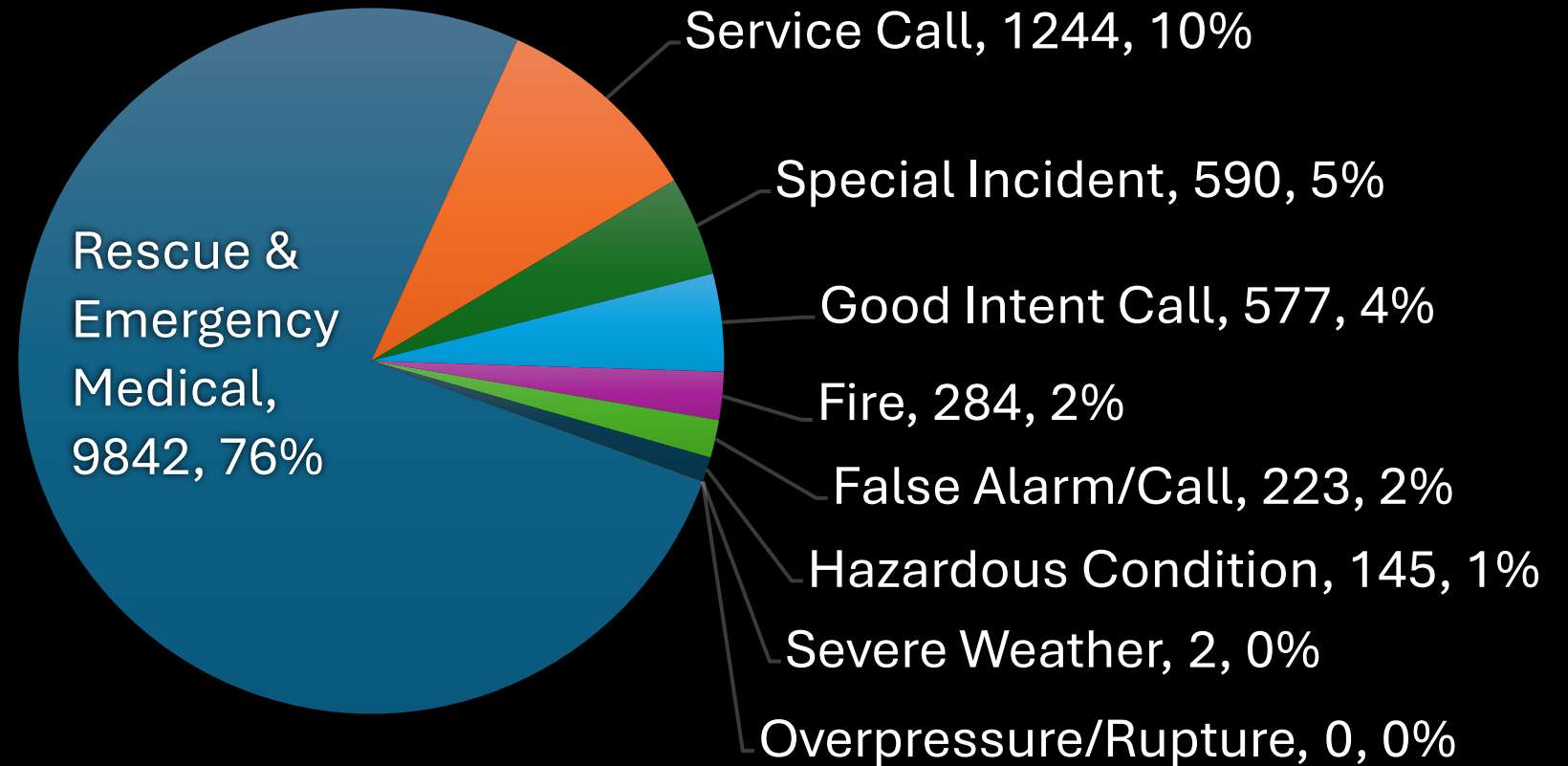
**12,907**

---

**Average  
Response Time  
Emergent  
Incidents**

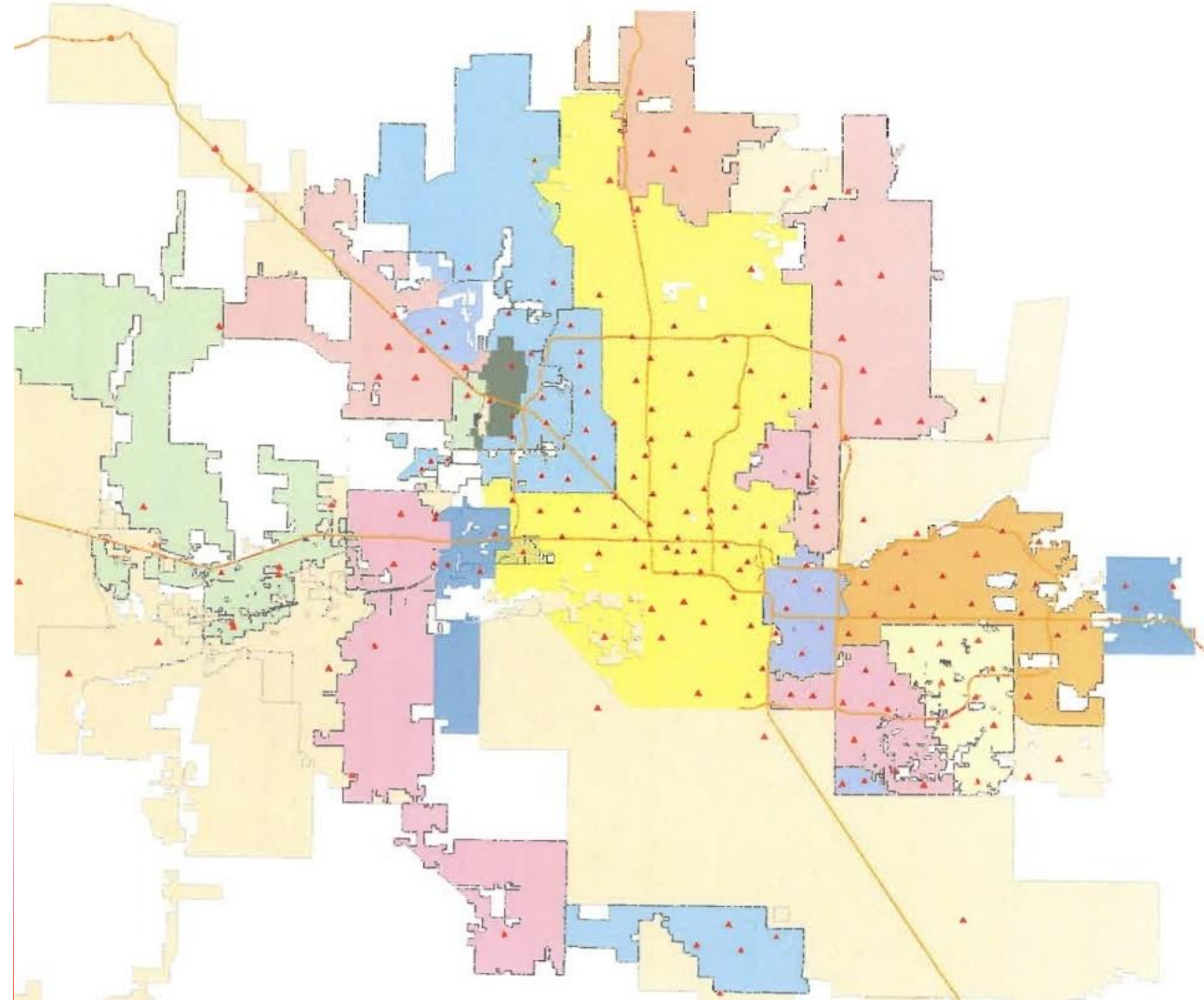
**4:33**

## Incident Type Categories



# Auto-Aid System Partner

- Erases jurisdictional boundaries – closest unit responds
- Resource sharing – Specialty units, reduces the number of stations needed for any organization and manpower
- Efficient use of resources
- Standards:
  - 4-person staffing
  - 2 Medics per truck
  - Regional Academy
  - Regional Training
  - Volume 2 Playbook
  - Trucks equipped in a similar manner



# Fire District vs. Municipality

- Elected Governing Board vs. Mayor, council, Manager model
- Fire Districts do not receive the following:
  - State Shared Revenue:
    - Vehicle License Tax
    - Highway User Fees
    - State Sales Tax
    - State Income Tax
  - Impact Fees
  - Local Sales Tax
  - Federal Funding (Automated)\*
    - \*Fire Districts not recognized as a “government entity” for federal funding
    - For example, ARPA & COVID Funding



# Fire District Funding Challenges: Arizona Tax Legislation

- Prop 117 (2015)
  - Provisions:
    - Switched from full cash value (FCV) to Limited Property Value (LPV) on real property
    - Limits NAV increase annually to 5%
  - Result:
    - Timing - Loss of 50% to the NAV
    - Unable to recover from the recession
  - FY24/25 valuation 92% of FY 2009/10 values
  - Limited growth in revenue – combined with rising operational costs
- Senate Bill 1093 (2022)
  - Further reduces the assessed valuation of class one commercial properties to 15% by 2027



## **A Note on Taxable Property Value – SUPERSTITION FMD**

### **Estimated FY 2024-25 Average Residential Property Value for Tax Purposes (Limited Property Value): \$180,291**

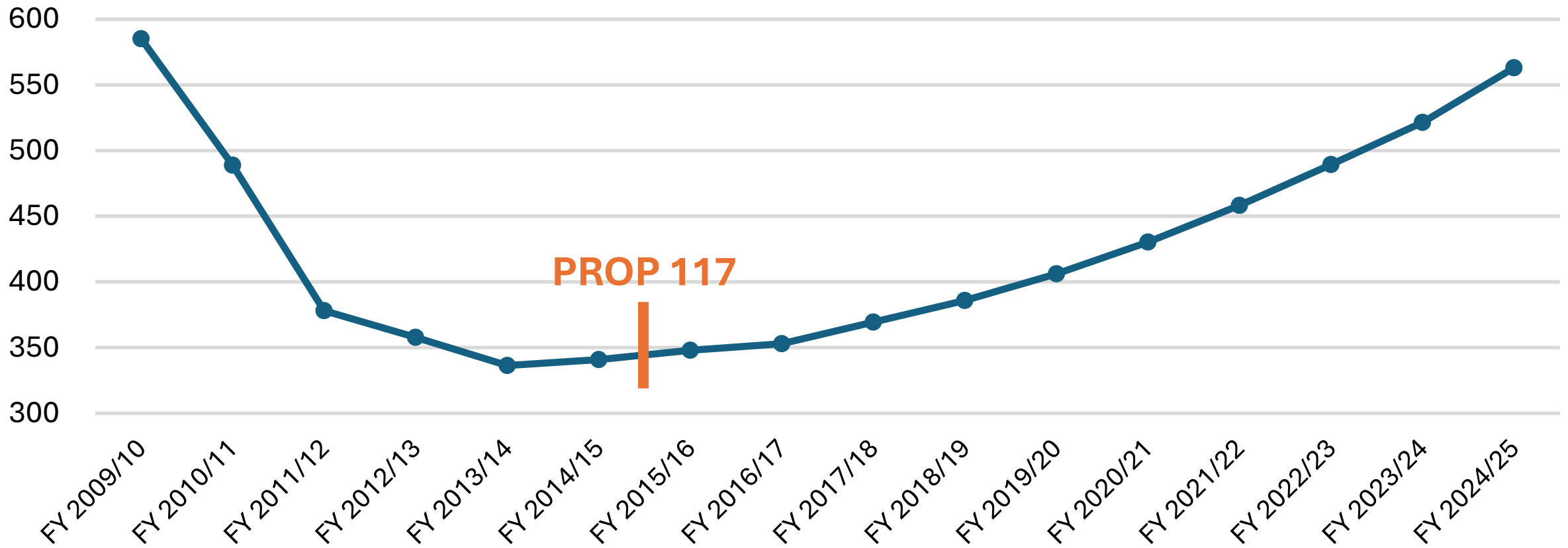
	<b>East 37<sup>th</sup> Apache Junction</b>	<b>West 22<sup>nd</sup> Apache Junction</b>	<b>East Rainier Gold Canyon</b>
<b>Limited Property Value</b>	<b>\$179,662</b>	<b>\$183,166</b>	<b>\$183,413</b>
Assessor Full Cash Value	\$442,099	\$451,387	\$308,833
Zestimate	\$487,200	\$492,000	\$416,400

#### **KEY TAKE-AWAYS**

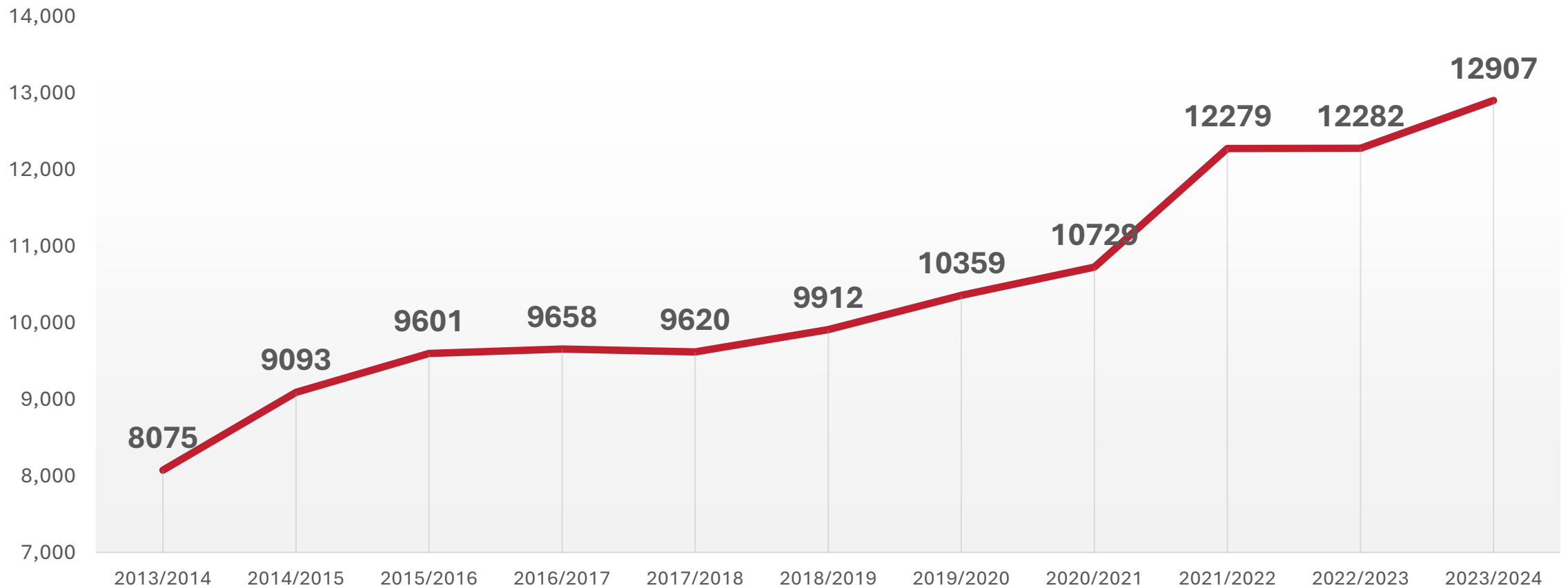
- Residential properties (and others) that have not changed, annual growth of Limited Property Value cannot exceed 5%
- Property value used for tax purposes (Limited Property Value) can vary significantly from market value (Zestimate is proxy for market value)
- Degree of variance relates to real estate market conditions, and is currently relatively large
- Regardless of real estate market, ratio of Limited Property Value to market value varies among properties

# SFMD Net Assessed Valuation (NAV)

**Net Assessed Value (in millions)**



# SFMD Annual Call Volume

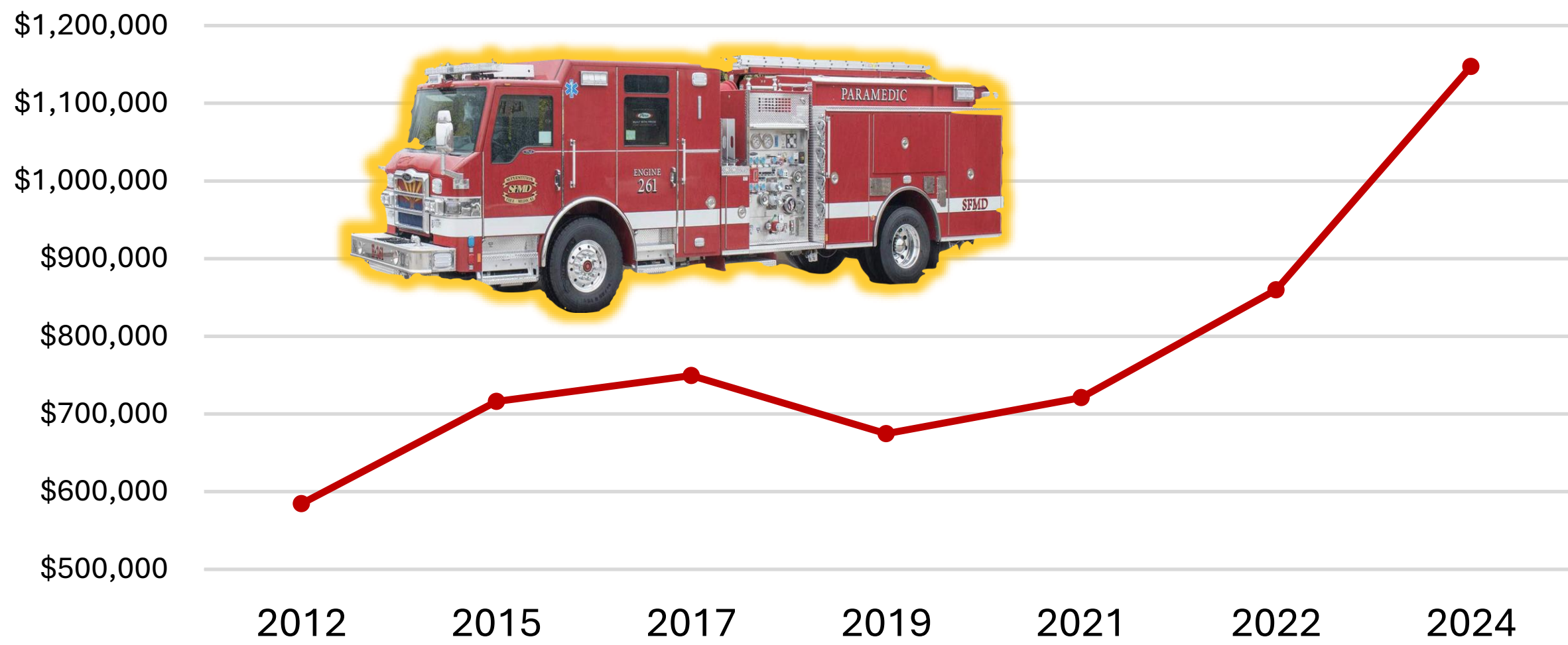


# Firefighter Equipment Costs

Equipment	2019	2023	2025	Overall Increase
Helmet	\$258	\$297	\$404	57%
Hood	\$40	\$108	\$124	210%
SCBA	\$4,886	\$7,572	\$11,985	145%
Radio	\$5,011	\$7,053	\$8,908	78%
Flashlight	\$53	\$67	\$73	38%
Coat	\$1,305	\$1,783	\$2,680	105%
Gloves	\$85	\$107	\$133	56%
Pants	\$856	\$1,002	\$1,875	119%
Boots	\$300	\$379	\$450	50%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,794</b>	<b>\$18,366</b>	<b>\$26,632</b>	<b>108%</b>



# SFMD – Type 1 Apparatus Cost



# Financial Impacts Since 2009....

## Fire Districts have seen

- Cap on tax levy
- 8% cap on Levy growth
- Switch from FCV to LPV
- 5% cap on LPV growth
- 1% reduction in vacant land assessment
- 10% reduction in commercial property valuation

## In that same time

- Inflation increase: 47.11%
- Calls for Service increase: 65.37%
- Worker's Comp Cost increase: 311%
- Dispatch Fees increase: 431%
- Type 1 Pumper increase: 96% (2012-2024)
- Property & Liability Insurance increase: 165%
- Area of Service increase: 16%
- FTE's needed to adequately staff the District has increased 48% (46 additional employees)
- An overall dramatic increase in the cost of goods and services necessary to run the organization



# Creative Approaches to Secure our Financial Position

- 2006 Bond: FS265 (Gold Canyon), 2 Pumpers, 1 Ladder, Facility repairs
- Override – Temporary (5-year) tax rate increase of \$0.25 – Sunset in 2021
- Ambulance Revenue – Regulated by AZ DHS
  - Regularly ensure we submit for rate increases
- Cost sharing with Ambulance operations
- Partnerships with municipalities for share services/purchasing
  - SCBA (Airpacks), Apparatus, Facilities
  - ITM Shared Revenue – Compliance Engine
- Restructured Healthcare Program
  - Estimated over \$3 million in savings over 10 years



# Addressing Financial Challenges

## Over the years SFMD has taken actions to address financial challenges

- Staffing reductions
- Hiring freezes
- Re-assigning staff
- Eliminated off-duty training
- Cut training budget
- Prioritize budget initiatives
- Spending cuts
- Staggered market adjustments
- No new budgetary initiatives
  - Moratorium on development and implementation of new programs and services
  - Flat budgets
- Capital purchase delay\*



# Bond Recommendation Process

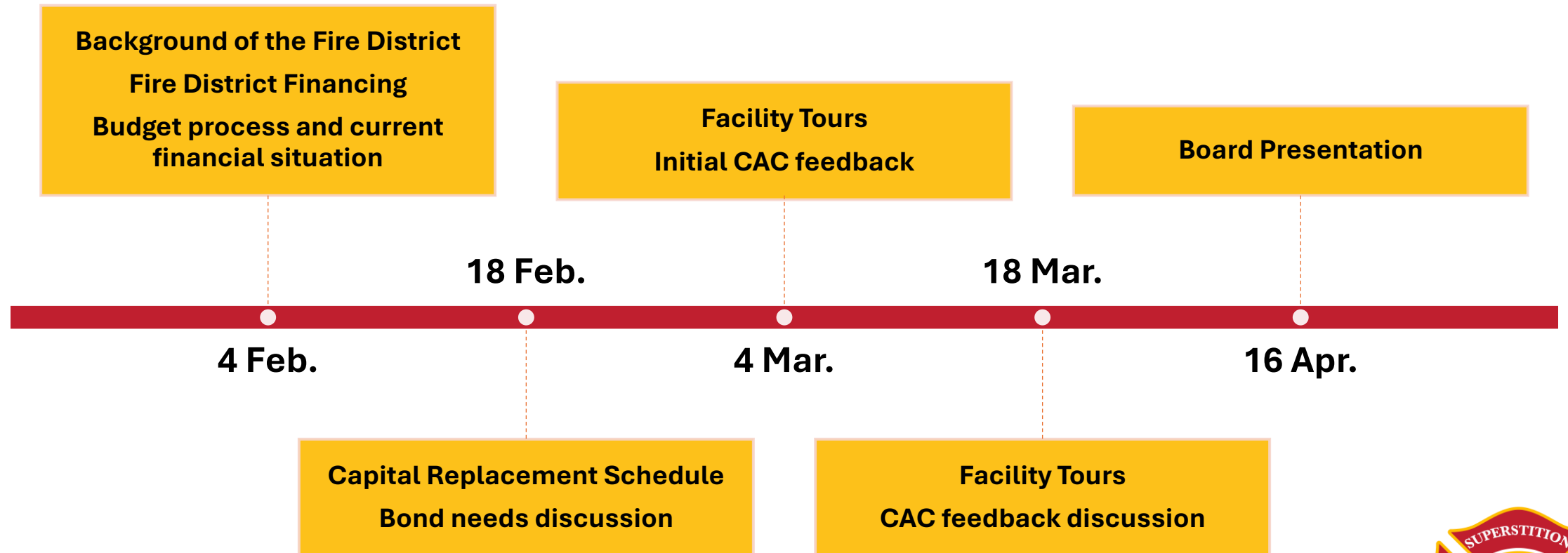


# Transparent Public Process

## Citizen Advisory Committee

Traci Polk	Spokesperson – Financial Analyst – Town of Queen Creek (Retired)
Jason Moeller	SFMD Board Director
Amy Doyle	Community Advocate
Liz Langenbach	Director of AJ Parks & Recreation
Heather Moeller	Community Advocate
Jan Snyder	Senior Vice President for VFW 7968 Auxiliary and Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors
Jerry Stevenson	President, Gold Canyon Community Inc.
Glenn Walp	President, ADOBE

# Complete Citizen Advisory Committee Review



# Citizen Advisory Committee

## CAC Recommendation:

Unanimous support for going to the community with a proposed \$33.8 million bond authorization.

## Cost:

Proposed bond authorization is, on average, 27 cents per \$100 of the Assessed Limited Property Value.



***Estimated Bond Cost  
Calculator***

# Capital Replacement - Apparatus

**0-10 Years  
Frontline Service**

**10-15 Years  
Reserve Status**

**15+ Years  
Planned Out of Service**

Apparatus	Type	Purchase Year	Age of Apparatus
Brush 264	Type 6 Wildfire	2005	20 years
Brush 265	Type 6 Wildfire	2005	20 years
Tender 264	Water Supply/Wildfire	2000	25 years
Engine (FS 265)	Type 1 Pumper	2004	21 years
Ladder Truck (FS 264)	Aerial Apparatus	2008	17 years

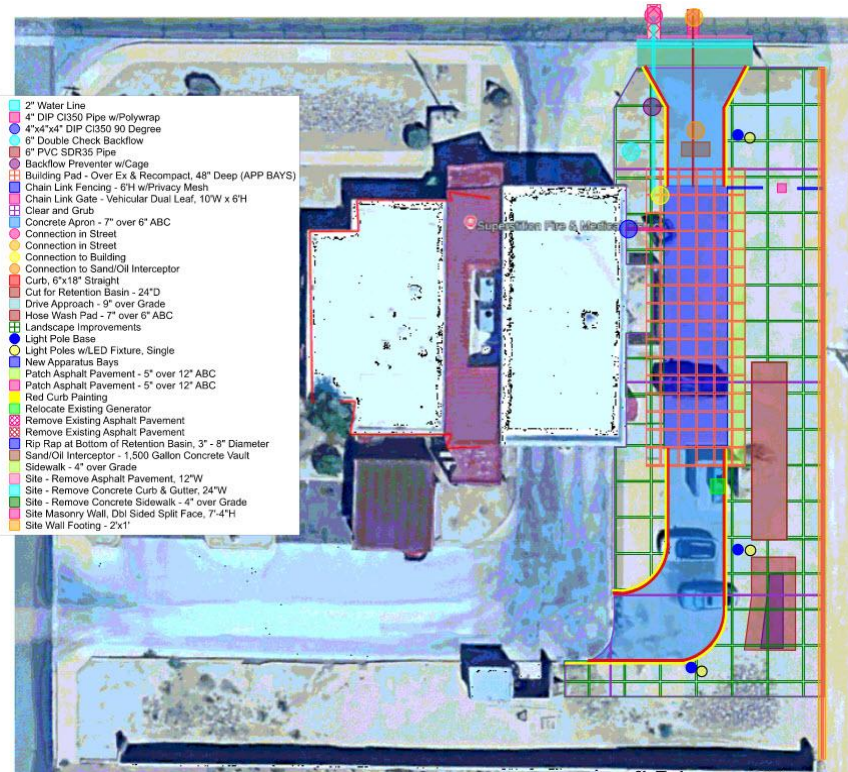
# New Capital Needs – Training Center

- Consistency in training improves performance.
- Consistency improves with ease-of-use training equipment.
- Training facilities allow for realistic emergency simulations while maintaining safety.

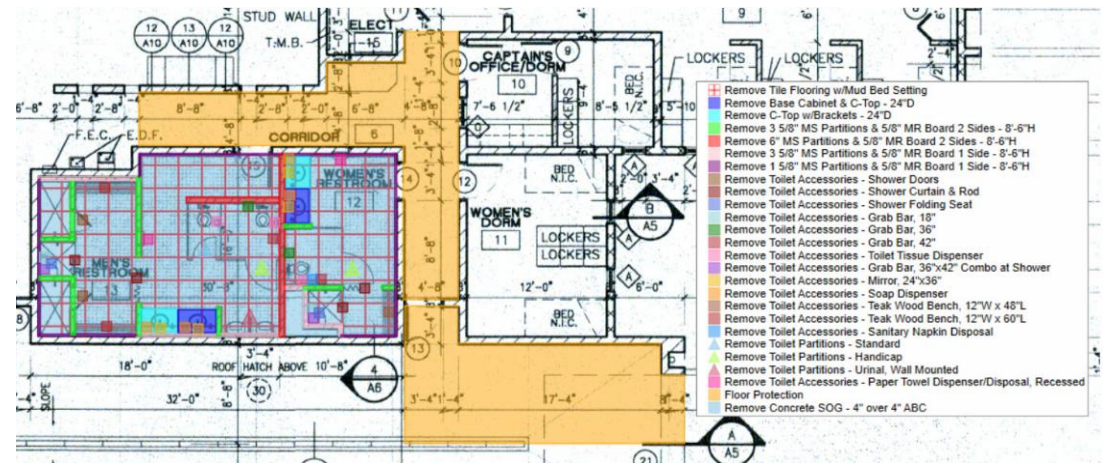


# Facility Repair Needs

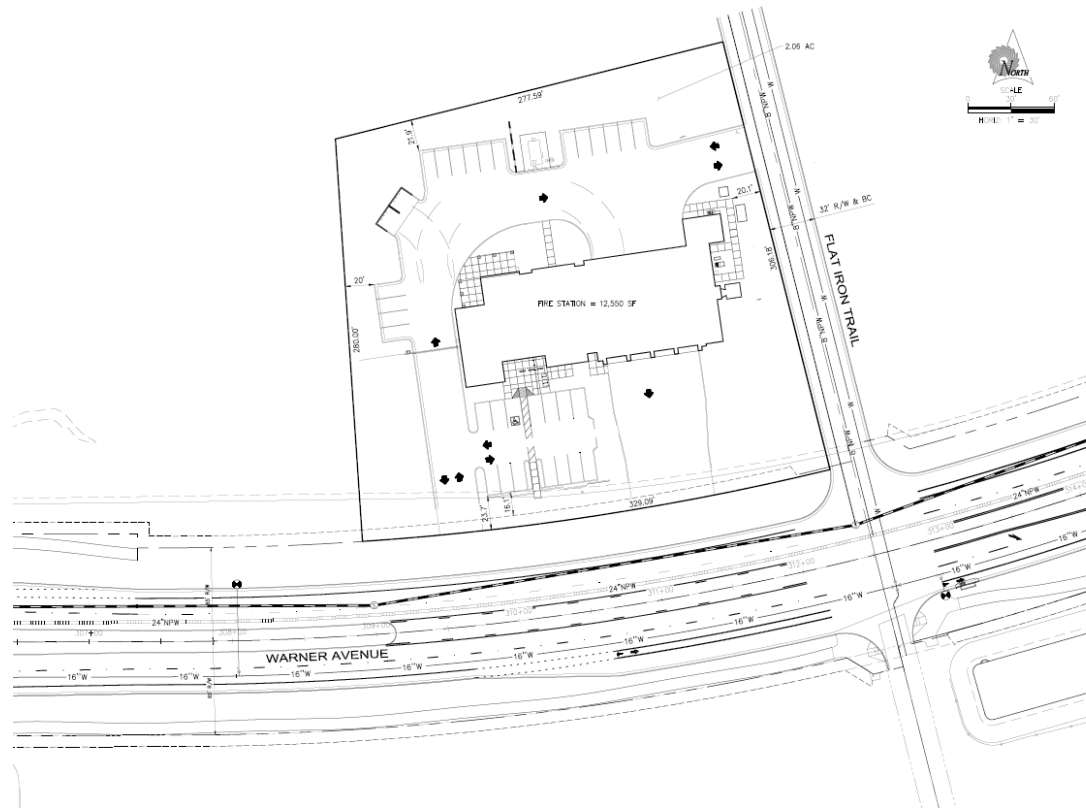
## Fire Station 261 Repair Interior Renovation and Additional Bay



## Fire Station 263 Repair and Remodel



# New Capital Needs – Fire Station 266



## Fire Station 266 Ironwood & Warner

EXHIBIT - FIRE STATION PRELIMINARY SITE LAYOUT



# High Priority Capital Needs

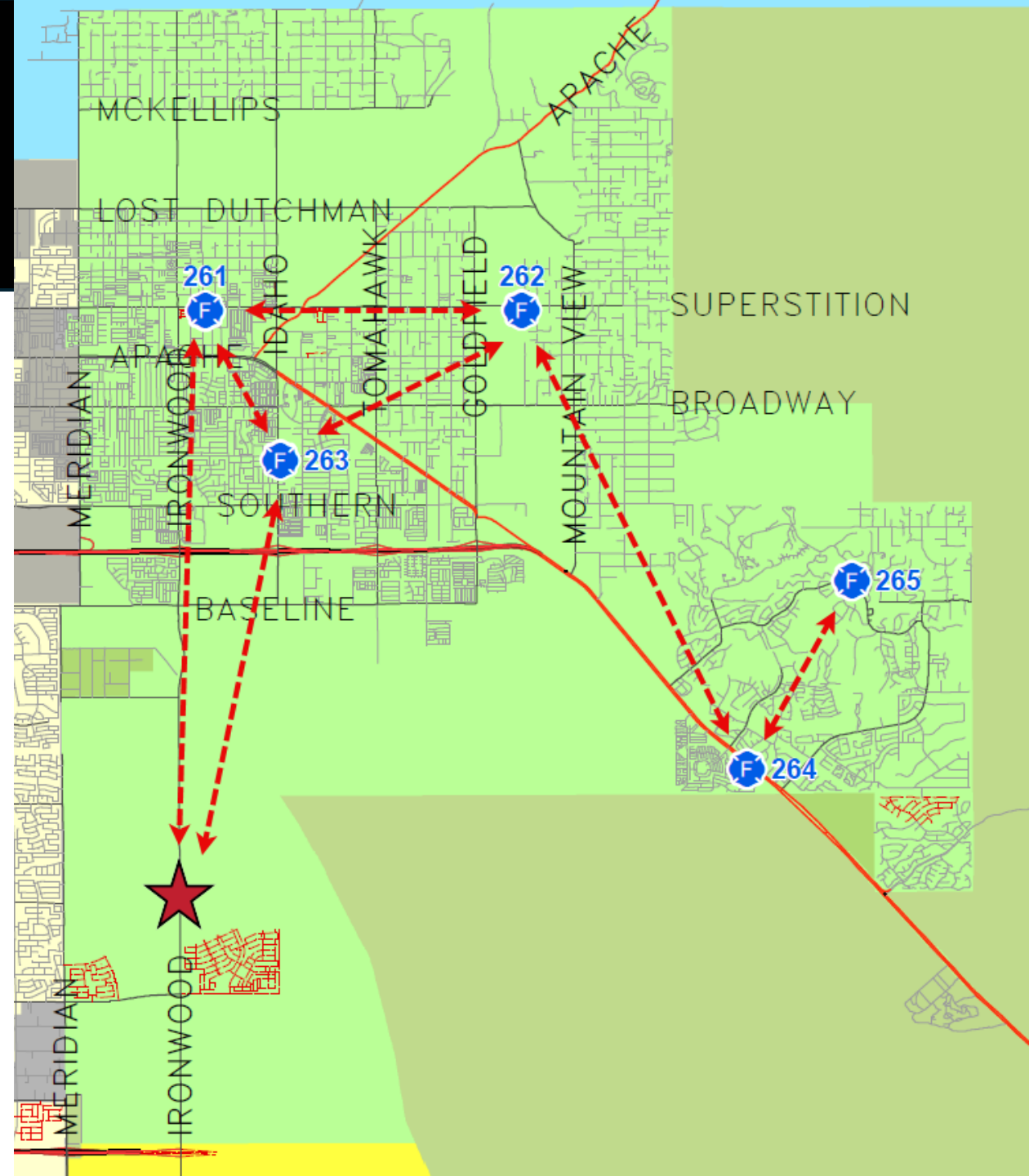
<u>Capital Items</u>	<u>Approximate Cost</u>	<u>Description</u>
Fire Station 266	\$10,000,000	Due to Annexation
Training Center	\$9,800,000	Lack of Long-term Reliability
Station 261 Renovation	\$4,075,000	Due to Number of Personnel
Station 261 Bay Addition	\$2,720,000	Apparatus Placement
Ladder 264 Replacement	\$2,500,000	Due to Out of Service Status
Future Pumper (E265)	\$1,400,000	Extended Build Time (3 Years)
Land - Entrada Del Oro (FS267)	\$1,000,000	Due to Growth
Station 263 Remodel	\$1,000,000	Due to Number of Personnel
Tender 264 Replacement	\$500,000	Due to Out of Service Status
Brush 264 Replacement	\$350,000	Due to Out of Service Status
Brush 265 Replacement	\$350,000	Due to Out of Service Status
<u>Total</u>	<b>\$33,695,000</b>	



# Response Times

Keeping our first responders closer to their home stations and new vehicles providing the backup necessary while others are responding to an emergency are examples of how services could be impacted.

- EMS
- Fire



# Employee Recruitment and Retention



Adequate facilities and improved training may allow the district to remain competitive in recruiting and retaining future public safety personnel.



# Industry Standards



## Meeting Industry Standards:

The proposed projects are intended to meet industry standards for equipment storage, decontamination, and cancer mitigation.



## Insurance Ratings:

The bond is intended to improve service and potentially avoid insurance cost increases.



# ISO Rating

- Insurance Services Office (ISO) evaluates fire protection capabilities impacting insurance rates for homes and businesses
- Rating Scale from 1 to 10
- Weighting of Scale:
  - 10% - Emergency Communications (dispatch)
  - 50% - Staffing, training, equipment/apparatus, response times
  - 40% - Water Supply (Tenders and hydrants)
- SFMD is currently rated a 2 (Top 3% in the U.S.)



# Important Election Info – Prop 494

## MAIL-IN BALLOT ONLY

Last Day to Register to Vote: October 6, 2025

Voting Begins: October 8, 2025

Last Day to Request a Ballot: October 27, 2025

**Dead-Line: November 4, 2025**

