

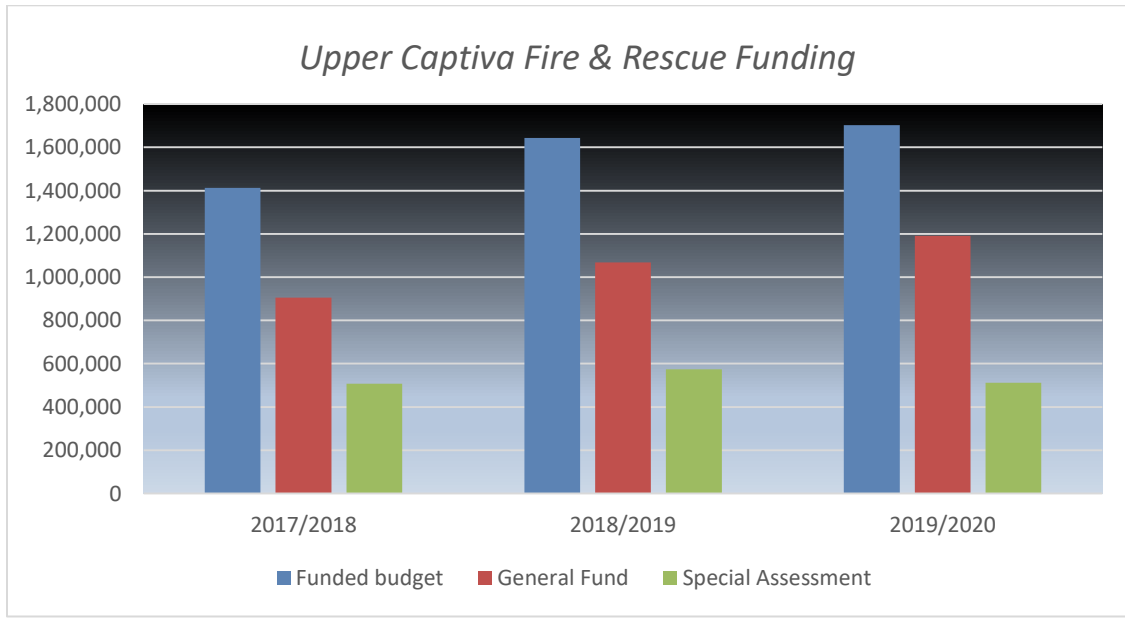
# Facilities Update 2020

Upper Captiva Fire & Rescue

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## Funding Methodology

This year has been one of growth and change. The board of Commissioners has voted to decrease the millage over the past two years from the initial 3.75 to a subsequent 3.41 and to 3.31 for FY 2019/20.



This district has made great strides in safety, compliance, and capability. With a Board of Commissioners and generous public support the department has grown exponentially.

Funding continues to be sourced from ad valorem taxes and a 10-year special assessment that is in year 6. The special assessment was levied to fund startup costs of Advanced Life Support EMS and an additional 2 firefighters per shift. This method of staffing and funding has attained the ISO fire protection class rating of 4/4x.

The future funding goal is to cover the costs supported by the special assessment, by absorbing them into the general budget. This would eliminate the need for special assessment funding by the 10<sup>th</sup> year of the assessment. The goal would be attained through streamlined spending, continued development of commercial and private properties, increased value of existing properties and an increase of impact funding.

## Station

Funds have been allocated for a station annex that would provide an additional pair of truck bays to house the Department of Forestry, (DOF) units that the District has in inventory. Currently one unit is housed outside in the open, and the other is under a tent

type structure. Construction of this annex will comply with the ISO mandate for unit housing and extend the life of both units.

The structure is to be a separate and stand-alone project adjacent to the existing station. Repair facilities are accounted for along with the truck storage in the building.

Station service included a painting of the exterior in 2019, and repair of generator platform, and fabrication of the generator protective cover. A 1000-gallon water tank will be used for emergency water in case of hurricane or other emergency.

## **Fleet**

This was an enormously productive year regarding fleet and operational growth. The continued work on the two DOF units is complete. The 2.5-ton unit was refitted and reconfigured as a brush/drafting unit, as well as a FEMA type 2 pumper.

The 5-ton brush/tender allows for a firefighting capability for the entire island. Both the 2.5 ton and 5-ton units will be able not only to function within the developed north end, but the south banks park land and private owned property.

The configuration of the trucks will also allow for the firefighting unit to be switched to any future 2.5- or 5-ton government vehicle. This vehicle will access any point on the island and bring a capable wildland and structural firefighting package along with it.



*Brush 191*



*Tender 191*

Both Forestry units will now provide a reliable structural firefighting response to our properties on the southern tip of the island.

Previously, the single forestry unit was unable to fulfill the task in structural firefighting in this remote area. The pumps, hose, self-contained breathing apparatus and equipment

carried on the units allow for the staff to execute structure firefighting operations in conjunction with the incoming marine units from neighboring departments.



*Fleet 2017*



*Fleet 2020*

The addition of an ambulance in 2019 marks a huge improvement in the district's ability to treat, protect, and provide secure medical care for our patients prior to transport to an appropriate emergency facility.



This unit is a 2003 Wheeled Coach type III and is a fully licensed ALS transport unit in partnership with Lee County EMS. The community investment, in partnership with the Friends of the Fire Department has made this leap in care a reality.

The unit also provides transport for incoming firefighters to a large

*Rescue 191*

incident, shelter and rehabilitation services for families and firefighters in case of a structure fire or other large incident.

## **Marine Operations**

Marine operations continue to be one of our leading calls for service in the district and surrounding waters. Upgrades to Marine 191 include software updates to the surface radar and GPS, as well as lighting and communication upgrades. Increased training for



*Marine 191*

staff quarterly has been introduced with favorable results in improving response time and mitigation of marine incidents. Integration with the Lee County Marine Emergency Response Team to update the equipment and tactics ensure that the Upper Captiva Fire & Rescue District provides rapid and professional service in the waters that surround our island, and anywhere we are summoned on the water.

## **Personnel**

The department has added a Chaplain to our ranks this year. Chaplain David Bolme has offered his services to the staff of the department as well as the community as a liaison and humanitarian representative for victims and families. He also oversees the construction and service of the department's web page.

Chaplain Bolme has coordinated with other local Chaplains to integrate into that community of providers in order to provide the most professional, and complete service possible.

The department has instituted an emergency call-back capability in which off duty staff are notified by cell phones that an incident is underway on the island. Twelve of the staff have agreed to respond, if available, to augment on shift crews to handle the incident.

Participation is voluntary and will provide additional ISO credit for responding personnel in accordance with the established formula that ISO uses to give credit for off duty, responding personnel.

## **Public Relations**

Several new initiatives were undertaken this year to communicate better with our community as well as visitors. Also, institution of a Facebook page, as well as a department web page have both proven useful in keeping our community informed of events and progress here at the district, especially through the COVID-19 state of emergency.

Inspections and site planning for our commercial community members were performed this year, ensuring the safety of our visitors and community. I am pleased to report that our relationships with the commercial partners on the island are strong and flourishing. We will continue to participate in island events and initiatives as the community works together on various projects.

## **Access Way Maintenance**

This department has been told many times this past year by our citizens that, the road conditions on the island have never been better. This infrastructure improvement is due to Commissioner LaVallie's leadership and his partners at Safety Harbor Club, MAJ Construction, North Captiva Island Club, Team Davenport and Loggerhead barging. The goal is to improve and assure that our means of access in the community are both better in quality, and resilience for our community.

Many take for granted the access ways that we use around the community. Our citizens and commercial partners, however, realize the vast improvement to our community with this infrastructure improvement.

## **Future Planning and Goals**

Overall, the progression this past year would be hard to beat. However, there are a few things that require our attention moving forward. All are feasible within the current millage rate.

My sincere hope is to have these larger projects completed this year and allow the district to settle into a state of equipped, professional service that has long been the goal of the community and department.

Technology improvements within the next two years will include:

- Electronic EMS reporting
- Electronic payroll and finance systems upgrade
- Administrative computer hardware and software upgrade

- Cardiac monitor upgrade to current series
- Thermal Imaging camera
- 5 gas monitoring capability
- Radio upgrade to P-25 Digital system

An update of policy and procedures was identified by the officer staff and is currently underway. This will provide an updated methodology on how operations and safety standards are carried out here at the district.

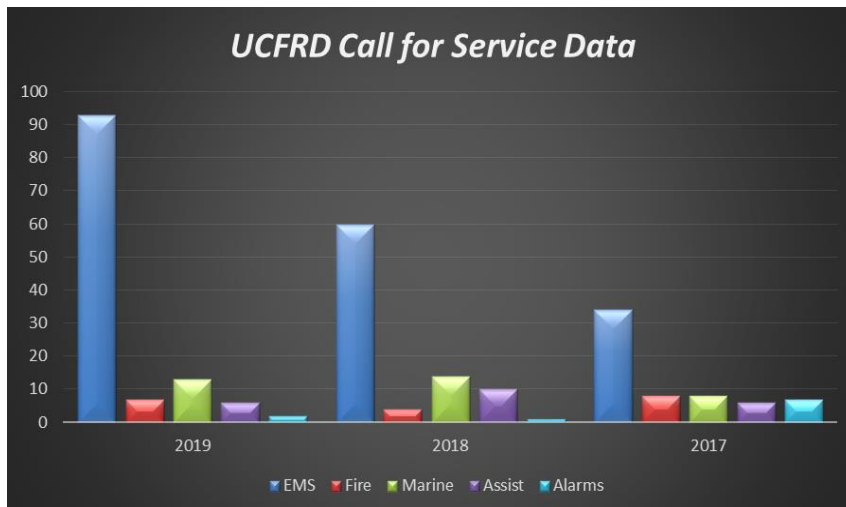
Finally, grant submission will be made with the federal government (AFG, or assistance to firefighters' grant), to supply all our staff with complete structural turnout gear.

Per NFPA standard 1851 regarding personal protective equipment, the individual issue of person protective equipment is the standard within the industry. Not only for fit, hygiene and optimum performance, but, in the event of a large incident, responding staff will have protective equipment in which to mitigate the incident.

The cost for this project within district makes such a goal exceedingly difficult without government support. This government program would require the district a 10-20% match on the overall cost of the project. With a 10-year service life of the equipment, this investment is well worth the benefit of having all staff equipped properly.

## Calls for Service

The district responded to 131 calls for service in the 2019 calendar year. While the majority consisted of EMS calls for service, the island sustained one structure fire with the loss of the entire structure. The balance of calls for service were marine related, or alarms for fire or odor investigations. All reporting data is made in compliance with NFIRS and NEMSIS at the federal state and local level.



Comparative data from previous years show the trend for increasing utilization of services provided by the department. A documentation adjustment was made as of September of 2018 to include all

EMS treatment events, not simply transports. As development continues to grow, the increase of calls for service appears to keep pace with the growth of the community.

## Conclusion

The year of 2019-20 is busy with staffing and equipment upgrades. The result is a more capable, flexible and prepared department with which to provide Fire, EMS, and Marine response service to our community and those areas that surround us. I am confident that we are well prepared to handle calls for our services within and around our community.





## **Boundaries and Legal Descriptions**

North Captiva Island: All that part of North Captiva Island lying in Sections 4, 5, 8, 9, 15, and 16, Township 45 South, range 21 east, and Section 32, Township 44 South, Range 21 East, bounded on the North by Captiva Pass, West by Gulf of Mexico, South by Redfish Pass, West by Gulf of Mexico, South by Redfish pass, and East by Pine Island Sound.

The legal descriptions of the two properties owned by the district are:

4511 Hodgepodge Lane  
STRAP #05-45-21-10-00000.0010  
FR CONC MAR ON SL GL 1  
226 FT M/L E OF HIGH TIDE  
AS DESC IN OR 1088 PG445

4521 Hodgepodge Lane  
STRAP #05-45-21-10-00000.0020  
FR CON MAR ON SL GL 1  
226 FT M/L E OF HIGH TIDE  
AS DESC IN OR 1226 PG 903

## **Major Equipment**

### **Engine 191**

1995 Pierce Dash Pumper  
750-gallon water tank  
1250 GPM Waterous pump  
Engine –Detroit Diesel  
Transmission - Allison  
Weight - 38,000 lbs.  
Length: 29 feet x Width 9.5 feet x Height 9’ 10”

### **Engine 192**

2001 General Fire Apparatus Pumper  
750 Gallon Water Tank  
1250 GPM Waterous pump  
Engine - Cummins  
Transmission- Allison  
Weight - 36,000 lbs.  
Length 27 feet x Width 9.5 feet x Height 9’ 11”

### **Rescue 191**

2003 Ford Econoline/Wheeled Coach Ambulance  
Engine - 7.3-liter Diesel  
Transmission- automatic  
Weight - 18,000 lbs.  
Length - 21 feet x Width 8.4 feet x Height 9’11”

### **Utility 191**

2006 Ford E 350 4x4  
Engine 6.0 L Power Stroke Diesel  
Transmission- Automatic  
Weight: 14,500 lbs.  
Length - 20.2 feet x Width 8.4 feet x Height 8.9 feet

## **Brush 191**

1996 Stewart & Stevenson LMTV 2.5-ton 4x4  
750 - gallon water tank  
750 GPM Waterous pump  
Engine - 7.2 L CAT  
Transmission - Allison  
Length - 22.2 feet x Width 10 feet x Height 9.5 feet

## **Tender 191**

1996 Stewart & Stevenson LMTV 5-ton 4x4  
1650-gallon water tank  
350 GPM Hale pump  
Engine 7.2L CAT  
Transmission - Allison  
Length - 28 feet x Width 10 feet Height 9.5 feet

## **Marine 191-Fire & Rescue Response Unit**

2003 Contender  
28 foot in length  
Engines - Twin 225 hp Mercury Optimax  
Weight - 4,800 lbs.  
Length - 28 feet x 8.85 feet x draft- 1.5 feet  
Hale 350 GPM water pump

## **Marine 192- Crew transport unit**

1999 Aquasport Explorer  
Length- 24 feet x Beam 8.5 feet x draft 1.4 feet  
Engine - 2017 Suzuki 225

## **Utility ATV**

2017 Polaris

Engine - 4 stroke 760cc

Transmission - Automatic

Weight 1550 lbs.

Length - 114 inches x width 60 inches x height 76 inches

## **Pump 191**

Portable 750 GPM Waterous pump

Engine - 2012 Kubota 99 hp Diesel

Unit on aluminum trailer for drafting operations