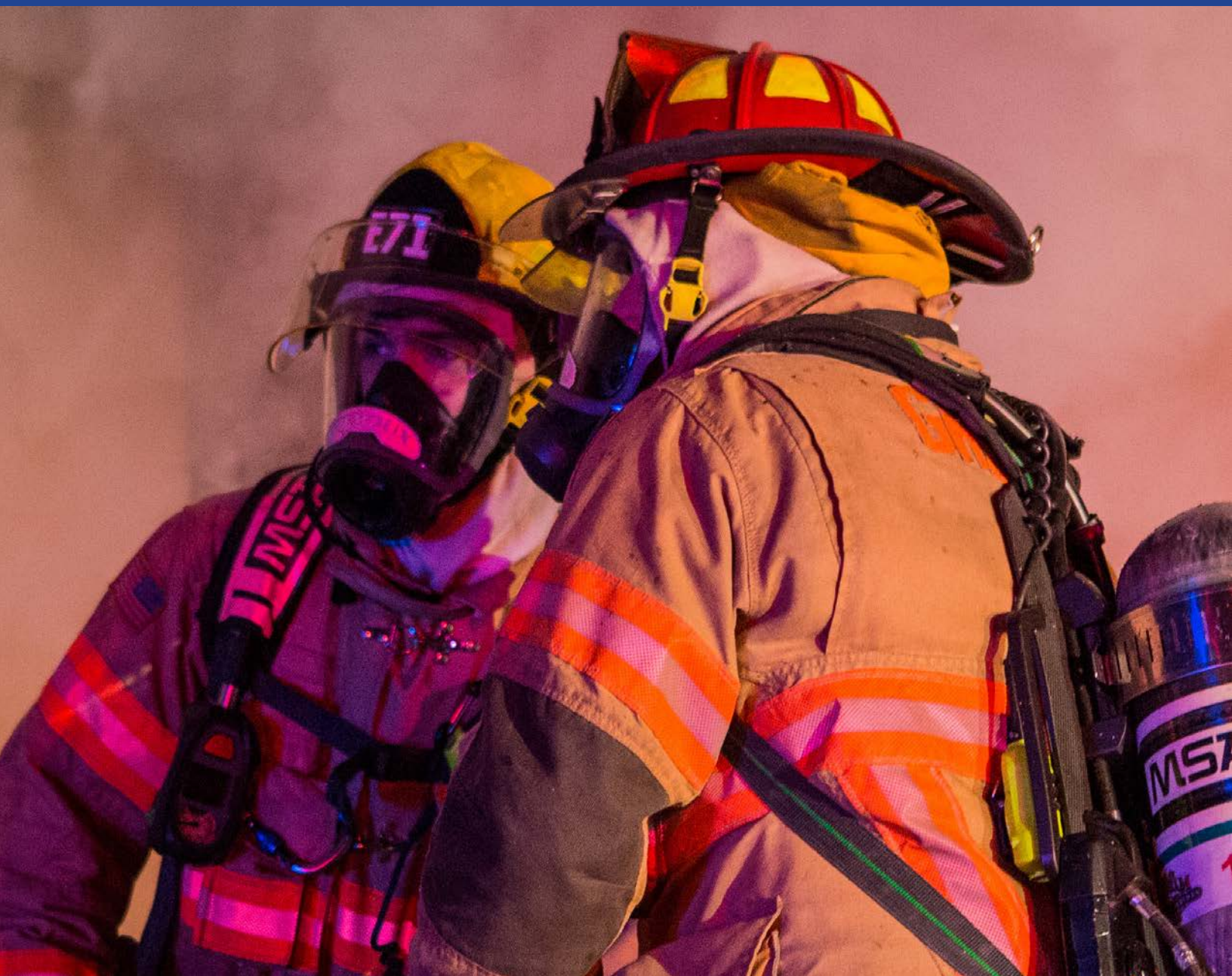
CITY OF GRESHAM

Fire Department 2018 Annual Report



Acknowledgments

Gresham Fire and Emergency Services would like to thank the following teams and individuals who came together to tell the story of how we provide services to this community:

- **Division Chief Scott Lewis, for writing and content details.**
- **Battalion Chief Eric Lofgren, for coordinating content.**
- **Management Analyst Frank Ray and Captain Jay Cross, for the data.**
- **All the program managers and station captains—we couldn't tell this story without your help.**
- **Greg Muhr, for the amazing photos.**
- **The City Communications team (Christine Blystone, Jill Bradley, Elizabeth Coffey, Robin Franzen-Parker, Linda Kidby, Sasha Konell, Alex Logue and Sarah Perez)—This document would not exist without their professionalism and hard work.**

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Introductions

Message from the City Manager

Erik Kvarsten, Gresham City Manager

Firefighting is one of the oldest examples of the power of communities banding together and trusting in government to provide an essential service. It is hard to imagine now, but in America's early years, settlers paid fire insurance to private fire companies. Settlers without insurance would be forced to try to put out the fire to their home or business themselves—or to stand by and watch it burn. In the 1679, the first U.S. publicly funded, paid fire department was established.

Today, Gresham Fire and Emergency Services not only puts out fires, but prevents them, saves lives with emergency medical care, assists residents with chronic health issues, and demonstrates the Gresham core value of going beyond in service to our community.

I'm continually impressed by the dedication our firefighters show to this community they serve. Recently, a few of our firefighters received national news coverage when they answered a call for help from a gentleman who passed out while mowing the lawn. After treating him and sending him to the hospital for observation, our crew finished the job for him. This is only one of the many stories I hear all the time. From the firefighters banding together to create a community assistance program that provides gift cards to residents in need to a crew that finished re-roofing a house for an elderly gentleman—these dedicated men and woman are inspiring.

Gresham Fire also continues to innovate their service delivery to adapt the changing needs of our community. Their CARES program is a partnership with OHSU and allows nursing students to address chronic health needs of frequent 911 callers, with the goal of providing these residents the proper care they need and reducing the burden on our 911 system. In addition, the Quick Response Vehicle program deploys a more lightweight SUV to medical emergency calls where a large engine is not needed, providing a more effective and efficient response.

As I reflect on the past year of service, I'm reminded of Woodrow Wilson's words, "You are not here merely to make a living. You are here in order to enable the world to live more amply, with greater vision, with a finer spirit of hope and achievement. You are here to enrich the world."

My sincere gratitude to Gresham Fire and Emergency Services for all that you do to enrich our world every day.

Message from the Fire Chief

Mitch Snyder, Gresham Fire and Emergency Services Chief

Since my arrival in early January of 2019, I have spent many hours listening and learning about the history of the City of Gresham, Gresham Fire and Emergency Services (GFES), and more importantly, what is needed to improve the value and services delivered by the fire department to those in our communities.

During an encounter with a City Council member, I stated that I wanted to better understand the expectations the City Council has of their fire department. The response was a simple one-sentence statement: "When someone in need calls 911, we want the fire department to show up." I immediately wondered if the general public was aware of everything that is required to make the Councilor's simple statement a reality.

This 2018 annual report is in response to the Council member's statement and describes what is required to ensure that all 911 requests are professionally addressed. My hope is that as you read through this document you will gain an understanding of the extreme amount of work that goes on behind the scenes from all your Gresham Fire Department members. This work ensures that when someone in need calls 911, professional members of your fire department not only show up but do so in a timely manner with state-of-the-art equipment and react in a way that makes a difference in the lives of you and your loved ones.

Thank you to each member of Gresham Fire and Emergency Services for going beyond in taking care of everyone in our communities. Thank you to the City leaders that work tirelessly to ensure that the fire department's services are properly funded. Lastly, though certainly not least, thank you to all the members of our service communities that consistently demonstrate their support of this great fire department. We are sincerely appreciative of the kind words and letters that we so frequently receive.

With a heartfelt thank you to all, here is your Gresham Fire and Emergency Services Department!

Mission – Vision – Values – Goals

The Mission, Vision, Values, and Goals are the principles that guide decision-making and provide direction for all personnel at all levels of the department.

Our Mission: **The mission of Gresham Fire and Emergency Services is to protect lives, property and the environment.**

Our Vision: **Gresham Fire and Emergency Services is an organization that is responsive to its internal and external customers. We have a service and leadership orientation that serves our employees and the community. We will effectively manage our requests for assistance and properly mitigate our customer's problems.**

Our Values: **Gresham Fire and Emergency Services focuses on Quality, Integrity, and Respect.**

Our Goals: **FES will work effectively with the community and our regional partners to:**

- **Protect the health and safety of our customers and ourselves.**
- **Provide the highest quality service possible within resource constraints.**
- **Be responsive to the needs of our customers.**
- **Use resources effectively and efficiently.**

Moving Forward

We are actively working together to develop an updated Mission – Vision – Values – Goals statement that aligns with our commitment to our community and includes values like:

- **Teamwork**
- **Leadership**
- **Respect**
- **Safety**
- **Integrity**
- **Compassion**

CITY OF GRESHAM

MEET THE COUNCIL

Shane Bemis

MAYOR

Jerry Hinton

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

David Widmark

COUNCILOR

Eddy Morales

COUNCILOR

Janine Gladfelter

COUNCILOR

Karylinn Echols

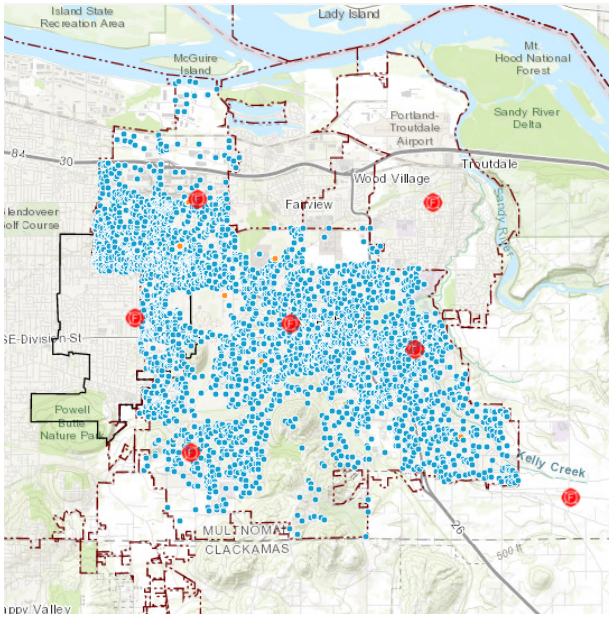
COUNCILOR

Mario Palmero

COUNCILOR

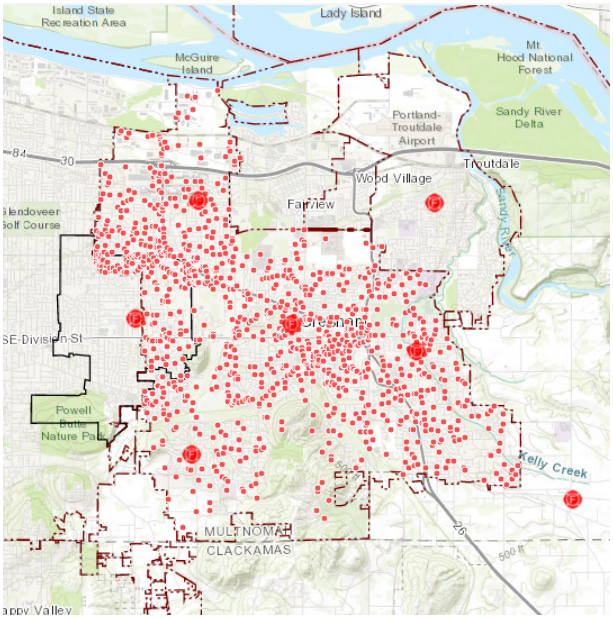
Gresham

Gresham - Medical Incidents 2018



10,639 Incidents

Gresham - Non Medical Incidents 2018



1,595 Incidents

Photo courtesy of Greg Muhr

CITY OF FAIRVIEW

MEET THE COUNCIL

Brian Cooper

MAYOR

Natalie Voruz

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Balwant Bhullar

COUNCILOR

Cathi Forsythe

COUNCILOR

Darren Riordan

COUNCILOR

Keith Kudrna

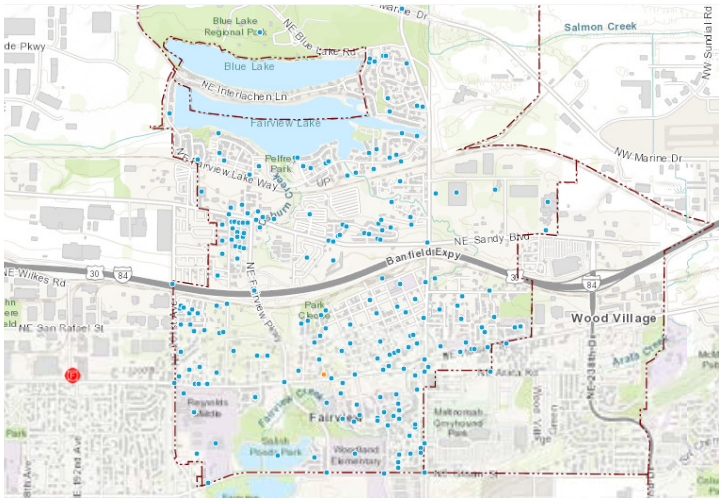
COUNCILOR

Mike Weatherby

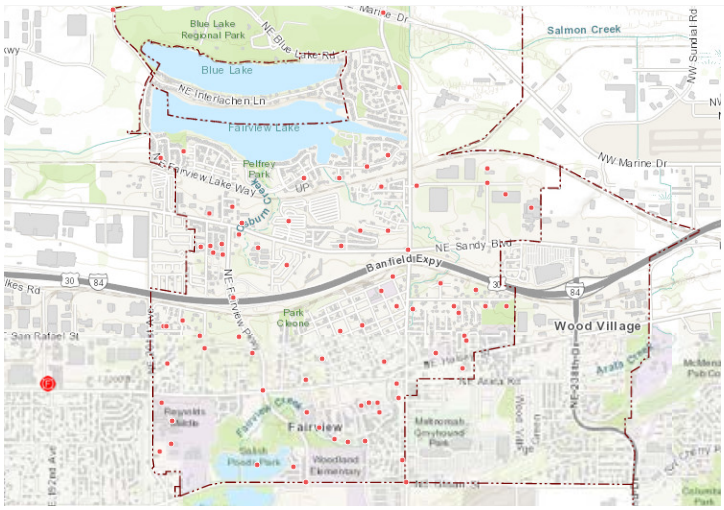
COUNCILOR

Fairview

Fairview - Medical Incidents 2018



Fairview - Non Medical Incidents 2018



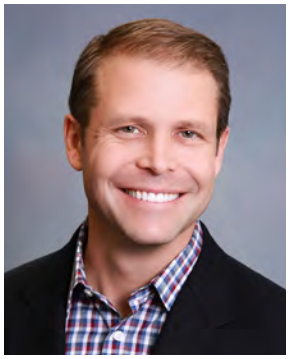
552 Incidents

118 Incidents

Photo courtesy of Greg Muhr

CITY OF TROUTDALE

MEET THE COUNCIL



Casey Ryan

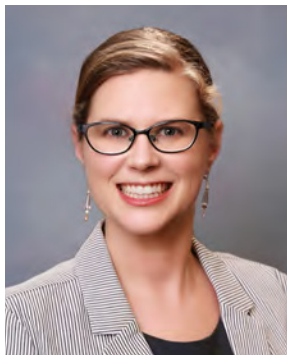
MAYOR

David Ripma

COUNCILOR

Glenn White

COUNCILOR

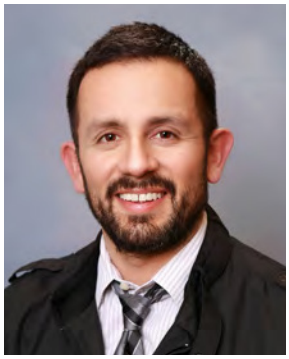


Jamie Kranz

COUNCILOR

Nick Moon

COUNCILOR



Randy Lauer

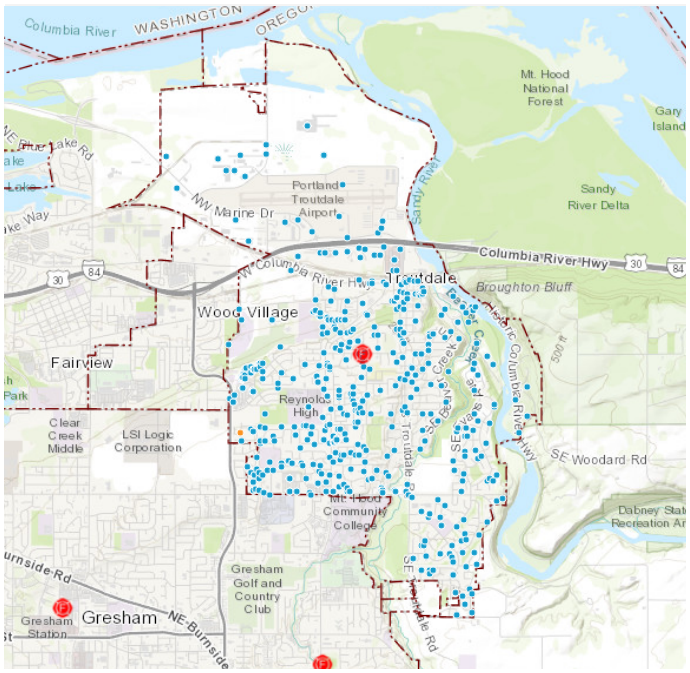
COUNCILOR

Zach Hudson

COUNCILOR

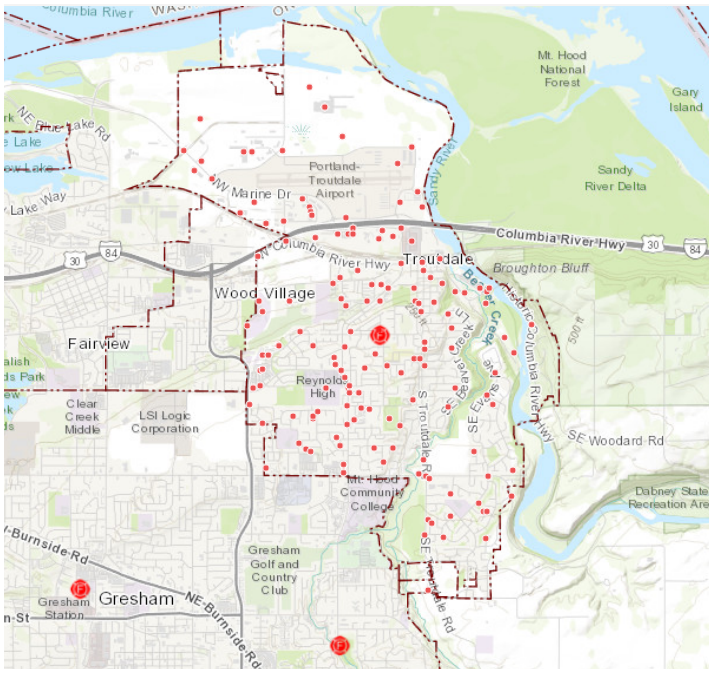
Troutdale

Troutdale - Medical Incidents 2018



1,021 Incidents

Troutdale - Non Medical Incidents 2018



214 Incidents

Photo courtesy of Greg Muhr

CITY OF WOOD VILLAGE

MEET THE COUNCIL

Scott Harden

MAYOR

Patricia Smith

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Brian Loy

COUNCILOR

Bruce Nissen

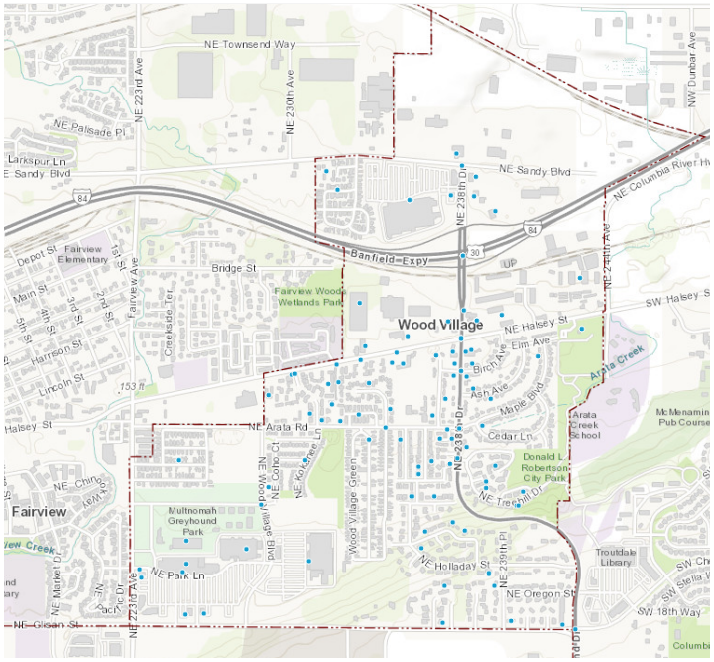
COUNCILOR

John Minor

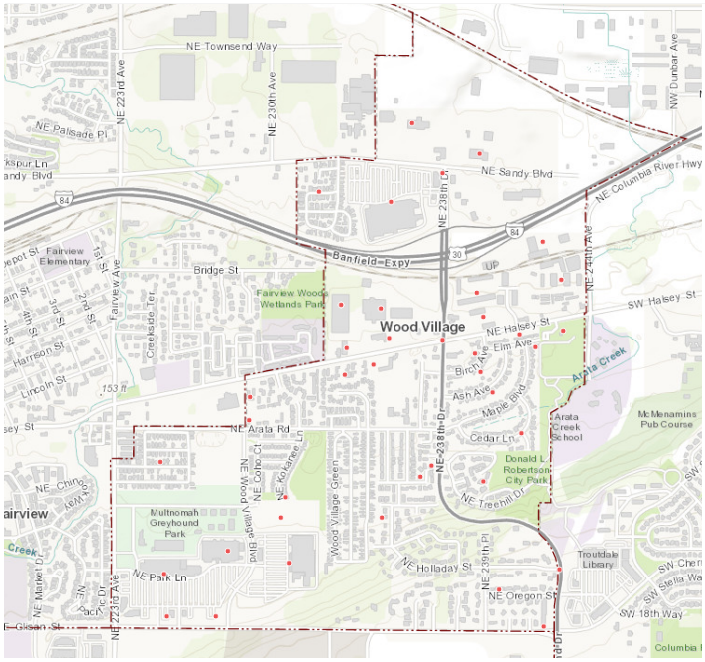
COUNCILOR

Wood Village

Wood Village - Medical Incidents 2018



Wood Village - Non Medical Incidents 2018



330 Incidents

55 Incidents

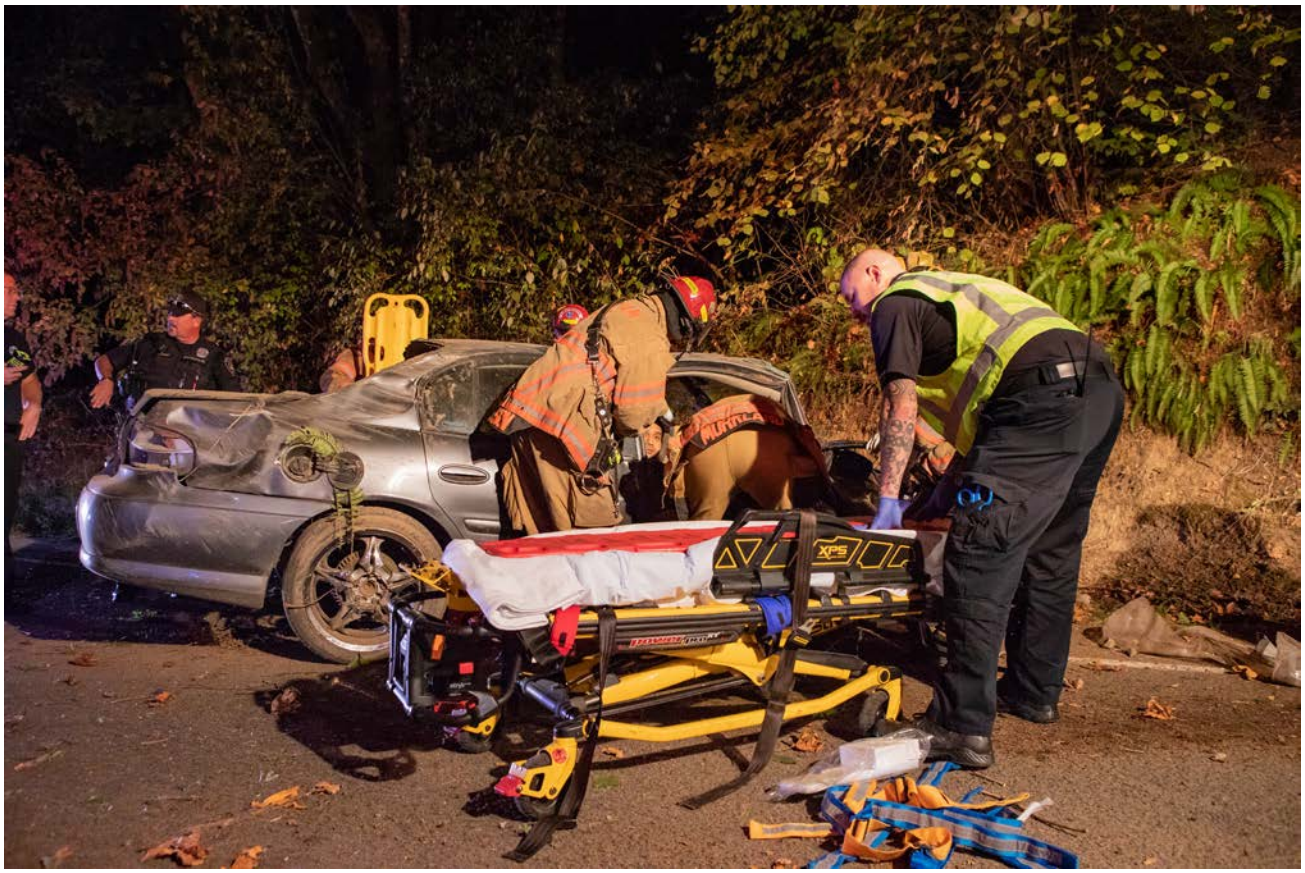


Photo courtesy of Greg Muhr

DISTRICT 10

MEET THE BOARD

Michael McKeel

BOARD CHAIR

Dave Keller

BOARD VICE-CHAIR

Charles Ciecko

BOARD SECRETARY

Robert Battles

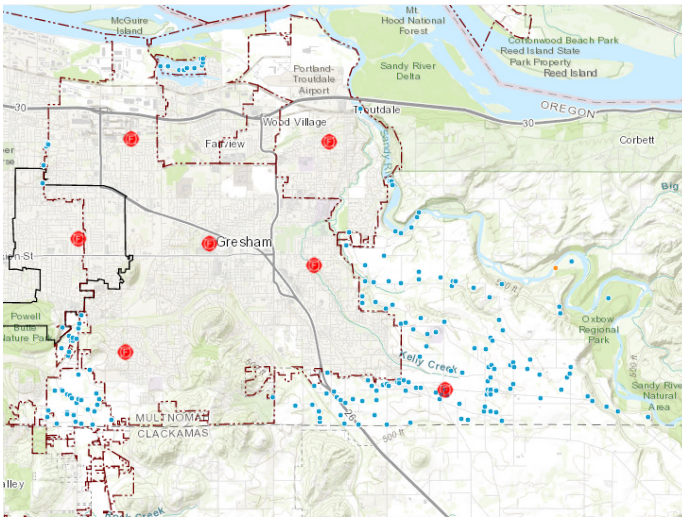
DIRECTOR

Dave Persons

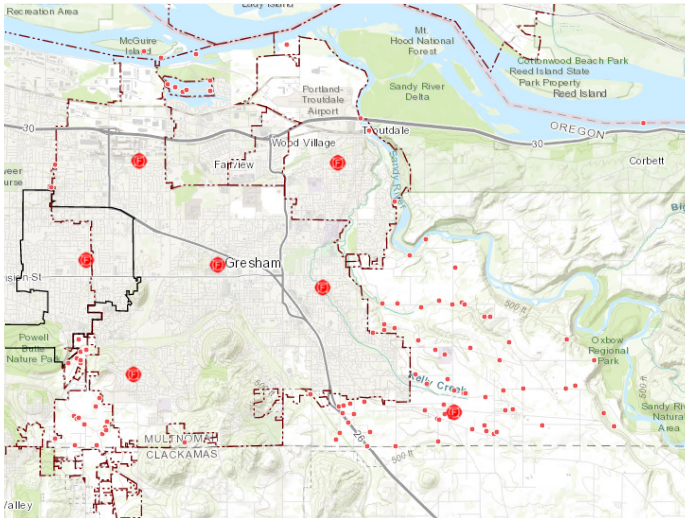
DIRECTOR

District 10

District 10 - Medical Incidents 2018



District 10 - Non Medical Incidents 2018



336 Incidents

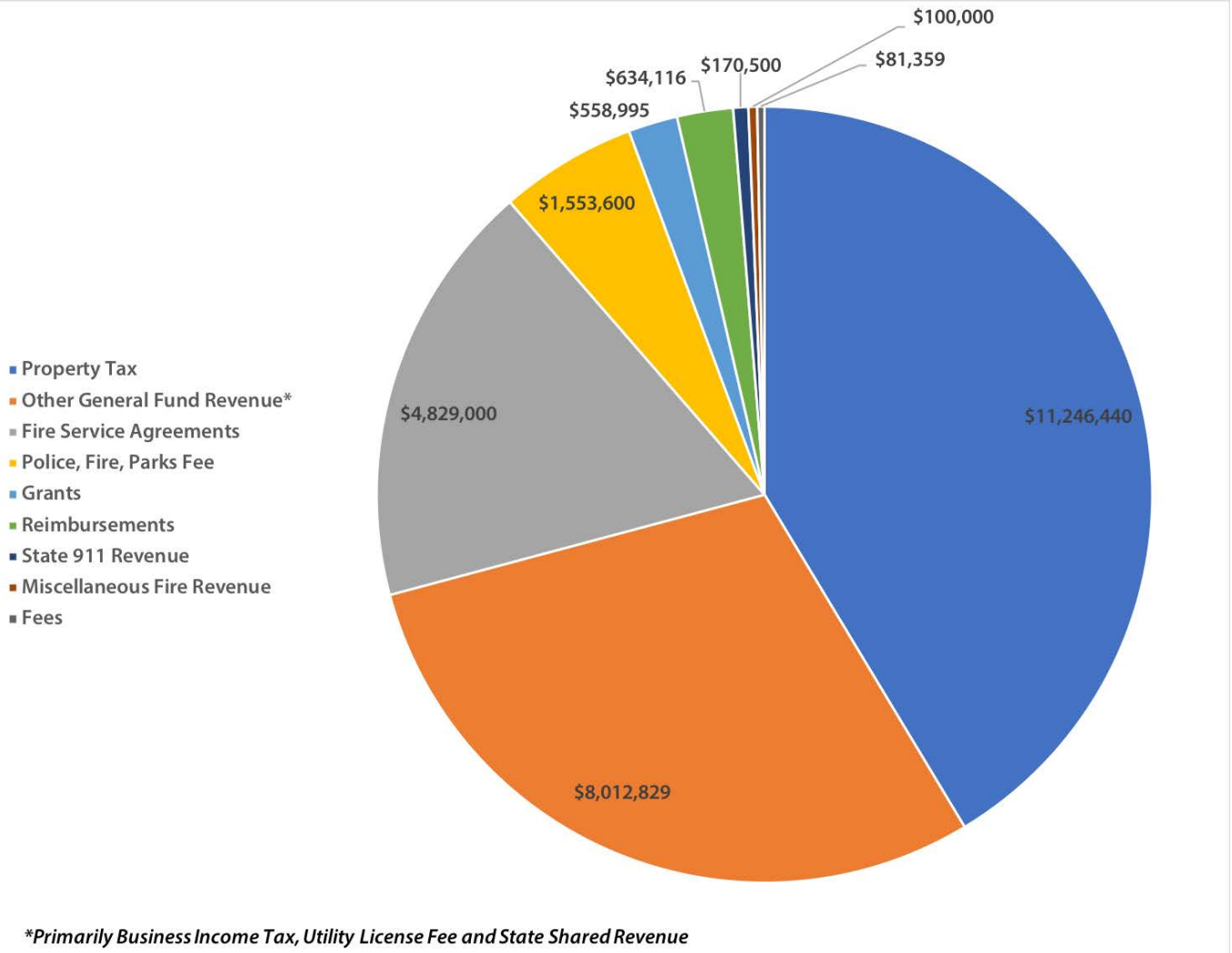
150 Incidents

Photo courtesy of Greg Muhr

Gresham Fire Budget Overview

Fire Department Budget Overview

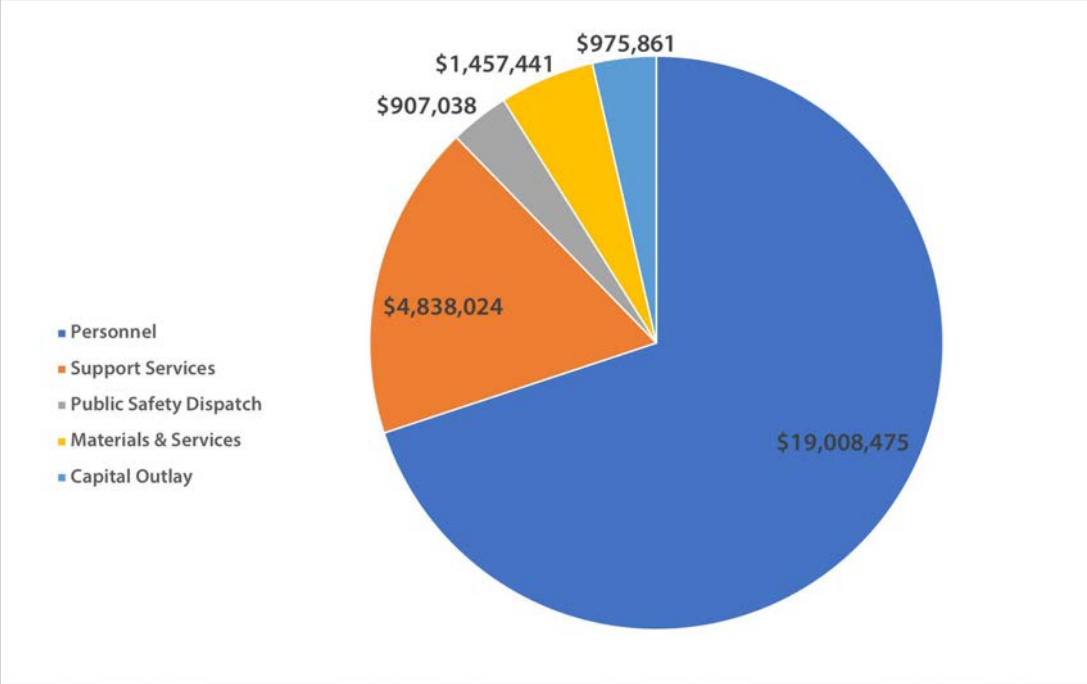
Gresham Fire & Emergency Services
FY 2018/19 Sources of Funding



**Primarily Business Income Tax, Utility License Fee and State Shared Revenue*

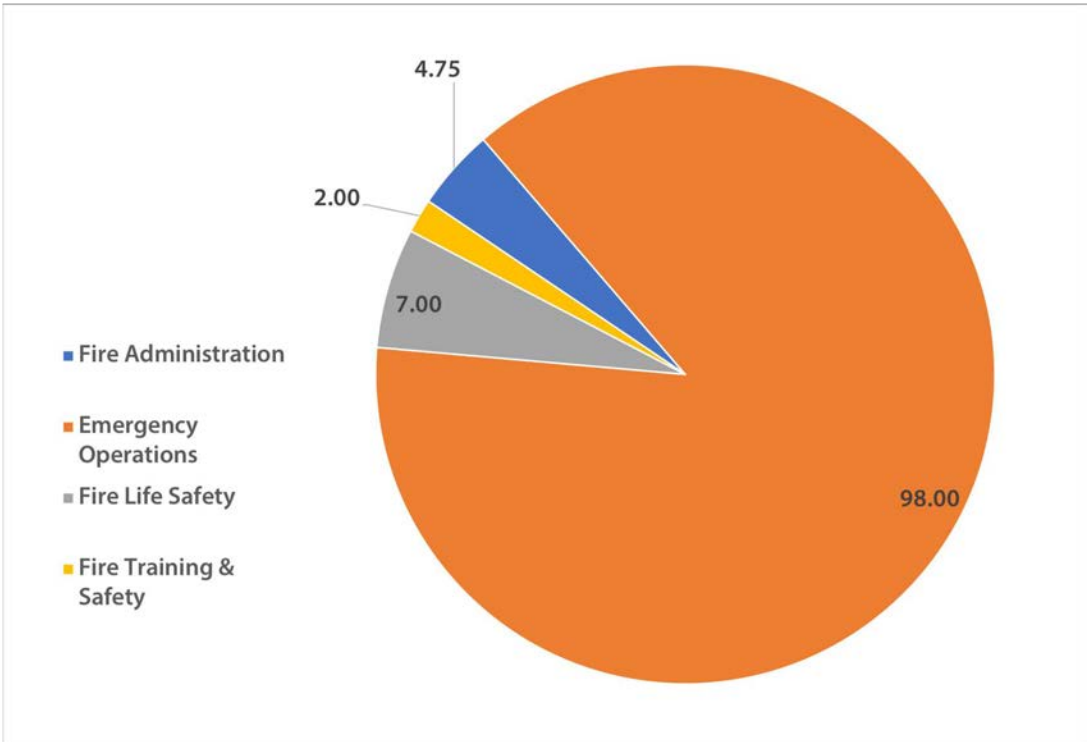
Total: $27,186,839

Gresham Fire & Emergency Services
Budgeted Expenditures 2018/19

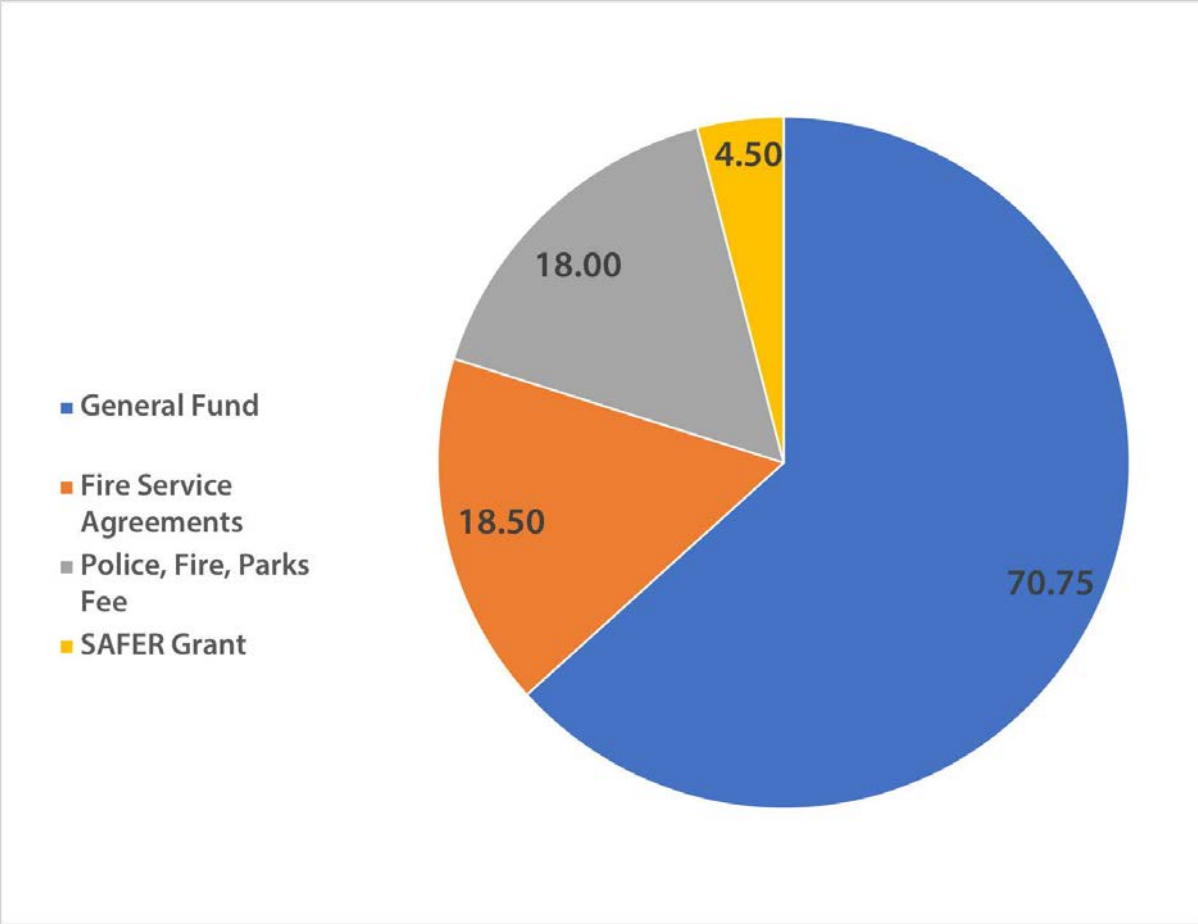


Total: $27,186,839

Gresham Fire & Emergency Services
FY 2018/19 Personnel by Division



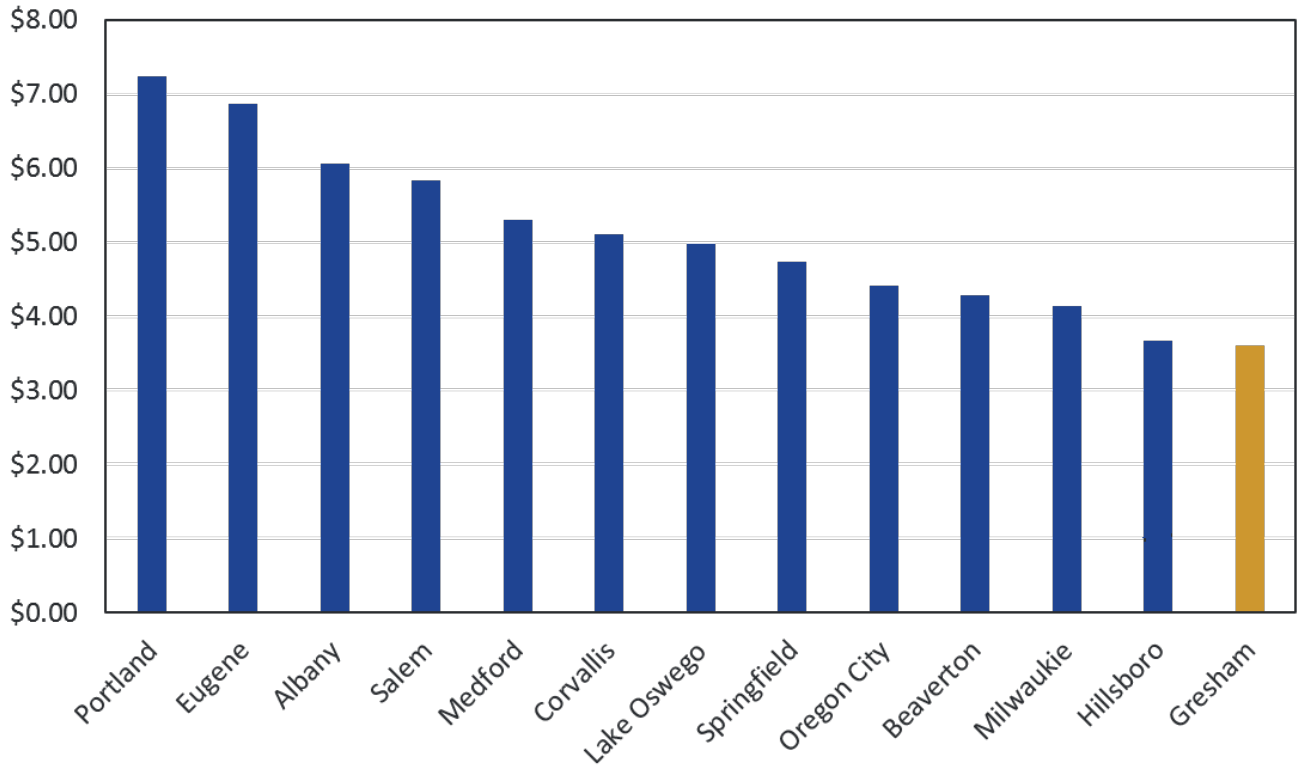
Gresham Fire & Emergency Services
FY 2018/19 Personnel by Division



Fire Department Budget by Fund

Fund	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019
General Fund	18,424,031	19,491,739	21,526,373	22,933,014
Police/Fire/Parks Fund	2,264,972	2,460,692	2,534,396	2,608,398
Facility Fund	193,500	193,500	193,500	208,740
Designated Purpose Fund	342,334	488,279	122,101	695,326
Equipment Replacement Fund	500,471	929,536	486,747	741,361
	21,725,308	23,563,746	24,863,117	27,186,839
Support Services	3,712,416	4,145,257	4,471,822	4,838,024
Minus Support	18,012,892	19,418,489	20,391,295	22,348,815

Property Tax Rate Comparison



Gresham is significantly constrained by a property tax system that limits revenues to an arbitrary and inequitable permanent rate, as well as the artificial assessed value of our properties. This chart shows how differing property tax rates result in different taxes collected by cities throughout Oregon. It illustrates how disproportionately Gresham is affected by this system, requiring us to develop creative solutions to deliver outstanding public service to our residents.