

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE February 12, 2024

Honorable Members of the Public Safety Committee

TO Cara Mendelsohn (Chair), Kathy Stewart (Vice Chair), Tennell Atkins, Jesse Moreno
Gay Donnell Willis

SUBJECT **Dallas Fire-Rescue Fleet Maintenance Update**

Dallas Fire-Rescue (DFR), to provide excellent service delivery to the residents of the City of Dallas, strives to maintain adequate resources to allow for efficient and effective emergency response. Please accept this memorandum as an update to the status of the DFR emergency fleet.

The status of emergency apparatus, as of February 6th, 2024, is as follows:

| UNIT | OPTIMAL | CURRENT | SQUAD*** | RESERVE | REPAIR* | ON ORDER** |
|--------|---------|---------|----------|---------|---------|------------|
| ENGINE | 58 | 58 | 0 | 1 | 22 | 4 |
| TRUCK | 23 | 23 | 0 | 1 | 14 | 2 |
| RESCUE | 47 | 46 | 1 | 0 | 28 | 29 |

**Repairs are apparatus currently out of service and being repaired*

***Orders are apparatus expected to be delivered by end of CY23*

****Squads are only in service when Engines or Trucks are out of service*

As requested, the following table illustrates the emergency response apparatus removed from service due to catastrophic loss (i.e., accidents) since FY21:

| UNIT | FY21 | FY22 | FY23 | TOTAL |
|---------|------|------|------|-------|
| ENGINE | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| TRUCK | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| RESCUE | 2 | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| BLOCKER | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |

DFR anticipates improvements to the status of its reserve fleet due to new fleet additions and completion of needed repairs and major prevention maintenance. During December 2023, one of DFR's new engines sustained significant damage while positioned to block traffic on a major residential thoroughfare. The damaged unit has been scheduled for repair. Five (5) recently delivered new engines have been deployed and are in service.

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To address potential apparatus shortages and minimize negative effects on departmental operations, DFR has developed and deployed various strategies, including the utilization of a rental agreement, the Squad and Medic Squad Programs, and the Blocker Program.

DFR's fleet maintenance program has evolved to include a more aggressive and comprehensive preventative maintenance (PM) plan for all apparatus. To address staffing concerns, DFR has strengthened its mechanic technician recruitment and retention through expanded recruitment sources and partnerships, improved salary scales, improved training, and a robust succession plan. Additionally, DFR has partnered with the Performance, Strategy, and Innovation Department to implement 5 key initiatives outlined from an extensive visioning exercise. The first initiative will focus on retention of mechanic technicians within the DFR Fleet Maintenance Shop.

DFR anticipates that through the above plans and programs, any negative operational effects from fleet shortages will be avoided. It is our expectation that the resulting improved operational, training, and staffing plans will aid in further protecting the status of our emergency fleet for years to come.

Should you have questions, or need additional information, please contact Fire Chief Dominique Artis at Dominique.artis@dallasfire.gov.



Jon Fortune
Deputy City Manager

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Tammy Palomino, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizzor Tolbert, Deputy City Manager

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M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager
Dr. Robert Perez, Assistant City Manager
Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer
Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Directors and Assistant Directors