

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE May 13, 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 April 30, 2024, is as follows:

UNIT	OPTIMAL	CURRENT	SQUAD***	RESERVE	REPAIR*	ON ORDER**
ENGINE	58	58	0	3	18	4
TRUCK	23	23	0	2	12	1
RESCUE	47	47	0	3	20	25

**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	FY24	TOTAL
ENGINE	2	1	1	0	4
TRUCK	1	0	0	0	1
RESCUE	2	0	1	0	3
BLOCKER	0	0	1	0	1

Reserve unit repairs in each of our three major categories are ongoing and DFR anticipates its reserve fleet to improve due to new fleet additions and completion of needed repairs and major preventive maintenance. To address potential apparatus shortages and minimize negative effects on departmental operations, DFR has developed and deployed various strategies, including the utilization of an emergency fleet rental agreement, the Squad Program, and the Blocker Program. In anticipation of upcoming warmer temperatures, DFR will undertake a fleetwide air conditioning systems check. The

DATE May 13, 2024
SUBJECT **Dallas Fire-Rescue Fleet Maintenance Update**
PAGE **2 of 2**

department will also be taking delivery of 6 new Wildland vehicles by June. Coupled with a comprehensive preventive maintenance check of DFR's brush trucks and other wildland resources, the department is leaning forward to address the threat of urban and wildland interface fires.

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: Kimberly Bizzor Tolbert, City Manager (I)
Tammy Palomino, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Billierae Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager

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