

Fire Department FY 27 Proposed Budget Overview

Budget Hearing
August 11, 2026

CITY OF
LONG BEACH



Key Services: Frontline Resources

General Fund Services

18
Fire
Stations

- 4** Fire Trucks
- 7** Fire Engines
- 9** Paramedic Assessment Fire Engines
- 10** Paramedic Ambulances
- 1** Peak Load Paramedic Ambulance
- 5** Basic Life Support Ambulances

Tidelands Fund Group Services

8
Lifeguard
Facilities

- 22** Lifeguard Towers
- 6** Fire and Rescue Boats



Contractual and MOU Services

Port MOU

- 4** Fire Stations
- 4** Paramedic Assessment Fire Engines
- 2** Fire Boats

Airport MOU

- 1** Fire Station
- 3** Airport Fire Apparatus

UCLA Contract

- 1** Mobile Stroke Ambulance

Key Services



67,203 911 calls for service received
by the Fire Department in FY 25



85%
EMS emergencies
57,123 total calls



11%
Fire emergencies
7,392 total calls



4%
Public Assistance
2,688 total calls



2,260
Structure or outdoor
fires mitigated by LBFD
engines and trucks



19,450
Patients transported
by Advanced Life
Support paramedic
ambulance units



11,893
Patients transported
by Basic Life Support
ambulance units

Frontline Service Accomplishments

- LBFD successfully contained **81% of structure fires** to the room of origin, demonstrating effective emergency response and limiting fire damage to homes and businesses.
- The Arson team secured multiple successful arson convictions and recently arrested **7 serial arsonists** responsible for more than 50 fires.
- Successfully expanded EMS response capabilities through strategic deployment enhancements, including full-time Rescue 2, daily Peak Load Rescue 13, and PAU Engine 11. This **reduced Out-of-Rescue events from 152 to 31** and improving emergency service availability for the community.

Accomplishments



Investing in the City's Future Workforce

- Engaged nearly **1,000 youth** through the 2026 Darren Rockett Academy, the Jordan High School LEAPS Program, and the Junior Lifeguard program.
- Launched the **inaugural Fire Corps cohort**, a 400-hour paid internship opportunity exposing young adults to the fire service.
- **2026A Fire Recruit Class Composition**
 - **20 of 24** selected candidates have participated in LBFD pathway programs, have Long Beach education or residency.
 - **Selected 5 women candidates**, representing the highest levels of fire recruit gender diversity in LBFD's history.
 - 2026A will start on **August 24**



Accomplishments

✱ In November 2025, the Fire Department launched its partnership with the **Trauma Intervention Program of Long Beach (TIP)** and is in stabilized operation in partnership with community volunteers.

✱ The **Support Services Bureau** in collaboration with TID is replacing 86 Electronic Patient Care Reporting iPads, which are used 24/7 by personnel during 911 emergency medical call response.

✱ The **Business Operations Bureau** conducted an overhaul of LBFD's general ledger accounts impacting \$120M of its annual expense budget. This reorganization improves financial transparency, reporting accuracy, strengthens Department accountability, and supports more effective long-term budgeting and decision-making.

✱ In FY 25, the **Fire Prevention Bureau** completed 8,450 inspections out of a total of 8,788 State-mandated inspections reflecting a **97 percent compliance rate**. The Bureau also completed 162 school inspections meeting **100 percent compliance**.



FY 27 Budget Summary and Approach

Budget Summary

General Fund Revenues:	\$43.5M
General Fund Expenditures:	\$161.5M
Fire Sworn FTEs:	381.6 FTEs
Professional Staff FTEs:	85.97 FTEs

Tidelands Fund Groups Revenues:	\$23.1M
Tidelands Fund Groups Expenditures:	\$36.9M
Marine Safety FTEs:	53.13 FTEs
Fire Sworn FTEs:	3.7 FTEs
Professional Staff FTEs:	1.5 FTEs

CUPA Fund Revenues:	\$1.0M
CUPA Fund Expenditures:	\$1.6M
Professional Staff FTEs:	6.25 FTEs

Police and Fire Public Safety:	
Oil Production Act Expenditures:	\$1.3M
Department FTEs:	0 FTEs

Budget Reduction Strategy



FY 27 Proposed Budget Changes and Reductions



Frontline Service Changes and Reductions

- **Allocation of \$2.17M** of Measure A funding to convert Engine 17 from an overtime model to add 12 permanently assigned fire FTEs
- **Reduce \$3.88M** through elimination of Fire Engine 14 resulting in a reduction of 12 fire sworn FTEs
- **Reduce \$3.82M** through elimination of a fire engine and rotating the closure through permanent rolling blackouts throughout the City resulting in a reduction of 12 fire sworn FTEs*
- **Reduce \$753,985** by converting a fire engine to an overtime model resulting in 12 fire sworn position reductions and creation of 1,406 overtime shifts to be filled in FY 27

**The Mayor's Recommendations includes the restorations of the 12 FTEs*

FY 27 Proposed Budget Changes and Reductions

Elimination of Professional Staff Positions: \$448,540 Reduction

- Eliminate 4.5 professional staff clerical FTEs assigned to the Fire Department's front desk, accounting, and recruitment teams.

Eliminate Administrative Fire Sworn Positions: \$1.94M Reduction

- Eliminate five administrative fire sworn positions assigned to recruitment, community services, in-service training, Los Angeles Joint Regional Intelligence Center, and administrative Battalion Chief duties.

Transfer \$729,991 in fire sworn personnel costs to the City Manager's SAP Fund via a Dedicated Support MOU

- Transfer the costs of one Fire Captain and one Firefighter Paramedic to the Office of Special Events and filming partially funded by SAP fund billables and permit revenue.



FY 27 Proposed Budget Changes and Reductions

Reallocate \$558,634 for Unfunded Organizational Needs

- Reallocate funding from eliminated positions for equipment maintenance overtime, attorney investigation expenses, replacement of obsolete fleet modem equipment, and 0.80 of an FTE to backfill duties performed by eliminated administrative sworn positions

Enhance General Fund Revenue by \$3.06M

- Align ambulance transport fees with LA County's revised fee schedule resulting in \$323,786 in additional General Fund Revenue
- Increase the Port MOU by \$2.7M gaining closer cost recovery for the Fire Suppression Port MOU*

**Mayor's Recommendations request to close the remaining gap of \$5.9 million.*

Elevated Negotiations with the Port Enhanced Cost Recovery by \$5.9M

- Enhanced and elevated negotiations with the Port of Long Beach will result in anticipated full cost recovery for LBFD's 63 FTEs and staffing of four fire stations housed in the Port of Long Beach complex. This increases the Fire Department's cost recovery from \$22 million in FY 26 to \$30 million in FY 27 for the Port and LBFD Fire Suppression MOU.

Mayor's Recommended Restorations to the Fire Department

- Utilize the enhanced cost recovery from the Port and LBFD Fire Suppression MOU to restore the proposed second engine closure that would have resulted in permanent rolling blackouts across six General Fund fire stations. This proposal also restores 12 fire sworn FTEs.

Anticipated Service Impacts



LBFD Field Impacts

- One fire engine reduction will redistribute approximately 2,200 incident responses to remaining engines
- 1,406 annual overtime shifts will be created by converting a fire engine to an overtime model
- Fewer apparatus and fire sworn staff will be available for community engagement events to maintain in-service units for 911 response



LBFD Organizational Impacts

- Less clerical support staff
- The Fire Headquarters' front desk will no longer be staffed and will transition to a remote receptionist system
- Reduced sworn administrative staff will limit capacity for emergency preparedness, policy review, and innovation initiatives



Community Impacts

- The number of deployable fire engines are proposed to be reduced, limiting available for fire and rescue units for emergencies
- There are no anticipated service changes to EMS ambulance response as these services have been preserved
- No General Fund fire stations will close in FY 27

Fire Engine 14 Overview

Overview of Engine 14's Call Load

- While Fire Station 14 was under construction in 2023 - 2025, Engine 14 was temporarily assigned to Fire Station 1 serving downtown Long Beach. Neighboring engines provide uninterrupted emergency response.
- Fire Engine 14 averages approximately 2,000 emergency medical service calls 200 fire-related calls annually. EMS calls represent 87% of call load volume.
- Fire engines in more centrally located areas of the City respond to over 6,000 911 calls and incidents per year.

LBFD Organizational Impacts

- Engine 14 is surrounded by Engine 8, Engine 4, and Engine 22, which can accommodate existing 911 call volume.
- LBFD seeks to preserve engines stationed on the periphery of the City, which pose significant risk to overall City response should these units be closed.
- Periphery stations assist with mutual aid agreements with surrounding cities and counties via established and reciprocal mutual aid agreements.

Fire Station 14 Will Remain Open

- Fire Station 14 is not at risk of closure in FY 27 and will continue to provide frontline services to the community, including paramedic level services.
- Fire Station 14 will house Basic Life Support Ambulance 14 and Battalion Chief 2 as well as Paramedic Ambulance Rescue 4, which will move from Fire Station 4 to Fire Station 14.

Challenges and Service Impacts



- The Captain David Rosa Regional Training Center continues to lack appropriate bathroom and locker room space for women employees and fire recruits. Temporary trailer bathroom and locker rooms are required to provide accommodations.
- Maintenance costs are increasing as repairs become more costly and significant facility infrastructure require repair.
- Federal funding through the Department of Homeland Security continues to face reductions and spending limitations on apparatus, equipment, and training funding.

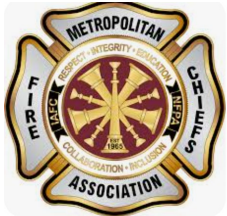
Opportunities



LBFD is collaborating with Long Beach City College to explore development of a shared Fire and Emergency Services Education & Training Center, leveraging shared resources and expanding workforce development opportunities for local Long Beach students and future employees.



New opportunities are available to pursue alternative EMS service delivery pilots through the Los Angeles EMS Agency, a subagency of the Los Angeles County Health Services Department. Future opportunities will exist for LBFD to submit and pitch innovative alternative response models.

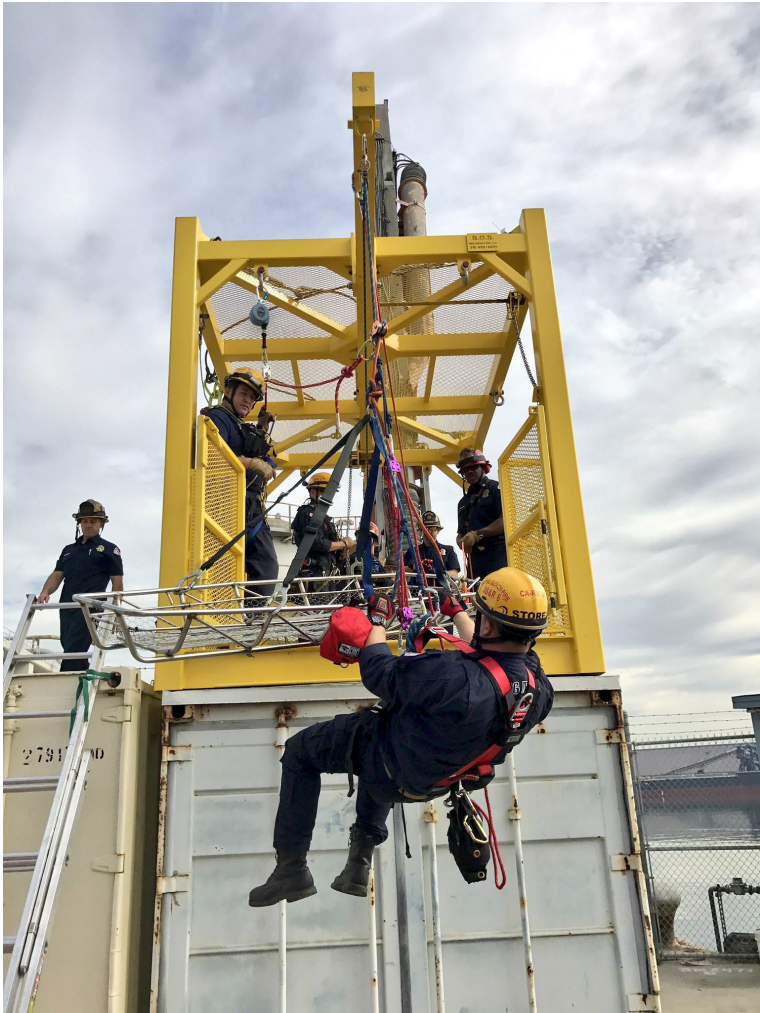


LBFD proposed and is leading a statewide fire engine specification and procurement standardization, through the CA Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association. This initiative will simplify fire apparatus design to reduce manufacturing timelines, lower procurement costs, and improve long-term fleet sustainability.



LBFD is strengthening regional preparedness through a joint request with the County of Los Angeles Fire Department and the City of Los Angeles Fire Department to the California Office of Emergency Services for additional mutual aid resources in support of the 2028 Olympic Games.

Opportunities



Q&A

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