

# *North Shore Fire/Rescue*



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# Who Am I?

## Robert Whitaker

- Fire Chief – North Shore Fire/Rescue 2016–Present
- Hired as a career firefighter six months prior to the consolidation of the seven communities that resulted in North Shore Fire/Rescue
- Served as firefighter, firefighter/paramedic, Fire Lieutenant, Battalion Chief, Deputy Chief and Fire Chief
- Master's of Science – Fire and Emergency Management from Oklahoma State University



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# History



- ▶ Communities discussed consolidation multiple times through 1980s & early 90's
- ▶ Concerns of need for improved service, duplication of capital investments, lack of staff, concerns for public and staff safety.
- ▶ Several events that occurred in early 1990's moved agenda forward.



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# History

- Two major fires that went beyond 5 alarms in early 90's resulting in significant fire losses
  - Significant concerns over lack of coordination between agencies and properly training of staff came from after action reviews
- City of Milwaukee made a decision to begin charging for fire/EMS assistance at a rate that was thought to be unreasonable
- Three communities began sharing 911 PSAP
- Two communities began sharing a fire chief
- Within North Shore Communities concerns were shared with training standards and future of working together.



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# Moving Forward

- Committee expanded to include:
  - Governance Subcommittee
  - Finance Subcommittee
  - Service/Operations Subcommittee
  - Committees had elected officials, appointed officials and chief officers. Union representation was allowed to attend meetings.
- Plan debate occurred for several months with six of seven communities committing to “go ahead” on January 1, 1995.
  - Negotiating on various impacts to non-participants eventually resulted in inclusion of 7th community.



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# Today



- ▶ 5 Fire/Rescue Stations
- ▶ 105 FTE
  - 91 Line
  - 14 Administration
- ▶ 2017 Calls for Service: 7,934
  - 74% EMS, 26 % Fire/Service
- ▶ 3,000 Fire Inspections/Year
- ▶ 13,000 + Citizen Public Education/Risk Reduction Contacts Per Year



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# Today



- ▶ **5 Fire/Rescue Stations**
  - Station 81 – Brown Deer
  - Station 82 – Glendale
  - Station 83 – Shorewood
  - Station 84 – Whitefish Bay
  - Station 85 – Bayside



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# Governance

## Board of Directors

- ▶ Mayor/Village President from each member community.
- ▶ Policy, Budget, Strategic Direction, etc.

## Fire Commission

- ▶ One appointed member per member community
- ▶ Personnel hiring, promotions, discipline, etc.
- ▶ Follow Wisconsin Statutes 62.13



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# Funding

- ▶ 2018 Operating Budget: \$14.9 Million
  - \$12.3 Million comes from member communities
  - \$2.9 Million comes from fee revenue and grants
- ▶ Municipal funding levels are determined by a funding formula that is based on the number of calls for service per community, community equalized value and community population.
  - Bayside pays 6.27% of the municipal contribution in 2018 – \$842,574



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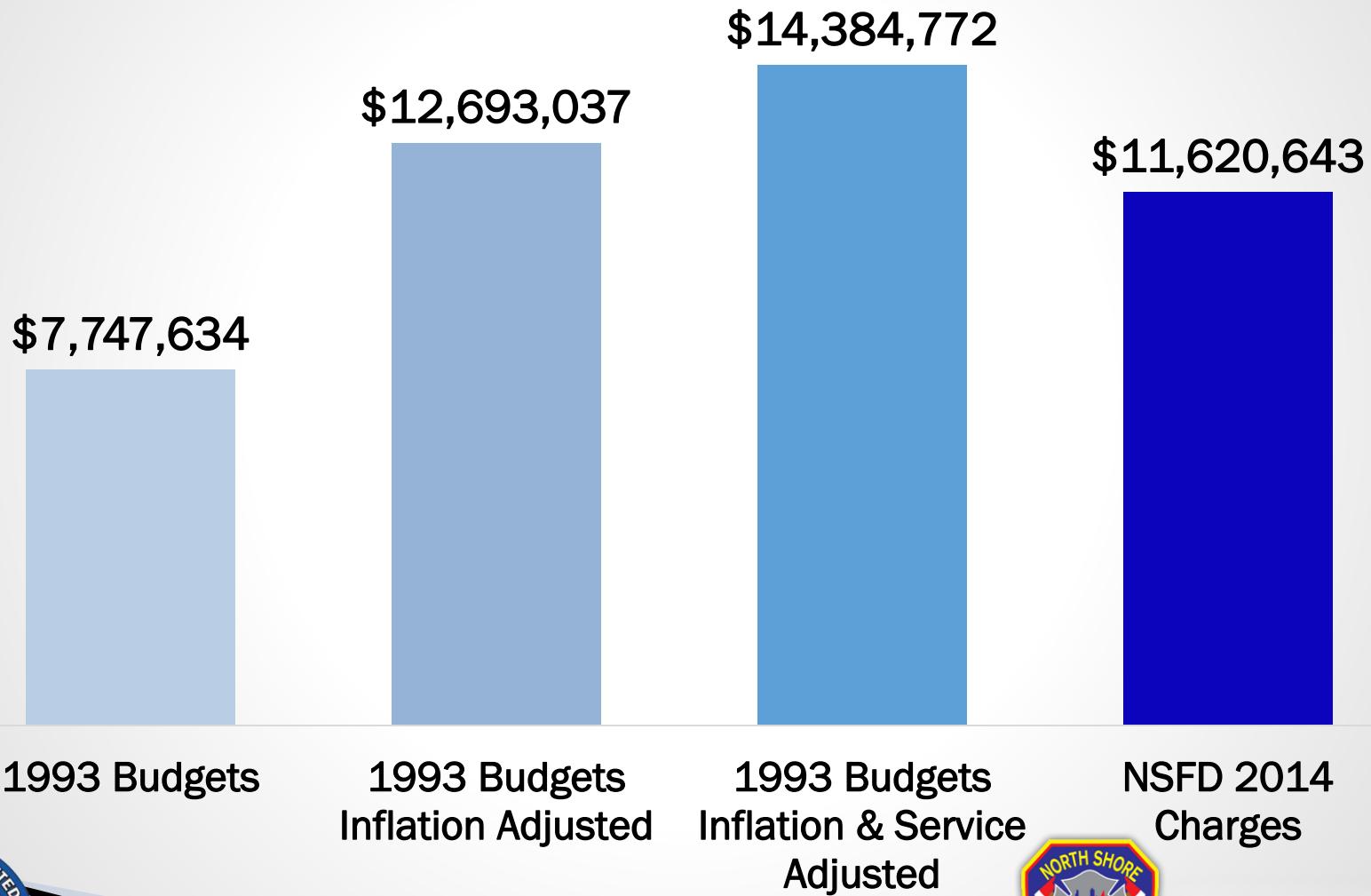
# Benefits of Consolidation

- Better training
- Greater safety
- Higher productivity
- More opportunities for advancement
- Access to newer and better equipment
- Greater experience in a range of situations



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# Benefits of Consolidation



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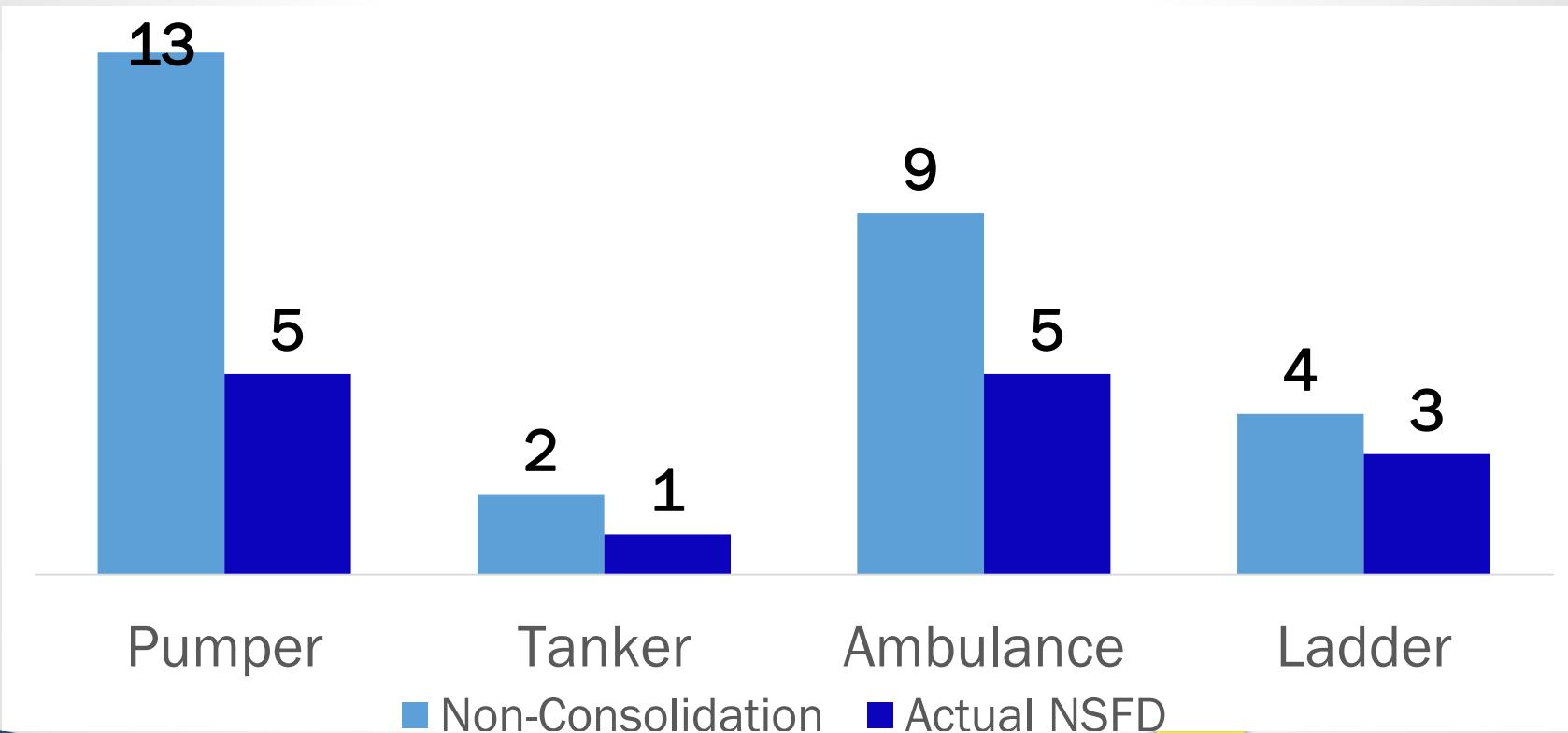
# Benefits of Consolidation

## No Consolidation

27 Vehicles ~ \$8,366,017

## Actual NSFD

14 Vehicles ~ \$5,020,497



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# NSFR & Bayside

## Station 85



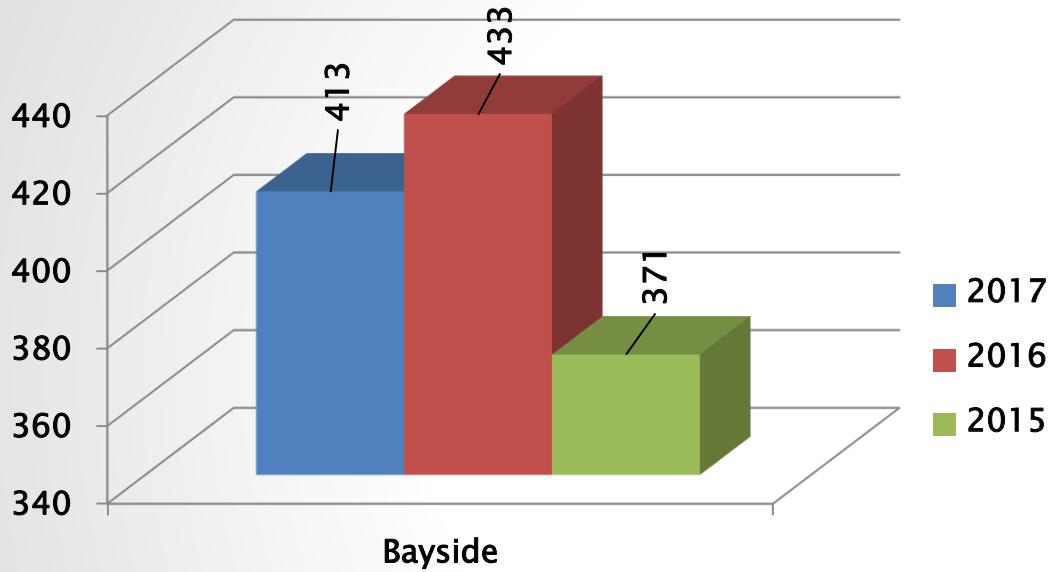
- 5 Staff on duty 24X7 at minimum
- Ambulance with 2 responders
- Engine with 3 responders
- Total Station Responses in 2017: 2,060



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# Bayside Calls for Service



The average response times to emergent incidents in Bayside in 2017 was 5 Minutes, 46 seconds from time of call to 911.

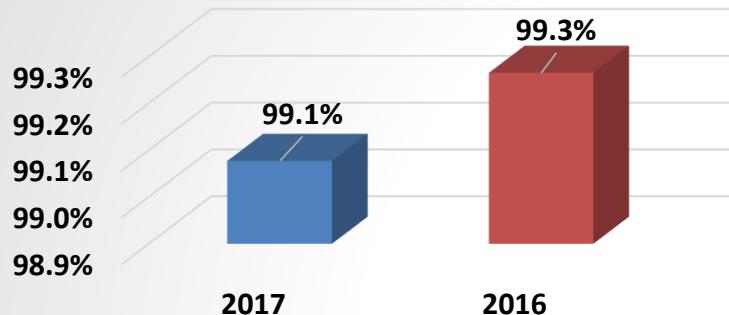
NSFR's goal for average response time is 6 minutes.



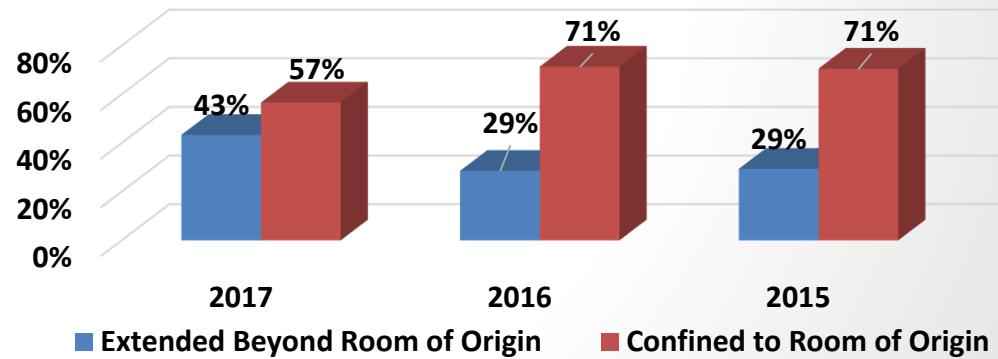
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# Performance Benchmarking

## % Property at Risk from Fire Saved



## Fire Confinement



*North Shore Fire/Rescue's Goal is to contain the majority of structure fires to the room of origin.*



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# Performance Benchmarking

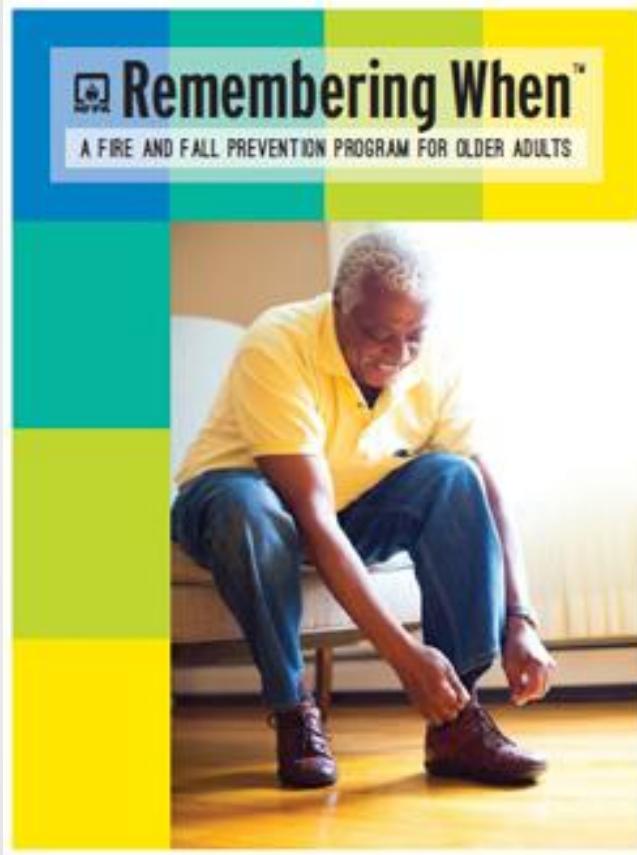
Year	Total Patients	Cardiac Arrests	Return of Circulation
2017	6105	93	34%
2016	6203	88	23%

	2017	2016
Adult Education Contacts	3117	3258
Child Education Contacts	3369	3434
Car Seats Installed	165	134
Home Safety Inspections	380	142
Business/Commercial Inspections	2804	3262
Permits/Plan Reviews	375	328



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# Falls



- ▶ Elderly falls are the most frequent reason for calls to 911 and admission to hospital emergency departments in our area.
- ▶ North Shore Fire/Rescue in conjunction with North Shore Health offer home assessments where we evaluate homes for fall hazards, appropriate smoke and carbon monoxide detection and other safety concerns.



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# Community/Social Services Support

As the healthcare industry transitions to bundled payments from fees for service, EMS providers are expanding their preventative programs and partnerships with hospitals and medical providers. North Shore Fire/Rescue has certified four paramedics as Community Paramedics and is working with five regional fire departments and Milwaukee County on a program to work with major medical providers in the area.



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# School Programs



Firefighters visit grades Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> every year in schools that participate in the program to deliver fire and life safety prevention messages.



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# Future Challenges

- Levy limits and a revenue restriction imposed by the North Shore Fire Services Agreement has limited our ability to maintain tax levy support of expenses resulting in staff reductions.
- Increased EMS call volume
- Facilities that need to be replaced/remodeled.
- Significant turn-over from retirements from the years 2016-2020.



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# Contact Information

Robert Whitaker

Fire Chief

North Shore Fire/Rescue

[rwhitaker@nsfire.org](mailto:rwhitaker@nsfire.org)

(414) 357-0113



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