

Department of Emergency Services

2023 Executive Proposed Budget



Core Programs & Functions

Communications

- 24/7 Emergency Dispatch Center for the majority of Fire and EMS agencies in Westchester

Emergency Management

- County disaster coordination & manage/coordinate the County's Emergency Operations Center
- Facilitate/support county-wide emergency preparedness including plans, equipment/supplies, training and exercises

Fire/EMS

- Mutual aid coordination for Fire and EMS services
- Specialty response (e.g. hazardous materials, technical rescue, interoperable communications)
- Coordinate the Basic Life Support – First Responder Program
- Coordinate training programs for Fire and EMS
 - Host two Career Fire Academies per year as well as the Yonkers and Mt Vernon Academies
 - Continue to deliver Firefighter I Programs through several schedules to meet the needs of volunteers

Budget Summary

ITEM	2022	2023
Operating Positions	58	64
Trust Positions	4	4
TOTAL POSITIONS	62	68
Personal Service	2,589,344	2,899,717
Equipment	102,553	361,200
Materials & Supplies	630,153	679,642
Contractual Expenses	1,973,861	5,050,232
Inter-Departmental Charges	3,803,330	4,406,597
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	9,099,241	13,397,388

Budget Summary

ITEM	2022	2023
Inter-Departmental Revenue	446,317	453,040
Departmental Revenue	78,572	78,766
State & Federal Aid	351,492	362,887
TOTAL REVENUE	876,381	894,693
DEPARTMENT TAX LEVY	8,222,860	12,502,695

Highlights

- Developed and administering the Higher Education Recruitment and Retention Opportunities (HERRO) tuition and student loan reimbursement pilot program designed to help volunteer fire departments and EMS agencies recruit and retain volunteers
- Transitioned the former Parks EMS unit into our EMS division which expanded the role of the countywide support of the NYS Certified Basic Life Support First Responders (BLSFR) program; the EMTs support special events around the county and the EMS services at Playland Park
- Created fire prevention and education programs through social media
- Working in collaboration with the City of New Rochelle Youth Bureau & the New Rochelle Fire Dept to support their six week Girls On Fire: Firefighter Program which provides job readiness skills training and actual work experience to learn about potential career opportunities in emergency services
- In early spring, the new P25 digital radio system was turned on which allowed for all fire, EMS, hospitals, and police Public Safety Answering Points to communicate with each other

Highlights

- Completed a planning effort for the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan that will enable municipalities to receive federal grant funding for mitigation projects
- Instituted the Rescue Task Force training in schools in coordination with local law enforcement, fire, and EMS

New Initiatives

- Developing solutions to the growing crisis in providing EMS service throughout the county with two RFPs that have been awarded for the following services
 - Supplemental ambulance service to provide relief for the very high, and growing, volume of mutual aid calls
 - Study that will recommend options for a long term, sustainable EMS system
- Expanding our Active Shooter Hostile Event (ASHE) program to train and build Rescue Task Force teams to respond around the county
- Rebuilding Emergency Management plans and preparedness based on an all hazards model
 - Update the County's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)
 - Enhance preparedness for natural gas transmission pipeline hazards