

SEASIDE FIRE DEPARTMENT 2007 *ANNUAL REPORT*



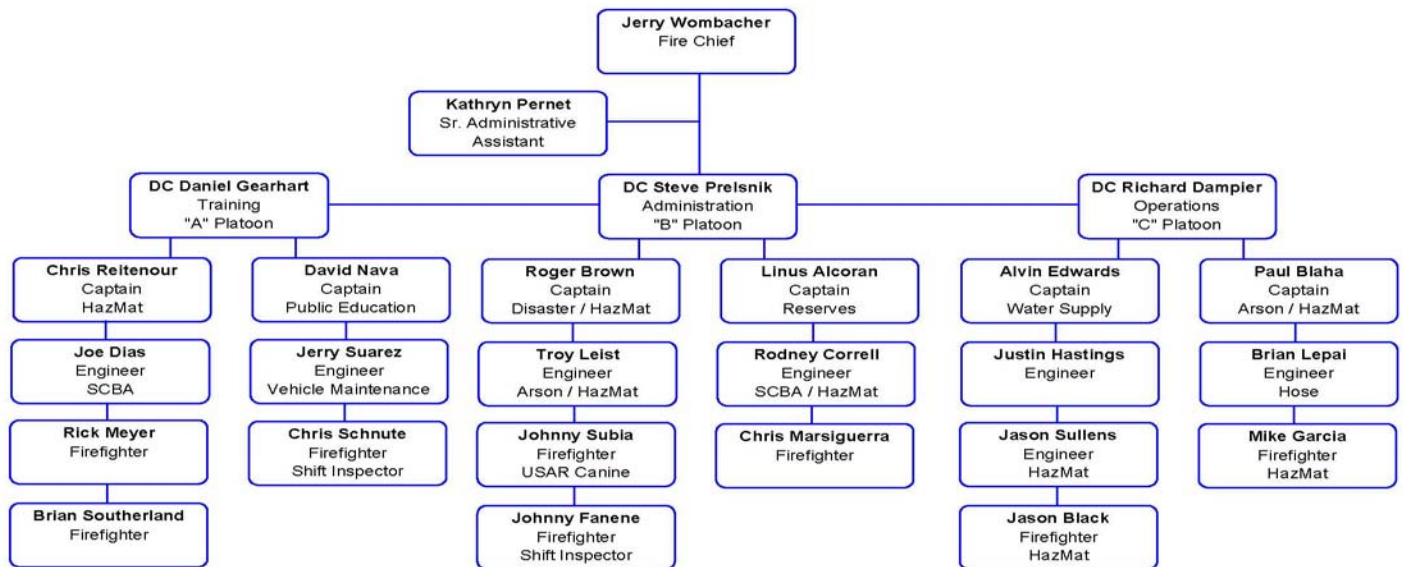
The **City of Seaside**
is dedicated to providing excellent
municipal services that enhance the
quality of life for our diverse community.

The mission of the **Seaside Fire Department**
is to provide the community with
professional services in order to protect
life, the environment and property from
fire, disaster and health emergencies.

A Message from the Chief...

The Seaside Fire Department is made up of a group of dedicated personnel that represent the diversity of the community. These persons work every day of the year to improve the quality of service provided to Seaside residents. The Firefighters Association participates in a wide range of donations of time, funds and resources of their own to meet the needs of community programs for the youth, elderly and the community as a whole. I am proud to serve Seaside with the quality of persons that personally give so much back to the community. The transfer of lands from the former Fort Ord Military installation represents a growth opportunity for Seaside that will hopefully meet the goals of the community as a whole. From this community growth evolves the need to increase public safety in the form of growth of the fire department. It is because of this upcoming expansion that the fire department planners are working with various groups to identify the best method to provide timely and quality services to the community, as has been a hallmark of our history.

Jerry Wombacher, Fire Chief



The Seaside Fire Department in 2007

The Seaside Fire Department continues to provide fire protection and emergency services to the City of Del Rey Oaks on a contractual basis. Our relationship with the citizens, employees and officials of Del Rey Oaks has been outstanding. We look forward to continuing our service to the community of Del Rey Oaks for many years to come.

Accomplishments for 2007

- Tested & hired 6 new Reserves
- Delivery & Inventory of 2 new Fire Engines
- Began Station 2 design process
- Completed department NIMS training
- Captains' Test: 3 on list
- Open House
- Marina merger dissolved
- Assorted Wildland Strike Teams
- Static tested 3 systems
- FH Inspection Module grant submitted
- Lola passed qualifying test
- Citywide NIMS training completed
- Earthquake seminar conducted
- 2006 Annual Report
- Fire loss less than 5% = 95% saved
- Acquired response area of Fort Ord Dunes Park
- New access gate at 12th Street tunnel
- Rescue 6262 in service
- Reitenour & Pernet attended FH training
- Planned regional HazMat IC exercise
- Received training in FF Bill Of Rights
- Del Rey Oaks contract renewed for another 3-year term; \$125K revenue
- \$204K in reimbursement for 2007 strike teams
- Mobile & portable radios upgraded on grant
- BD Reclassification
- Donated 6210 to MPC
- Conducted 2 PATs
- Completed citywide business & apartment inspections
- Part-time Fire Marshal
- Monterey County HazMat reimbursements
- Active participation in various Chief-related associations and committees
- Amgen event participation & support
- Participation in various City events: Santa, National Night Out, Homecoming, etc.
- Involved with POM control-burn coordination
- Studied and formed former Fort Ord radio coverage
- Participated in FOR A jurisdictional meetings (ESCA)

The Seaside Fire Department in 2008

Most of our focus in 2008 will once again be in the development of Seaside on the former Fort Ord. Not only is the new development alone a concern for second fire station, but the long distance fire department responses for this new city sprawl makes it a necessity. This new growth continues to be an exciting and demanding time for our city. The development of our Fire Department must expand equally with the growth of the City to provide proper fire and EMS protection.

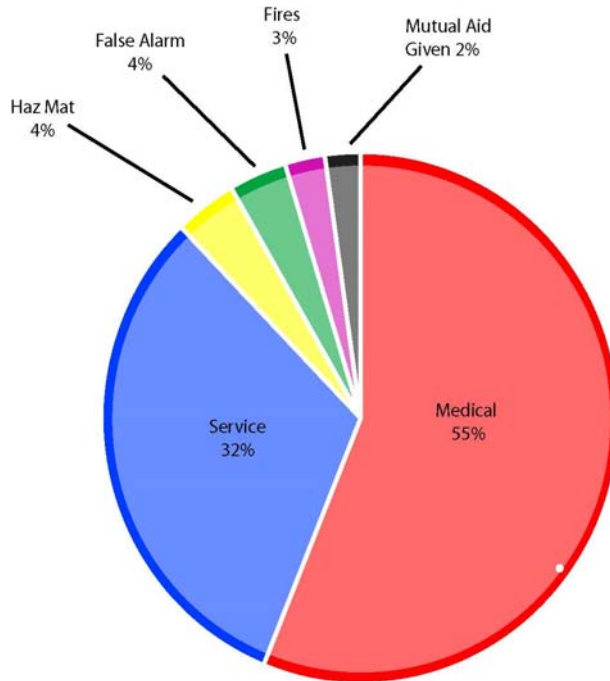
Department Goals

1. Provide fire, medical and emergency services to the citizens of Seaside and Del Rey Oaks for emergencies resulting from fire, flood, earthquake, and any other natural or man-made disasters, which threaten life, property or may cause harm.
2. Maintain a well-managed firefighting, emergency medical and emergency service capability through professional development and specialized training of personnel.
3. Continue a comprehensive fire prevention program, leading to the reduction of fire loss and the increased safety of the citizens of Seaside and Del Rey Oaks through public education, code enforcement, engineering, and planning.
4. Coordinate the disaster preparedness efforts of all City departments and community agencies and maintain comprehensive contingency master plans in a constant state of readiness.
5. Provide cost effective services to the citizens of Seaside and Del Rey Oaks with professionalism, dedication and commitment.
6. Provide self-sufficient fire and EMS coverage to all areas of jurisdictional responsibility which includes the former Fort Ord.



Responses

The Seaside Fire Department responded to a total of 2,456 alarms in 2007.



	<i># of Calls</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Medical (includes auto accidents w/ injuries)	1,380	55%
Service Calls/Public Assistance	778	32%
Hazardous Materials/Conditions	95	4%
False Alarms/Cancellations/Other	90	4%
Fires	64	3%
Mutual Aid Given	49	2%

Mutual Aid /Automatic Aid Responses in 2007

Agency	Given to	Received from
North County Fire Protection District	2	0
Carmel Valley Fire Protection District	2	0
Salinas Fire Department	2	0
Salinas Rural Fire Protection District	1	1
Pacific Grove Fire Department	1	0
Marina Department of Public Safety	6	1
Presidio of Monterey Fire Department	13	37
Monterey Fire Department	45	38

Fire Loss/Save

Total Assessed value of Seaside: \$2,085,055,658

Seaside Fire Calls:

Total value involved	\$8,027,200
Total loss	\$322,600
Total value saved	\$7,704,600
Total percent lost	4.02%
Total percent saved	95.98%

Del Rey Oaks Fire Calls:

Total value involved	\$2,000
Total loss	\$2,000
Total value saved	\$0
Total percent lost	100%
Total percent saved	0%



OPERATIONS

This program is made up of all emergency response personnel, equipment, and other resources to staff and operate in such areas as fire/EMS/rescue responses. This program provides staffing for other activities such as hazardous materials response, search dog response, fire investigation activities, fire code enforcement and fire prevention activities, public education activities, emergency preparedness activities, and other programs.

The 2007 calendar year has seen:

- Increased calls for services in our primary response areas.
- Increased automatic aid responses to neighboring communities.
- Increased mutual aid responses on a statewide basis.

The Operations Section of the Seaside Fire Department put into service two new Pierce fire engines, and donated a 1976 Van Pelt fire engine to the Monterey Peninsula College Fire Academy. Current plans involve the development of a replacement rescue vehicle for purchase in calendar year 2008. The program is working with architects to rehabilitate a former Fort Ord Army Mess Hall into a fire station to serve areas of former Fort Ord that have been transferred to the City of Seaside.

The growth of the City of Seaside has presented challenges for the department in meeting response time goals. The addition of a fire station on the north side of the city will improve response times to the areas on former Fort Ord that are slated for redevelopment. Requests for mutual aid have resulted in Seaside Fire Department fire engines in many parts of Southern California for lengthy periods of time during the months of July through November.

The members of the Seaside Fire Department proudly serve the Cities of Seaside and Del Rey Oaks, while assisting neighboring communities on a daily basis through automatic and mutual aid agreements, as well as serve the residents of the State of California through mutual aid responses throughout the state.

TRAINING

The Seaside Fire Department is committed to a well-trained professional organization by providing a comprehensive training program through both in-house training sessions and sponsorships to outside training opportunities. The Seaside Fire Department believes that a highly trained workforce increases performance and productivity, enhances teamwork, promotes a safe workplace environment, and is the foundation for our commitment in providing the best and most efficient service to the community.

The Training Division of the Seaside Fire Department is managed by the Department Training Officer who coordinates all in-house training activities by developing a monthly training calendar based on identified training needs and mandated training topics. The Training Officer also coordinates and manages all off-site training sponsorships for department personnel and manages the Department training budget. The Training Officer maintains an active membership in the Northern California Training Officers Association and the Monterey County Fire Training Officers Association. The Department Training Officer also serves as the Department Safety Officer and coordinates the Standard Operating Procedures Update Program.

During 2007, the Seaside Fire Department conducted a cumulative personnel total of 1,373 in-house training sessions for an average of 57 in-house training sessions per person. These sessions covered a wide variety of fire service training topics including fire suppression operations, emergency apparatus procedures, incident management, emergency medical services, hazardous materials, Wildland firefighting techniques, search & rescue, highway incident safety, and rapid intervention crew tactics. A total of 2,277.88 personnel training hours were logged by 24 fulltime personnel for a yearly average of 94.91 hours of in-house training per employee.

A major focus of our training in 2007 was meeting the federal requirements for Incident Management Training. In response to recent national events that challenged emergency responders from throughout the nation, a Presidential directive was issued requiring governmental employees to have specific emergency incident management training. During this past year, all department personnel received the necessary training and certifications in various levels of the National Incident Management System. The fire department also assisted with the coordination of NIMS training for other City of Seaside employees.



In 2006, the Seaside Fire Department Training Division supported off-site training opportunities by sponsoring employees who attended regional training classes that included hazardous materials, incident command, fire investigation, rescue systems, leadership skills, Terrorism awareness and fire ground operations, to name a few.

In support of our training program, numerous fire service textbooks were added to our reference library and we completed our Standard Operating Procedure Update Program with all 58 of our SOPs having been revised and updated within the past three years.

Practical training exercises are an essential part of a comprehensive training program. In 2007, the Seaside Fire Department emphasized practical, realistic training in topics such as Wildland firefighting, vehicle extrication and stabilization, confined space rescue, rapid intervention crew tactics, thermal imaging camera techniques, and fire suppression tactics. In 2007, the Seaside Fire Department participated in the annual Wildland Fire School at Fort Hunter Liggett along with over 300 fire service personnel from throughout California. During Wildland Fire School, the Seaside Fire Department Training Officer served as the school's overall Safety Officer.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS PROGRAM

The Seaside Fire Department routinely responds to releases of unknown and potentially hazardous substances to safeguard the public. In fact, every Seaside firefighter is trained and certified as a First Responder to hazardous materials incidents. In addition, 10 members are trained to the level of Hazardous Materials Technician or Specialist. These personnel participate as members of the Monterey County Operational Area Hazardous Materials Team. This team is comprised of personnel from the Salinas and Seaside Fire Department's, along with staff from the Monterey County Division of Environmental Health.

There were two significant accomplishments in the hazardous materials program for 2007. First, in January, the Monterey County Hazardous Materials Incident Response Plan was finalized and published. The Seaside Fire Department played a key role in the plans revision. Important updates were developed for sections of the plan dealing with emergency response and cost recovery.

The second accomplishment was our successful completion of an audit by the State Office of Homeland Security, in which praise was given for our clear documentation and efforts to make responsible purchases with the funds provided by the State Homeland Security Grant Program. During the past several years, the Seaside Fire Department has bolstered our response capability with the addition of new equipment obtained through this and other grants.

Public Education

The Public Education Program continues to deliver classes on Fire Safety, Fire Extinguisher Demonstrations, Bicycle Safety, Vehicle Rescue and many other topics to the communities we serve. Last year we presented a total of 34 classes. The Fire Department also conducted presentations at the Monterey County Kids Fest and the Hands-On Career Day at Hartnell College. October is when we hold our annual Open House event and this year it was filled with activities that included:

- Canine Search & Rescue featuring "Lola"
- Fire Safety Trailer
- Fire Extinguisher Demonstrations
- Fire Ground Operations with a Live Fire Trailer
- PG&E Electrical Safety
- Kids Jump House

The Public Education Program continues with it's commitment of presenting Fire Safety and Prevention classes to the communities it serves and protects.

