

## **RETURN LADDER 93 TO SERVICE**

LADDER 93 RESPONDED TO 832 CALLS IN 2008

Over 200 were EMS calls where it was the primary response unit

How can loss of this response vehicle and personnel possibly be justified?

LOSS OF LADDER 93 = 20% LESS FIRE APPARATUS RESPONDING

This could double the amount of time for Fire/EMS response when you need it most

LOSS OF 6 TO 9 FIREFIGHTERS = DELAY OF ADEQUATE MANPOWER ON FIRE SCENES

This increases the time it takes to initiate effective fireground operations, including rescue, and increases risk of injury to firefighters.

Less service (4 response units instead of 5) at an initial expense to the city of \$58,046 (plus the loss of a \$500,000 apparatus) or continuing the same level of service already having been provided over the last several years for less than \$20,000 in modifications to two fire stations.

We are already operating at the minimum standard for staffing levels, and now our City Leaders want to reduce our staffing even further.

Municipalities have been held liable for injuries and deaths resulting from fire departments knowingly operating below the nationally recognized standards for staffing on fires.

The Fire Department in 2007 and 2008 accomplished savings to the city of more than \$800,000; well more than any other department. Isn't it time the City finds somewhere else to cut its budget that doesn't impact your safety?

Commission meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. in the Commission Chambers at City Hall, 22 S. Beach Street.

You do not have to elaborate on any specific items, all you have to do is state that you do not accept the reduction of service resulting from the removal of Ladder 93 and would like to see it returned to its former level of service.

MAYOR

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