



City of Marco Island

Date: May 18, 2026
To: City Council
From: Fire Rescue Chief Chris Byrne
Through: Dr. Casey Lucius, Interim City Manager
Re: Fire Rescue Monthly Report

1. Executive Summary

- Firefighters responded to several large brush fires over a six-day period in April in southern Collier County requiring a Countywide multi-agency response.
- The Departments Firefighter vacancy due to a retirement was filled.
- Apparatus downtime, particularly Engine 51, continued to affect operations.
- Fire Prevention remained highly active, with stable core revenues and strong inspection / review volume.
- Due to retirement and as a result of collective bargaining, five personnel received promotions including the ranks of Engineer, Captain and Battalion Chief.
- Public education efforts included CPR/AED instruction, NARCAN distribution, school outreach, and community events.

2. Significant Incidents and Operational Updates

- Fire Rescue responded to two vehicle accidents on SR 92, north of Goodland Bridge, on April 4 and April 8. Both incidents involved vehicles leaving the roadway and entering the adjacent canal.

The first incident, on April 4 at approximately 2:30 a.m., involved a single vehicle. Fortunately, a nearby fisherman was able to assist in extricating the driver, who was not injured.

The second incident, on April 8, was reported by a passerby who observed a woman on the ground near the canal. Upon arrival, Firefighter Paramedics initiated medical care for her injuries, and she was subsequently transported to the emergency room for further treatment.
- On April 15th, Firefighters responded to a boat fire at the Marco Island Yacht Club, upon entry on a 44' vessel, Firefighters found a smoldering kitchen fire, confirmed extinguishment and checked for fire extension. The Fire Marshal was called to the scene to investigate.

- On April 24th a boat fire was reported at Esplanade Marine. On arrival Firefighters found smoke emitting from the cabin of a 55' vessel. Firefighter boarded the vessel finding an electrical fire below deck. Firefighters disconnected electrical service and ventilated the area. The vessel, valued at \$1.9M, suffered \$12,000 of fire-related damage.
- On April 29th, staff conducted the final inspection of the new High-Water Fire Engine. The Fire Engine will be transported to Ten-8 Fire & Safety in Bradenton for equipment mounting. The Fire Engine is expected to be delivered in mid-May.
- Chief Officers attended the Florida Fire Chiefs Associated, Southwest Division meeting on April 7th in Bonita Springs. State Representative Yvette Benarroch was guest speaker.
- Chief Officers and Administrative staff met remotely with the City's new Finance Manager Chase Calloway.
- The Fire Rescue Department announced the following promotions during April:
 - Captain Paramedic Jeffrey Kutzke Jr, promoted to Battalion Chief
 - Firefighter Paramedic Gabe Sigler promoted to Captain
 - Firefighter Paramedic Francis Crowley promoted to Engineer
 - Firefighter Paramedic Joseph Cid promoted to Engineer
 - Firefighter Paramedic Dan Ring promoted to Engineer

3. Staffing and Apparatus Readiness

- Firefighter EMT Caleb Beatty joined the Department on April 13th and completed his two-week orientation. He was assigned to A-shift on April 28th. Firefighter Beatty is currently progressing through the Paramedic Program. He was previously employed with Collier County EMS and also holds a U.S. Coast Guard Captain's license, working as a Charter Captain. In addition, Caleb has experience as a marine mechanic. Firefighter Beatty filled a vacancy created through retirement. Caleb was born and raised on Marco Island having attended Tommie Barfield Elementary School and Marco Island Charter Middle School, he is a second-generation Firefighter.
- Engine 51 was out of service from March 10th to April 29th for a total of 50 days due to a complicated electrical problem.

4. EMS, Training, and Community Outreach

- Personnel completed 300 hours of training in April
- Significant Training Events
 - Countywide Boat Operator Search and Rescue class completed by 3 Fireboat Operators
 - New hire orientation period completed for 1 Firefighter
- Firefighter Paramedics provided water safety instruction for the YMCA Waterwise Program on April 28th & 29th

- On April 29, the Fire Marshal provided a presentation and station tour for students participating in Discovery Day Academy's civic education program. Students received presentations from multiple City departments, including the City Manager, City Clerk, Public Works Director, Chief of Police, and Fire Rescue personnel. The Fire Rescue presentation focused on firefighter/paramedic career pathways, educational and certification requirements, services provided by the department, and how community expectations, local policy decisions, and State and Federal regulations influence the level of fire and emergency services delivered to residents and visitors.
- Firefighter Paramedics provided safety standbys at the following community events:
 - Spring Jubilee at Mackle Park on April 4th
 - Easter Sunrise service on April 5th
 - Former President George W Bush at the JW Marriott on April 8th as part of the security detail
 - Advent Health Conference on April 14th
 - Autism Awareness at Veterans Community Park on April 18th
 - YMCA Healthy Kids Day on April 18th
 - Fire Rescue Foundation Pancake Breakfast On April 19th

5. Performance Metrics

- Fire Rescue responded to 343 incidents in April, compared to 334 incidents in April 2025.
- For the month of April, Fire Rescue averaged a response time from 911 call to first unit on-scene arrival of 8:14 minutes.
- Total incidents January through April, 1,481 incidents, in 2025, same period, 1,530 incidents.
- April Aid Given / Received: The Fire Rescue Department received aid from Greater Naples Fire Department on 16 incidents, Marco Island provided aid to Greater Naples on 8 incidents.
- Fifty-five (55) Department Survey Cards were received for the month of April resulting in an 93.5% excellent rating of our personnel, a 93% excellent rating of NCH and Physician Regional Hospitals, and an 89% excellent rating of the 911 call intake operators.

6. Budget and Overtime

- The Fire Rescue budget remains on track at 56.95% expended through seven months of the fiscal year. Two areas of concern exist in the FY26 budget, 72% of the overtime budget has been spent due to firefighter injuries and vacancies and 84.5% has been expended for fire apparatus repairs.
- Staff are currently reviewing the FY26 budget in preparation for development of the FY27 operating budget.

7. Fire Prevention Division

- The Fire Prevention Division continued to experience steady operational activity during April 2026. Division personnel completed 243 fire plan reviews, 238 construction inspections, 94 annual inspections, and 91 re-inspections during the reporting period. Enforcement activity included 157 violations cited and 5 notices of violation issued. The Division also completed 6 hydrant flow tests and conducted 2 fire investigations during the month.
- Total division revenue for April 2026 was \$93,909.04 compared to \$72,290.01 in April 2025. Because Fire Impact Fees and False Alarm Fees can vary significantly from month to month, revenues excluding those categories provide a more accurate comparison of routine operational activity. Using that adjusted metric, the Division collected \$86,978.62 in April 2026 compared to \$65,749.46 during the same period last year. Year-to-date adjusted revenue totals are currently \$325,210.33 compared to \$312,656.16 for the same period in the previous fiscal year.

- **Notable Highlights & Activities**

- **Fire Investigations**

- APRIL 15th – Marine Vessel Fire

Fire Rescue crews responded to a vessel fire at the Marco Island Yacht Club (1402 N Collier Boulevard) after a diver reported a burning odor coming from a docked boat. The fire had self-extinguished prior to arrival, limiting damage to the cabin interior of a 2001 Sea Ray 400 vessel. Investigation determined the fire originated in a concealed compartment containing HVAC-related mechanical and electrical components and was most likely caused by an accidental electrical or mechanical failure. No injuries were reported. Estimated damages are approximately \$30,000.

- APRIL 24th – Marine Vessel Fire

Fire Rescue crews responded to a smoke investigation aboard a 2021 Uniesse 55 motor yacht at Esplanade (740 N Collier Boulevard). Investigation determined the incident originated within the engine compartment near the vessel's battery bank and associated electrical components and was consistent with an accidental electrical malfunction. The event was contained to the engine room with limited fire extension, though smoke migrated throughout the vessel. No injuries were reported. Preliminary fire-related damages are estimated at approximately \$12,000.

- **Code Conformance Support**

Fire Prevention staff participated in six (6) coordination meetings with contractors and design professionals, providing early-stage guidance to support fire and life safety compliance. These efforts help streamline project approvals, reduce revisions, and ensure systems are designed correctly from the outset.

8. Upcoming Department Priorities

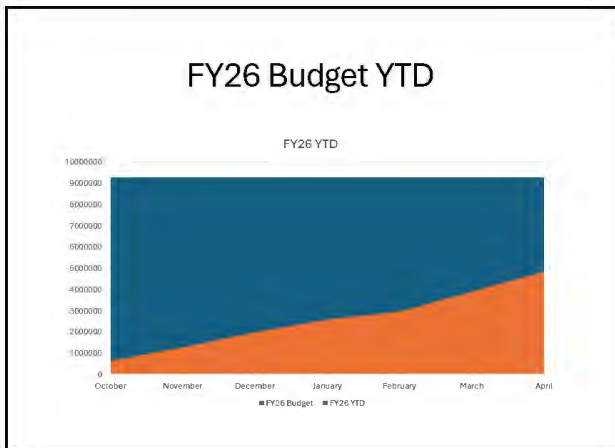
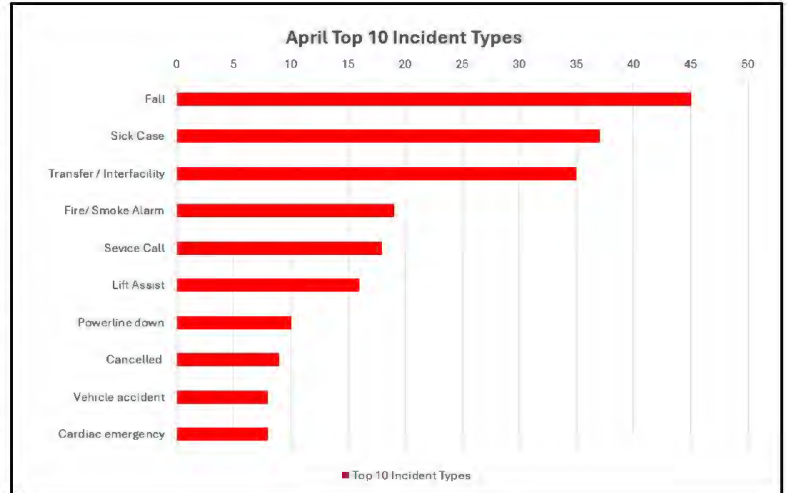
- Plan and organize installation of fire and rescue equipment on the new High Water Fire Engine
- Schedule and complete manufacture provided training on the new High Water Fire Engine
- Prepare for City Council FY27 Revenue Workshop scheduled for May 18th
- Hurricane Preparedness

Fire Rescue Data

Incident Responses	April	YTD
Fire	5	19
Fire / Smoke Alarm	38	162
Smoke Investigation	3	16
Electrical Hazard	11	36
Gas Leak	5	9
Service call	18	56
Fuel spill	0	5
Medical Emergency	174	794
Motor Vehicle Accident	8	24
Elevator Rescue	7	40
Aviation Standby	1	3
Aeromedical transport	1	1
Marine Rescue	6	29
Lift Assist	16	87
Transfer / Interfacility	35	137
Standby	3	13
Lost Person Search	1	2
Incident Cancelled	11	48
Total	343	1481

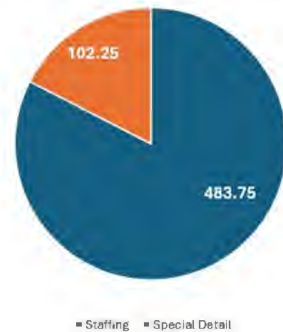
Fire Incidents

- Wildland fire
- Boat fire
- Cooking / Appliance fire



FY26 BUDGET				
FY26 BUDGET	FYTD EXPENSED	ENCUMBERED	AVAILABLE	%USED
\$9,292,281	\$4,853,860	\$168,451	\$4,269,970	57%

April Overtime: 586 Hours



Overtime - FYTD	
FY26 Budget	\$175,000
Expensed	38,502
Balance	\$48,322

Apparatus Out of Service Days		
Apparatus	April	FYTD
Tower 50	0	75
Engine 50	0	33
Engine 51	50	71
Engine 52	0	0

Overtime need:

- Staffing
- Injuries / vacancy
- Special Detail
 - Brush fires
 - Marriott standby
 - Fireboat standby

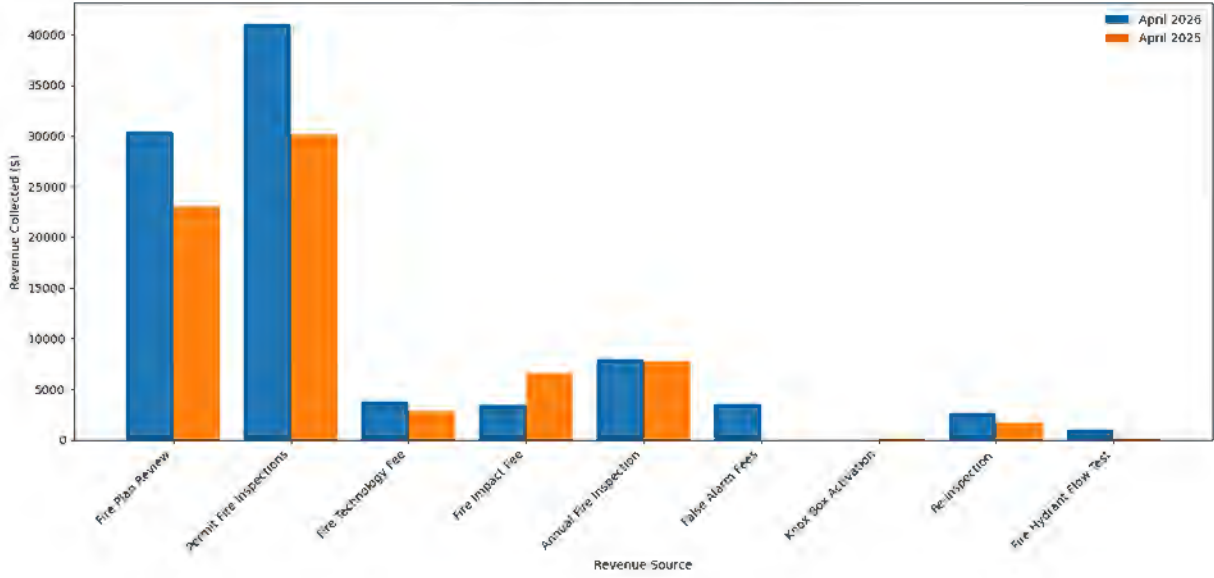
Fire Prevention Division Revenue Summary

Revenue Source	APRIL-26	FY25-26 YTD	APRIL-25	FY24-25 YTD
Fire Plan Review	\$30,417.92	\$108,905.37	\$23,017.55	\$106,983.58
Permit Fire Inspections	\$41,050.40	\$151,620.41	\$30,106.97	\$144,500.71
Fire Technology Fee	\$3,783.30	\$13,045.55	\$2,800.94	\$11,771.87
Fire Impact Fee	\$3,430.42	\$32,633.06	\$6,540.55	\$39,069.97
Annual Fire Inspection	\$7,958.00	\$33,604.00	\$7,793.00	\$28,293.00
False Alarm Fees	\$3,500.00	\$16,250.00	\$0.00	\$77,448.00
Knox Box Activation	\$26.00	\$910.00	\$182.00	\$1,170.00
Re-Inspection	\$2,700.00	\$15,075.00	\$1,700.00	\$19,526.00
Fire Hydrant Flow Test	\$1,043.00	\$2,050.00	\$149.00	\$411.00
Total	\$93,909.04	\$374,093.39	\$72,290.01	\$429,174.13
Total Minus Impact Fees	\$90,478.62	\$341,460.33	\$65,749.46	\$390,104.16
Total Minus Impact & False Alarm Fees	\$86,978.62	\$325,210.33	\$65,749.46	\$312,656.16

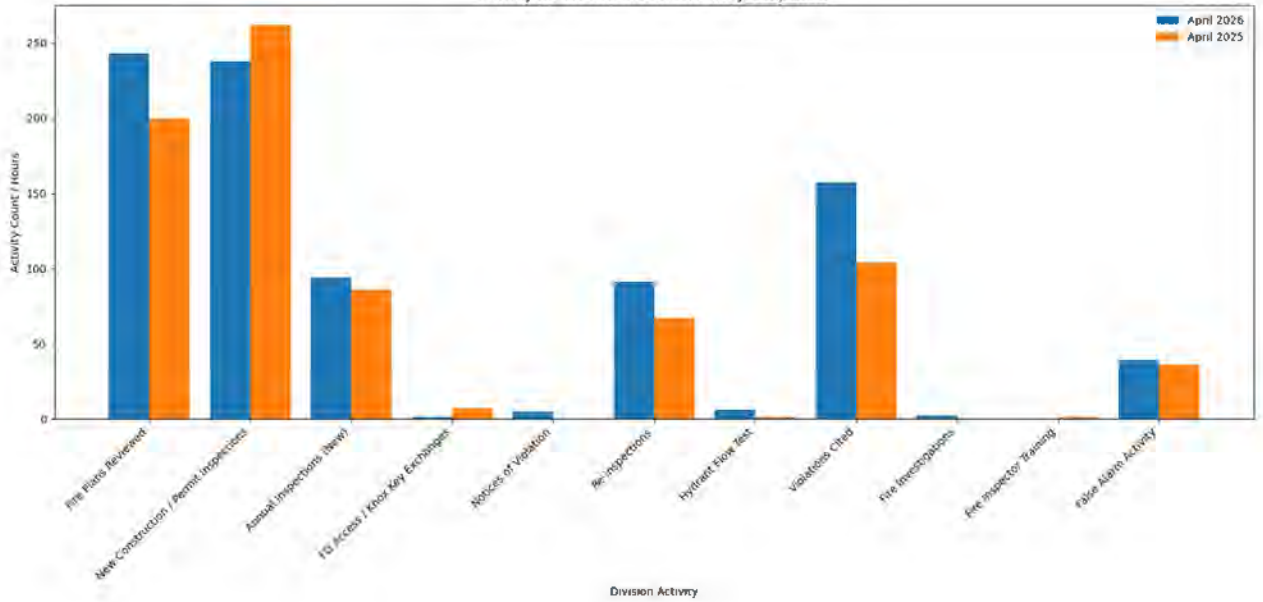
Fire Prevention Division Activity Summary

Activity	APRIL-26	FY25-26 YTD	APRIL-25	FY24-25 YTD
Fire Plans Reviewed	243	1,109	200	966
New Construction / Permit Inspections	238	2,080	262	2,371
Annual Inspections (New)	94	338	86	230
FD Access / Knox Key Exchanges	1	30	7	46
Notices of Violation	5	22	0	4
Re-Inspections	91	343	67	326
Hydrant Flow Test	6	14	1	7
Violations Cited	157	509	104	339
Fire Investigations	2	9	0	12
Fire Inspector Training	0 hrs.	153 hrs.	1 hrs.	586 hrs.
False Alarm Activity	39	297	36	358

Monthly Fire Prevention Revenue Comparison



Monthly Fire Prevention Division Activity Comparison



April in Pictures



Final Inspection – High Water Fire Engine



Newman Drive Fire near Florida Sports Park



*Captain Paramedic Jeffery Kutzke Jr.
promoted to Battalion Chief*



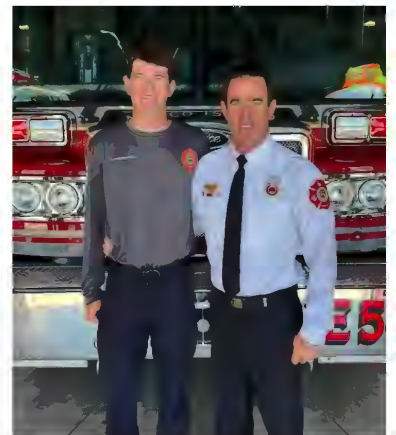
*Firefighter Paramedic Gabe Sigler
promoted to Captain*



*Firefighter Paramedic Francis Crowley
promoted to Engineer*



*Firefighter Paramedic Joeph Cid promoted
to Engineer*



*Probationary Firefighter Caleb
Beatty with his father Captain
Paramedic Dustin Beatty*

