

Seattle Fire Department

2026 Proposed Budget Overview

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Seattle City Council Select Budget Committee



City of Seattle

Seattle Fire Department

The mission of the Seattle Fire Department is to **save lives** and **protect property** through emergency medical service, fire and rescue response and fire prevention. We respond immediately when any member of our community needs help with professional, effective and compassionate service.



SFD Divisional Organization

The vision for the Seattle Fire Department is to be a national leader in responding to and preventing emergencies with a commitment to excellence and teamwork.

Resource Management:

- Safety and Risk Management
- Training and Officer Development
- Emergency Preparedness/Homeland Security
- Services, Fleets, Facilities, Grant Mgmt
- Fire Alarm Center and Communications

Operations:

- Critical Fire Suppression
- Technical Teams
- Emergency Medical Services
- Mutual Aid Programs

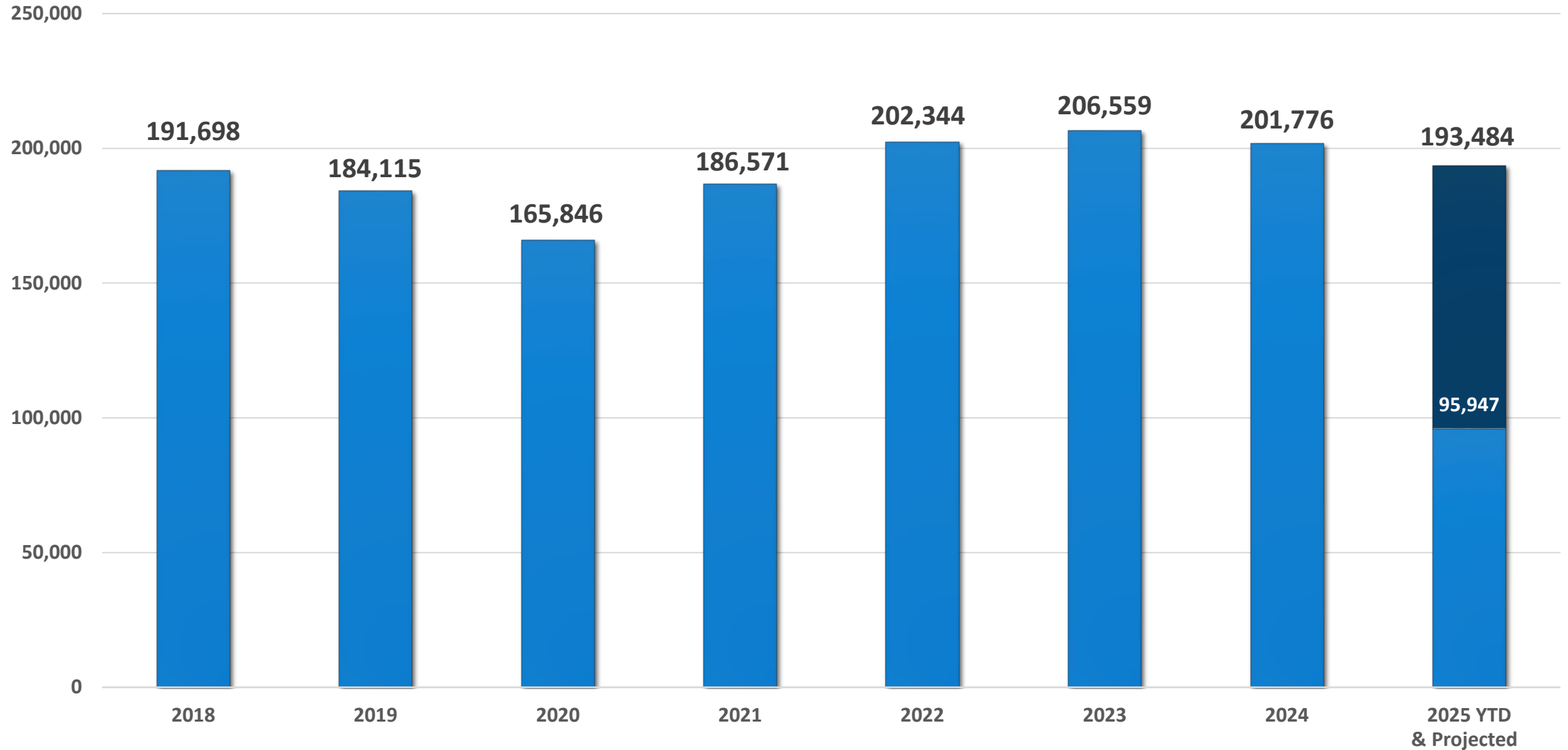
Mobile Integrated Health Program:

- Health 1
- Overdose Response Teams (Health 99)
- Case Management
- Vulnerable Adult Program
- Nurse Practitioner Service

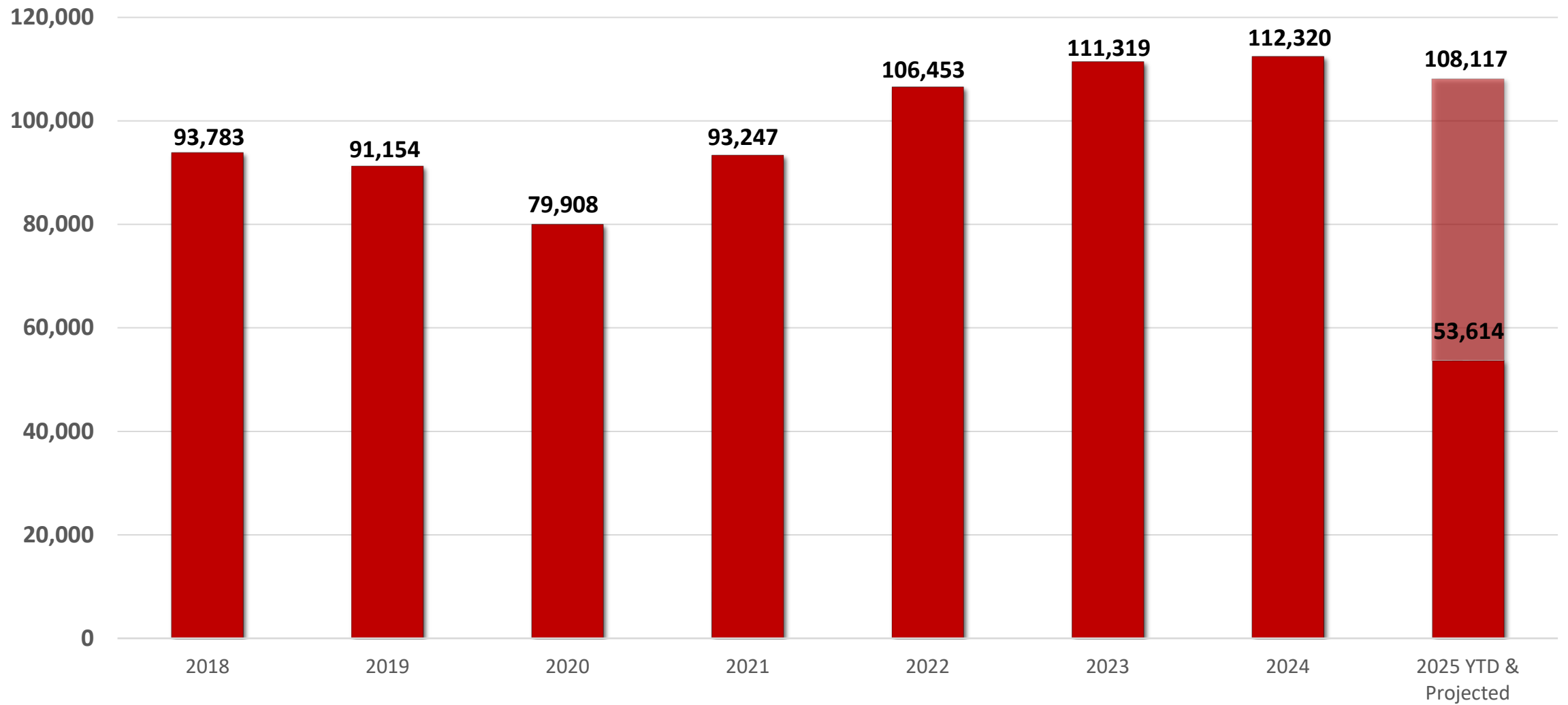
Fire Prevention Division:

- Fire Prevention and Public Education
- Fire Investigation
- Dangerous Building Abatement

Total SFD Calls



Total SFD Responses



Summary

The Seattle Fire Department (SFD) provides fire protection and prevention, technical rescue, and emergency medical services for the City of Seattle.

This budget maintains and strengthens Seattle’s emergency response levels, enhances life saving services provided to our most vulnerable populations, addresses first responder staffing shortages, and supports other resource needs.

TOTAL BUDGET (\$000s)	2025 Adopted	2026 Endorsed	2026 Proposed
General Fund	\$327,623	\$340,746	\$348,673
Other Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0
FTE	1,205.85	1,206.85	1,213.85

Budget Realignment

1. Budget realignment with projected vacancy rate

- There will be cost savings due open positions in the first half of the year.

	(\$000s)	2026 Proposed (Q1 & Q2)	% Change (Endorsed to Proposed)
General Fund		(\$500)	(0.14%)
Other Funds			
FTE			

Budget Reductions

2. Department-wide overtime reduction in non-emergency services

- Reduction of overtime supporting discretionary training, committee work, administrative support functions, policy development efforts, etc. in various business lines
- This reduction does not impact direct services in operations

		2026 Proposed	% Change (Endorsed to Proposed)
	(\$000s)		
General Fund		(\$500)	(0.14%)
Other Funds			
FTE			

Budget Additions

1. Add funding for 20 additional firefighter recruits

- The Mayor's proposed budget increase the number of firefighter recruits from 80 to 100 to reduce the vacancy count.
- The revenues backing this expansion are from the proposed 0.1% increase in Public Safety Sales Tax.

(\$000s)	2026 Proposed	% Change (Endorsed to Proposed)
General Fund	\$2,059	0.6%
Other Funds		
FTE		



Uniform Staffing Data

Year	Budgeted Uniform Pockets	Graduates (from Academy)	Separations (non-Academy)	Year End Uniform Vacancy
2018	1078	53	-41	-76
2019	1079	43	-37	-71
2020	1079	58	-57	-69
2021	1084	56	-96	-114
2022	1085	84	-63	-84
2023	1086	59	-64	-86
2024	1110	44	-64	-132
2025	1110	85*	(69)*	(120)*
2026	1111	100*	(39)*	(60)*

** Projection*

Budget Additions

2. Enhance SFD Post Overdose Treatment (Health 99/98)

- This item provides funding to increase staffing for the post overdose response team to allow for seven days a week operations, a Strategic Advisor position to oversee the MIH Overdose program, and funding for a nurse practitioner to offer more expansive medical services. In addition, funding will be provided to procure a primary response vehicle and an outreach, follow-up vehicle.
- The revenues for this expansion are from the proposed 0.1% increase in Public Safety Sales Tax.

(\$000s)	2026 Proposed	% Change (Endorsed to Proposed)
General Fund	\$1,153	0.3%
Other Funds		
FTE	3.0	0.25%



Mobile Integrated Health Health 99 Overdose Response



Following the Mayor's Executive Order in 2023 on Addressing Opioids in Seattle, SFD launched the Post-Overdose Response Team in July. Since then, the team has responded to:

- More than 1,400 OD responses since launch
- 727 non-duplicated clients
- Conducted over 250 follow-up visits
- ~15% of patients subsequently bridged to long-acting injectable buprenorphine
- 200 individuals served at 4-day September pop-up clinic in Hoa Mai Park

Budget Additions - Other

Fire Department Data Strategist

\$210,357

To better support the department's operations through data-driven approaches and strategies.

(1.0 FTE)

IT Initiatives and Resources Staffing Support

\$217,000

Position to manage the evaluation, strategic planning, and administration of the department's technology portfolio.

(1.0 FTE)

Fire Prevention Staffing Support

\$140,000

Enforcement work related to nuisance alarm reductions and **abatement of dangerous buildings**; offset by additional revenue.

(1.0 FTE)

Costs in Support of the 2026 FIFA World Cup Games

\$1,475,275

Funding for equipment costs associated with the World Cup.

Human Resources Staffing Support

\$117,000

Position to support the transitioning from a bi-annual entry level firefighter testing program to annual testing.

(1.0 FTE)

Joint Enforcement Team Overtime

\$26,000

Inspections of nightclubs, bars, restaurants and other businesses at peak times to help maintain a safe environment for patrons and the community.

Questions?