

# Sonoita-Elgin Fire District

Fire Chief

Board Update April 2026



# 2024-2026 Strategic Plan

- Plan extended through 2027
- 2025 Annual Report being finalized





# Administration/Budget

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- Fiscal year 2026-2027 budget will be reviewed today. Next step preliminary adoption in May followed by public comment period.
- We participated in the annual Pima County Fire Chiefs Association salary survey, which is helpful in future budget development
- I have reinstated the fuel allowance effective this month given the significant increase in fuel prices for the past month. It will be evaluated monthly.

# Santa Cruz County Updates

- The Santa Cruz County Wildfire Protection Plan draft has been finalized and will be on the April agenda for adoption by the SEFD Board. It has been adopted by the SCC Board of Supervisors
- The County will be hiring a consulting firm to conduct a Public Safety audit and SEFD will be part of determining the scope of the audit and in selecting the firm
- Office of Emergency Management funding remains at risk for next fiscal year.



# Pima County Updates

- Pima County may be providing severity patrol funding to fire departments. Will require an IGA, which the Pima County Fire Chiefs Association is working on with the county.



# PSPRS Local Board

- The Local Board met in November and will next meet in the spring of 2026.



# Operations

- Equipment
  - We have been added to a regional grant application for new SCBA units along with Santa Rita Fire (grant host), Corona de Tucson Fire, Rincon Valley Fire, Tubac Fire and Rio Rico Fire. This is a welcome opportunity. It will be a 10% match on any ordered equipment, allowing us to buy 12 new units for the cost of one
- Staffing
  - Captain and Operations Chief position descriptions updated (handout) to reflect redistribution of certain duties with the OC position returning to full-time status in July



# Operations

- Apparatus
  - All units presently in operation
- District Growth/Development
  - Planned subdivisions
    - Papago Springs (removed commercial element)
    - AZ 82 (preliminary water requirements review completed)
  - Proposed dude ranches
    - Babacomari (no updates)
    - Double R Ranch (new and in County approval process)
  - Proposed Wineries
    - Brigand (moving forward, SEFD has approved plans)
  - Proposed Vet Clinic
    - 3129 AZ 83 in the initial plan review stage
  - Dollar General Remodel (SEFD has approved plans)
- Neighboring Agency News/Developments
  - Town of Patagonia Update

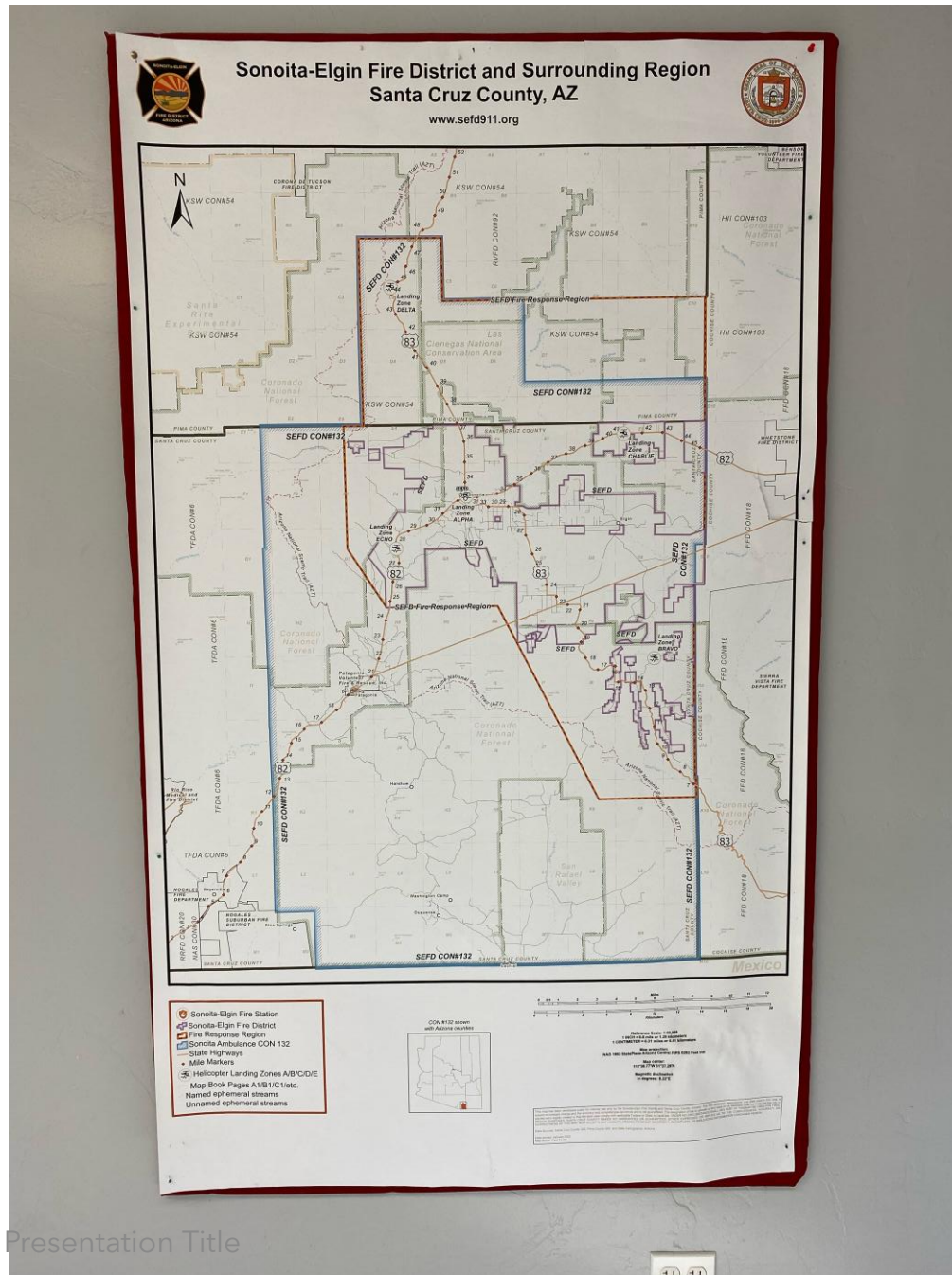


# SEFD Response Map

Purple- District (approx.  
95sq miles)

Orange- Fire Response  
Area (approx. 350sq miles)

Blue- CON (approx. 725sq  
miles)



## Incidents by Service Type

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Fire- 1

Medical- 37

Hazardous Condition- 0

Rescue- 0

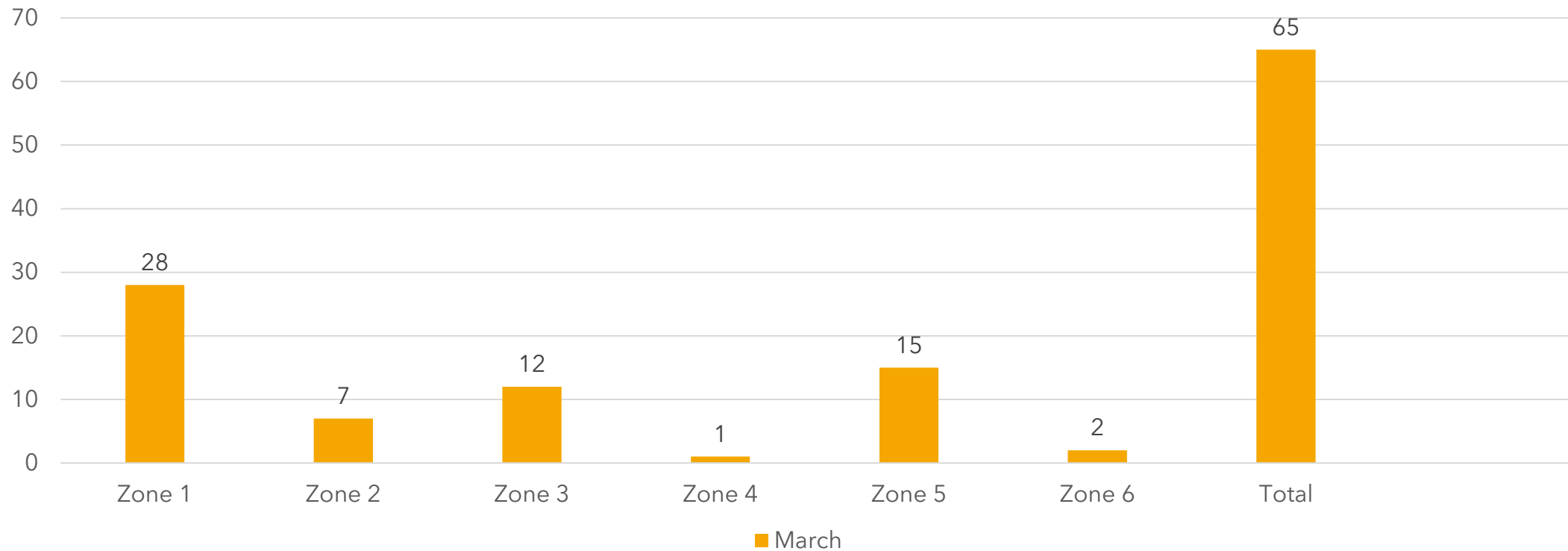
Public Service- 13

No Emergency- 14

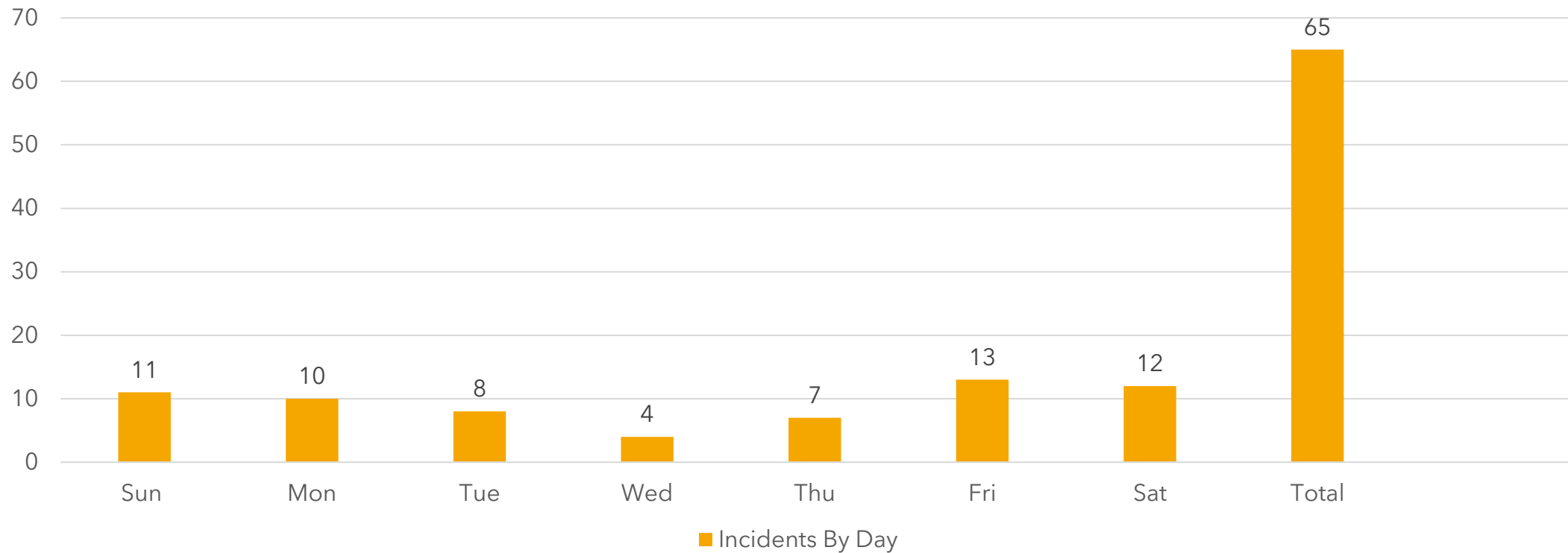
Assisting Law Enforcement- 0



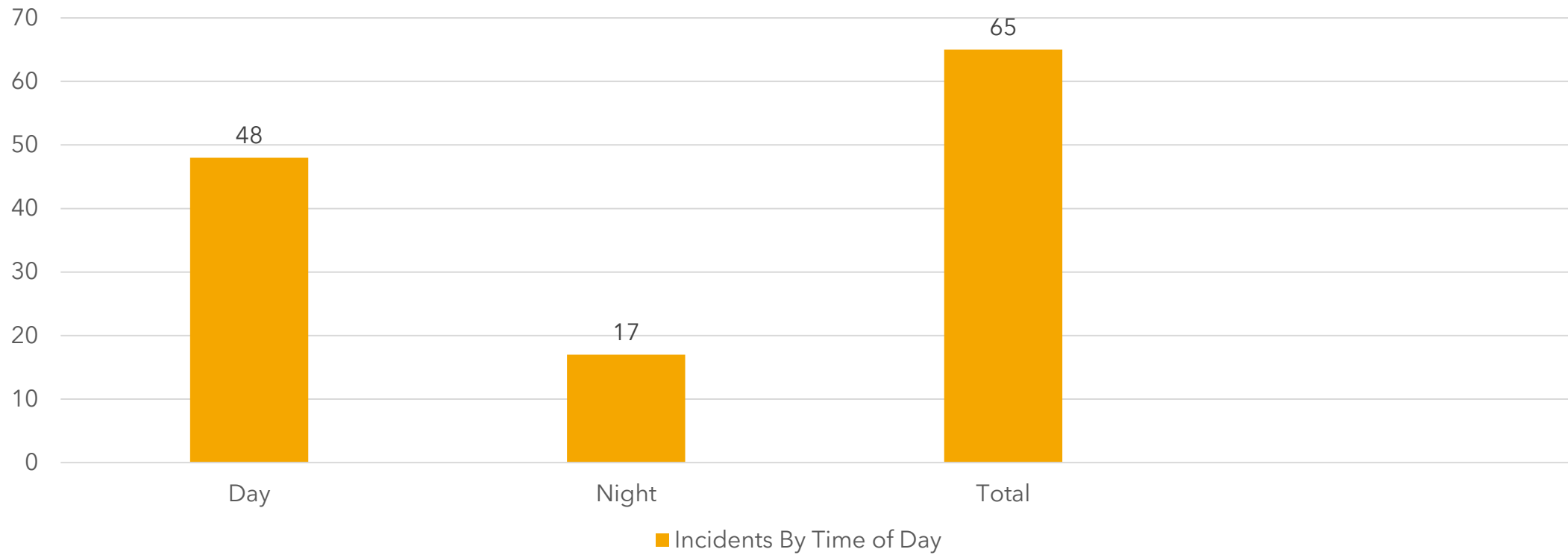
# Incident Count By Zone



# Incident Count By Day



# Incident Count By Time



# Incidents Year To Date Versus Previous Years

Month	2024	2025	2026
January	59	<b>47</b>	82
February	<b>46</b>	49	55
March	62	62	65
April	51	66	
May	60	66	
June	52	62	
July	71	66	
August	60	50	
September	63	<b>70</b>	
October	<b>84</b>	68	
November	67	59	
December	67	48	

# Certificate of Necessity (CON)

- Submitted a grant request via AZ DEMA to acquire computers and associated equipment towards compliance with HB2609



# Legislative Update

## House

- HB2182- EMTs Presumptive Diagnosis, allows for EMTs provide a presumptive (field) diagnosis for the purpose of the pt making an informed transport decision (AFDA support)
- HB2183- Emergency Medicine Study Committee, establishes committee to evaluate capacity (AFDA support)
- HB2204- Presumptive PTSD Coverage for Public Safety Personnel, extends presumptive coverage to include PTSD (AFDA pending)
- HB2402- Ambulance Services CON, updates to rules & regulations (AFDA **support**)
- HB2437- EMS reciprocity compact, ensures cross-state reciprocity (AFDA support)
- HB2641- PFAS Prohibition, expands restrictions on PFAS (AFDA support)
- HB2917- Firefighter Cancer Registry, would establish in AZ (AFDA support)

## Senate

- SB1130- Property Tax Exemption for Certain First Responder Survivors, amends ARS 42-11111 to expand property tax exemptions to include widows and widowers of first responders with LODD or LODD caused by injuries (AFDA support)
- **SB1215- Firefighters; occupational disease; cancer- expands list of cancers covered under presumptive diagnosis (AFDA support)**
- SB1216- Traumatic Event Counseling, removes repeal provisions (AFDA support)
- SB1504- PSPRS Service Requirement, provides for Tier 3 to fully retire at 25 years of service

## Federal

- HR1- Reduces Medicaid spending by approx. 900 billion over six years. Potential to increase under or non-paid transports
- Federal Wildland Fire Agency Reform- Uncertainty over timeline and final composition of the new US Wildland Fire Service (currently excludes USFS)

Questions?

