

Sonoita-Elgin Fire District

Fire Chief

Board Update March 2026



2024-2026 Strategic Plan

- We are extending the end time of the plan to December 2027. We will create an addendum to the plan to reflect this extension. An update on progress will be provided at the March meeting





Administration/Budget

- SCC Treasurer Update- SCC Supervisors considered a possible resolution with Rio Rico Fire & Medical at their 03-18 meeting. The County's suit against the state of Arizona was dismissed.
- Work on the FY26-27 continues. We need to set a date for a public workshop

Special Department Logo

Planned use will be April 1,
2026 to June 30, 2027.



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.
- Office of Emergency Management funding is at risk for next fiscal year.



Pima County Updates

- The Pima County Wildfire Protection Plan update should be available for comment by March



PSPRS Local Board

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



Operations

- Staffing
 - FF Herrera, FF Sanchez and FF Olkiewicz have all started on shift
 - FF Reynosa will be sworn in later today



Operations

- Apparatus
 - M832 needs significant work done and is being held in reserve for the moment
- District Growth/Development
 - Planned subdivisions
 - Papago Springs (removed commercial element)
 - AZ 82 (official plan comments requested)
 - 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
- Firewise and Fuels Mitigation News and Updates (SCC CWPP and PC CWPP)

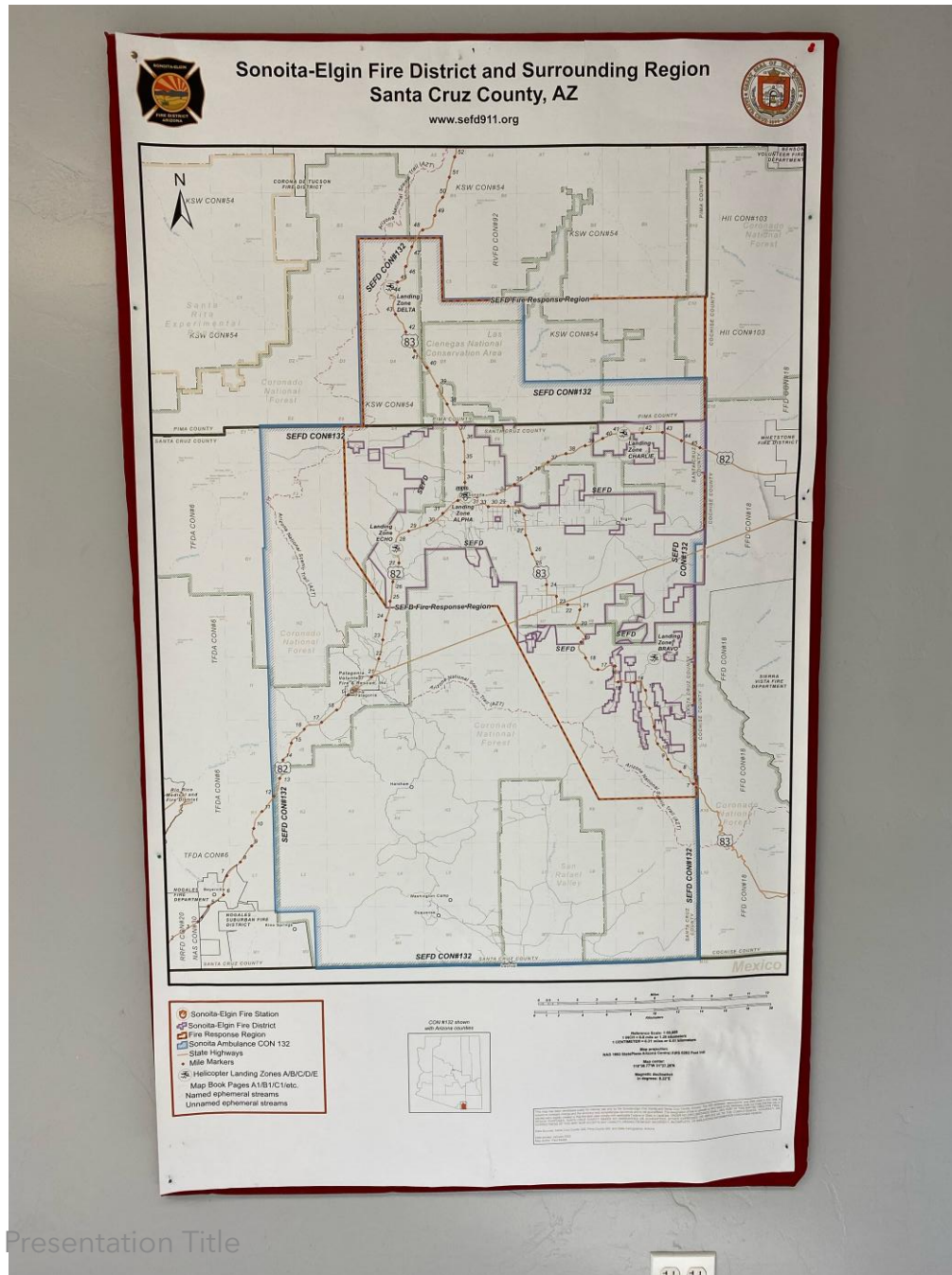


SEFD Response Map

Purple- District (approx.
95sq miles)

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

Blue- CON (approx. 725sq
miles)



NFIRS versus NERIS

NFIRS

- Fire
- Rescue & EMS
- Service
- Good Intent
- Hazardous Conditions
- False Alarm & False Call

NERIS

- Fire
- Medical
- Hazardous Situation
- Rescue
- Public Service
- No Emergency
- Assisting Law Enforcement

Incidents by Service Type

Fire- 1

Medical- 31

Hazardous Condition- 0

Rescue- 0

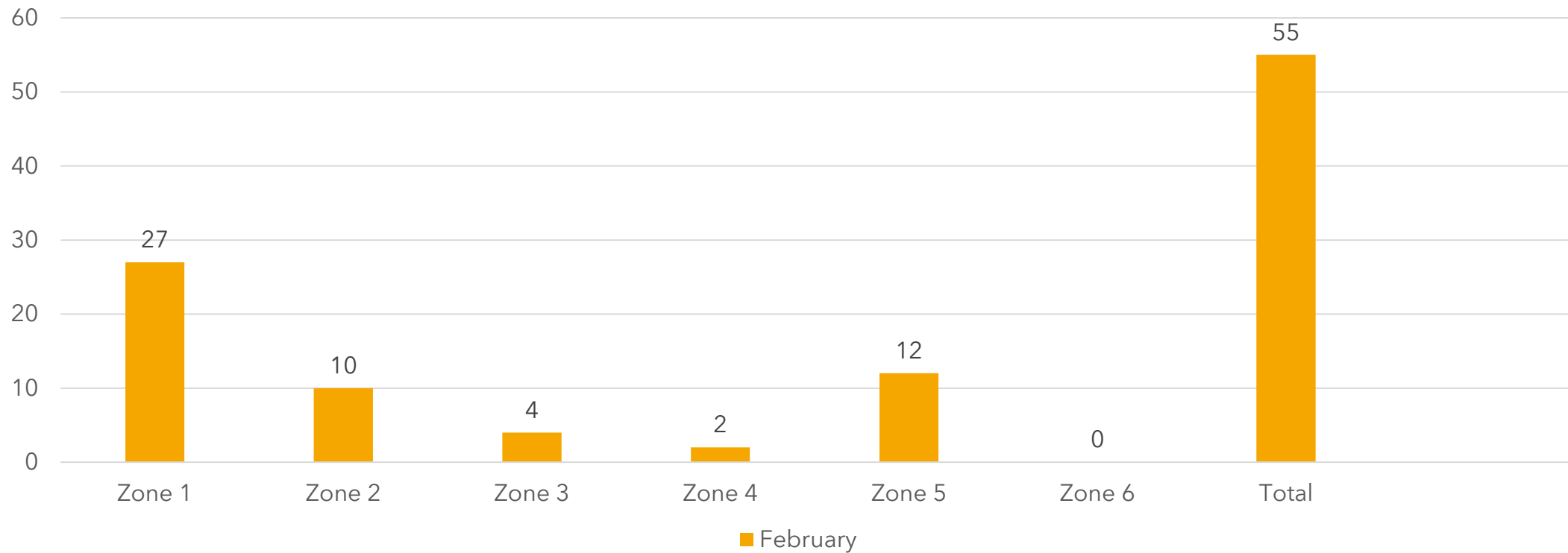
Public Service- 8

No Emergency- 15

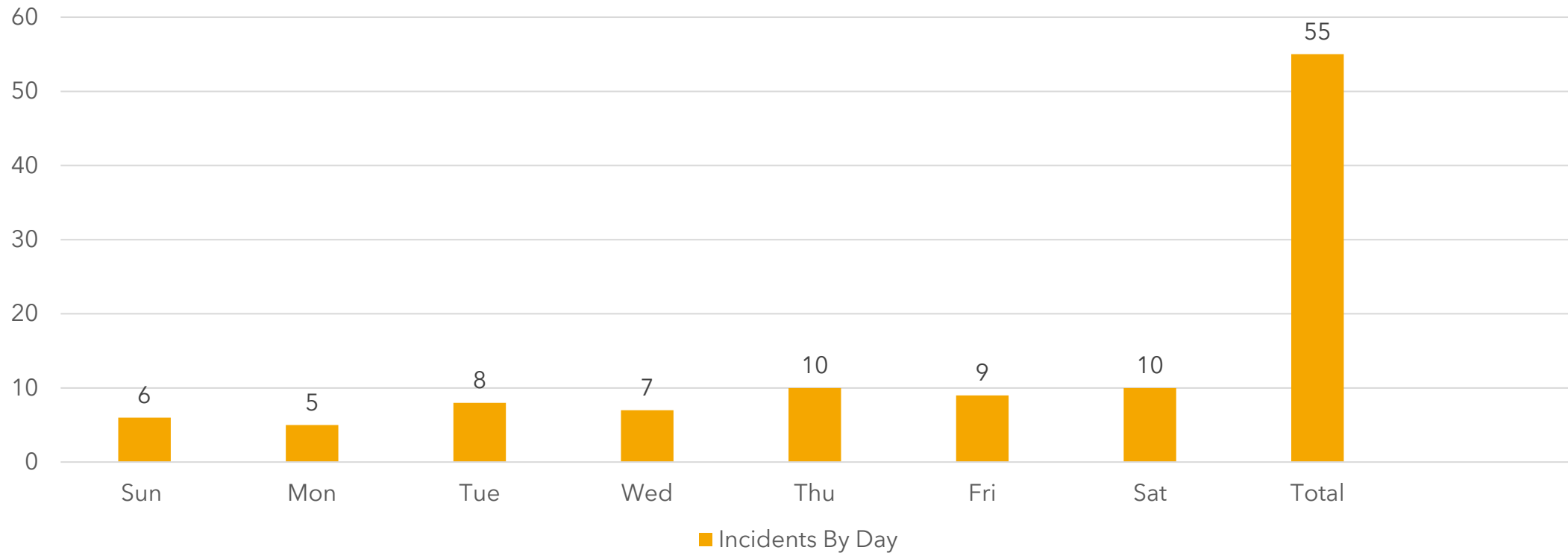
Assisting Law Enforcement- 0



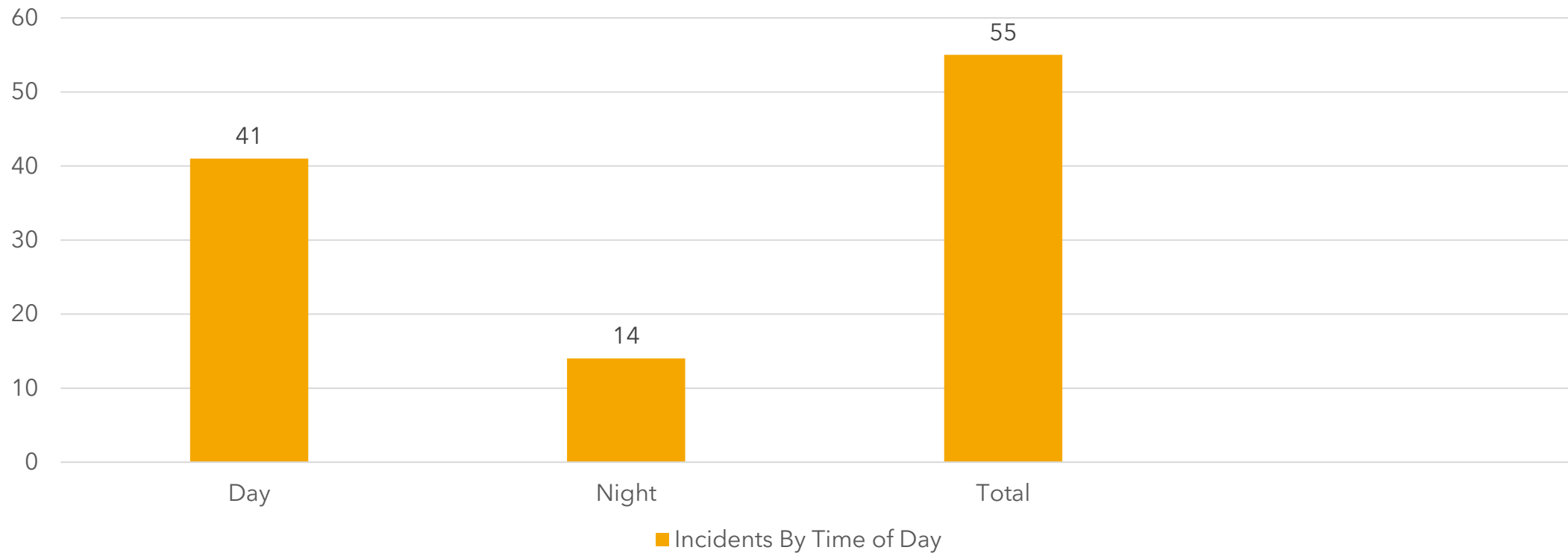
Incident Count By Zone



Incident Count By Day



Incident Count By Time



Incidents Year To Date Versus Previous Years

Month	2024	2025	2026
January	59	47	82
February	46	49	55
March	62	62	
April	51	66	
May	60	66	
June	52	62	
July	71	66	
August	60	50	
September	63	70	
October	84	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 neutral)
- 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)
- 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?

