

County Council Of Howard County, Maryland

2019 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 6

Resolution No. 80-2019

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION adopting a Schedule of Fees for inspections conducted by the Department of Fire and Rescue Services.

Introduced and read first time May 6, 2019.

By order Jessica Feldmark  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Read for a second time at a public hearing on May 20, 2019.

By order Jessica Feldmark  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted , Adopted with amendments , Failed , Withdrawn , by the County Council on May 29, 2019.

Certified By Jessica Feldmark  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Approved by the County Executive June 5, 2019

Calvin Ball  
Calvin Ball, County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; Strike-out indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment

1           **WHEREAS**, Section 6-206(b) of the Public Safety Article of the Annotated Code of  
2 Maryland authorizes the State Fire Prevention Commission to adopt fees for reviewing building  
3 plans and conducting inspections; and  
4

5           **WHEREAS**, Sections 9-701 and 9-702 of the Public Safety Article of the Annotated  
6 Code of Maryland authorize a local governing body to adopt a fire prevention code and to  
7 establish and administer a fee schedule for conducting inspections and plan review; and  
8

9           **WHEREAS**, Howard County has adopted a fire prevention code, as codified in Title 17,  
10 Subtitle 1 of the Howard County Code, which authorizes the adoption of fees; and  
11

12           **WHEREAS**, the Code of Maryland Regulations at Chapter 29.06.04 (the “State  
13 Regulations”) provides that the State’s Fire Prevention Commission’s Fees for Fire Prevention  
14 Services can be used, amended, or referenced by a County that chooses to establish its own fee  
15 schedule; and  
16

17           **WHEREAS**, by passage of Council Resolution No. 68-2016, the County Council last  
18 adopted fees for certain inspections performed by the Department of Fire and Rescue Services;  
19 and  
20

21           **WHEREAS**, the Department of Fire and Rescue Services wishes to adopt the fee  
22 schedule for fire safety inspections, as provided in the attached Exhibit A, and there are no  
23 changes proposed for Fiscal Year 2020.  
24

25           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard County,  
26 Maryland this 29<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2019 that, pursuant to State Regulations that allow  
27 local jurisdictions to use, amend, or reference the State’s Fire Prevention Commission’s Fees for  
28 Fire Prevention Services, it adopts the amended Schedule of Fees for Fire Safety Inspections, as  
29 shown in the attached Exhibit A.  
30

1            **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the fee schedule shall be effective July 1, 2019 and  
2 shall continue in effect until changed or repealed by subsequent resolution.

EXHIBIT A

**I Fees for Fire Safety Inspections**

- A. This fee schedule has been adopted by County Council Resolution No. \_\_\_-2019 pursuant to the authority set forth in Title 17, Subtitle 1 of the Howard County Code and the State of Maryland Fire Prevention Code (C.O.M.A.R. Title 29, Subtitle 06, Chapter 4).
- B. This schedule will be used to calculate the fee to be paid for a fire safety inspection conducted by the Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services. Specific testing of certain specialized fire protection systems and equipment may be required by qualified maintenance personnel or a contractor at the owner's expense.
- C. The following fees will be applied upon the occupancy classification for the building as defined and classified by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 101 Life Safety Code. In the case of mixed occupancies when it is impractical to distinguish the individual occupancy classifications, the occupancy classification is based on the predominant use and occupancy of the building structure. Use Section 3.3.190 when determining the occupancy type.

**1) Assembly Occupancies**

- |                                     |          |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| a) 1,001 or more individuals        | \$300.00 |
| b) 301 to 1,000 individuals         | \$200.00 |
| c) 50 to 300 individuals            | \$100.00 |
| d) Fairgrounds for properties with: |          |
| i) Nine buildings or less           | \$200.00 |
| ii) Ten buildings or more           | \$400.00 |

**2) Educational Occupancy**

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| a) Elementary schools<br>(includes kindergarten and pre-kindergarten facilities) | \$100.00 |
| b) Middle or Junior High Schools   | \$150.00 |
| c) Senior High Schools   | \$150.00 |
| d) Family or Group Daycare Homes   |          |
| i) Initial Inspection  | \$75.00  |
| ii) Renewal Inspection   | \$50.00  |
| e) Nursery or Daycare Centers  | \$100.00 |

**3) Health Care Occupancy**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| a) Ambulatory Health Care Centers                       | \$150.00 (Per 3,000 sq. ft. or fraction of 3,000 sq. ft) |
| b) Hospitals, Nursing Homes and limited care facilities | \$100.00 per bldg., plus \$2.00 per bed                  |

**4) Detention and Correctional Occupancy**

\$100.00 per bldg., plus \$2.00 per rated bed

**5) Residential Occupancy**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| a) Hotel and Motel                                 | \$75.00 per bldg., plus \$2.00 per guest room/suite |
| b) Dormitory                                       | \$75.00 per bldg., plus \$2.00 per bed              |
| c) Apartment                                       | \$75.00 per bldg., plus \$2.00 per apartment        |
| d) Lodging or Rooming House                        | \$75.00 per bldg., plus \$2.00 per bed              |
| e) One & Two Family Dwelling                       | \$75.00   |
| Including alternative living units and Foster Care |   |
| f) Board & Care Homes                              | \$100.00 per bldg., plus \$2.00 per bed             |

<b>6) Mercantile Occupancy</b>	
a) Class A – over 30,000 sq. feet	\$150.00
b) Class B – 3, 000 to 30,000 sq. feet	\$100.00
c) Class C – less than 3,000 sq. feet	\$75.00
<b>7) Business Occupancy</b>	
Per 3,000 sq. feet or fraction of 3,000 sq. feet	\$75.00
<b>8) Industrial or Storage Occupancy</b>	
a) Low or Ordinary Hazard	\$75.00 (Per 5,000 sq. feet or fraction of 5,000)
b) High Hazard	\$100.00 (Per 5,000 sq. feet or fraction of 5,000)
<b>9) Manufactured Home Site and Communities</b>	\$75.00 per facility, plus \$2.00 per site
<b>10) Campgrounds</b>	
a) Vehicular	\$75.00 per facility, plus \$2.00 per campsite
b) With Sleeping Accommodations	\$150.00 per facility, plus \$2.00 per bed
c) Without Sleeping Accommodations	\$75.00 per facility
<b>11) Outside storage of combustible materials</b>	\$50.00 (Per acre or fraction of an acre)
(Ex: scrap tire, lumber, mulch, tree stumps, etc.)	
<b>12) Outside storage of flammable or combustible liquids/gases</b>	\$100.00 (Per 5,000 sq. feet or fraction of 5,000 sq. feet)
(Ex: drums or tanks)	
<b>13) Marinas and Piers</b>	\$100.00, plus \$1.00 per slip
<b>14) Mobile Food</b>	Annual fee     \$75 One day fee    \$45 Re-inspection  \$45
<b>15) HAZMAT Inspections</b>	Type I- \$1,000.00 annually Type II- \$400.00 annually Type III- \$250.00 annually Type IV- \$100.00 annually Type V- \$100.00 annually

If you have a seasonal pool that is open no more than 120 consecutive days, your fees would be 50% of the permit fee.

**Permit Late Fees**

- 30 days beyond the filing date will be assessed a 10% late fee plus the original permit fee.
- 60 days beyond the filing date will be assessed a 20% late fee plus the original permit fee.
- 90 days beyond the filing date will be assessed a 50% late fee plus the original permit fee.
- 180 days beyond the filing date will be assessed a 100% late fee plus the original permit fee.

16) Tires

Tier 1- \$500.00 annually  
Tier 2- \$325.00 annually  
Tier 3- \$150.00 annually

**Permit Late Fees**

- 30 days beyond the filing date will be assessed a 10% late fee plus the original permit fee.
- 60 days beyond the filing date will be assessed a 20% late fee plus the original permit fee.
- 90 days beyond the filing date will be assessed a 50% late fee plus the original permit fee.
- 180 days beyond the filing date will be assessed a 100% late fee plus the original permit fee.

17) Contractor Portal

\$5/per report submitted

- D. A re-inspection fee of \$150.00 applies if more than one inspection is required to correct a previously identified fire code violation.

**II Fees for Technical Assistance, Unclassified Inspections, and Special Events**

- A. The fee schedule below shall be used to calculate the fee for Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services to provide technical assistance or unclassified inspections, to include special events, in the form of plan review or on-site inspections.
- B. A separate technical assistance fee shall be charged at the following rate and prorated to the nearest ½ hour:
 

1) Deputy Fire Marshal or Fire Safety Inspector	\$75.00 per hour
2) Fire Protection Engineer	\$100.00 per hour
- C. Travel time to and from a meeting or inspection site shall be included when computing the fee.
- D. When requested, a reasonable time to prepare written reports or research subsequent code related issues shall be included when computing fees.
- E. The fee shall be charged to the person officially requesting assistance and shall be payable upon receipt of an itemized invoice submitted in accordance with administrative procedures established by fire authorities.
- F. Failure to pay the fee within the required time shall result in appropriate administrative or legal action. Further plan review or inspection action may not take place until the fee is paid in full. This may result in a delay of the issuance of a building permit, or use and occupancy permit for the building or facility.

**III Fee Payment for Fire Safety Inspections**

- A. Fees for fire safety inspections are payable upon receipt of an invoice from the Howard County Department of Finance upon completion of the inspection. Failure to pay this fee within the specified time may result in:
  - a) Administrative or legal action;
  - b) No further inspection activity;
  - c) Denial of the issuance or renewal of a permit or license held by the facility being inspected;
  - d) Violation of Public Safety Article 6-601, 6-317, 9-109, 9-206, 9-905, Annotated Code of Maryland.
- B. The fire safety inspection fee may not be charged if the inspection is conducted in response to a specific complaint regarding an alleged violation of the Howard County Fire Prevention Code.

C. Payment Method

- a) Fee payments shall be in the form of a check or money order payable to the Howard County Director of Finance.
- b) Cash payment is not acceptable.

**IV Disposition of Fees**

- A. Fees collected by the Howard County Department of Finance for inspections shall be deposited in the fire tax fund of the Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services.
- B. Fees shall be collected and processed in accordance with fiscal procedures established by the Howard County Department of Finance for the collection, disbursement, and accounting of funds.





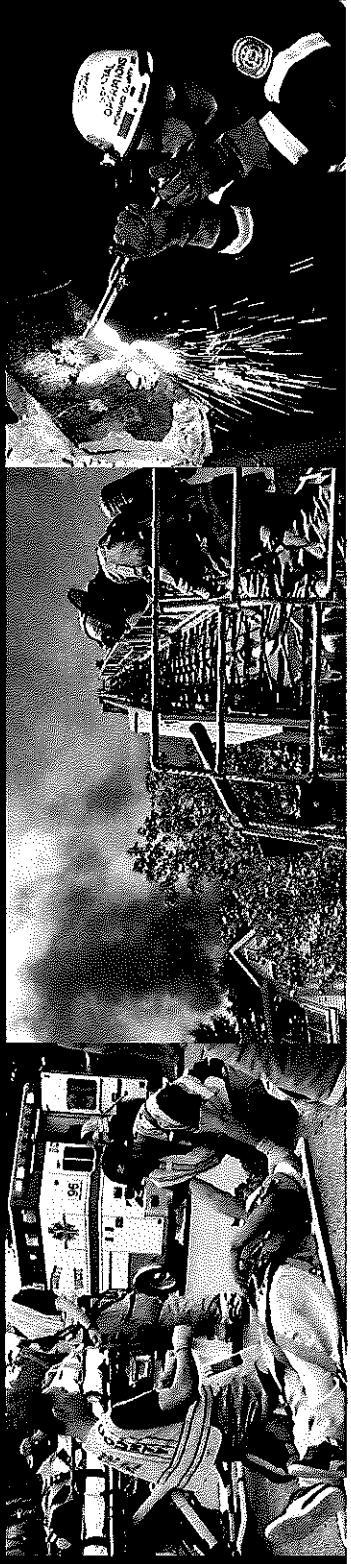
CR 80-2019



# HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES

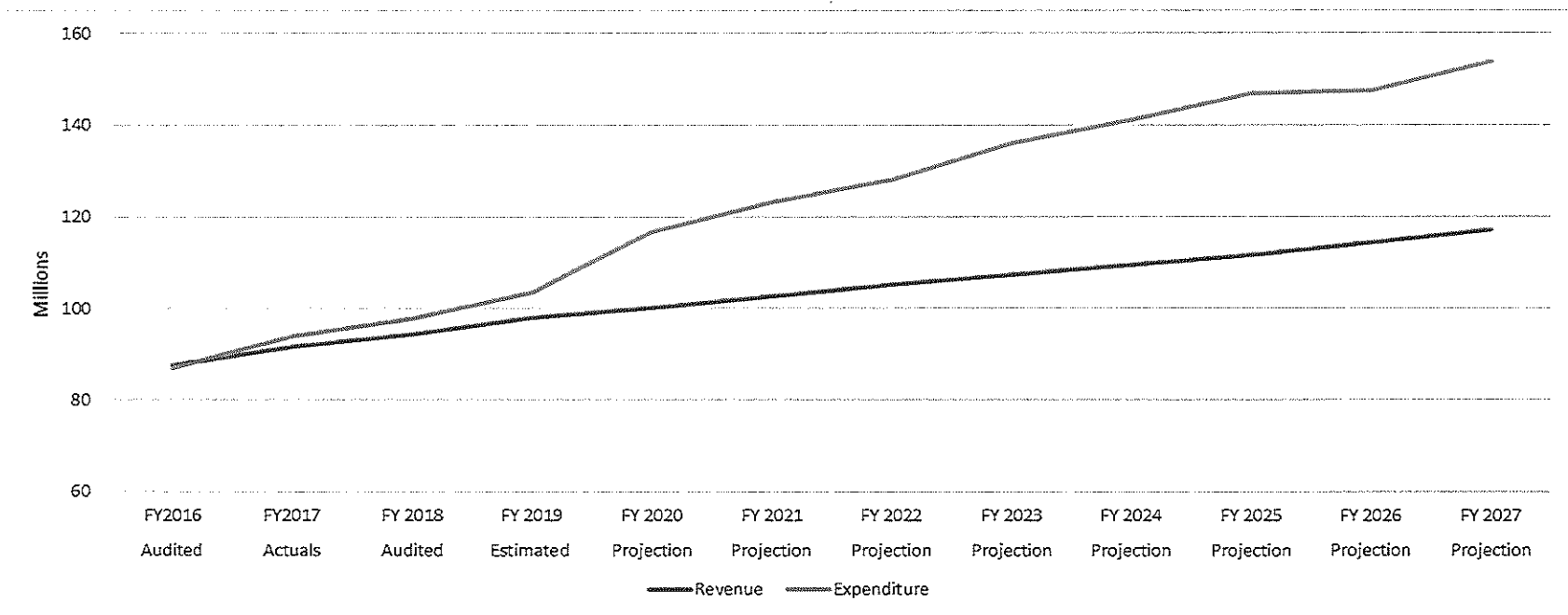
## Impacts to Fire Rescue Budget

Howard County Council  
May 06, 2019

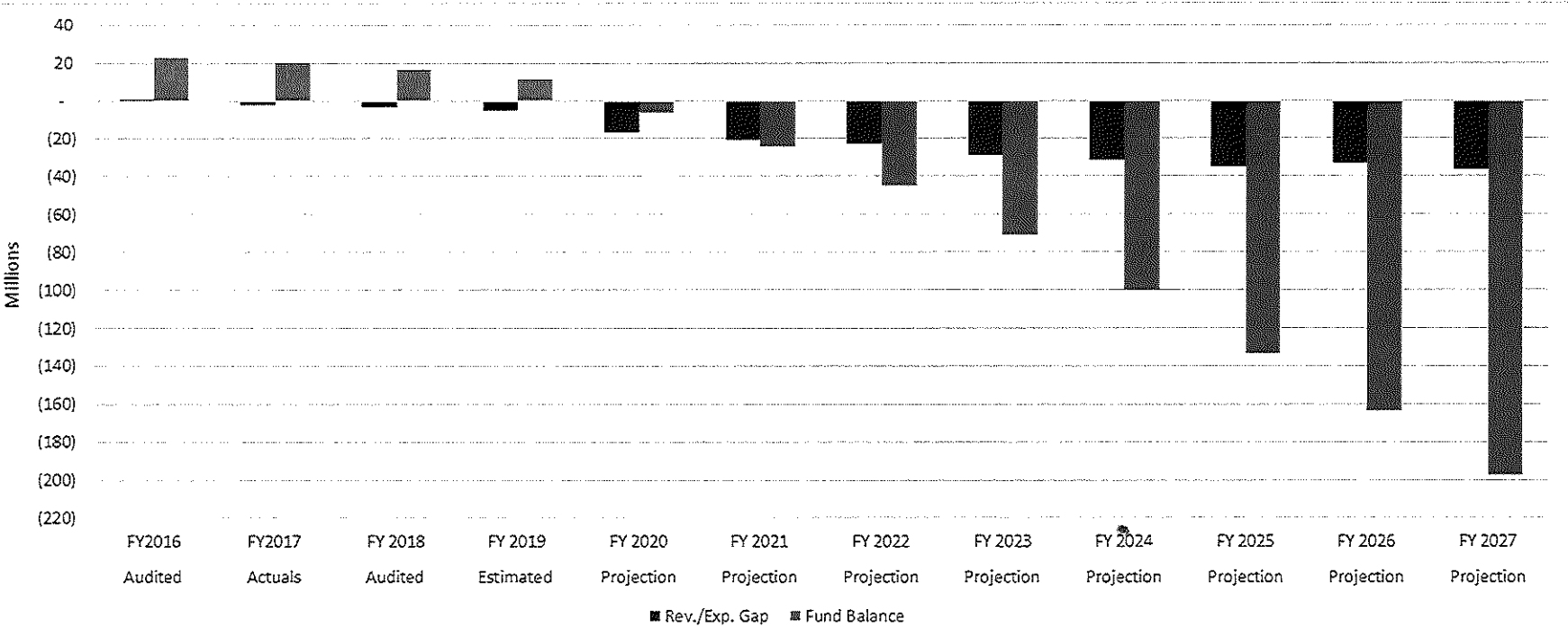


# Fire Fund Revenue vs. Expenditures

- Fire Fund expenditure started to exceed revenues in FY2016.
- The annual expenditure GAP is expected to exceed \$16 million in FY2020 and reach \$37 million by FY2027.



# Annual Revenue-Expenditure Gap vs Fire Fund Balance



- Fire Fund balance is projected to be about -\$6m by FY 2020 and about -\$197m by FY 2027 if no actions are taken.

# Uniformed Position Growth 2013-2023

- FY 2013	Glenwood Station	32 FTE (engine, medic, tanker)
- FY 2013	Ellicott City	8 FTE (ambulance)
- FY 2018	Lisbon	18 FTE (medic, partial engine staffing (2))
- FY 2019	Lisbon	5 FTE (engine 3rd)
- FY 2019	Merriweather	18 FTE (engine)
- FY 2019	Ellicott City, Rivers Park, Scaggsville	14 FTE (engine 4ths)
- FY 2020	Mobile Integrated Health	2 FTE
- FY 2020	(EMS Insurance Reimbursement)	(3 FTE)
- FY 2020	Merriweather	7 FTE (expand ambulance hours*)
- FY 2020	Glenwood	2 FTE (expand battalion chief/EMS officer hours*)
- FY 2020	(Civilian Staff)	6 FTE (3 EMS Insurance, 2 training, 1 outreach)
- FY 2021	Waterloo Station Opening	27 FTE (engine, medic)
- FY 2021	Columbia	5 FTE (peak-load ambulance)
- FY 2021	Training staff	3 FTE (instructors)
- FY 2023	North Columbia Station Opening	27 FTE (engine, medic)

*Does not include some civilian staff*

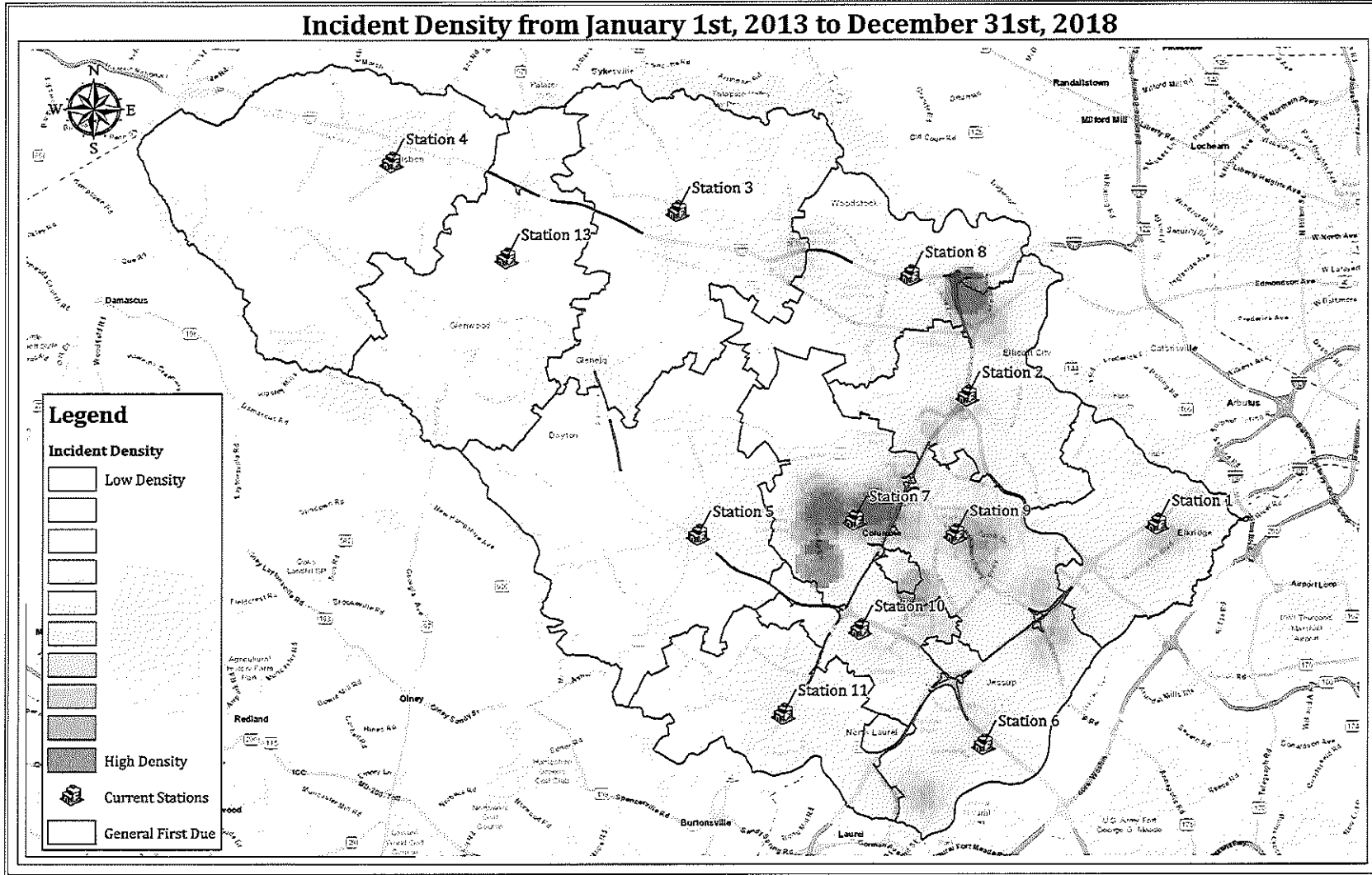
*\* Overtime support still required*

# Growth in Howard County and Its Impact on Future Fire Rescue Needs

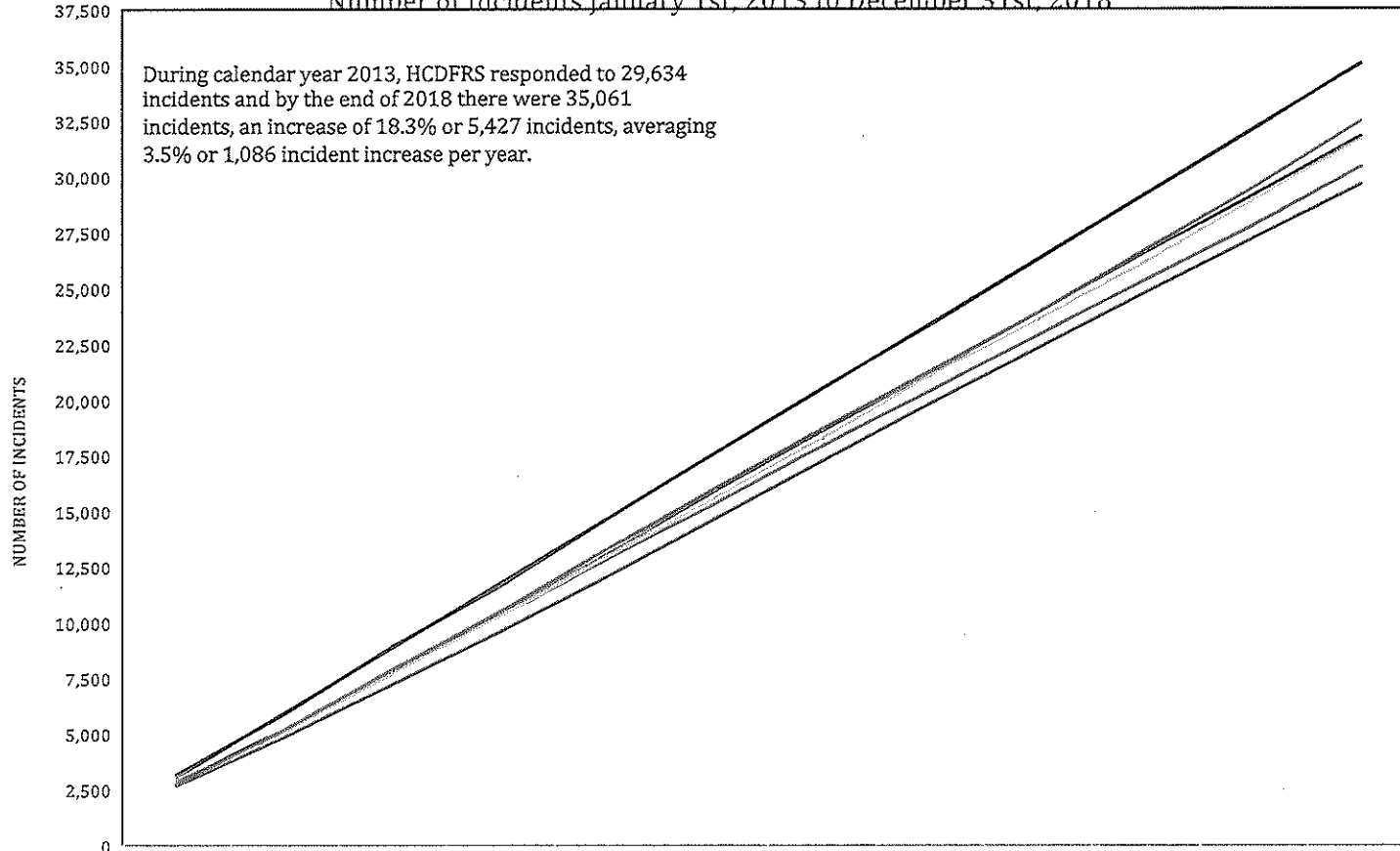
Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services

# Demand for Service

## Incident Density from January 1st, 2013 to December 31st, 2018



Number of Incidents January 1st, 2013 to December 31st, 2018



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2013	2,678	4,828	7,206	9,549	12,085	14,678	17,292	19,857	22,325	24,771	27,154	29,634
2014	2,865	5,247	7,830	10,244	12,854	15,392	17,939	20,435	22,910	25,412	27,766	30,402
2015	2,665	5,237	7,822	10,329	13,115	15,881	18,610	21,233	23,880	26,593	29,126	31,778
2016	2,741	5,135	7,692	10,303	12,930	15,608	18,304	21,041	23,564	26,226	28,853	31,632
2017	2,725	5,170	7,917	10,535	13,267	15,976	18,694	21,367	23,943	26,740	29,402	32,454
2018	3,173	5,859	8,909	11,586	14,630	17,611	20,572	23,406	26,275	29,247	32,055	35,061



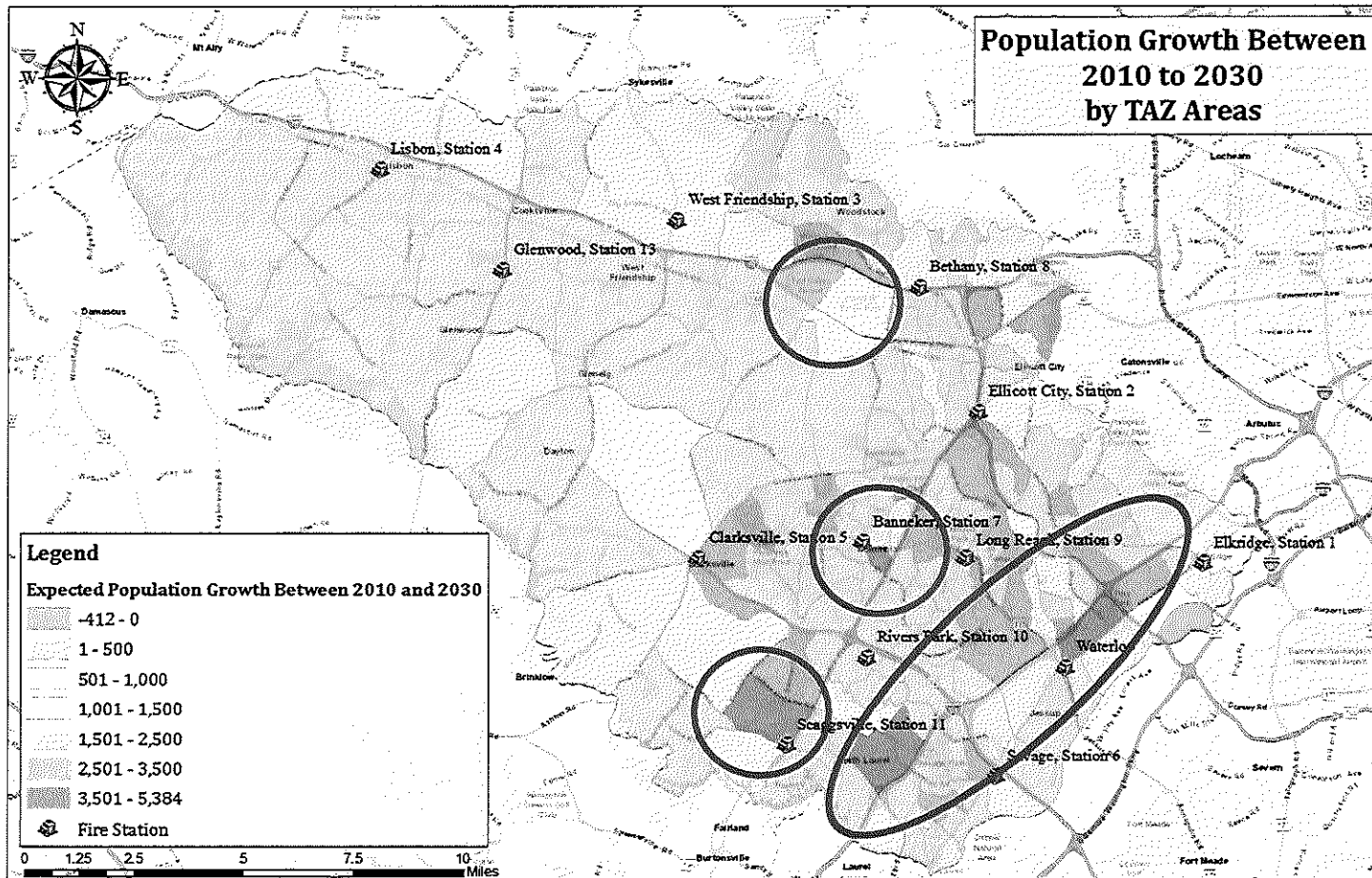
# Incident vs. Residential Growth

- 18.3% increase in incident growth
- 6.0% increase in population growth
- 11.5% increase in incidents per 100,000 residents

	Number of Incidents	Number of Residents	Incidents per 100,000 Residents
2013	29,634	304,580	9,729
2014	30,402	309,284	9,830
2015	31,778	313,414	10,139
2016	31,632	317,233	9,971
2017	32,454	321,113	10,107
2018	35,061	322,992	10,855

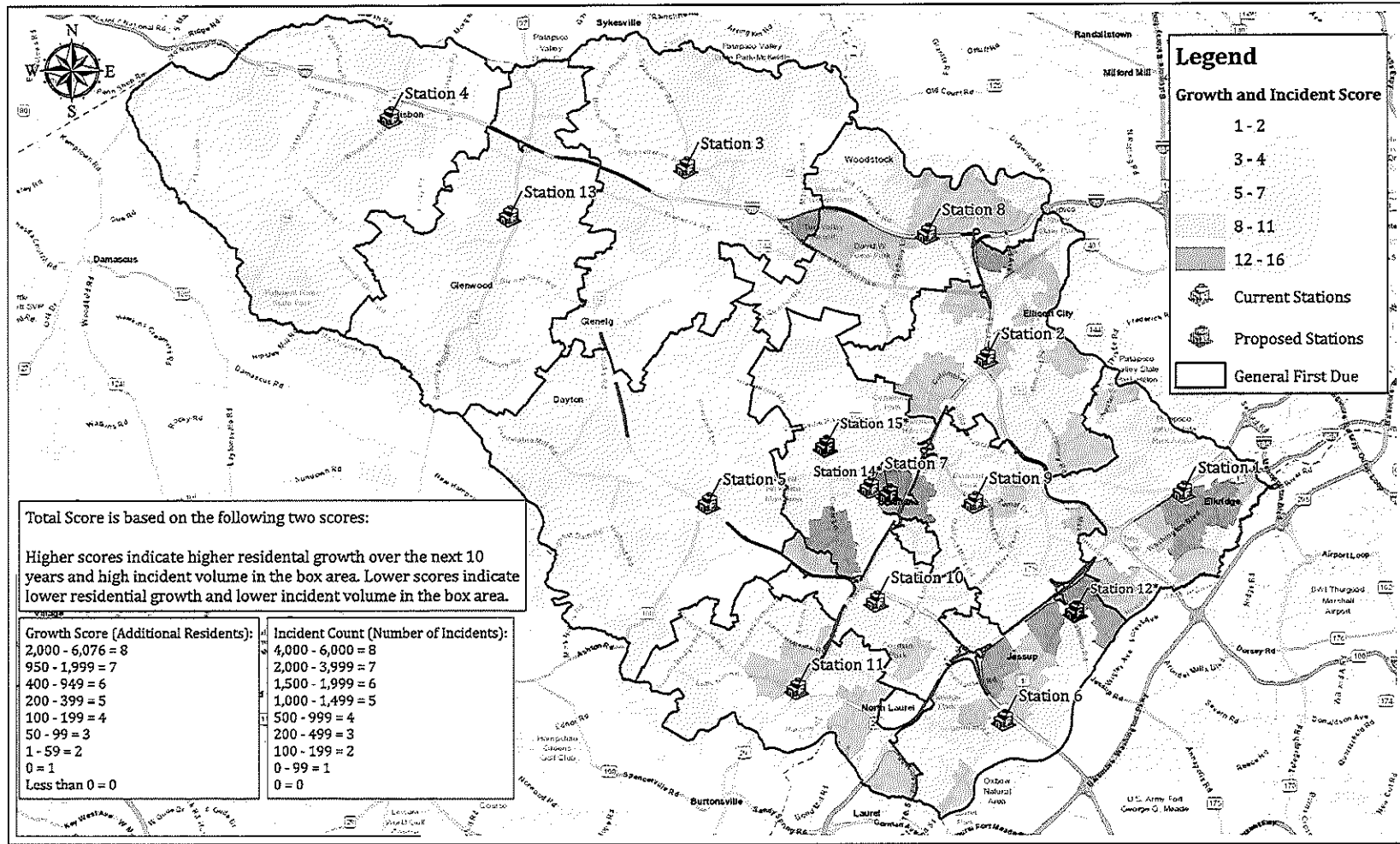
Growth

# Residential Population Growth

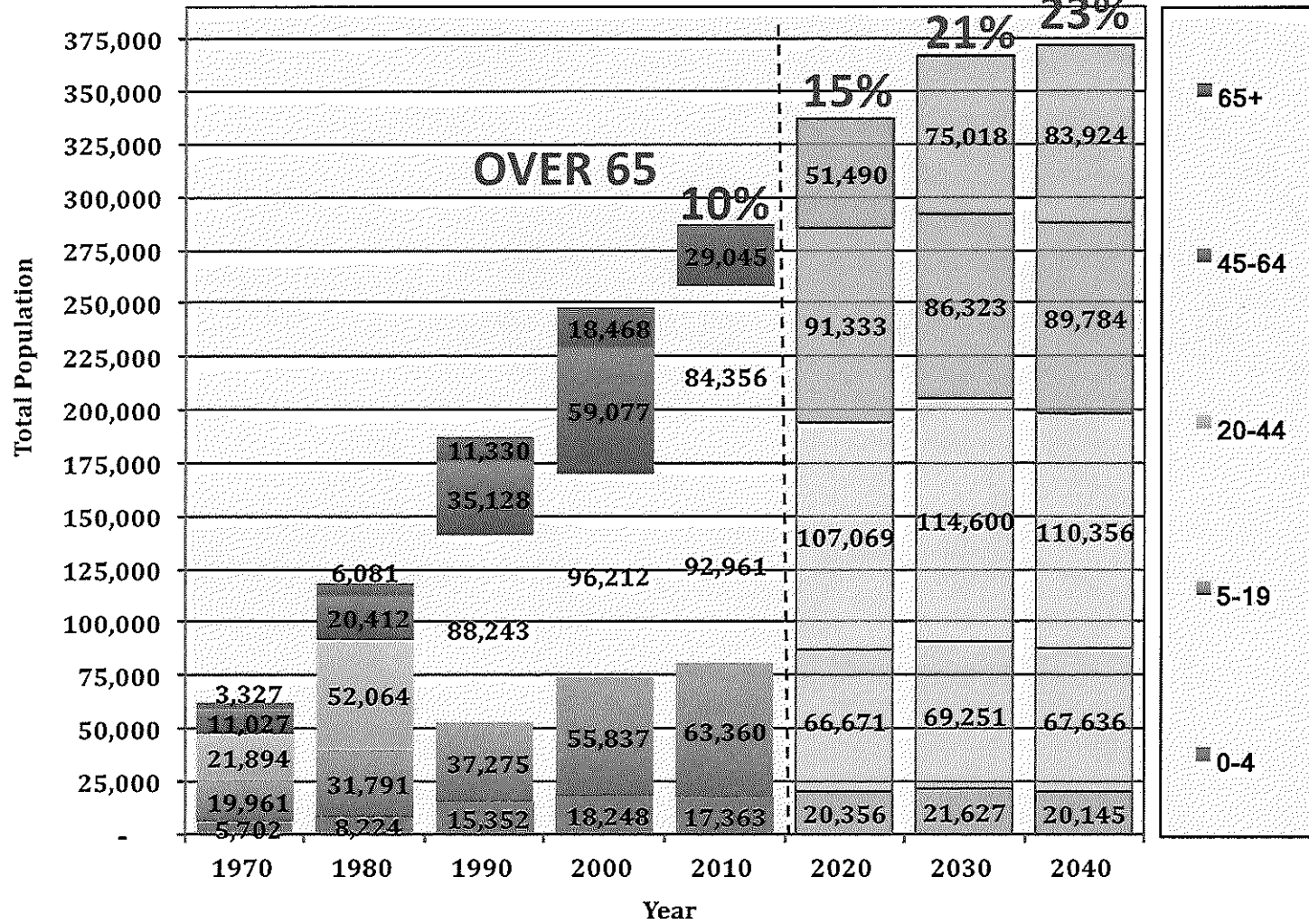


BMC: Round 88 Residential Projections by TAZ

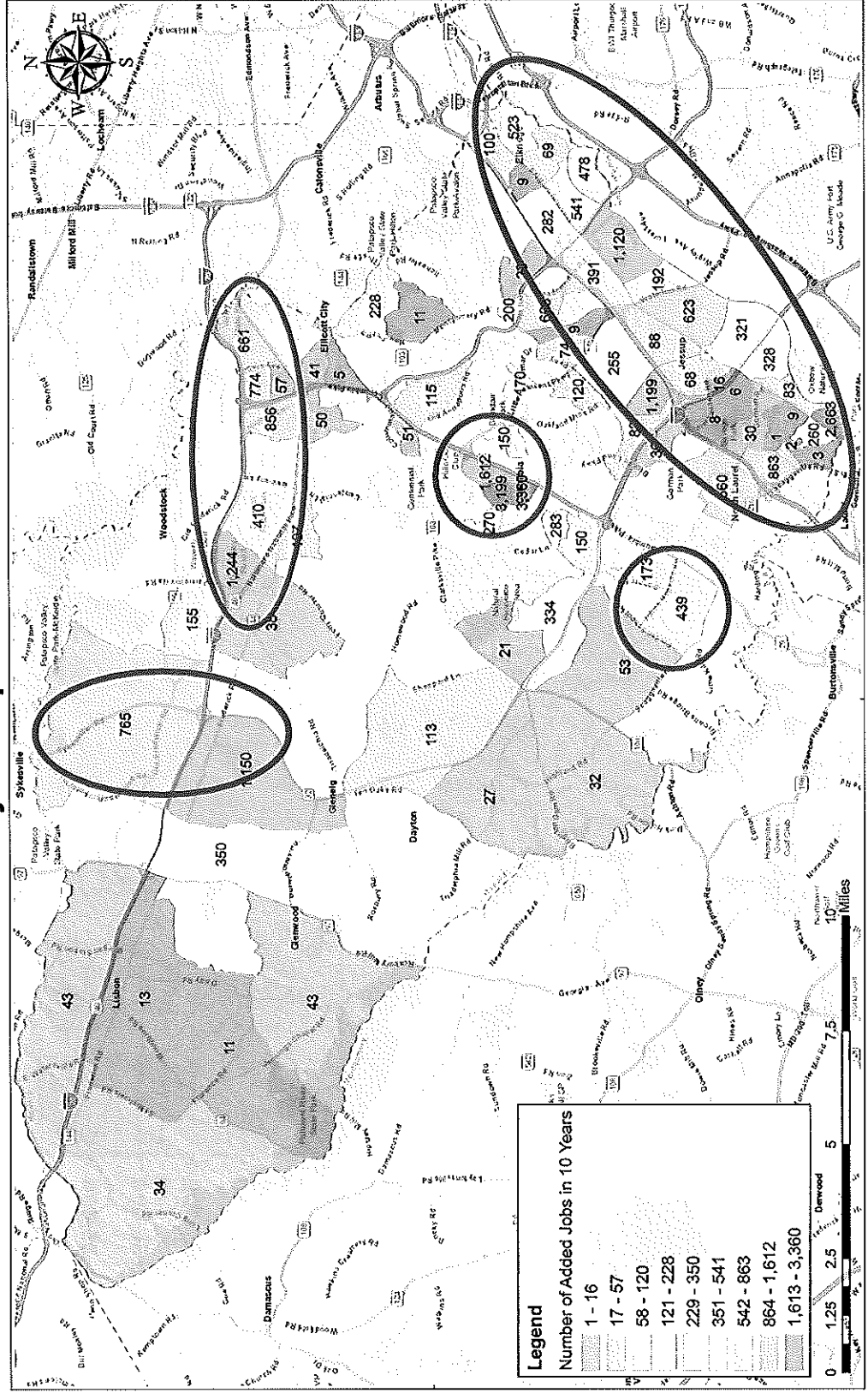
# 10 Year Growth and Incident Count by Box Area



### Total Population by Age



# 10 Year Job Growth by Transportation Area Zone 2020-2030

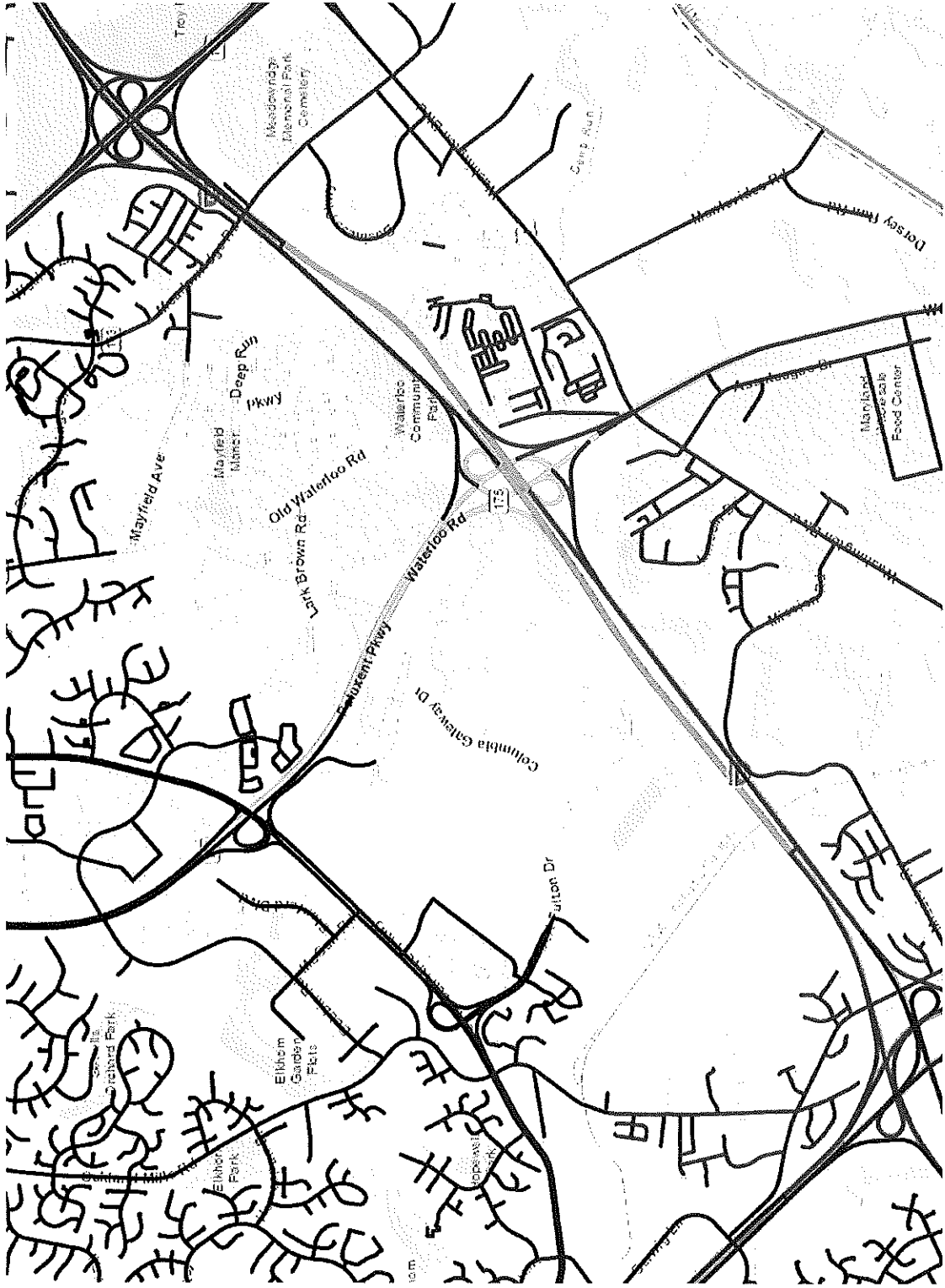


Distance

# 6 Minute Drive Time Map by Station

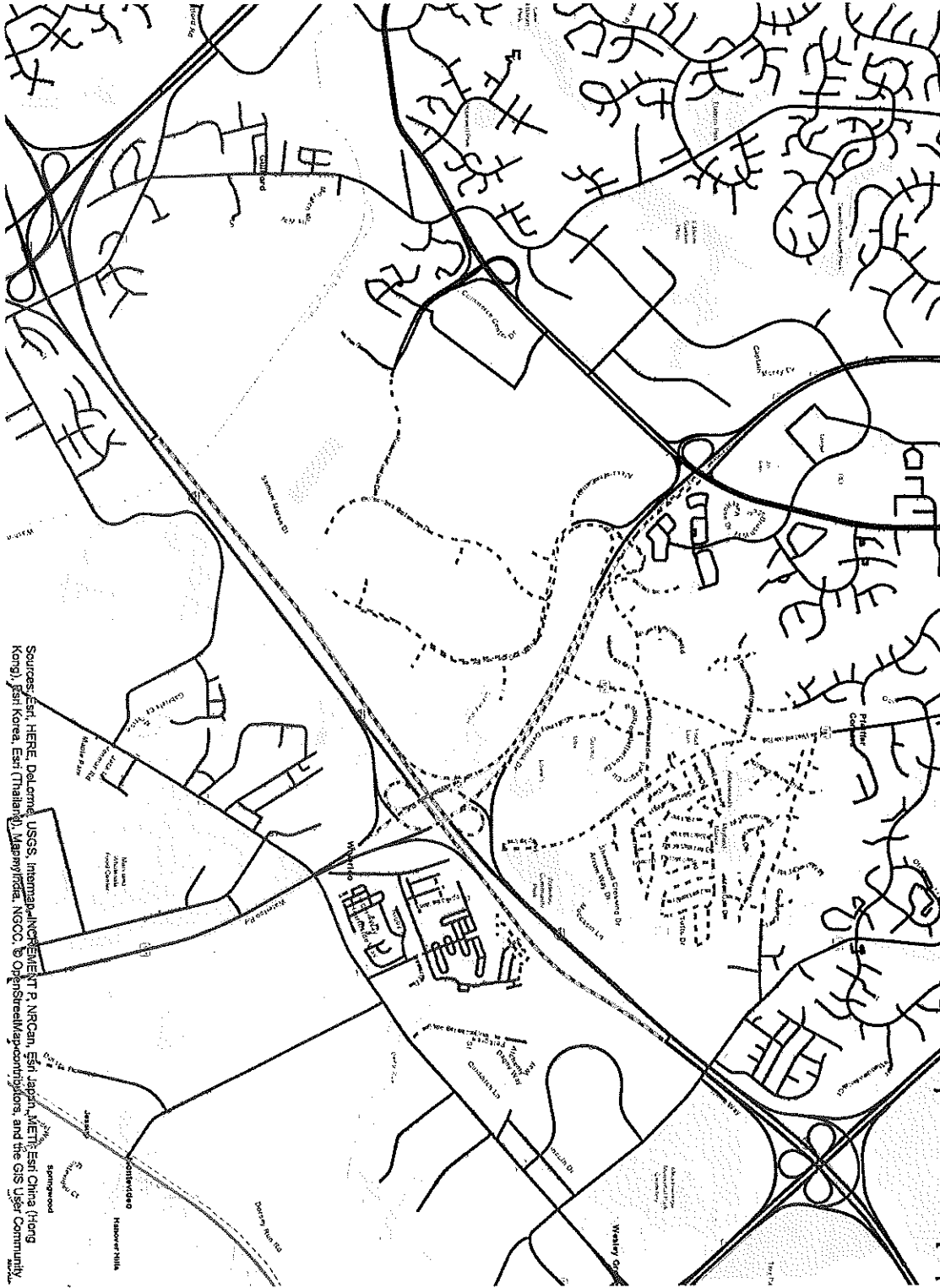






**Current:  
6 Minute Drive Times in Waterloo area**

# Proposed: 6 Minute Drive Times in Waterloo area



# Current: 6 Minute Drive Times in Northwest Columbia









Questions ??