

IOWA CITY

FIRE DEPARTMENT

STRATEGIC PLAN 2017-2021

Updated May 2018



Introduction

The Iowa City Fire Department (ICFD) provides fire suppression, emergency medical services, basic and technical rescue, hazardous materials mitigation, fire inspection, fire investigation, public education, and domestic preparedness planning and response to the city of Iowa City. ICFD is consistently working to achieve and/or maintain the highest level of professionalism and efficiency on behalf of those it serves.

In an effort to continue to work toward continual self-improvement, ICFD contracted with the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE) and the University of Iowa Institute of Public Affairs (IPA) to facilitate a method to document the department's path into the future—this process resulted in the development and implementation of a "Community- Driven Strategic Plan." The strategic plan was written in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the CFAI Fire & Emergency Service Self-Assessment Manual 8th Ed., and is intended to guide the organization within established parameters set forth by the authority having jurisdiction.

Both CPSE and IPA utilized the community-driven strategic planning model to go beyond just the development of a document.—CPSE focused on soliciting community feedback from external stakeholders, while IPA facilitated the review of programs and services by ICFD internal stakeholders.

The Iowa City Fire Department's strategic plan, with its foundation based in community and membership input, sets forth a comprehensive vision and mission statement that provides the department with a clear path into the future. Additionally, this strategic plan identifies the core values that embody how the membership, individually and collectively, will carry out the agency's mission. In the following pages, the ICFD identifies its goals, objectives, and strategies that will allow the agency to realize its vision.

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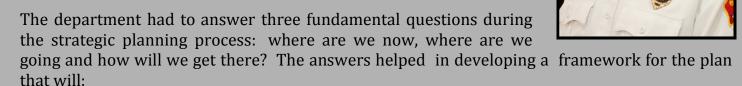
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Message from the Fire Chief

I an pleased to present the Iowa City Fire Department 2017-2021 Strategic Plan. It is both a road map for the ICFD and a guide for identifying priorities so we can continue delivering excellent fire, rescue, prevention and emergency medical services into the future.

This five-year plan represents our commitment to good stewardship of the department resources funded by Iowa City residents. When community stakeholders were surveyed during the strategic planning process, we learned that the majority are very familiar with and supportive of the wide range of emergency and non-emergency services we provide.



- Promote department policy, operational and budget decisions.
- Maintain a motived, highly trained work force.
- Encourage a work force that is representative of the diverse community we serve.
- Provide a structure to ensure oversight and management of department programs.

We are committed to reviewing our strategic plan at least annually to ensure the plan accomplishes what it set out to do, and to making adjustments where needed. Part of our continued success is rooted in being a flexible organization that can anticipate and adapt to change. The plan was reviewed in May 2018 and progress updated—action steps determined to be completed are https://doi.org/10.1001/jib.com/highlighted.

In closing, thank you to all of the Iowa City Fire Department members who shared their thoughts and ideas through surveys and planning meetings. Your feedback and participation has been extremely valuable. Thank you also to the residents, elected officials and other key city and community partners who participated as part of our planning process. Your input and support helped guide us and is critical to the success of this plan.

I invite all members of the community, along with our partner agencies, to join us in supporting this vision for the future of the Iowa City Fire Department.

Sincerely,

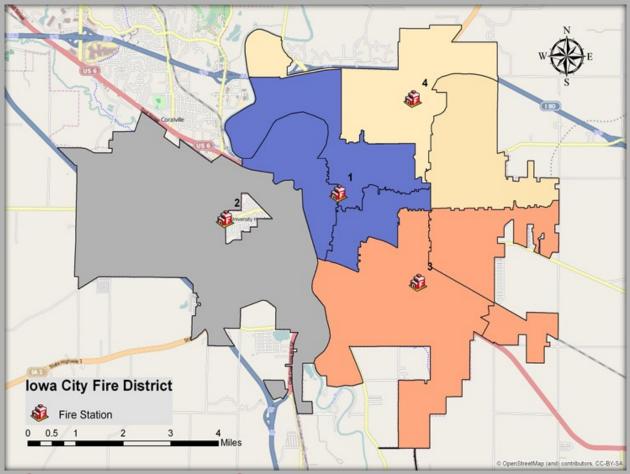
John M. Grier Fire Chief

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Organizational Overview

Iowa City is the county seat of Johnson County, Iowa, and the home of the University of Iowa. The City is governed by an elected city council of seven members, of which one is elected from within as mayor. The Iowa City Fire Department (ICFD) history is a well-documented source of local pride. Iowa City had one of the first fire departments in Iowa, with roots going back to 1842 – three years after the founding of Iowa City and four years before Iowa's statehood.

Currently, the department serves approximately 74,220 residents and many visitors within the 27.9 square-mile incorporated area of Iowa City. The ICFD provides progressive and high quality fire, emergency medical, and technical rescue emergency services utilizing a cadre of 64 full-time firefighters from four stations with three engine companies, one quint company, one truck company, and a command vehicle. In addition to responding to nearly 7,000 emergency calls annually, the ICFD provides preventive services, such as fire safety inspections of commercial and University properties, site plan reviews, and fire and environmental safety education. The ICFD also collaborates with many other fire protection agencies at the local, state, and federal levels. Specialty areas include fire investigations, the Johnson County Hazardous Materials Response Team, and Homeland Security and Emergency Management.



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Community-Driven Strategic Planning

Performance Assessment

Implied within every stage of the planning process is the ability to determine progress made toward the goals or targets set. This assessment ability is a monitoring function that simply tracks activities. It may be as simple as a "To Do List," or as complicated as a plan of action with milestones and performance measures. Also implied within the planning process is the ability to measure effectiveness of the actions taken in the conduct of the organization's business.

The Community-Driven Strategic Planning Process Outline

The specific steps of the process are as follows:

- 1. Define the services provided to the community.
- 2. Establish the community's service priorities.
- 3. Establish the community's expectations of the organization.
- 4. Identify any concerns the community may have about the organization and its services.
- 5. Identify the aspects of the organization and its services the community views positively.
- 6. Revisit the Mission Statement, giving careful attention to the services and programs currently provided and which logically can be provided in the future.
- 7. Revisit the Values of the organization's membership.
- 8. Identify the Strengths of the organization.
- 9. Identify any Weaknesses of the organization.
- 10. Identify areas of Opportunity for the organization.
- 11. Identify potential Threats to the organization.
- 12. Identify the organization's critical issues.
- 13. Identify the organization's service gaps.
- 14. Determine strategic initiatives for organizational improvement.
- 15. Establish realistic goals and objectives for the future.
- 16. Identify implementation tasks for each objective.
- 17. Develop a Vision of the future.
- 18. Develop organizational and community commitment to the plan.

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External Stakeholder Group Findings

Community Group Findings

On November 12, 2015, a community forum was conducted by the Center for Public Safety Excellence at the Iowa City Public Library to gathering feedback from the community.

The purpose of gathering feedback from the community runs parallel to a business collecting feedback from its customers. The governmental entity, like the business, cannot truly operate efficiently and effectively without understanding the true nature of expectations, concerns, and strengths of its customer base. In government, that customer base is the constituency served. Iowa City Fire Department (ICFD) solicited the feedback and input from a diverse demographic representation of its population.

When analyzing the received feedback, priority and thematic approaches are used to get to the heart of what is the most important to the community respondents. While all responses in the raw-data form are important, the analysis brings to the forefront an understanding and focus for the agency. It is important to note that all feedback from the community is important as it applies to various areas of the department. The department is best served by conducting greater internal analyses of the provided feedback to formulate future objectives and strategies for continuous improvement.

Community Service Priorities

The rankings of the programs and services as provided by the 58 community members at the community forum that was conducted on November 12, 2015, are as follows:

PROGRAMS	RANKING	SCORE
Fire Suppression	1	363
Emergency Medical Services	2	311
Technical Rescue	3	268
Hazardous Materials Mitigation	4	169
Community Risk Reduction	5	166
Domestic Preparedness Planning and Response	6	159
Fire Investigation	7	124
Public Education	8	92

Mission, Vision and Values

All Iowa City Fire Department employees are guided by our mission, vision and values. The mission is the core purpose for why the Iowa City Fire Department exists. The vision is the description for where the department strives to be in the future. The vision should inspire and motivate. Values are the guiding principles for the organization. These are the essential and enduring principles.

With insight garnered during the process, the internal stakeholders reviewed the mission, vision and value statements for current and future relevance—the mission statement remained the same, while the vision and value statements were revised to provide a more clear picture of the department and what it aims to be.

Mission

Vision

Values

Our Mission

The mission of the Iowa City Fire Department is to protect our community by providing progressive, high quality emergency and preventive services.

Our Vision

The Iowa City Fire Department will be recognized as a national leader in our profession and as role models in our community. We will be an

exemplary, service driven organization in providing emergency and preventive services with exceptional leadership, state of the art resources, and a healthy, highly trained, and motivated workforce. We will stay true to our values and inspire one another in our pursuit of excellence.

Our Values

As an organization, we uphold the following values:

Accountability: We are accountable to each other and the community we have sworn to serve.

Innovation: We encourage the advancement of our services and programs through inquiry, evaluation, problem solving and continual improvement.

Professional Excellence: We are dedicated to the pursuit of excellence and the demonstration of high professional standards.

Respect: We believe in the dignity of every individual and value all members of the community and organization.

Teamwork: We are committed to a teamwork environment where every stakeholder is a valued contributor to our success.

Trustworthiness: We embolden trustworthiness as it encompasses such qualities as honesty, integrity, loyalty and reliability.

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Internal Stakeholder Group Findings

Internal stakeholder input was obtained utilizing a two-step approach designed to encourage maximum participation in the process. First, department members were invited to complete a brief online survey. Next, department members were invited to participate in four group planning sessions facilitated by the University of Iowa Institute of Public Affairs. The internal survey and work sessions served to discuss the department's approach to community-driven strategic planning, with focus on the mission, vision, values, core programs, and supporting services, as well as the agency's perceived strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats.

In the process of strategic planning, the following are important:

- to review the department's history, culture and evolution;
- to identify the current status of the department; and
- to determine where and what the department desires to be in the future.

The online survey and planning sessions generated a high level of interest and participation from all levels and assignment areas of the organization. A total of 38 personnel completed the online survey and 31 personnel participated in the face-to-face meetings. The level of participation and invaluable insights of ICFD members were essential in helping to develop this quality plan.

Internal Stakeholder Group Findings

The ICFD internal stakeholders identified the following core programs provided to the community, as well as the services that enable the agency to deliver their core programs:

Core Programs

Response	Community Risk Reduction	Preparedness
Fire Suppression	Public Education	Training and Education
Emergency Medical	Fire Prevention	 Natural/Man-made Incident
Services	• Fire Investigation	Planning
• Technical Rescue	Code Enforcement	
Services	Data Collection and	
Hazardous Materials	Analysis	
Mitigation		

Support Services

• Training	Physical Resources
Physical Resource Maintenance	Facilities
Human Resources	Apparatus
• Finance	Tools and Equipment
Information Technology Services	• Legal
City Clerk	Neighborhood Development Services
Public Works (Water, Engineering, etc.)	• Law Enforcement
Ambulance Service (paramedics)	Clerical—Accounting/Payroll
• Dispatch	Contract Services
University of Iowa	Medical Community
• IAFF Local 610	Employee Assistance Program
• Utilities	Mutual Aid
Community Support Services	Non-profit Organizations
Johnson County EMA	Social Services
Local, State, Federal Government	Family

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Initiatives, Strategies and Action Steps

Critical Issues and Service Gaps

After reviewing ICFD's core programs and support services, and identifying internal strengths and weaknesses along with external opportunities and threats, the internal stakeholders identified the following as critical issues and service gaps of paramount importance:

Critical Issues

Staff Development—Training and Education	Human Resource—Staffing
Fire Prevention/Code Enforcement/Fire	Service Delivery—Jurisdiction and Region
Physical Resources	Inter-departmental/Inter-governmental Relations

Strategic Initiatives

Having reviewed ICFD's critical issues and service gaps, the following strategic initiatives and goal statements were identified as the foundation for the development of strategies and action steps:

Leadership

Develop the leadership abilities of Iowa City Fire Department employees at all levels.

Training and Education

Create a personnel development program to give all employees tools for improvement.

Health and Wellness

Provide for the health, safety and wellness of all Iowa City Fire Department employees.

Diversity

Ensure that diversity, inclusion and cultural competency are integral to the way the department functions, both internally and externally.

Community Outreach and Partnerships

Foster community outreach and agency partnerships to strengthen department services.

Resource Management

Maintain a high quality level of service to the community through ongoing workforce development and the maintenance and acquisition of physical resources (apparatus, equipment, facilities & technology).

Fire Prevention/Public Education/Code Enforcement

Enhance fire prevention bureau and code enforcement programs.

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Initiatives, Strategies and Action Steps

In order to achieve the mission of the Iowa City Fire Department, realistic goals, objectives and action steps must be established. The parameters used by the planning team in the development of the goals, strategies and action steps included the requirements that they be:

- · Aligned with the mission, vision and values of the department
- Aligned with City Council strategic initiatives
- Achievable
- Measurable
- Built on consensus

As goals and strategies are management tools, they must be evaluated and updated on an ongoing basis to identify what has been accomplished and to note changes within the community and the organization. The attainment of a performance target should be recognized and celebrated to provide a sense of organizational accomplishment.

The goals and strategies now become the focus of the efforts of the department. Care was taken by the planning team to ensure that the critical needs and areas of needed enhancement previously identified were addressed within the goals and strategies.

By following these goals and strategies carefully, the department can be directed into its desired future. These established goals and strategies should also greatly reduce the number of obstacles and distractions for the department and its members.

The internal stakeholders set timelines for completion of objectives supporting the goals. The ICFD leadership team will periodically to review progress toward these goals and strategies and adjust timelines as needs and the environment change.

Human Resources Development—Leadership

Goal: Develop the leadership abilities of Iowa City Fire Department employees at all levels.

Strategy 1:

Establish a formal Leadership Development Initiative throughout all levels of the organization.

Action Steps

- 1. Develop and deliver leadership training relevant to chief and company officers with measurable outcomes and defined expectations.
- 2. Develop leadership training for all department employees with measurable outcomes and defined expectations.

STRATEGY 2:

Enhance department resources for leadership training and mentoring.

Action Steps

- 1. Prioritize leadership development opportunities.
- 2. Partner with professional leadership groups to provide education.
- 3. Incentivize the development of leadership skills as part of the promotional process.

STRATEGY 3:

Delegate decision making authority at the appropriate level in the organizational structure to empower and include all employees.

Action Steps

- 1. Evaluate business processes to identify areas of authority and responsibility that can be delegated and provide a formal report.
- 2. Review delegated areas of authority for effectiveness and revise policies and procedures as necessary
- 3. Seek employee ideas on cost reduction, service improvement, and problem-solving.

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Human Resources Development—Training & Education

Goal: Create an employee development program to give employees and supervisors tools for improvement.

Strategy 1:

Develop a comprehensive training model for all department employees.

Action Steps

- 1. Utilize the standing training committee to produce a comprehensive and sequenced annual training plan that meets department and individual needs.
- 2. Identify and prioritize annual training to meet department identified areas of emphasis.
- 3. Annually evaluate the effectiveness of the plan and provide a formal report.
- 4. Analyze current skill sets and identify areas for cross-training and/or advancement training.
- 5. Institutionalize performance-based evaluation criteria for individual, company and multi-company operations.
- 6. Describe a process within GP-410.02 that tracks and records completed training to ensure that all personnel are provided the training that is required by January 1, 2018.

STRATEGY 2:

Deliver training that is effective, efficient, and accessible.

Action Steps

- 1. Identify complementary or alternative methods for training delivery, evaluate their effectiveness, and provide a formal report.
- 2. Annually evaluate the effectiveness of training delivery and provide a formal report.
- 3. By June 30 annually, the training division will embrace opportunities to provide training to mutual aid departments to build response capacity and institutionalize recruitment ties.

STRATEGY 3:

Evaluate and revise department policies, materials, and procedures to promote individual employee development.

Action Steps

- 1. Update and consolidate policies, procedures, reference materials, and training libraries to reflect current standards and practices.
- 2. Ensure that departmental policies and practices are clear, consistent and well communicated.
- 3. Examine the feasibility of establishing training standards and competencies related to all disciplines and skill sets.
- 4. Develop task books related to all skill sets.

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Training & Education (continued)

Goal: Create an employee development program to give employees and supervisors tools for improvement.

Strategy 4:

Promote personal accountability, growth and development, and the meeting of workplace expectations for all employees.

Action Steps

- 1. Provide on-going personnel management training for supervisors.
- 2. Evaluate individual accountability through performance evaluations.
- 3. Evaluate opportunities for educational assistance programs.

Health and Wellness

Goal: Provide for the health, safety and wellness of all Iowa City Fire Department employees.

STRATEGY 1:

Enhance the health and wellness of all department employees.

Action Steps

- 1. Update the comprehensive health and wellness program with an emphasis on education.
- 2. Establish baselines for time loss to determine whether participation in a health and wellness program reduces time loss for illness and injury.
- 3. Partner with other agencies to promote a holistic health and wellness program for department members.

STRATEGY 2:

Reinforce health and safety practices to reduce safety related incidents.

Action Steps

- 1. Evaluate the effectiveness of the pre-incident planning program and make recommendations for improvement.
- 2. Educate firefighters regarding their health and safety responsibilities and emphasize the importance of injury prevention.
- 3. Support members' successful disability rehabilitation to meet applicable city, state, federal and fire department standards.
- 4. Develop recommendations to identify, reduce, or eliminate firefighter safety hazards.

STRATEGY 3:

Establish and maintain programs that promote and sustain the health and wellness of all Iowa City Fire Department members to reduce the likelihood of firefighter injury and death.

Action Steps

- 1. Utilize Health and Safety advisory committee as a standing committee to direct wellness and fitness programs.
- 2. In partnership with Local 610, establish performance objectives and annually evaluate the fitness levels of all department members.
- 3. Annually evaluate the effectiveness of the health and wellness plan.
- 4. Annually evaluate the Wellness Fitness Initiative.
- 5. Promote ways and means for peer fitness trainers to improve firefighter health and wellness. Present suggestions for program improvement annually.
- 6. Collect and record annual physical summaries, fitness assessment data, and injury/accident reports to identify trends and vulnerabilities for presentation at the annual Spring Planning Meeting.

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Diversity

Goal: Ensure that diversity, inclusion and cultural competency are integral to the way the department functions, both internally and externally.

STRATEGY 1:

Ensure a workplace environment that welcomes and supports diversity among its employees.

Action Steps

- 1. Encourage diversity and inclusion effort at all levels of the department.
- 2. Increase employee awareness regarding the benefits of a diverse workforce and how to create and maintain a culture of mutual trust and respect.
- 3. Provide education to ensure employee awareness of the value of diversity.

STRATEGY 2:

Support members in delivering services within Iowa City's multicultural community.

Action Steps

- 1. Provide opportunities for members to develop a high level of cultural competency in working with multicultural communities.
- 2. Promote our diversity plan.

STRATEGY 3:

Promote the recruitment of men and women of diverse backgrounds.

Action Steps

- 1. Develop and implement an ongoing, targeted recruitment effort that effectively promotes diversity.
- 2. Increase educational and community outreach activities to underrepresented populations in Iowa City.
- 3. Review the firefighter application process with the Civil Service Commission to identify barriers to recruitment of a diverse applicant pool.
- 4. Encourage individuals of diverse backgrounds to seek promotions.

Community Outreach and Partnerships

Goal: Foster community outreach and agency partnerships to strengthen department services.

STRATEGY 1:

Promote Iowa City Fire Department's involvement in community outreach.

Action Steps

- 1. Develop a community outreach plan, to include regular department participation at neighborhood and community meetings and events.
- 2. Each company shall annually attend a minimum of four PR events to foster healthy neighborhoods and/or enhance community engagement and intergovernmental relations.
- 3. Prioritize established Emergency Operations time commitments to allow for community outreach.
- 4. Maintain a central coordinating system for tracking community outreach and report on outreach activities on a regular basis.
- 5. Designate a community outreach contact for each response district/shift with clear expectations of their role.

STRATEGY 2:

Cultivate partnerships with other organizations to support department services.

Action Steps

- 1. Evaluate current agency partnerships for effectiveness and increased opportunity and provide a formal report.
- 2. Establish a regular, frequent communication mechanism with partner agencies.
- 3. Create new agency partnerships where a mutually beneficial goal can be identified.
- 4. Utilize partnerships to solve problems, expand services, and inform decision-making.

STRATEGY 3:

Continue research to identify the opinions and priorities of the community, and their awareness and support for current and proposed department programs.

Action Steps

- 1. Conduct community surveys.
- 2. Use survey results to better inform our community outreach efforts.
- 3. In partnership with Local 610, evaluate the opportunity to conduct the Fire Ops 101 program.
- 4. Prepare for and make application to CFAI in 2017, for accredited agency review in 2018.
- 5. Develop and implement a marketing and communications plan to provide a clear understanding of agency activities and service offerings.
- 6. Ensure core programs meet jurisdictional and regional service delivery demands and needs.

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Resource Management

Goal: Maintain a high quality level of service to the community through ongoing workforce development and the maintenance and acquisition of physical resources (equipment, apparatus, facilities and technology).

STRATEGY 1:

Adopt long-term human resources and fixed facilities plans.

Action Steps

- 1. Ensure a thorough and comprehensive examination of the staffing and deployment analysis in the Standards of Cover document Training Tower, Station 3 Relocation, Station 5, Station 6.
- 2. Develop land acquisition and design plans.
- 3. Submit capital improvement program funding requests as appropriate.
- 4. Evaluate staffing requirements and identify funding alternatives.
- 5. Conduct a staffing analysis that considers the department's size, structure, skill levels and demographics relative to community needs and national standards.

STRATEGY 2:

Plan for long term asset sustainability.

Action Steps

- 1. Maintain a comprehensive life cycle replacement schedule for personal protective and other equipment.
- 2. Maintain a vehicle replacement plan to ensure quality apparatus.
- 3. Develop a quality maintenance plan for facilities.
- 4. Prepare the department for an improved Public Protection Classification rating by the Insurance Services Office (ISO) and request a reevaluation.

STRATEGY 3:

Conduct periodic evaluations of the deployment model and revise the model as needed.

Action Steps

- 1. Annually review and evaluate the deployment model.
- 2. Establish and prioritize deployment outcome objectives such as reducing response times, and optimizing coverage to high risk areas and target populations.
- 3. Compile historical data, perform trend analysis and forecast deployment workloads.
- 4. Develop recommendations for power staffing during peak response periods and special events.
- 5. Evaluate automatic-aid opportunities to enhance effective response force capabilities.
- 6. Adjust alarm assignments for high and special risk occupancies based upon critical task resource requirements and the three axis risk assessment methodology.
- 7. Monitor and report how often and for how long all units are committed to emergency response leaving no units available for additional calls for service.
- 8. Explore and recommend a method to make preplan information more accessible to incident commanders in the field by April 1, 2018.
- 9. Review programs and processes available for to assist persons requiring community assistance.

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Resource Management (continued)

Goal: Maintain a high quality level of service to the community through ongoing workforce development and the maintenance and acquisition of physical resources (equipment, apparatus, facilities and technology).

STRATEGY 4:

Effectively manage responses to non-emergency calls for efficient use of department resources while maintaining quality service delivery.

Action Steps

- 1. To enhance communication between ICFD fixed facilities and to promote organizational effectiveness, network with the City's Information Technology Services department to develop a replacement solution for the current antiquated video conferencing system by June 30, 2018.
- 2. Establish a group to define non-emergency events and collect historical data to use in the analysis.
- 3. Survey other jurisdictions and document alternative strategies for reducing non-emergency calls.
- 4. Conduct analysis and develop a specific process to reduce non-emergency calls.

Fire Prevention/Public Education/Code Enforcement

Goal: Enhance fire prevention bureau and code enforcement programs.

STRATEGY 1:

Adopt a long-term human capital/workforce plan.

Action Steps

- 1. Analyze the current program and compile a report identifying outlining the number of personnel needed to achieve the desired level of services.
- 2. Identify funding opportunities to provide program sustainability.
- 3. Consider staffing alternatives that will meet service delivery objectives.

STRATEGY 2:

Improve efficiency of enforcement operations.

Action Steps

- 1. Evaluate current interagency shared technology and systems to improve data sharing.
- 2. Employ a technology based solution to make pre fire plans more accessible and more user friendly.

STRATEGY 3:

Update the fire code.

Action Steps

- 1. Conduct community surveys.
- 2. Use survey results to better inform our community outreach efforts.
- 3. Consider greater application of permitting and permit fees to improve code compliance.
- 4. Review and revise local amendments to the IFC prior to the adoption cycle.

STRATEGY 4:

Develop programs for identified at-risk populations.

Action Steps

- 1. Conduct community surveys.
- 2. Use survey results to better inform our community outreach efforts.
- 3. Use local data to target outreach campaigns.
- 4. Pursue collaborative efforts with the University of Iowa to provide on-line fire and life safety education for incoming students.

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Plan Implementation

Performance Measurement—Managing for Results

As output measurement can be challenging, the organization must focus on the assessment of progress toward achieving improved output.

In order to establish that the ICFD's strategic plan is achieving results, performance measurement data will be implemented and integrated as part of the plan. An integrated process, known as "Managing for Results," will be utilized, which is based upon the following:

- The identification of strategic goals and objectives;
- The determination of resources necessary to achieve them;
- The analyzing and evaluation of performance data; and
- The use of that data to drive continuous improvement in the organization.

A "family of measures" that is typically utilized to indicate and measure performance includes the following:

Inputs—Value of resource used to produce an output.

Outputs—Quantity or number of units produced which is activity- oriented and measurable.

Efficiency—Inputs used per output (or outputs per input).

Service Quality—The <u>degree</u> to which customers are <u>satisfied</u> with a program, or how <u>accurately</u> or <u>timely</u> a service is provided.

Outcome—Qualitative consequences associated with a program/service; i.e., the ultimate benefit to the customer. Outcome focuses on the ultimate "why" of providing a service.

The Success of the Strategic Plan

ICFD has approached its desire to develop and implement a strategic plan by asking for and receiving input from the community and members of the agency during the development stage of the planning process. The agency utilized professional guidance and the community-driven strategic planning process to compile this document. The success of ICFD's Strategic Plan will not depend upon implementation of the goals and their related objectives, but from support received from the authority having jurisdiction, membership of the agency, and the community at-large.

The ICFD strategic plan creates a platform for a wide range of beginnings. This plan will come to life by being shared, debated, and implemented in the context of organizational realities. The final step in the community-driven strategic planning process is to develop organizational and community commitment to the plan. Everyone who has a stake in the present and the future of the ICFD also has a role and responsibility in this strategic plan.

