

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA**  
**2023-2024 BUDGET**

**FIRE**

**FISCAL YEAR 2023 MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- ✓ **Fire Engine 2:** The design and build of this apparatus began over a year ago when the logistics team sat at the drawing board for the initial design. Thoughtful placement of our very important equipment was paramount, resulting in countless hours being spent on the design. In the industry, Pierce Fire Trucks are at the top of their class. The new fire engine set to be deployed at Fire Station 2 is the greatest example of Innovation, Quality, Ergonomics, Safety, and Serviceability. With the reduced wheelbase, TAK-4® Independent Suspension, and PUC Configuration, we have increased maneuverability, enhanced our ability to access otherwise limited areas, created a better ride and experience for the end user and have reduced wasted space which has maximized room for equipment. This unique design improved ergonomic access to medical supplies, pre-connected hoses, ladders, breathing apparatus, and equipment without sacrificing lifesaving capabilities. Mechanically we have designed a vehicle that will minimize downtime for servicing, by giving easier access to the working service areas of the apparatus. Finally, the fit and finish are in direct alignment with our brand the City of Coral Gables “The City Beautiful.”
- ✓ **UASI Funded Light Technical Rescue Team Equipment and Training:** This project provided for training of personnel as well as the equipment necessary to respond to incidents that involved technical rescues such as confined spaces and construction related incidents. This project was funded in its entirety through the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Grant fund, at no cost to the residents of Coral Gables. The addition of a Light Technical Rescue Team would enhance the fire department’s current ability to mitigate variety of complex and dangerous rescue operations by providing a cross functional team of highly trained personnel. This highly trained team immediately responds to any incident resulting in structural collapse, vehicle and heavy machinery entrapment, confined space rescue, and elevated or high angle rescue focusing on entrapped survivors and their needs. The capability target would be to provide advanced search and rescue operations for up to 25,000 people within the first five (5) days of the incident until additional resources arrive. The overall objective will be to mitigate the impact of incidents and events to reduce loss of life, and property, while responding in an immediate, efficient, and coordinated manner.

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**FISCAL YEAR 2023 MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS – (Continued)**

- ✓ **Coral Gables Fire Rescue in the top 5 percentile in Emergency Medical Services in the Nation:** Coral Gables Fire Department was named one of the Top Five (5) Emergency Medical Services agencies with the highest Patient Satisfaction and Engagement. The survey involved many of the nation’s largest and most respected fire and EMS organizations throughout the United States. In order to achieve the annual list of the top 5, participating agencies were ranked, not by the percent of patient who were “satisfied”, but by a much higher standard, the percent of patients who rated the care as “very satisfied.” Surveys were conducted on the following key questions toward system performance:
  - Response times
  - Paramedics listening and explaining what they are doing and why
  - Paramedics displaying a caring attitude about their situation
  - Paramedics ability to manage their emergency
  - Paramedic professionalism
- ✓ This survey validates our Department’s strategic goal to provide exceptional services that meet or exceeds the requirements and expectations of our community. More importantly, it illustrates the Coral Gables Firefighters commitment and dedication to the residents and visitors we serve.
- ✓ **American Heart Association’s Mission: Lifeline EMS Gold Plus Recognition Award:** Coral Gables Fire Rescue has received the American Heart Association’s Mission: Lifeline EMS Gold Plus Award for implementing quality improvement measures for the treatment of patients who experience severe heart attacks. Every year, more than 250,000 people experience an ST elevation myocardial infarction (STEMI) the deadliest type of heart attack caused by a blockage of blood flow to the heart that requires timely treatment. Mission: Lifeline’s EMS recognition program recognizes emergency medical services for their efforts in improving systems of care to rapidly identify suspected heart attack patients, promptly notify the medical center and trigger an early response from the awaiting hospital personnel. Coral Gables Fire Rescue has received this reward in the past and continues to maintain a high level of competency and effectiveness to ensure continued care to the community.