

NOVEMBER 3, 2026 GENERAL ELECTION

Measure FD

The Los Angeles Fire & Emergency Preparedness & Response Ordinance

Fund LA Fire - **Yes on Measure FD**



WHY THIS MATTERS



1960s LAFD vs. Today: Demand exploded. Resources didn't.

Los Angeles has grown by 1.4 million people since 1960, but the LAFD has stayed the same.

Annual Calls for Service



1960: 100,985

2025: 497,628

5x the call load

Total LAFD Firefighters



1965: 3,379

2025: 3,387

Only 8 more Firefighters

Total LAFD Fire Stations



1960: 112

2025: 106

Six fewer stations today

Average Response Time



Standard: 4:00 min

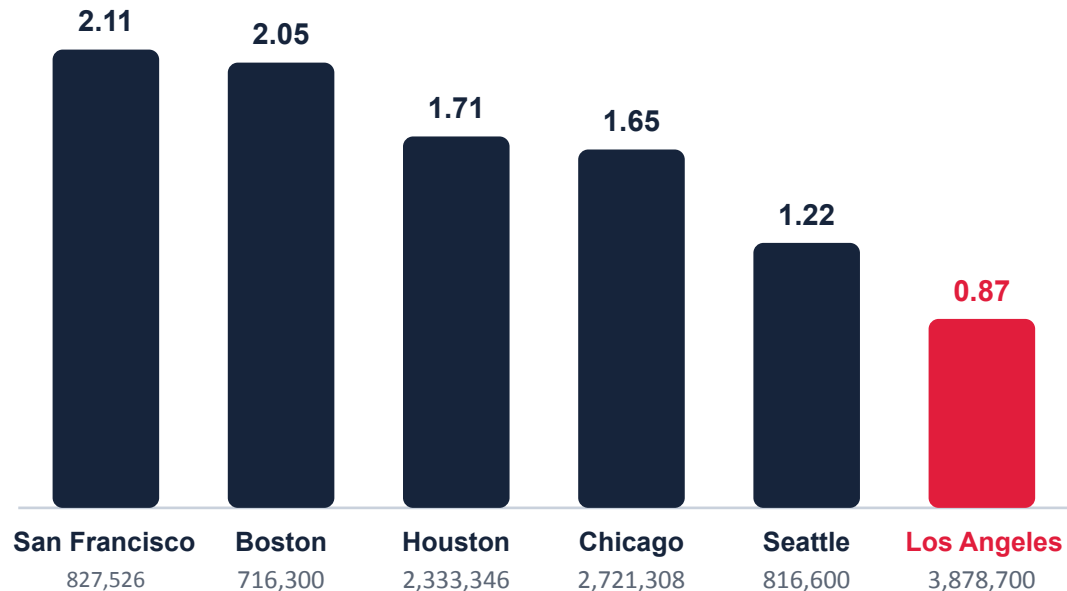
LAFD: 7:53 min

Nearly 2x the national standard

Sources: LAFD data; National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) response-time standard.

Staffing: LA ranks dead last among major cities

Firefighters per 1,000 residents



1.81

NFPA-recommended
firefighters per 1,000
residents

0.87

LA's rate - less than half
the standard, and last of
any big city

LAFD Comparison to Other American Cities

Ranked by Firefighters per 1,000 residents, highest to lowest.

CITY & POPULATION	ANNUAL FD BUDGET	FIRE BUDGET PER CAPITA	TOTAL FIREFIGHTERS	FIREFIGHTERS PER 1,000 ▼	
San Francisco 827,526	\$510M	\$616	1,750		2.11
Boston 716,300	\$310M	\$433	1,467		2.05
Houston 2,333,346	\$593M	\$254	4,000		1.71
Chicago 2,721,308	\$780M	\$287	4,500		1.65
Seattle 816,600	\$327M	\$400	1,000		1.22
Los Angeles 3,878,700	\$923M	\$238	3,387		0.87

The bottom line: With the largest population, Los Angeles still ranks last in Firefighters per capita - 0.87 Firefighters per 1,000, less than half the national standard and last in per-capita fire department spending at just \$238.

**The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recommends 1.81 firefighters per 1,000 residents.*

What it will take to meet demand

*In 2024, the International Association of Fire Fighters conducted a comprehensive “**Standards of Cover**” study of the LAFD. It concluded that the Department is dramatically understaffed and under-built.*



62

New Fire
Stations



4,000

Additional
Firefighters



Dozens

New Dispatchers



7

New Battalions



New

EMS Substations

7,360

At our current population, the LAFD should have roughly 7,360 firefighters. Today it has about 3,387, meaning we operate at less than half the strength our city requires.

What Measure FD Funds

A dedicated **half-cent sales tax** on the November 2026 ballot - with **every dollar going to the LAFD**.



Staff Up the Department

Hire additional firefighters and paramedics to reduce response times and prepare for wildfires.



Modernize the Fleet

Purchase new trucks, engines, ambulances, and life-saving equipment.



Build & Repair Stations

Construct new fire stations and repair aging ones - 53 are over 50 years old, 4 are more than 80 years old.

\$340M

New, dedicated LAFD funding in year one

\$9.8B

Cumulative new revenue for the LAFD by 2050

Every Dollar Protected and Tracked

Measure FD is written with strict safeguards so the money can only go where voters intend - the LAFD.



Dedicated Special Fund

All new revenue flows into a fund that can be used **ONLY** by the LAFD.



Maintenance of Effort

The City must keep its historic General Fund support. New money can't replace existing funding.



Annual Public Audits

The measure requires yearly, independent audits that are presented publicly.



Citizens' Oversight Committee

An independent committee tracks all spending to ensure proper use.

Bottom line: *This is not a blank check. It's locked, audited, and monitored - dedicated to Firefighters and the residents we protect.*

Still one of the lowest rates in the region

Even with Measure FD, the City Los Angeles would remain below nearly every neighboring city.



1/2 cent

on the dollar - about 50¢ on a \$100 purchase



A small, shared investment

Because it's a sales tax, the cost is spread across everyone who shops in LA, including the 40+ million tourists and visitors each year, not just residents.

Note: A separate countywide sales tax increase of 0.5% takes effect in all LA County cities on October 1, 2026.

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