

Gotham Fire Department
2019-2023 Community Risk Reduction
Five-Year Plan



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A Five-Year Plan: Our Mission

The mission of the Gotham Fire Department Fire Marshal's Office is to protect our community from the perils of fire, explosions and other hazardous conditions. This mission is accomplished through the review of fire safety plans and sprinkler plan designs, fire investigations and compliance inspections following the applicable regulations of Metropolitan Government of Gotham and Metro County. In addition to inspections, the department investigates fires and explosions, completes plan reviews, inspects fire safety and fire protection systems and related emergency response services, provides emergency response and support during specific incidents as well as collects, analyzes and maintains fire records.

The following five-year plan acts as a focused effort at reducing fire loss in Gotham, led by the Gotham Fire Department's Fire Marshal's Office. By outlining our goals for the next five years and by working directly and indirectly with other government and fire service entities in Gotham, our hope is to make the Gotham community safer from the dangers of fire by 2023.

Partners in Community Risk Reduction

The following entities will have a **direct** partnership with the Community Risk Reduction Five-Year Plan, which includes end goals that directly result from actions within their purview:

- Gotham Fire Department, Fire Marshal's Office (Administration)
- Gotham Fire Department, Fire Prevention Division
- Gotham Codes Administration
- Gotham Firefighters Association

The following entities will have an **indirect** partnership with the Community Risk Reduction Five-Year Plan, as the end goals directly or indirectly affect their operations:

- Gotham Fire Department, Operations
- Gotham Mayor's Office
- Gotham Planning Department
- Gotham Public Works
- Metro-Gotham Public Schools

The following entities are external partners and may be directly and/or indirectly affected by reduced risk in Gotham, therefore may be viable partners in this effort:

- Tennessee State Fire Marshal's Office
- American Red Cross
- Metro-Gotham Police Department
- Metro-Gotham Parks & Recreation

Community Risk Reduction Goals

The Gotham Fire Department Fire Marshal's Office aims to reduce the risk of fire within Gotham. Through a comprehensive community risk reduction effort and full cooperation with both the Department of Codes and Building Safety and the Fire Department's Fire Prevention section, the goals of our section are as follows.

1. Fire-related goals:
 - a. Reduce the overall rate of structure fires by 20% by the year 2023
 - b. Reduce the leading cause of structure fires (Cooking) by 20% by the year 2023
 - c. Reduce the fire mortality rate by 25% by the year 2023
2. Codes-related goals:
 - a. Increase the number of annual codes inspections on all buildings by 10% by the year 2023
 - b. Increase the number of annual codes inspections on residential buildings built pre-1980 by 25% by the year 2023
 - c. Increase the number of interventions by 10% by the year 2023
 - d. Increase the number of staff with codes training by 25% by the year 2023
3. Education-related goals:
 - a. Increase the number of public fire prevention campaigns by 50% by the year 2023 and by 100% by the year 2023.
 - b. Increase the number of public contacts (e.g., citizens receiving some form of public education regarding fire) by 20% by the year 2023
 - c. Fully implement a comprehensive older-adult fire prevention campaign (e.g. "Remembering When") by 2023

Measurable Outcomes—By The Numbers

All of the goals of this five-year plan are based upon measurable outcomes. To accomplish our ultimate goal of reducing the risk of fire in Gotham-Metro County, we must first identify the baseline for each of these goals. The following figures are based upon the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS), the Tennessee State Fire Marshal’s Office’s Fire Fatality Database, the U.S. Census Bureau, and our own data portals.

Fire-Related Goals

Goal 1(a): Reduce the overall rate of structure fires by 20% by the year 2023

Year	Structure Fires	Structure Fire Rate (per 1k people)
2016	744	1.1
2023	Goal: 700	Goal: 0.9

Goal 1(b): Reduce the leading cause of structure fires (Cooking) by 10% by the year 2023

Year	Cooking Fires
2016	169
2023	Goal: 152

Goal 1(c): Reduce the fire mortality rate by 25% by the year 2023

Year	Unintentional Fire Deaths	Population	Fire Mortality Rate (per 1 million)	Rate, Multi-Year Average
2011	10	595132	16.80	9.15
2012	2	605859	3.30	
2013	3	614908	4.88	
2014	5	624261	8.01	
2015	10	634512	15.76	
2016	6	643771	9.32	
2017	4	653000 (est.)	6.13	
2018	X	663000 (est.)	X.XX	Goal: 6.86
2019	X	672000 (est.)	X.XX	
2020	X	682000 (est.)	X.XX	
2021	X	692000 (est.)	X.XX	
2022	X	701000 (est.)	X.XX	
2023	X	711000 (est.)	X.XX	

Codes-Related Goals

Goal 2(a): Increase the number of annual codes inspections on all buildings by 10% by the year 2023

Year	Building Inspections
2014	8204
2015	8420
2016	8532
2023	Goal: 9000

Goal 2(b): Increase the number of annual codes inspections on residential buildings built pre-1980 by 25% by the year 2023

Year	Building Inspections
2014	1204
2015	1420
2016	1532
2023	Goal: 1900

Goal 2(c): Increase the number of interventions by 10% by the year 2023

Year	Violation Interventions
2014	5120
2015	5560
2016	5420
2023	Goal: 6000

Goal 2(d): Increase the number of staff with codes training by 25% by the year 2023

Year	Staff with codes training
2016	102
2023	Goal: 125

Education-Related Goals

Goal 3(a): Increase the number of public fire prevention campaigns by 50% by the year 2021 and by 100% by the year 2023

Year	Public Fire Prevention Events	Number
2014	K-2 nd Grade Curriculum, Smoke Alarm Request	2
2015	K-2 nd Grade Curriculum, Smoke Alarm Request, Firefighter Buddies	3
2016	K-2 nd Grade Curriculum, Smoke Alarm Request, Firefighter Buddies	3
2021		Goal: 4
2023		Goal: 6

Goal 3(b): Increase the number of public contacts by 20% by the year 2021 and by 40% by the year 2023

Year	Public Contacts
2014	85,000
2015	87,000
2016	90,000
2021	Goal: 108,000
2023	Goal: 126,000

Goal 3(c): Fully implement a comprehensive older-adult fire prevention campaign by 2023

Implementation Plan

To accomplish the goals in this five-year plan, the Gotham Fire Department has designed a comprehensive implementation plan. Each section of the plan is aimed at mitigating the overall fire risk in Gotham as well as addressing one of the nine goals listed in the five-year plan.

Each of the partners—the Gotham Fire Department overall, the Fire Prevention section, and the Codes Administration, along with the efforts of the Gotham Firefighters Association—will have a relevant section of the implementation plan. Starting in 2019, each partner will devise further details on how to accomplish the plan within its own section, while also keeping in mind the end goals.

The five-year plan calls for the following work outcomes to be implemented over the course of the plan:

1. Expand GFD's Fire Prevention role within the Gotham community. Since it began in 1950, the fire department's educational branch has been active in reaching school-age children and in helping to spread national fire prevention campaigns. This has included Fire Prevention Week and "Stop, Drop, and Roll" and "Get Low and Go". In order to reach more of Gotham's population, the following steps should be taken over the next five years in order to help accomplish this plan's CRR goals.
 - a. Increase the number of education campaigns related to the fire risk seen in Gotham: older adults, children under 5, hoarding/unsafe housing, etc.
 - b. Become active participant in Get Alarmed, TN, the SFMO's statewide smoke alarm program. This should begin with an active and consistent partnership with Gotham's Red Cross chapter and should move toward involving members of Gotham Fire Department.
 - c. Host 2 community smoke alarm canvasses annually. These events should not only be aimed at installing smoke alarms in a high risk community in Gotham but at spreading one of the new educational campaigns, as mentioned in the goals.
2. Increase accountability regarding inspections in older homes and the rental community in Gotham. Over the last decade, Gotham has seen unprecedented growth. This has led to a sharp increase in the workload for the codes administration, with new buildings of all types being built all over the city. However, the vast majority of fire fatalities that have occurred in residential buildings built prior to 1980. In addition, rental homes (both single family and multi-family) have had an increase in fire fatalities over the last decade as well. While all new construction needs required inspections, we must also focus on where we are seeing fire fatalities occur.
 - a. Readjust work plans among codes inspection community to focus more on older homes (pre-1980) within Metro County.
 - b. Prioritize complaints made on older homes (pre-1980) and respond to these complaints immediately (within one week).

- c. Organize a semi-annual meeting of landlords and fire prevention leaders in Gotham to discuss the fire loss problem in Gotham's rental community. The goals within this plan should be shared with the landlord community and an effort should be made to establish their role in reducing fire loss.
3. Strengthen the bond between the Gotham Firefighters Association and this plan's efforts to prevent fire loss in Gotham.
 - a. Find common ground between the objectives of the GFA and the GFD with regards to preventing (not suppressing) fire in Gotham.
 - b. Create a coalition among GFA and GFD representatives to discuss the ways in which both GFA and GFD can directly address the goals within this plan.
4. Increase transparency and partnership between Gotham Fire Department and the Gotham Mayor's Office.
 - a. Implement an annual meeting with the Mayor's Office to discuss this five-year plan and the progress made. All direct and indirect partners within this plan should be invited to attend the meeting.
 - b. Encourage any increase in GFD funding to include an increase to the Fire Prevention budget.
5. Organize a reporting schedule for the five-year plan. All direct partners are required to attend meetings within the reporting schedule. All indirect partners are invited, but not required, to attend.

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Reporting Deadlines & Annual Meetings

This community risk reduction five-year plan calls for semi-annual reports by each of the partners. Each partner can devise their report according to their own format, as long as it addresses each of the goals relevant to their responsibilities within the plan. Each report will be submitted to the Gotham Fire Department's Fire Marshal's Office.

The plan also calls for annual meetings between direct partners. Indirect partners are also invited to attend. The meetings will take place between each reporting deadline, on the last Tuesday of March and the last Tuesday of September. Meetings will be hosted by the Gotham Fire Department and begin at 9 a.m.

Reporting deadlines:

- January 31st, 2019
- July 31st, 2019
- January 31st, 2020
- July 31st, 2020
- January 31st, 2021
- July 31st, 2021
- January 31st, 2022
- July 31st, 2022
- January 31st, 2023
- July 31st, 2023

Annual meetings:

- March 26th, 2019
- September 24th, 2019
- March 31st, 2020
- September 29th, 2020
- March 30th, 2021
- September 28th, 2021
- March 29th, 2022
- September 27th, 2022
- March 28th, 2023
- September 26th, 2023