



**BARRIE FIRE AND EMERGENCY
SERVICE
MEMORANDUM**

Page: 1
File: P00
Pending #:
P7/12

TO: MAYOR A. NUTTAL AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

FROM: C. MAINPRIZE, FIRE CHIEF AND DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICE

NOTED: D. MCALPINE, GENERAL MANAGER OF COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE SERVICES

M. PROWSE, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

RE: BARRIE FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICE 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

DATE: May 29, 2024

The purpose of this Memorandum is to provide members of Council the 2023 Barrie Fire and Emergency Service Annual Report

Background

On February 2, 2012, Council adopted motion **12-G-026** concerning **PRESENTATION BY BARRIE FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICE** directing Barrie Fire and Emergency Service (BFES) to provide Council with an annual report detailing the departmental education and prevention activities, emergency incident type and frequency, and fire incident dollar losses.

Report Overview

On behalf of Barrie Fire and Emergency Service, I am proud to present our 2023 Annual Report, which is attached as Appendix "A" to this memorandum dated May 29, 2024.

This report highlights the tremendous work of our staff and provides a comprehensive analysis of the professional services BFES provides to our residents. In addition, a thorough and detailed overview of our operations and proactive fire protection model are provided.

In 2023, our dedicated team of fire service professionals continued to deliver exceptional fire protection services and meet the evolving needs of our community. In addition to effective emergency response our team continues to prioritize public education and prevention initiatives to reduce community risk and mitigate the frequency and severity of fire related emergencies.

I want to personally acknowledge the support of City Council, together we will continue to build on our knowledge and experience, rise above challenges, and provide exceptional public safety and customer service to our community.



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Page: 2
File: P00
Pending #:
P7/12

APPENDIX "A"

2023 BARRIE FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT



Barrie Fire and Emergency Service

2023 Annual Report

PREVENTION | DETECTION | ESCAPE



Contents

2023 Highlights	4-5
Message from the Mayor	4
Message from the Fire Chief	5
Vision, Mission, Values	6
Organizational Chart	6
Profile	7-9
Administration & Emergency Management	
Operations	
Communications & Technology	
Professional Standards	
Fire Prevention & Public Education	
Emergency Incident Overview	
Highlights of Activities	
Financial Overview	10
Fire Prevention and Public Education Activities	10-11
Engaging Our Community	
Fire Inspections by Facility	
Alarmed For Life	
Fire Incidents	12-15
Response Times	
Emergency Incidents 2018-2023	
Heat Map	
Emergency Incidents by Ward	
Property Dollar Loss Due to Fire	
Looking Forward	16
Administration	
Fire Prevention and Public Education	
Operations	
Professional Standards	
Communications	
Emergency Preparedness	
Staff Recognition	17
Retirements	
Promotions	
New Hires	

2023 Highlights



DISPATCHED OVER
35,893 emergency incidents
for **21** Municipalities



RESPONDED TO
10,778
emergency incidents



EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE
achieved the NFPA
call processing time for
98% of emergency incidents



A Message from the Mayor

On behalf of City Council and the City of Barrie, I recognize the dedicated service and commitment of our Barrie Fire and Emergency Service (BFES) staff. In 2023, the team dispatched 35,893 emergency incidents for 21 municipalities, and responded to over 10,700 emergency incidents.

BFES continues to show the highest standards of professionalism, courage, and resilience while delivering valuable and essential services to our community and beyond. Staff provide service in fire inspection/code enforcement, fire protection, technical rescue, training, communications, origin and cause investigations, and emergency management planning.

We are incredibly fortunate to have dedicated staff putting their lives on the line to protect our community, and to help prevent emergencies from happening through public education and awareness. From the Hot Summer Night event to Fire Safety Week to retirement home visits, it's outstanding to see the level of community engagement and the benefits of teaching fire safety and fire code enforcement at home, work, school, and play.

As we look ahead, the City is committed to providing necessary resources so Barrie Fire and Emergency Service can continue to meet the evolving demands of our city. The building of a new station in the southeast end, which is starting soon, will bring fire services closer to home for those residents. I applaud BFES for always looking for ways to be more efficient, effective, and to innovate as firefighting evolves.

To BFES staff—thank you for keeping our city safe, each and every day.

Mayor Alex Nuttall



COMPLETED
3,363
fire
inspections



Less than **6** minutes
TRAVEL TIME IN
89%
of incidents



REVIEWED
362
building permits



Conducted
22
fire investigations

Message from the Fire Chief

On behalf of Barrie Fire and Emergency Service, I am proud to present our 2023 Annual Report. Each day our dedicated team of fire service professionals delivers exceptional fire protection services to our growing and evolving community at the Council-mandated level of service our residents deserve.

BFES is an open and transparent organization committed to making evidence-based decisions supported by the collection and analysis of local data and information. Embracing a philosophy of continuous improvement, our team is committed to building on our successes by looking for opportunities to further enhance the service we provide to our community.

This report highlights the tremendous work of our staff and a comprehensive analysis of the professional services we provide to residents. In addition, a thorough and detailed analysis of our operations and proactive fire protection model are provided.

In 2023, BFES initiated several key projects to improve the services we provide to our community and team. We acquired the land and completed the design for our new Fire Station #6 that will start construction in 2024 and open in 2025. Additionally, our team made a number of significant improvements to our training facility, started the Next Generation 911 system upgrades, and completed our Comprehensive Community Risk Assessment to support and inform our 2025-2035 Master Fire Plan.

Our BFES team responded to and dispatched a record number of emergency incidents in Barrie and for our partner agencies. Our team continues to meet the new challenges of a city experiencing significant growth and intensification. BFES remains committed to focusing our efforts on fire prevention and public education strategies and with our expanded Alarmed for Life and Fire Safety Assessment programs.

I want to personally acknowledge every member of our team for their competent and compassionate service to the City of Barrie.

Fire Chief Cory Mainprize



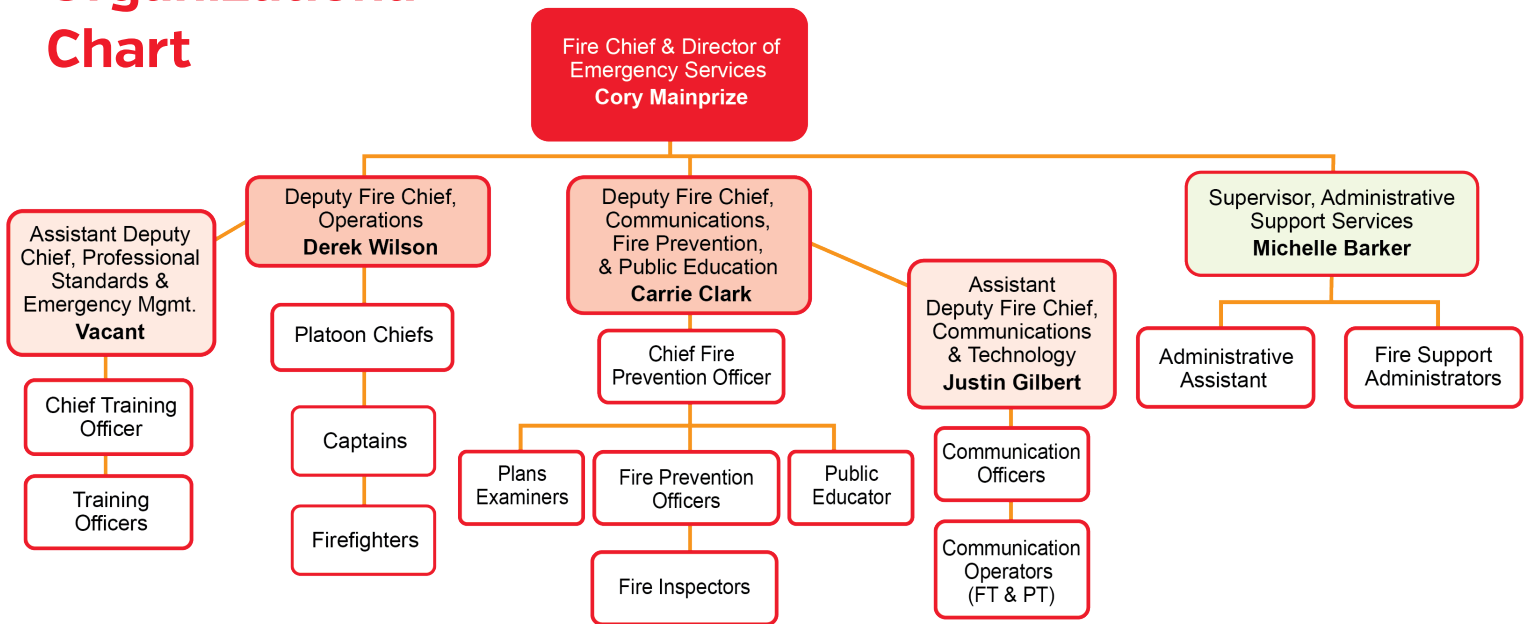
Vision, Mission, Values

VISION To be a dynamic organization that is recognized and respected by the community as being on the leading edge of service provision.

MISSION To protect the lives, well-being and property of the people of Barrie through dedication to life safety, commitment to community service and preservation of the environment.

VALUES Reflect leadership through team involvement encompassing: Safety, Professionalism, Commitment, Accountability, Efficiency, Integrity & Innovation.

Organizational Chart





Barrie Fire and Emergency Service Profile



Administration & Emergency Management

Responsible for managing all branches, this team oversees and directs the day-to-day operations including the current and long-range strategic planning, business services, capital and operating budgets, labour relations, employee wellness, contracted service management, policy development, procurement, performance management and recruitment.

It also manages the City's Community Emergency Management program and is responsible for ensuring the City is prepared to respond to and recover from emergencies. This includes providing training, developing plans, and overseeing the Emergency Operations Centre.



Operations

This team provides an all-hazard response to mitigate emergencies including fires, hazardous materials incidents, medical emergencies, and technical rescues such as rope rescue, confined space rescue, ice and water rescue, trench rescue, and automobile extrication. Operations staff support our Fire Prevention & Public Education and Training branches in conducting proactive Fire Safety Assessments.



Communications & Technology

This branch dispatches emergency and non-emergency calls 24/7/365 for the City of Barrie and 20 additional municipalities with 62 fire stations throughout Simcoe County, District of Muskoka, Grey County, Dufferin County, Beausoleil First Nations, and York Region. They provide emergency call taking and dispatch services for almost 1 million people across 7,111 square kilometers. Using modern technology this team receives, processes, prioritizes, and communicates emergency information to our residents and emergency services teams.



Professional Standards

This branch is responsible for developing, implementing, and delivering staff training to meet our legislated requirements and industry best practices. The team delivers exceptional service to our community by delivering diverse programming including recruit training, officer development, fire operations, and technical rescue.



Fire Prevention & Public Education

The team of Fire Inspectors, Fire Prevention Officers, and Plans Examiners inspect all building types to ensure compliance with the Fire Code by reviewing site plans, plans of subdivision, and building plans to ensure compliance with the Ontario Building Code for life safety systems. They also conduct fire investigations to determine the origin, cause, and circumstance of fires.

Public Educators create fire safety education programs and teach fire safety lessons to all members of the community. This team strives to educate individuals, groups, classes, workers and stakeholders on the benefits and requirements of fire safety and fire code enforcement at home, work, school, and play.

Emergency Incident Overview



Incident Type	# of Incidents
Burning Controlled	266
Pre-Fire Conditions - No Fire	200
Public Hazard	274
Property Fires/Explosions	211
Rescue	787
Automatic Alarm Activation	884
Medical Incidents	8,079
Other	761
Total	11,462

Highlight of Activities



16 Legal Actions



587

Building Permits & Site Plan Reviews



22 Fire Investigations



504

Inspection Complaints/ Requests



151 Fire Safety Plan Reviews



516

Fire Consultations

Fire safety assessments:



Risk

550 Inspections

126 Re-inspections



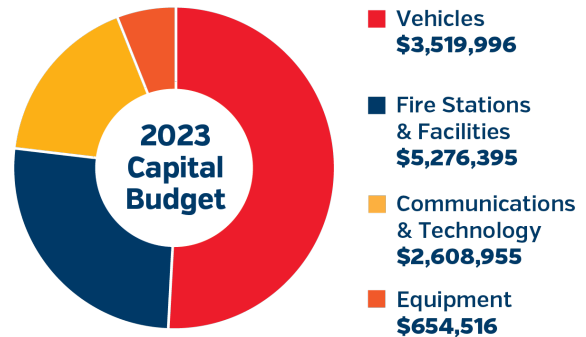
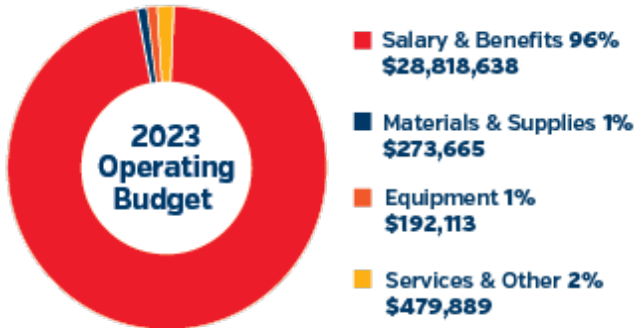
2,628 Burn Permits



Financial Overview

The 2023 Barrie Fire and Emergency Service net operating budget was **\$29,764,305**. BFES receives approximately **\$2,067,627** in revenue.

The 2023 Barrie Fire and Emergency Service Capital Budget was **\$12,059,862**.



Fire Prevention and Public Education Activities

Engaging Our Community

Barrie Fire & Emergency Service focuses on community risk reduction through public education, fire safety standards and enforcement.

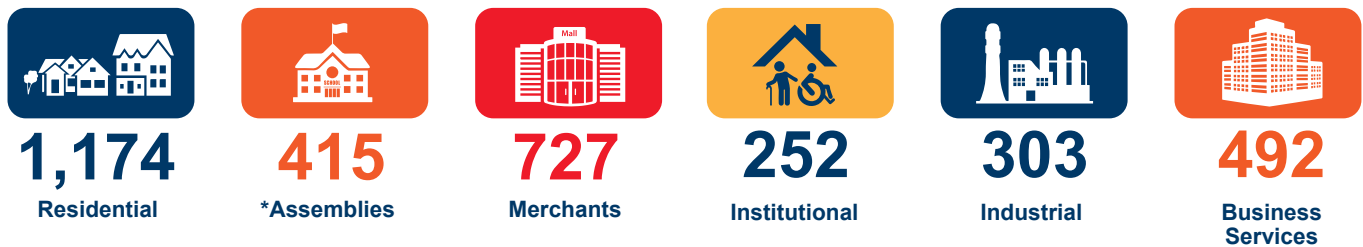
5,300
followers



7,241
followers



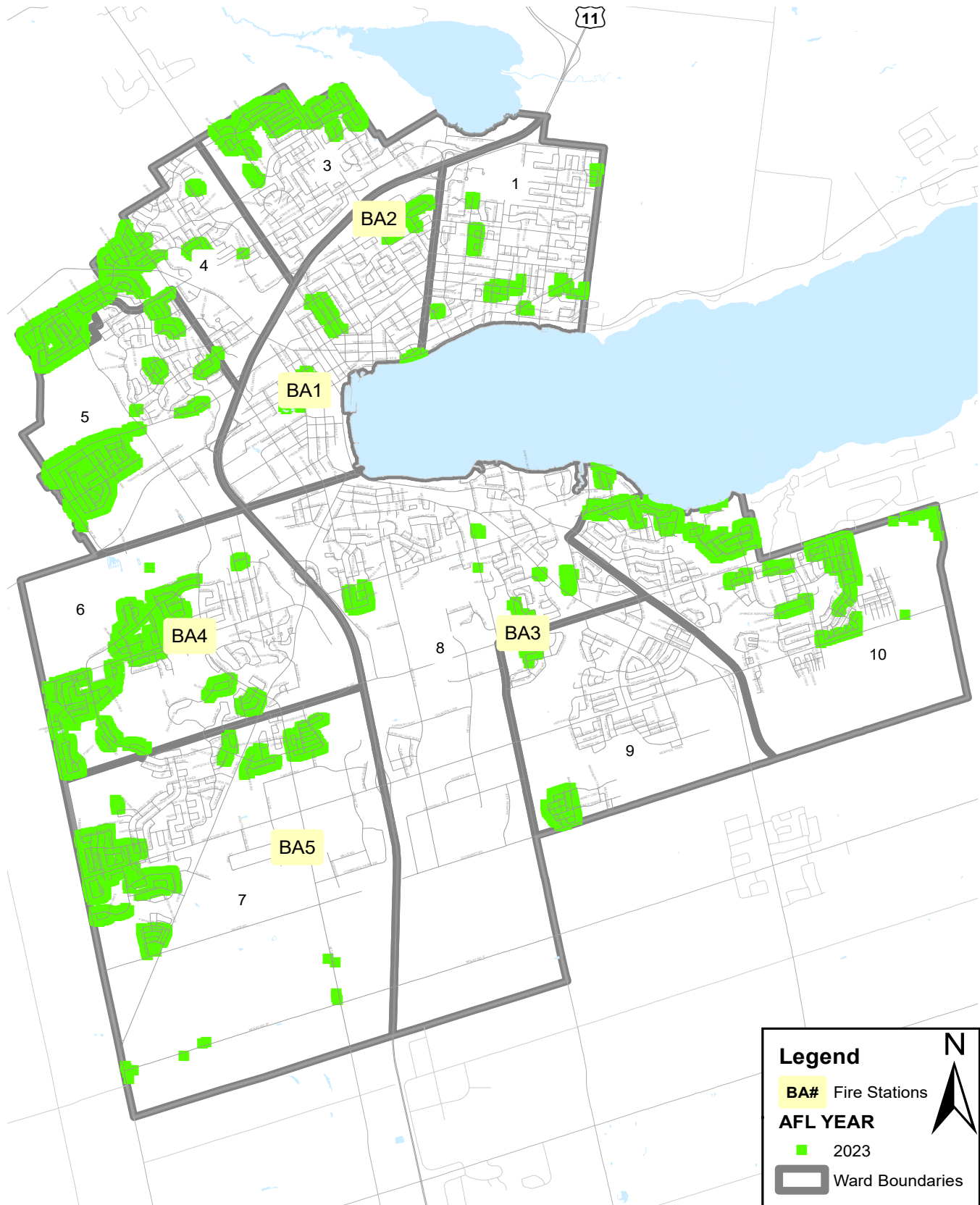
Fire Inspections by Facility



*Assemblies in this context means facilities where people commonly gather and assemble, and are not included in the other categories [i.e. churches, recreation centres, etc.]

Alarmed For Life

The following map indicates where Barrie Fire crews went door-to-door ensuring homes have working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms for 2023 which marks the start of a new 5 year cycle.

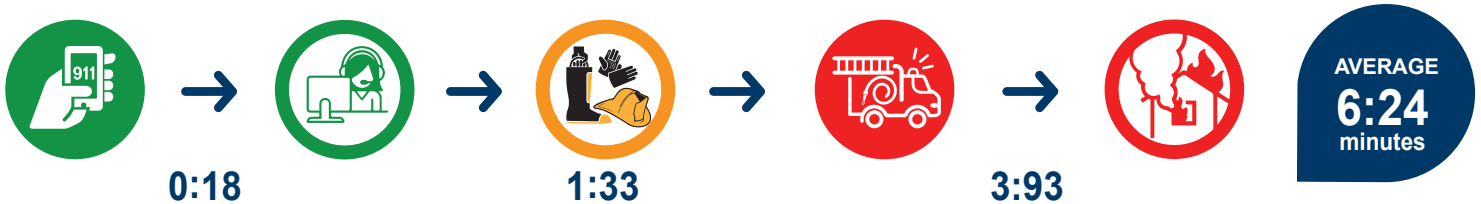


Fire Incidents

Response Times



BFES has an average response time of 6.24 minutes from receiving the information to arrival on the scene.

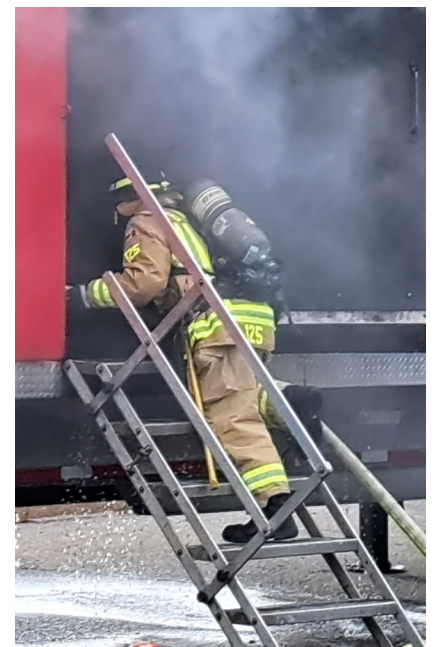


90% of the time, BFES has a response time of less than 8.50 minutes from receiving the information to arrival on the scene.



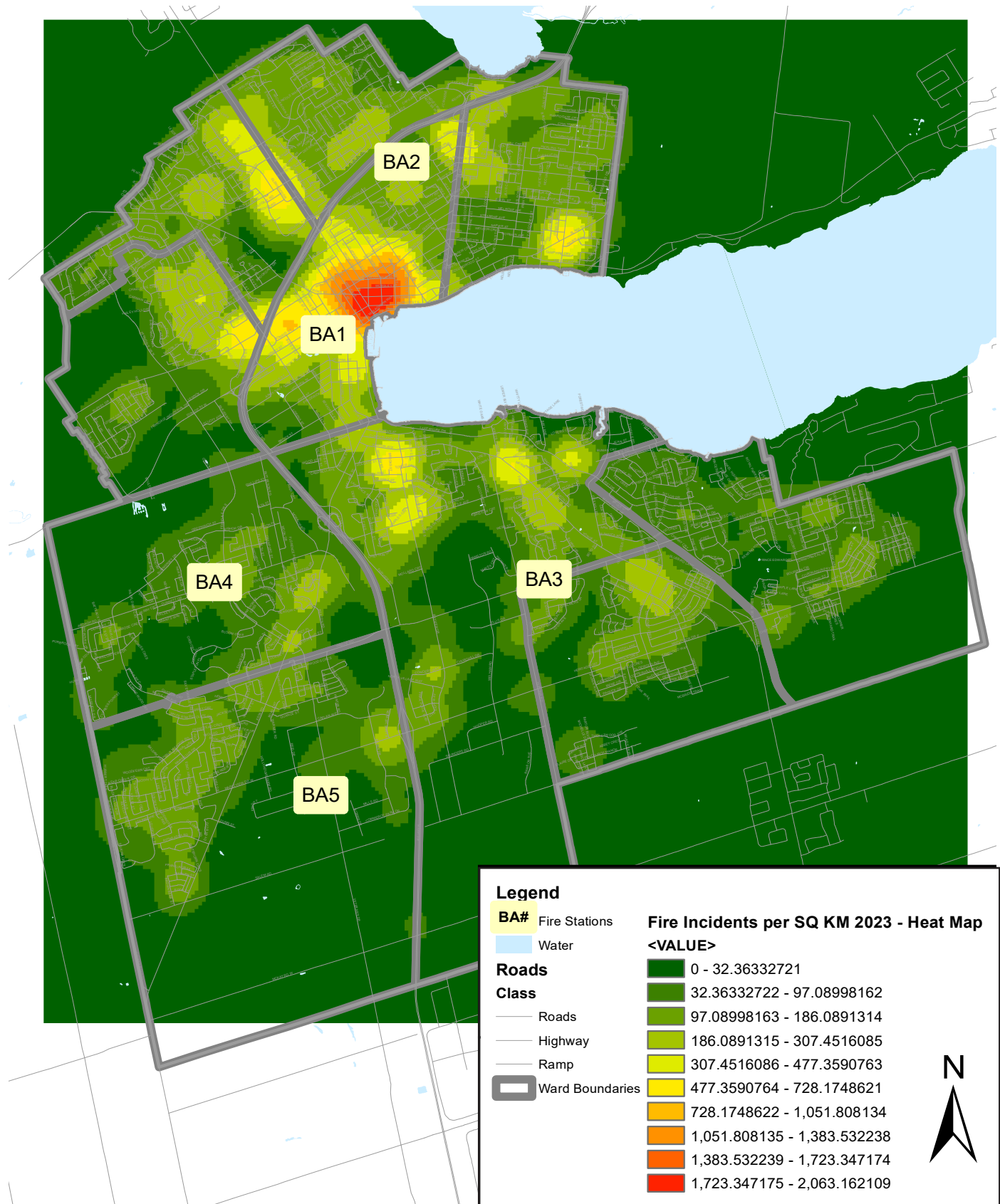
Emergency Incidents 2018-2023

Year	Incidents	% Change
2018	8,449	-3.9%
2019	8,330	-1.3%
2020	7,453	-10.53%
2021	8,772	+17.7%
2022	10,402	+18.6%
2023	10,778	+3.5%



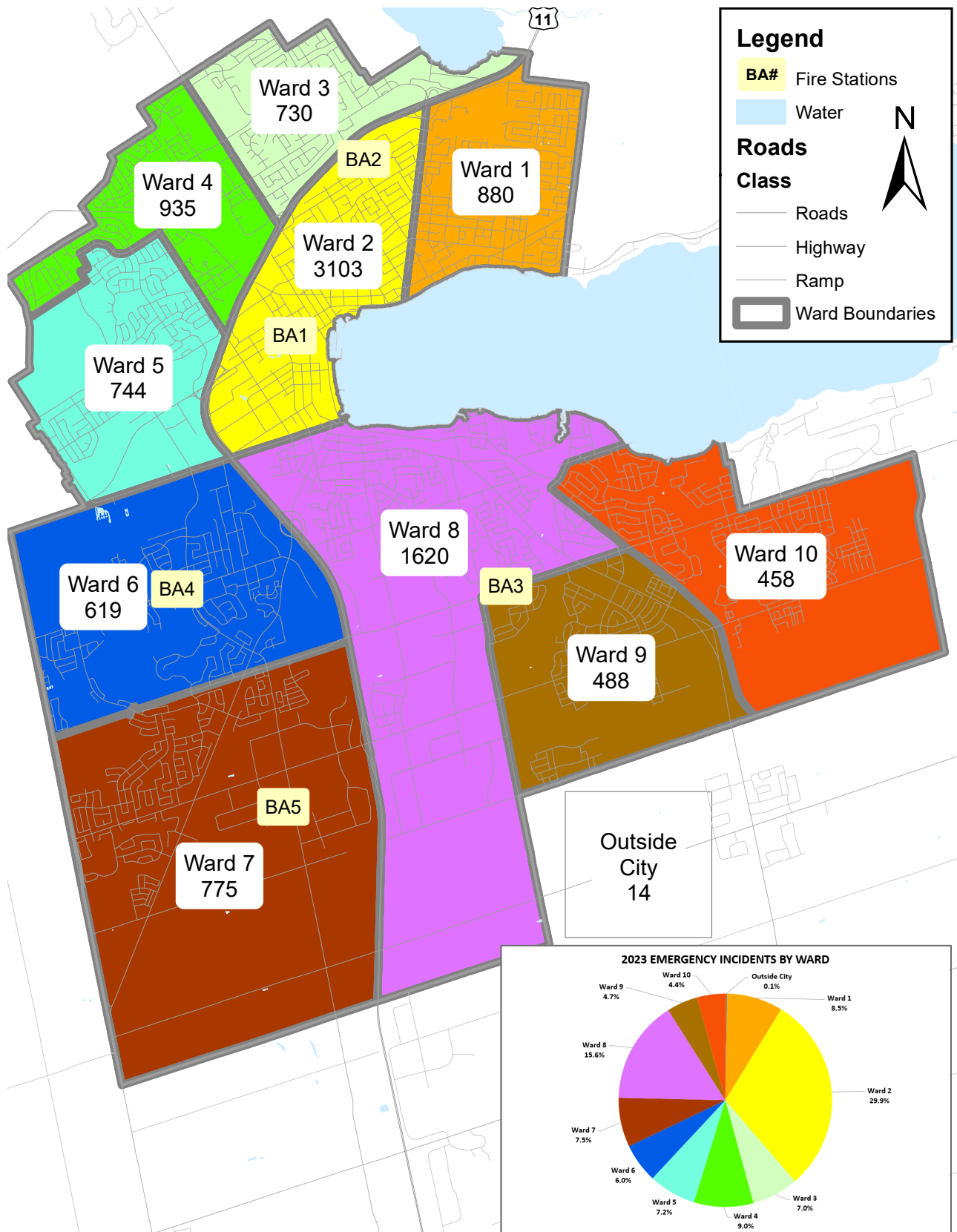
Heat Map

The following map demonstrates the areas of higher incident frequency based on call volume for 2023.



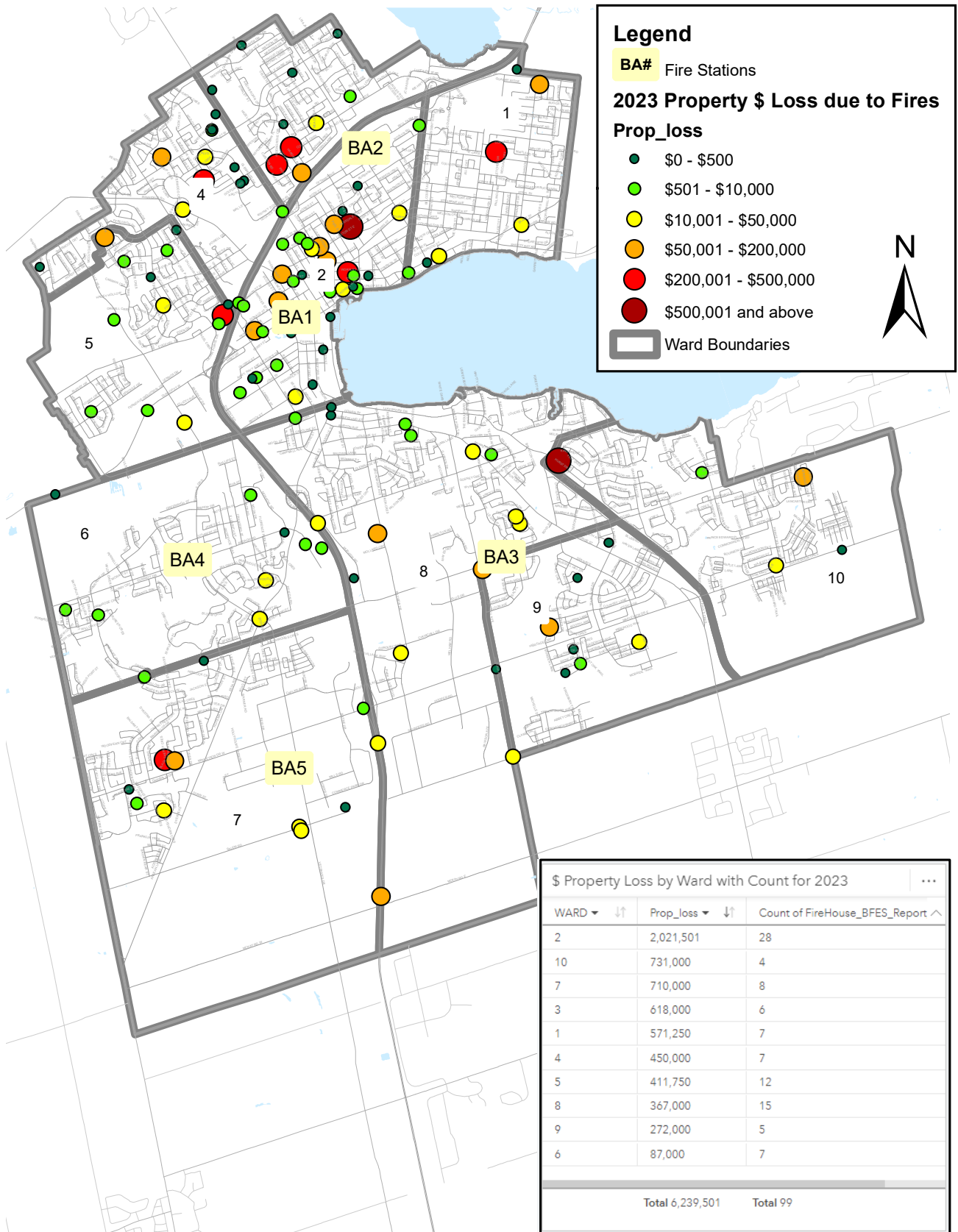
Emergency Incident Locations

The following map indicates the number of emergency incidents by ward for 2023.



Property Dollar Loss Due to Fire

The following map indicates the dollar loss amount occurring per emergency incident in 2023.



Looking Forward

BFES is committed to being a data driven, outcome based, strategic, customer focused, properly resourced and modern fire service that supports an inclusive and diverse workplace. Each branch has key priority areas moving forward through 2024 to ensure we meet the expectations of our growing community.

Administration

- Manage and grow our long-term Mental Health and Wellness Program that proactively supports every member of our team and provides appropriate post incident care, as required.
- Initiate and complete a long-range master fire plan to support and guide BFES from 2025-2035.
- Enhancement of data collection and analytics to manage operational performance and support long range planning.

Fire Prevention and Public Education

- Complete comprehensive Risk Reduction Strategy.
- Deliver risk based in-person public education programming to improve fire safety.
- Expand and support Operations-led public education and fire safety inspections.

Operations

- Continue to expand and develop our in-service proactive fire inspection program using operations staff to reduce community risk.
- Attend over 10K residential homes to conduct smoke alarm testing and provide public education.
- Design, construct, and operationalize new Fire Station 6 to serve southeast Barrie.

Professional Standards

- Enhance our technical rescue and specialized training programs to meet industry standards and the evolving needs of the community.
- Develop and implement an enhanced learning management system that improves access to training materials and employee records.
- Delivery of recruit training program to new operations firefighters.

Communications

- Utilization of current communications resources to expand partnership opportunities with other municipalities.
- Implement and operationalize the Next Generation 911 [NG911] system.
- Implement and operationalize enhanced station alerting system, Computer Aided Dispatch, and Records Management System.

Emergency Preparedness

- Review and update Emergency Plan.
- Develop hazard specific plans.
- Delivery of Incident Management System training to internal city staff.

Staff Recognition

Retirements



Paul Cox
Captain



Ed Davis
Deputy Chief
Operations



David Lalonde
Fire Prevention
Officer
Plans Examiner



Sanford Stevens
First Class
Firefighter

No Photos Available: David Dunt – Acting Captain, **Jesse Northcott** – Captain

In Memoriam



John Denise Wilcox
Captain
Mar 31, 1954 – Nov 23, 2023

Staff Recognition

New Hires

Anna Owens	Communications Operator
Alexandrea Andison	Fire Inspector
Vanessa Visco	Fire Prevention Officer
	Plans Examiner
Sarah Melanson	Fire Support Administrator

Promotions

Derek Wilson	Deputy Chief
Domenic Filippelli	Acting Platoon Chief
John Cargoe	Acting Platoon Chief
Ross McAlpine	Acting Platoon Chief
Tony Farrell	Acting Platoon Chief
Eric Webster	Captain
Todd MacDonald	Captain
Wesley Visser	Acting Captain
Maxwell Laframboise	Acting Captain
Adam Freiburger	Acting Captain
Kate Young	Full Time Communications Operator
Melissa Deneau	Acting Communications Officer
Tracy Toner	Acting Communications Officer
Ashlee Hebner	Acting Communications Officer



Photo: Training exercises



Photo: South East Barrie Fire



Photo: Deputy Chief Wilson and Chief Mainprize



Photo: Test Your Smoke Alarm Day



Barrie Fire and Emergency Service

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