

# Port Alberni Fire Department 2009 – 2013



# Council Direction

- Fiscal responsibility
- Providing leadership and building partnerships
- Develop Regional fire service
- Safe & healthy community



# Public Input

- Think Regionally
- Reduce duplication ... # of Fire Engines
- Utilize volunteers
- Focus on Core Services



# Services Provided

- Fire Suppression – core service
- Fire Prevention
- Rescue/Extrication
- Medical First Responder
- High Angle Rope Rescue
- Confined Space Rescue
- Support Internal Clients

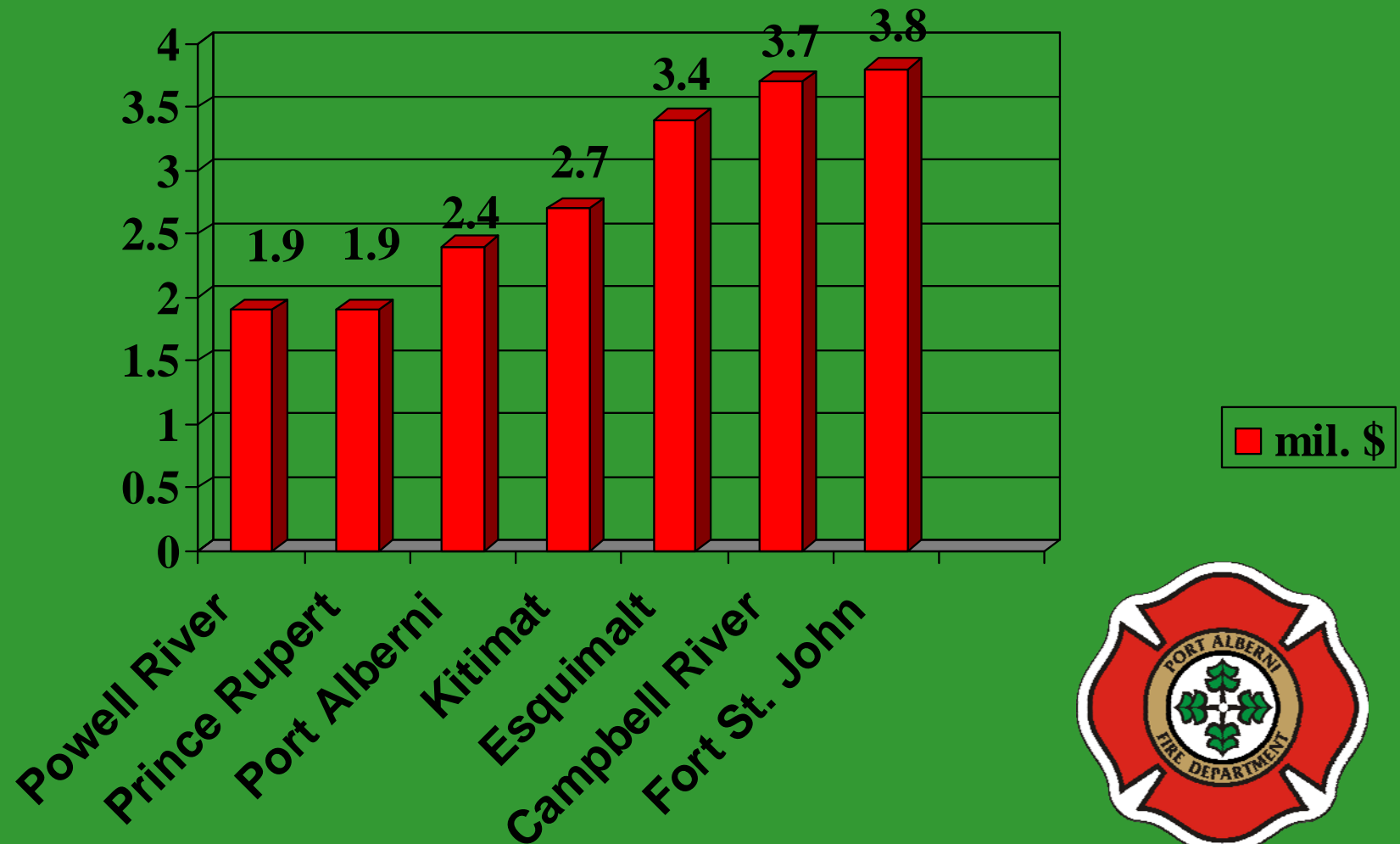


# Budget Compared to Comparator Municipalities

- Population (residents and visitors)
- High risk populations (Poverty, First Nations, elderly, children, drug addicted)
- High-rise buildings
- Unique risks (ex. Marine, through traffic, industry)
- High fire risk structures (ex. Industry, large residential complexes, care facilities, older downtowns areas)
- Economic risk (Industry)

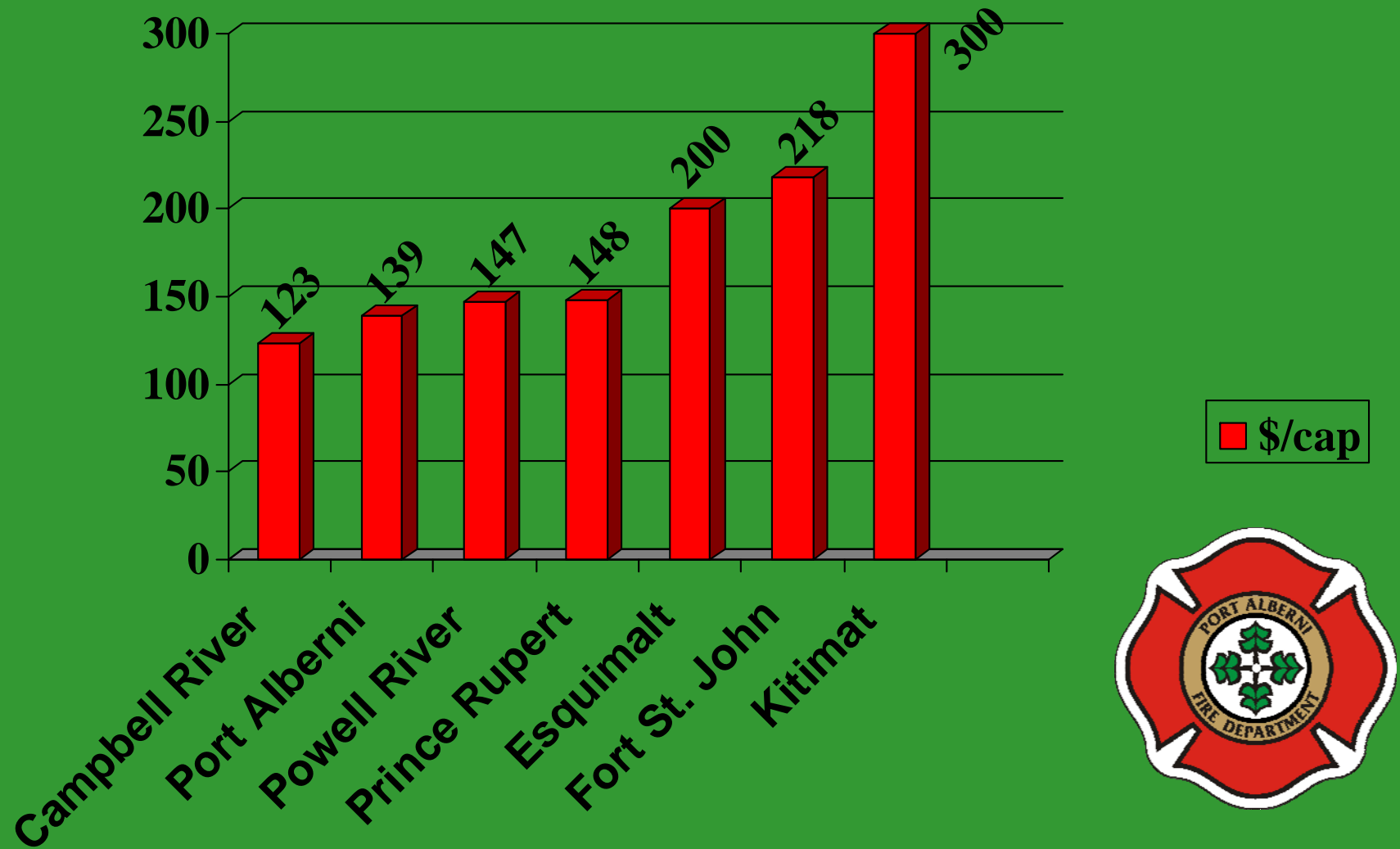


# Budget Compared to Comparator Municipalities (2008)



# Fire Budget vs. Population

2008 budgets/2006 Census



# Regional Fire Planning

- Mutual Aid
- Automatic Aid
- Partnering
- Amalgamation



# Regional Fire Planning

## Mutual Aid:

Agreement between neighbouring jurisdictions to lend support during extraordinary emergency events.

Each party must maintain adequate resources to manage routine emergency events.



# Regional Fire Planning

## Automatic Aid:

Agreement between neighbouring jurisdictions to co-respond to predetermined level of emergencies regardless of jurisdictional boundaries.

Both parties can “take credit” for a portion of available neighbouring resources, realizing some savings.



# Regional Fire Planning

## Partnering:

Agreement between neighbouring jurisdictions to co-fund apparatus, personnel and/or “functions.”

Both parties realize efficiencies and savings resulting from limiting duplication.



# Regional Fire Planning

## Amalgamation:

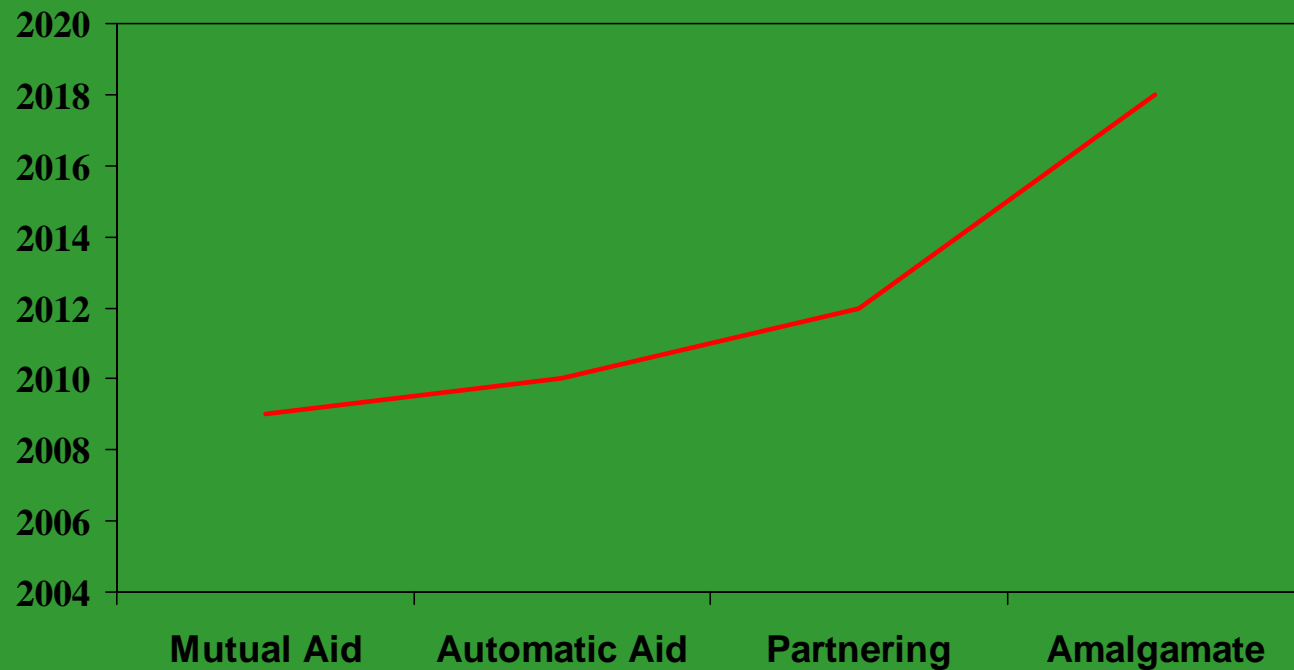
The combining of two or more jurisdictions into one.

In the Alberni Valley, amalgamation *could* result in one fire department covering the valley.



# Regional Fire Planning

## Estimated Timeline



# Benefits of Thinking Regionally

- Use of volunteers to supplement on duty firefighters
- Save \$ on replacement of fire engines
- Lead in improving service and cost efficiencies for all jurisdictions
- Opportunity for partnering while maintaining autonomy



# Revenues (2009)

(page 2, line 42)

- \$105,212 (4% of expenditures)
- 12.4% increase over 2008
- Fire suppression contracts
- Inspection fees (wood burners)
- Permit fees (oil tanks)
- Boarding fees – burned buildings
- “Found” opportunities



# Expenditures (Operating)

(page 8, line 80)

- \$2,582,690
- 3.49 % increase over 2008
- Increased costs
  - Fuel
  - Utilities
  - \$20,000 wages – temporary Firefighter
- Decreased costs
  - Fire Boat Shed maintenance



# Expenditures (Capital)

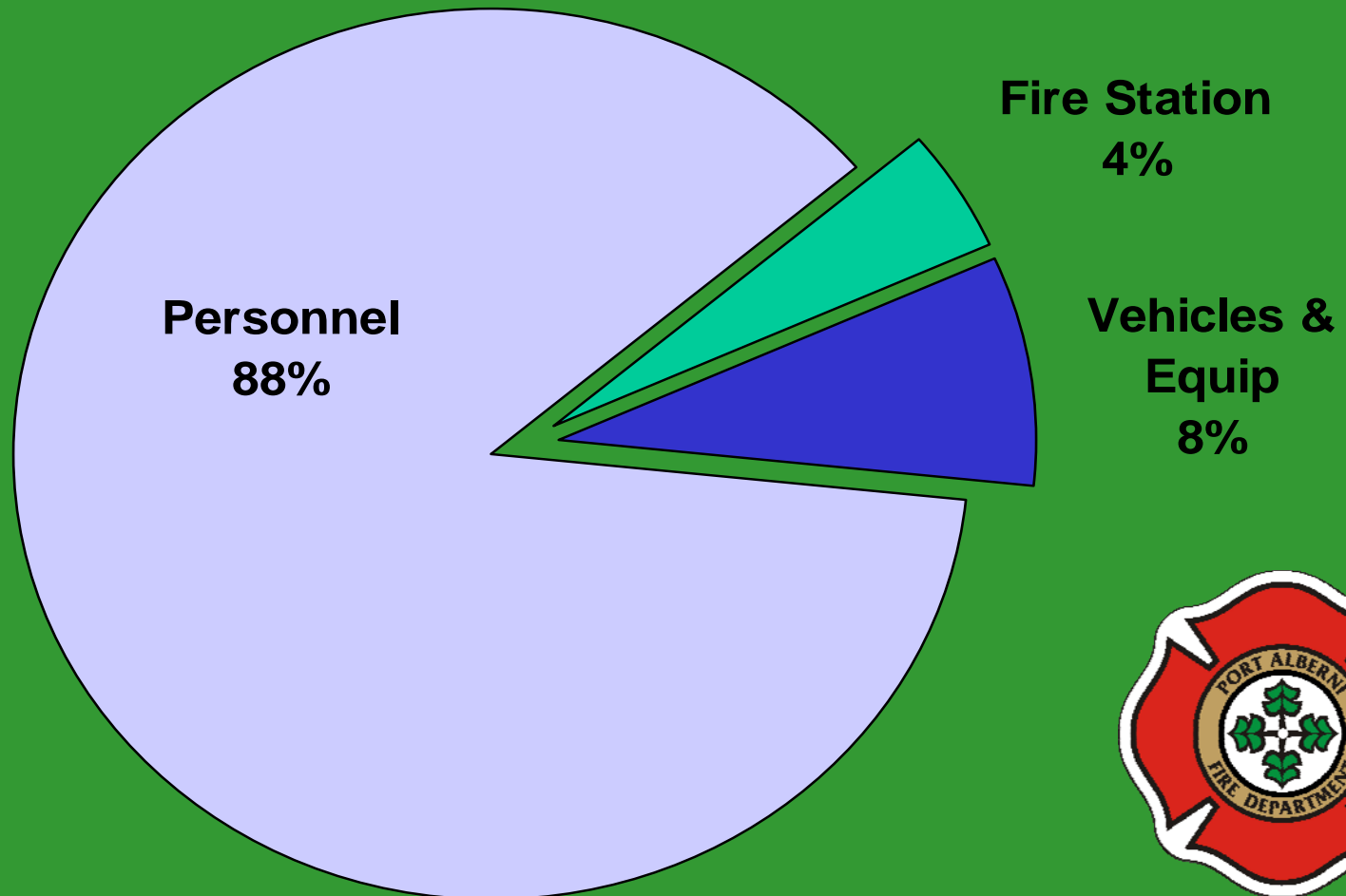
(page 28, line 20)

- \$47,000
- Reduced 2009 Capital Budget by \$30,000 to offset increase in Operating Budget
- \$480,000 (ERRF) #3 Engine



# 2009 Budget

\$2,524,478 Net

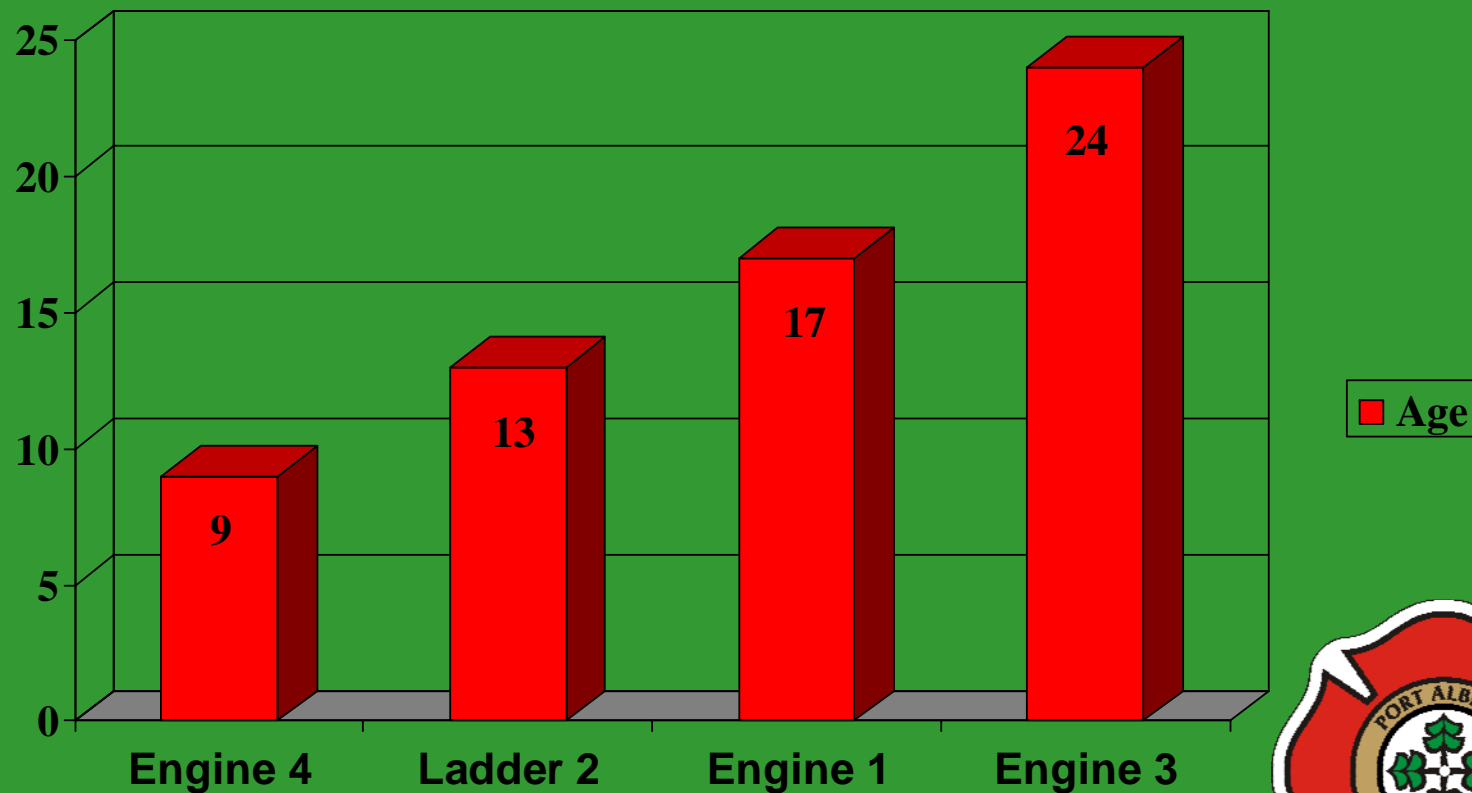


# Vehicles and Equipment

- Maintenance of City's insurance rating requires that we maintain 3 Engines + 1 Ladder, combining for a total pumping capacity of 4200 igpm.
- First line engine must be less than 15 years old.
- No unit can be older than 20 years.



# Ages of Apparatus



# Apparatus Replacement Schedule

## CURRENT SCHEDULE

- Engine 3 ..... 2006
- Engine 1 ..... 2013
- Ladder 2 ..... 2016
- Engine 4 ..... 2020

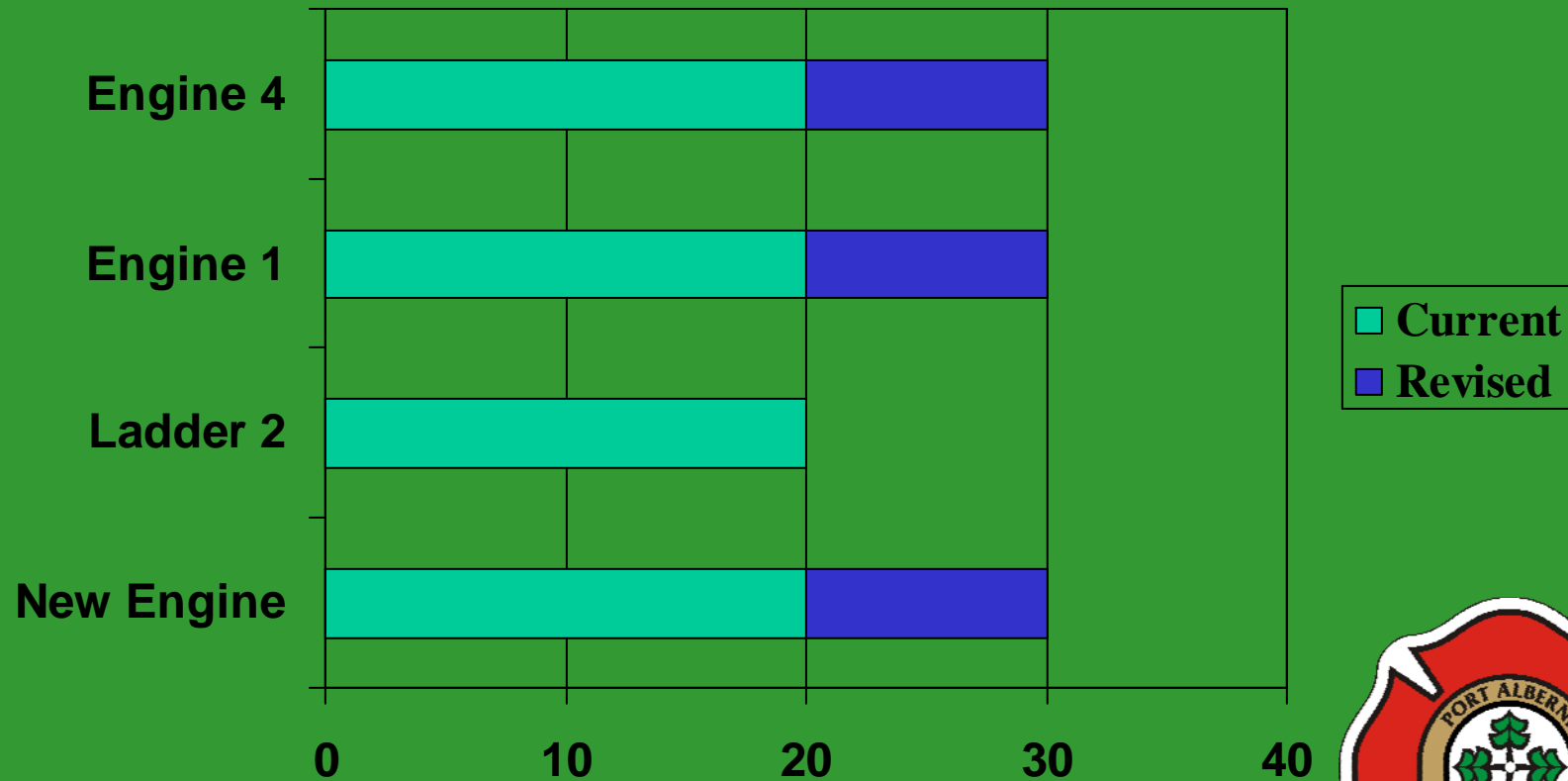
## PROPOSED SCHEDULE

- Engine 3 ..... 2009
- Ladder 2 ..... 2016
- Engine 1 ..... 2023\*
- Engine 4 ..... 2030\*

\*contingent upon  
Automatic Aid and  
Underwriters



# Apparatus Replacement Schedule - Revised



# Vehicles and Equipment

## Key Budget Items

- 2009 - Replace Engine 3
- 2009 - Resolve fire boat issue. End of useful life.
- 2011 - Replace SCBAs
- 2012 – Replace breathing air compressor and air storage tanks
- 2013 – Replace portable radios and pagers



# Personnel

- Level of service – 4 person response
- 19.4 Firefighters
- 2 chief officers
- 1 fire inspector



# Personnel

## Key Budget Items

- 2009 - Hiring of one temporary firefighter to offset overtime costs
- 2010 - Sign Automatic Aid agreement(s) to develop a composite fire response
- Pursue partnering opportunities to improve interoperability while controlling personnel costs



# Fire Station



# Fire Station

- Fire station is 43 years old.
- Good news ... Fire station is still well-located.
- Has a further useful life of at least 20 years
- Need to maintain and replace building equipment in order to extract full useful life out of building



# Fire Station

## Key Budget Items

- 2009 - Replace kitchen appliances
- 2009 - Begin HVAC project ... (6 year project)
- 2012 - Replace portion of roof
- 2012 - Install new exhaust extraction drop



# Fire Station

## HVAC Project (\$ 218,750)

- 2009 ... Engineering work (\$28,800)
- 2010 ... Heat Pump (\$25,000)
- 2010 ... New system controls (\$30,000)
- 2012 ... Replace air handler (\$21,700)
- 2013 ... Boiler replacement (\$61,250)
- 2014 ... Existing heat pump (\$25,000)
- 2014 ... Energy recovery vent (\$27,000)



# Fire Station

## Fire Boat Shed

- 32 years old ...  
end of useful life
- 2009 - remove funding  
for Fire Boat Shed  
maintenance
- FB Shed will be  
eliminated when FB issue  
has been addressed



# Budget

## Key Items 2009-2013

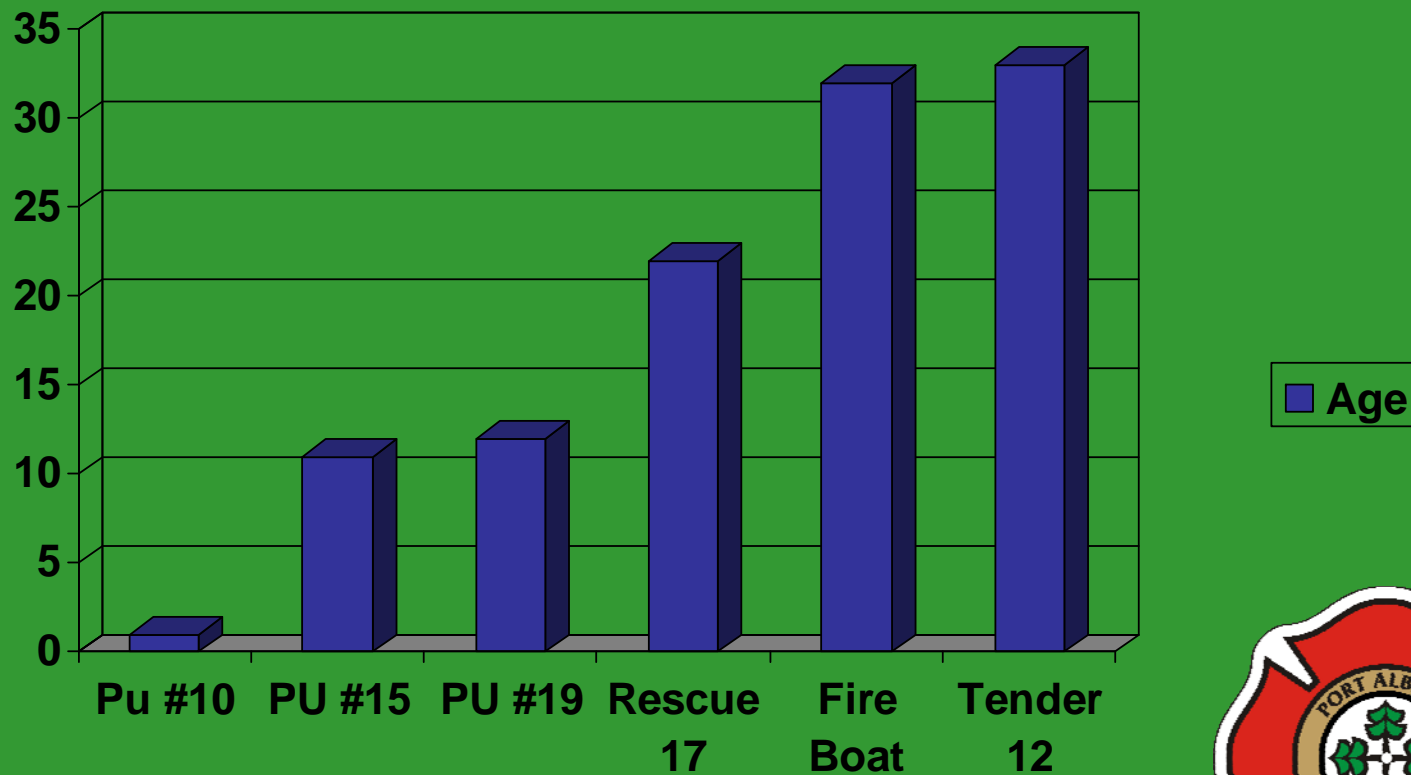
- Maintain core service level – 4 staff in 4 min. 90% of the time
- Maintain required apparatus and equipment
- Deal with Fire Boat issue
- Develop a composite response through Regional automatic aid and partnering
- Maintain Fire Station to maximize building life
- Continue to develop revenue and cost sharing opportunities.







# Ages of Apparatus



# Medical First Responder

- Fire crew responds to life threatening medical emergencies
- Approx. 500 calls for service per year
- Involves no overtime costs
- Does not interfere with fire responses
- Saves lives



# Automatic External Defibrillator

- December 2008
- Elderly male patient
- Witnessed collapse – no bystander CPR
- Est. 4 minutes before arrival of AED
- No shock delivered - Good CPR waveform
- Return of pulse at hospital
- Excellent job



# High Angle Rescue

- Funded by industry
- All equipment costs covered (\$2600 annually)
- Instructor training costs covered (\$30,000 in 2009)
- Serves local industry



# Confined Space Rescue

- Provide rescue coverage for workers inside confined spaces ex. manholes, tanks)
- Serves City Water and Sewer Departments
- Serves local industry
- Ending program would cause costs to City and industry



# Fire Boat



# Fire Fleet Plan

- Replace Engine 3 – Critical to maintenance of Community Fire Rating
- Develop small rescue unit
- Eliminate #17 and #14
- Negotiate Automatic Aid Agreement(s) to enable extension of apparatus lives
- Replace or eliminate Fire Boat



# National Fire Protection Association (standard 1710)



# WorkSafe BC

- Regulations Part 31 Section 23
- Interior fire attack requires minimum 4 firefighters on scene before entry
- Unlawful to enter sooner





