

Public Safety

Our City's commitment to progress is demonstrated each day in the work of our police officers and firefighters. These men and women put their lives on the line each day to ensure the safety and security of our residents and visitors. As we balanced the budget, we made certain it reflected our on-going commitment to public safety.

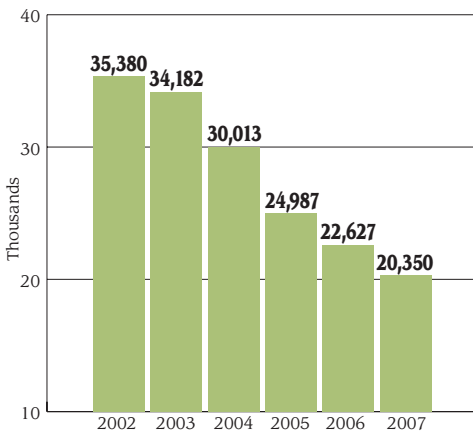
Police Department

The Tampa Police Department (TPD) is continuing to improve the lives of Tampa's residents by reducing crime in our neighborhoods. By continuing to partner with the community, our officers were able to realize another 10 percent reduction in Part 1 crimes, bringing the five year decrease to 42.5 percent.



TPD is also working to realize savings by establishing an internal Efficiency and Effectiveness Task Force process that looks at better ways of doing business. Comprised of employees from different levels, they are incorporating new technologies that reduce operating costs associated with data entry workloads.

Tampa's Crime Rate 2002-2007



***Last year
Tampa saw
over 15,000
fewer Part
I Crimes
compared to
2002.***

Fire Rescue

Tampa Fire Rescue (TFR) is committed to meeting the needs of Tampa's citizens when it comes to emergency response including fire, hazardous material and medical services. TFR's special teams excel and the marine division has been designated by the U.S. Coast Guard as the primary agency responsible for marine and shipboard firefighting from Manatee to Citrus County and up to 100 miles from the shoreline.

In 2007 Tampa Fire Rescue responded to 55,246 medical calls.



As increased revenue is unlikely, city government must look to new ways to fund additional firefighters. In June 2008, TFR applied for a grant through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to fund up to 36

firefighters. The grant requires matching funds from the City and over \$210,000 has been allocated this year. Should Tampa not receive the grant, we will use the money to fund seven additional firefighters.