

# PUBLIC SAFETY ELEMENT

Quality fire, law enforcement, and emergency medical services are essential components to safe communities. Ensuring the safety of the community is among the Town's highest priorities. It is essential that the Town maintain a high level of safety for our residents, creating a safe environment, a safe community, and fostering a high quality of life for all.

- The Town of Queen Creek contracts with Maricopa County Sheriff's Office for law enforcement services. The contract amount for FY2017 is approximately \$6.1 million and includes 44 personnel (deputies, detectives, sergeants, lieutenant, captain and administrative support staff). The contract also includes access to SWAT teams, special investigative services, aircraft and other special equipment as needed.
- The Town has five patrol beats providing law enforcement services to the community.
- In the 2016 Queen Creek Citizen Survey, 98% of residents gave their neighborhood a safe rating.
- Town of Queen Creek Fire & Medical officially began providing fire and emergency medical services (EMS) to the Town in January 2008.
- Fire and medical services are provided through 51 personnel (operational and administrative).
- The Fire & Medical Department currently operates out of three fire stations, Fire Station 1 is located in Town Center, Fire Station 2 is located on Sossaman Road in the southwest portion of Town, and Fire Station 3 is located on Queen Creek Road in the northwest portion of Town.

## Planning Considerations

### Future Development and Population Growth

As the northeast and southeast areas of the community develop, public safety services will see an increase in calls for service. It is essential that the Town coordinates facility planning with growth so that emergency response is timely and efficient, minimizing potential loss of life and damage to property.

### Traffic

Queen Creek's rapid growth and necessary roadway expansion, along with it being a major thoroughfare for morning and evening commuter residents who live outside Town, has created traffic related issues. High volumes of traffic contribute to accidents and pose a public health problem. Consequently, an overwhelming concern from Town residents has to do with traffic safety as identified in the 2016 Center for Public Safety Management Report and Analysis of Police Services.



Figure 18: Public Safety Fire Map

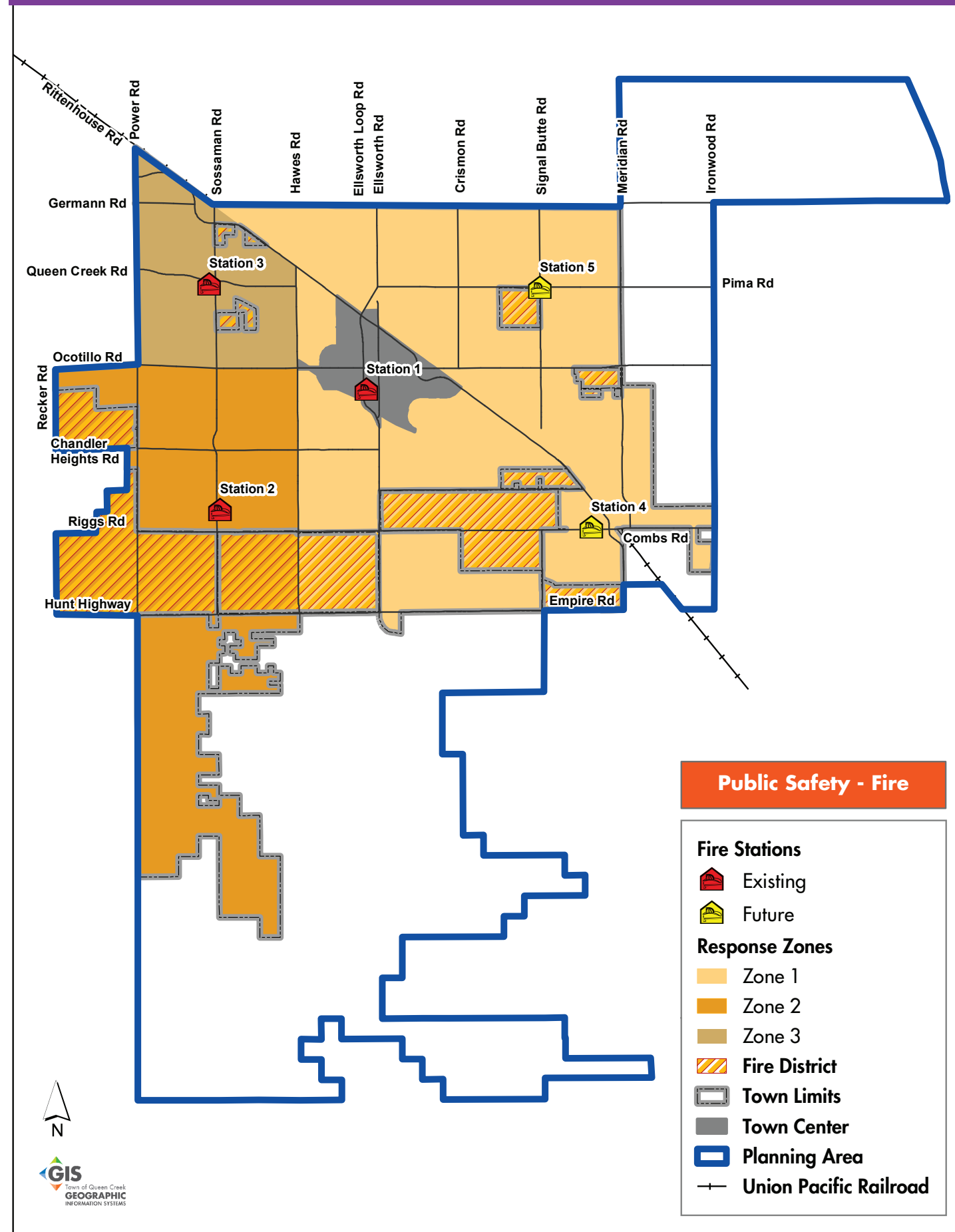
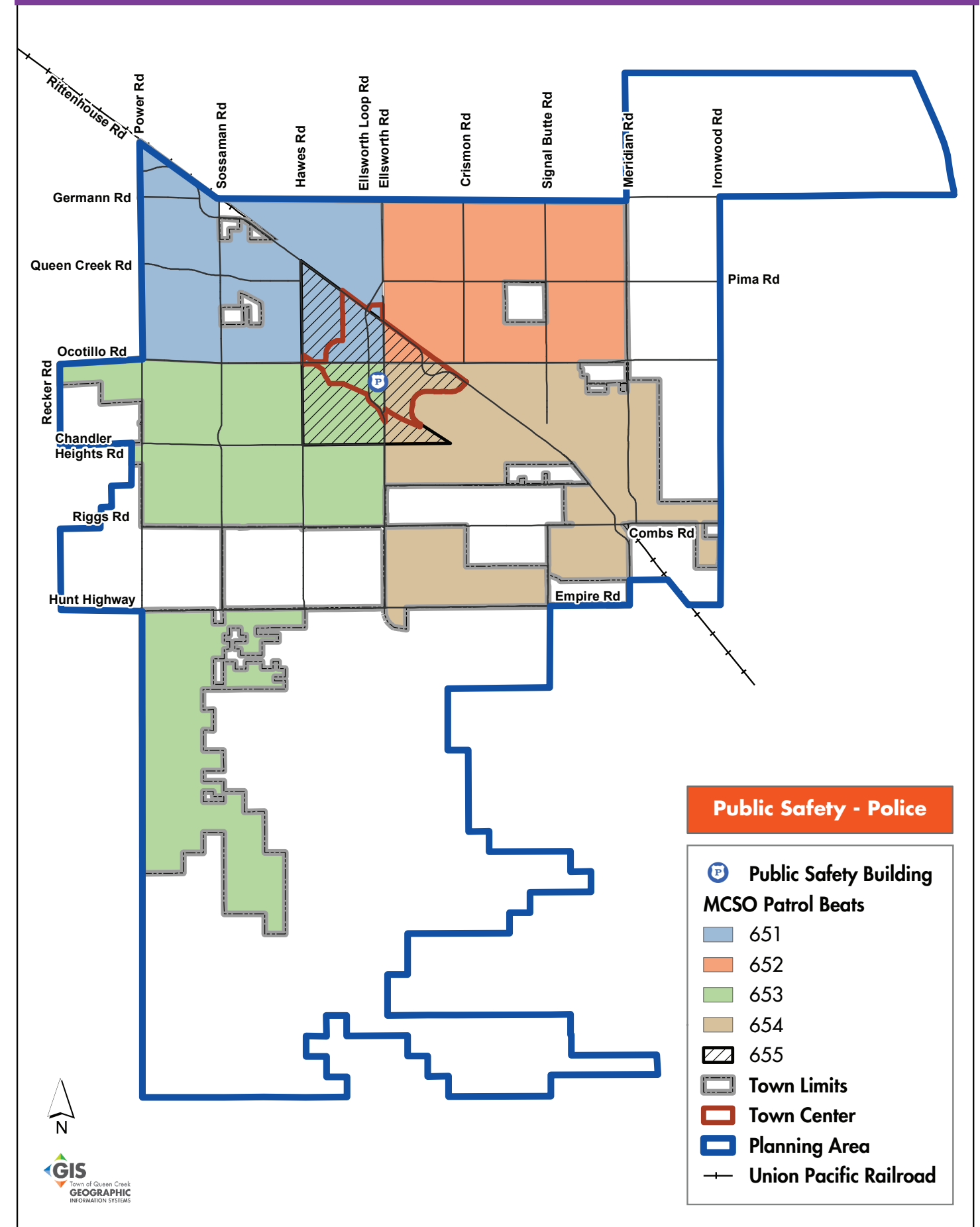


Figure 19: Public Safety Police Map



## Goals, Strategies, & Actions

### GOAL 1: FOSTER A SAFE AND VIBRANT COMMUNITY TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE

#### Strategy 1.A: Reduce, solve, and prevent criminal activity and the fear of crime.

**Action 1.A.1:** Continue to deliver law enforcement services that reduce property crime, address the needs of juveniles, and maintain a low crime rate by fostering collaborative partnerships with residents, businesses and organizations to develop solutions to problems.

**Action 1.A.2:** Sustain established deployment strategies such as: intelligence-led policing, predictive and problem-oriented policing (intelligence, trend analysis, pattern recognition and subject/location clusters).

**Action 1.A.3:** Maintain or increase crime prevention and public safety events for residents, using social media sites to help solve crime and promote community crime awareness.

**Action 1.A.4:** Utilize School Resource Officers and Community Services Squad to prevent, deter and solve crime in public and charter schools to enhance the educational environment.

#### Strategy 1.B: Continue to protect life and property from fire and other life threatening incidents.

**Action 1.B.1:** Meet or exceed the four-minute travel time goal for first response vehicles.

**Action 1.B.2:** Complete a comprehensive community risk and vulnerability assessment to guide in future department and Town planning for fire and EMS demand.

**Action 1.B.3:** Evaluate the need for an additional station in the southeastern portion of the Town as development occurs.

**Action 1.B.4:** Consider planning and construction of a fire station in the northwest portion of the Town based on current demand. If, in the short term, development continues at a pace whereby demand for service grows more rapidly than anticipated, there are identified service gaps that then need to be closed by additional stations (southeast and northeast).

**Action 1.B.5:** Evaluate the need for an additional station in the southwest area of the Town, serving the Box Canyon area, and the County Island Fire District, as development occurs.

**Action 1.B.6:** Establish a capital vehicle replacement plan.

#### Strategy 1.C: Provide safer roadways in Queen Creek by reducing accidents and improving driving behaviors through traffic enforcement and education.

**Action 1.C.1:** Using a data driven approach to crime and traffic safety, identify high-crash locations, dates, times and traffic violations for mapping, and institute directed patrol management to actively patrol high-crash areas.

**Action 1.C.2:** Formalize a structured traffic initiative with specific assignments for concentrated enforcement of high volume traffic/accident zones.

**Action 1.C.3:** School Resource Deputies and staff from the Community Services Squad will conduct traffic education/safety classes for high school and junior high school students.

**Action 1.C.4:** One month every quarter the Town will participate in an enhanced traffic enforcement plan, which should include additional signage, a designated traffic car from each patrol squad, and include high visibility and awareness through the Town's communication channels.

#### Strategy 1.D: Establish a highly skilled workforce that is able to address the future demands for public safety services.

**Action 1.D.1:** Continue with and enhance training programs that prepare the entire workforce to be able to temporarily fill in positions to include acting engineer, acting captain, acting battalion chief, and paramedic.

### GOAL 2: INCREASE COMMUNITY TRUST, INTERACTIONS, INVOLVEMENT, ACCOUNTABILITY AND ENHANCE THE MCSO DISTRICT 6 IDENTITY IN THE TOWN OF QUEEN CREEK

#### Strategy 2.B: Continue advancements in resident participation and increase resident awareness and involvement of law enforcement services.

**Action 2.A.1:** Create a community policing policy that evolves within the law enforcement contract and allows for the sustainability of recent accomplishments while including elements that adjust for future growth of the community.

**Action 2.A.2:** The Community Service Squad will produce a formal community policing program document, which includes specific outcomes, strategies, performance measures, and details of the community policing programs and efforts.

**Action 2.A.3:** The Community Service Squad will continue to lead community policing (partnership/problem-solving) and outreach efforts and develop new opportunities to inform more residents about the Town's law enforcement services.

**Action 2.A.4:** Increase community outreach efforts by requiring all patrol squads to plan and complete bi-annual outreach projects such as: attending HOA/neighborhood meetings, community events, school functions, park visits and other opportunities to interact with the community.

**Action 2.A.5:** Continue to investigate all misconduct complaints from residents and report findings. Also, track all compliments or commendations and recognize deputies for these occurrences.

