



**City of Georgetown 2030 Comprehensive Plan  
Public Safety**

## Introduction

The City of Georgetown, Texas is one of the safest and well protected communities of its size in the State of Texas. The Georgetown community expects public safety service delivery to be proactive, responsive, and innovative. Citizens should expect not only a timely and effective response during a crisis, but also proven professionals who will provide the knowledgeable guidance and considerate intervention to improve the quality of life in our homes, businesses, schools and public spaces on a daily basis. The vision of Georgetown Public Safety is to be the standard.

Georgetown's location along the Interstate Highway 35 corridor in the northern edge of the Austin Metropolitan Statistical Area promises to provide the stimulus for continued growth throughout the life of the 2030 Comprehensive Plan. This growth will affect the resources required to provide the desired level of public safety response and protection. Georgetown Public Safety will strive to maintain adequate personnel and encourage innovative approaches to emergency services through research, contemporary training, and strategic planning that yield the most effective and efficient use of existing staffing, resources, and facilities.

The Public Safety planning element to The City of Georgetown 2030 Comprehensive Plan outlines four long term strategic priorities:

1. Enhancing public safety
2. Organizational development,
3. Advancing teamwork and partnerships
4. Emergency management

Implementation stratagems will be developed through internal strategic plans within the respective divisions.

### Priority I Enhance Public Safety

A goal of any public safety entity is to enhance the level of safety and protection provided to their citizenry. In meeting those challenges, Georgetown Public Safety will utilize innovative and contemporary strategies that include preventive, proactive, and responsive measures.

## Police Services

Georgetown Police Services will seek to reduce the incidence of crime through the analysis of criminal trends, the effective allocation of staffing, a well-trained and equipped workforce, and deliberate public education. The Police Department also endeavors to reduce and abate the fear of crime by seeking first to understand community concerns through enhanced interaction in the community, providing current and timely information on emerging criminal trends and activities to stakeholders, and educating citizens in methods to reduce their vulnerability to crime. The Police Department will also work to dispel misperceptions related to crime and safety.

Improved traffic safety is an additional goal of the Police Department. Traditional enforcement efforts, complimented by well-planned educational programs targeting inexperienced drivers, and programs targeting aging drivers are planned to enhance motorist safety.

## Fire Services

Georgetown Fire Services seeks to reduce property loss from fire and disasters through the adherence to modern response principals and strategic planning. Those strategies will limit response times to within national standards based on population densities, national consensus standards, and the adopted deployment study. Innovative programs designed to prevent fires through fire code enforcement, community-based building standards, and aggressive public education will further reduce fire and disaster losses and strengthen public safety.





## Priority II Organizational Development

Public safety theory, practices, and technology evolve continually. To achieve and retain a vibrant and well trained response force, especially in positions of leadership, the Georgetown Police and Fire Departments are committed to organizational and leadership development.

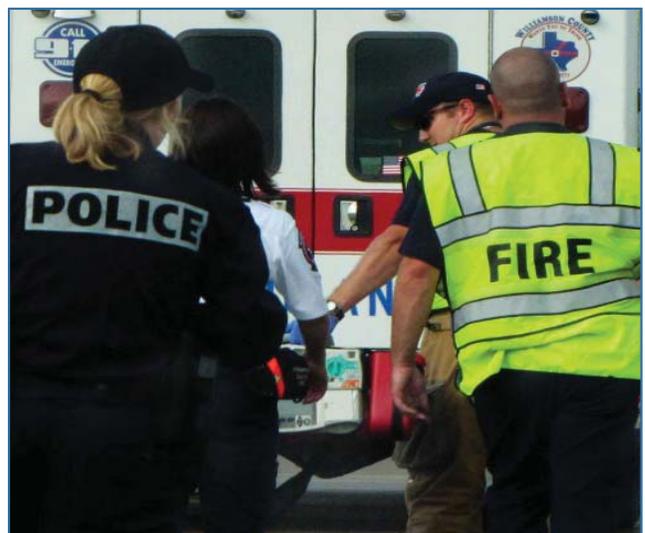
### *Police Services*

Georgetown Police Services will build and develop leadership at all levels, while implementing higher standards of performance and conduct. Through capability-based planning, focus will be concentrated on three critical areas: increasing operational knowledge, enhancing interpersonal communication skills, and developing and maintaining skills and abilities related to technology, weapons, and tactics. A commitment will be made to recruiting and retaining the most competitive employees, as well as training and developing them to reach their fullest potential.

### *Fire Services*

Georgetown Fire Services will recruit nationwide to attract the best applicants, while being progressive in retention practices to keep the most skilled and qualified employees. Policies and procedures will reflect adherence to best practices related to firefighter safety, rescue tactics, and apparatus purchasing.

Increased resources will be committed for leadership training for fire officers and succession planning for future leadership will be established. Development of a regional training complex in support of those initiatives will be planned and developed.



### **Priority III Advance Teamwork and Partnerships**

No public safety agency can achieve successful outcomes without the partnership of the community they serve and the help of sister organizations willing to aid when resources are taxed beyond their capacity. Georgetown Public Safety will lead collaboration with intra-organizational departments, strategically identified community stakeholders, as well as other regional partners in order to ensure desired outcomes are achieved.

#### ***Police Services***

Georgetown Police Services will enhance the public trust and strengthen relationships through proactively engaging stakeholders in the community to include: neighborhoods, businesses, youth, the Georgetown Independent School District, residents of Sun City, and the media.

The Police Department will strive to continuously improve internal communication strategies which strengthen relationships both across divisions and units and vertically up and down the chain of command. Strategies will also be developed, implemented, and maintained in order to strengthen external communications, which will enhance working relationships with other local partners fostering a stronger and more collaborative regional environment.

#### ***Fire Services***

Georgetown Fire Services will proactively partner with the State of Texas to increase readiness for an all hazards response. The Fire Department will seek to strengthen relationships in all of Williamson County Emergency Responders to facilitate mutual aid and auto aid agreements. The Fire Department will be a leader in regional fire service education and training.

#### **Priority IV Emergency Management**

Georgetown Public Safety will strive to develop comprehensive disaster response, mitigation, and recovery plans for both natural and manmade disasters that address all levels of City government.

Response protocols and the Emergency Operations Plan will be periodically reviewed and updated to remain contemporary with best practices. The overall mission of Emergency Management is to reduce the vulnerability exposure to all hazards and to maintain a functional state of readiness with training, staffing, and a modern Emergency Operations Center.





## Challenges Ahead

A rapidly growing population will create challenges for public safety. Resources will become stretched as the demand for services increase. Careful assessment, innovative approaches to service delivery, incorporation of viable emerging technologies, and strategic planning will lead our efforts to properly allocate staffing, direct resources, and ensure adequate facilities and training resources.