

Ladder Company Changes

01/03/09 450 W, 5 I - + 12 - 12

On January 6, the city's eighth ladder company will be placed in service at Station 4 at 121 Northway Court. Ladder 4 will operate a 2001 Spartan/Quality 75-foot aerial ladder that is presently assigned to Ladder 23. The apparatus is also equipped with a 1,250 GPM pump and a 300 gallon tank. The 2001 Spartan/Quality was placed in service as Truck 23 on March 4, 2006. The truck designation was changed to Ladder on August 21, 2006. The apparatus previously served as Truck 24 (2004-2006) and Engine 23 (2001-2004).

On January 3, Ladder 23 moves to Station 24 at 10440 Fossil Creek Court. It will be placed in service with a 1988 Pierce Snorkel that is presently assigned to Ladder 210, a reserve apparatus. Station 24 previously housed a ladder company from 2004 to 2006. The 1988 Pierce previously served as Truck 26 (2005-2006), Truck 22 (2001-2005), Truck 15 (1999-2001), and Truck 1 (1988-1999). The apparatus was the city's second aerial platform, after the 1977 Mack/Baker aerialscope.



Also on January 3, Battalion 4 relocates from Station 17 to Station 23 at 8312 Pinecrest Road. Part of the dormitory space will be converted to a Battalion Chief office. The chief operates a 2004 Chevy Tahoe. Battalion 4 has been located at Station 17 since the fourth battalion was established on January 10, 2004. Other Battalion Chiefs are housed at Station 8 (Battalion 3), Station 12 (Battalion 2), and Station 15 (Battalion 1).

After Battalion 4 moves from Station 17 at 4601 Pleasant Valley Road, work begins to renovate the dormitory space there to accommodate a ladder company. The bay door height was raised late last year. When finished, Ladder 16 will relocate to Station 17. The ladder company operates a 2007 Pierce Arrow XT aerial ladder equipped with a 105-foot ladder, 1,500 gallon pump, and 300 gallon tank.

Ladder 16 was placed in service as Truck 16 on June 8, 1979 with a 1964 GMC service truck. Located at 5225 Lead Mine Road, they subsequently operated a 1961 American LaFrance ladder (1981-1988), a 1979 Mack/1958 American LaFrance tiller (1988-1995), and a 1995 Simon-Duplex platform (1995-2007).

Other former Raleigh Fire Department ladder companies: Truck 2 (1941-1949), Truck 5 (1961-1987), Truck 6 (1949-1962, ?, 1965-1979), Truck 7 (1960-1962, 1963-1979, 1980-1982), Truck 8 (1981-2004), Truck 12 (1982-1988), and Truck 15 (1987-2001). The gaps in service for Truck 6 and Truck 7 were likely based on apparatus replacements. Truck 12 was the only ladder company disbanded; all others were all moved.

As of January 6, the city's ladder companies will consist of Ladder 1, Ladder 4, Ladder 11, Ladder 16/17, Ladder 20, Ladder 22, Ladder 24, and Ladder 26. The city's first ladder company was organized in 1852. The first aerial ladder company was placed in service in 1916.

Also on January 3, two mini-pumpers will move. Mini 24 moves to Station 23. Mini 4 moves to Station 17, until the Ladder 17 is placed in service, and then will be moved to Station 16. Both mini-pumpers operate 1986 Chevrolet Silverado brush trucks. The department's third mini-pumper, a 2005 Ford/Reading/Slagle, is housed at Station 3. The history of Raleigh's mini-pumpers: Mini 4 (2000-2004, 2007-2009), Mini 9 (1987-1997, 1998-2000, 2006-2007), Mini 17 (1986-1998, 2009), Mini 23 (2006, 2009), Mini 24 (2004, 2006-2009).

Is the snorkel just in service at station 24 until the two new platform ladders get here

4447 - 01/03/09 - 17:53

Yes. However, only one has been ordered. Another is proposed for FY'10. The new platform will go to 24, which will again be moved to 29 once the station opens, and the next new ladder will replace L-20. L-20 will go to make another new ladder company.

RescueRanger - 01/04/09 - 10:04

I thought they had funding for two platforms for this budget year?

Adam Brown - 01/05/09 - 00:27

The city announced the order of two ladders in October, <http://www.raleigh-nc.org/portal/server...>

Legeros - 01/05/09 - 08:27

Both Ladder 4 and Ladder 17 were placed in service today.

Legeros - 01/06/09 - 19:31

Will the new platforms be on the same chassis as Ladder 16 & Ladder 22? Or will they stick with mid-mounts like the current Ladder 20?

Brad Hayes - 01/07/09 - 00:55

According to the October press release by the city, the aerals will be 100-foot platforms. After looking at the Pierce website, the only 100-foot platform they make is a rearmount. And then, you have a choice between the standard aerial and the Sky-Arm. That being said, I don't see the city getting a Sky-Arm aerial, because there's just no real need for it here at this time.

Silver, you might want to pop your head up on this debate, since you might be in the know...

CJS - 01/07/09 - 02:54

From what I've heard in chatter, L-24 and L-20 might be the recipients of new apparatus...

Silver - 01/07/09 - 03:47

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