

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Department of Public Safety / Fire Safety

HB Section(s): 8.165

Program Name: Amusement Ride Safety Program

Program is found in the following core budget(s): Fire Safety Core

1a. What strategic priority does this program address?

Public safety on amusement rides or while attending carnivals, fairs and amusement parks.

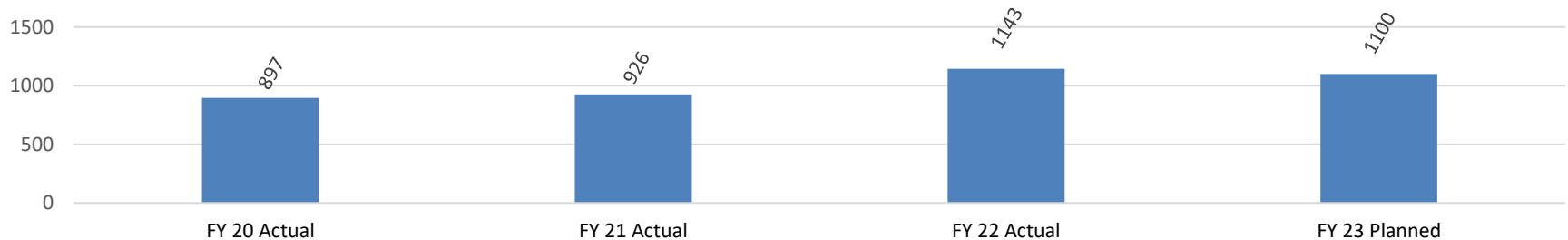
1b. What does this program do?

Legislation in 1997 created the Amusement Ride Safety Act with the Division of Fire Safety designated to administer the program. Before any amusement ride can operate in the State of Missouri, the ride shall be inspected by a state-approved ride inspector. With the exception of St. Louis County, there are no local inspection or enforcement programs of amusement rides in our State. Applications for the state permit and inspection reports are reviewed each year by Division staff prior to issuing a state operating permit. The staff perform quality control/spot inspections on rides which include climbing walls, zip lines, bungee jumps and dry slides. If life safety issues are noted during a spot safety inspection, the issues shall be corrected prior to ride operation. Additionally, any amusement ride accident meeting specific criteria is required to be investigated by a qualified inspector.

Because no FTE or E&E authority was appropriated for this program, the Division absorbed the duties by cross-training Elevator Safety Inspectors. Funds generated from the operating permit fees are deposited into the Elevator Safety Fund (0257) which supports both the Elevator Safety and Amusement Ride Safety programs. The Governor-appointed Amusement Ride Safety board advises Division staff.

2a. Provide an activity measure(s) for the program. Decline in Amusement Ride activity in FY20 & FY21 due to COVID-19 issues.

Amusement Ride Permits Issued



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2b. Provide a measure(s) of the program's quality.

Five Division of Fire Safety Inspectors are trained and certified by the National Association of Amusement Ride Safety Operators (NAARSO). NAARSO and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) standards are used for the inspection and permitting of rides in our State.

Similar programs exist in Arkansas, Tennessee, Oklahoma, Illinois and Kansas.

2c. Provide a measure(s) of the program's impact.

In FY22, 1143 ride permits were issued, while 2 ride incidents were reported and investigated.

The Amusement Ride Safety program serves more than 155 amusement ride owners, but more importantly, the functions of this program help to ensure the safety of the citizens and visitors of our State when attending fairs, carnivals and amusement parks. In a typical year, the program oversees rides at all Missouri fixed park locations, as well as the Missouri State Fair, the Ozark Empire Fair, Boone and Cole county fairs, and multiple other county fairs and festivals. Many of these events were cancelled or scaled back in FY20 & FY21 due to COVID-19.

2d. Provide a measure(s) of the program's efficiency.

Because no FTE or E&E authority was appropriated for this program, the Division absorbed the duties by cross-training the Elevator Safety Inspectors to perform the duties of this program and has recently started a training program for Fire Inspectors to perform some of these duties.

Fees remain relatively low in comparison with neighboring states. An amusement ride permit in Missouri is \$30, while a permit in Arkansas is \$100, and Kansas is between \$75-\$100 depending on the type of ride.

The Division of Fire Safety is also charged with performing quality control checks of amusement rides operating, as well as the work performance of the 64 third-party amusement ride inspectors in our State.

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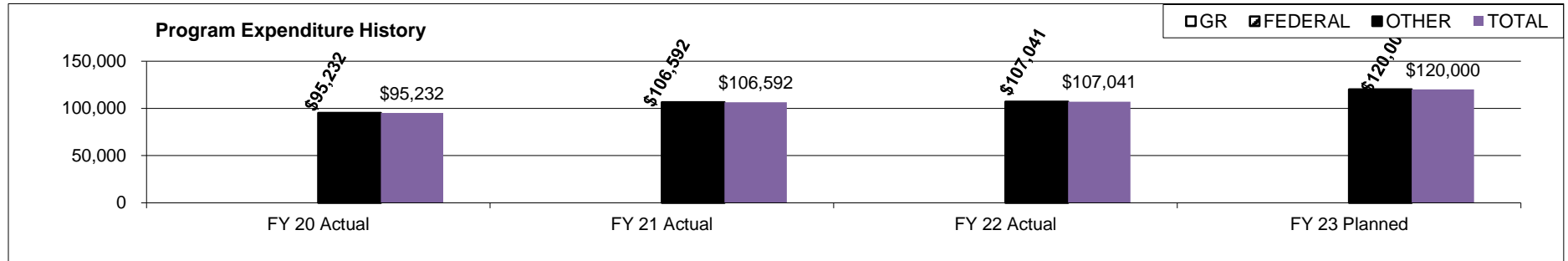
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3. Provide actual expenditures for the prior three fiscal years and planned expenditures for the current fiscal year. (*Note: Amounts do not include fringe benefit costs.*)



4. What are the sources of the "Other " funds?

Elevator Safety Fund (0257)

5. What is the authorization for this program, i.e., federal or state statute, etc.? (Include the federal program number, if applicable.)

RSMo Chapter 316. 200-233

6. Are there federal matching requirements? If yes, please explain.

No

7. Is this a federally mandated program? If yes, please explain.

No