

City of Ann Arbor Fire Department Restructure Proposal



City Council Work Session

March 12, 2012



Why Change?

Fire Department currently structured for emergency medical responses, 3 FF's at each station other than station 1 which has 4. Community consensus supports fire suppression to be the focus, which requires a restructuring but would result in a safer and more efficient fire response system. Current staffing levels dictate a need for this type change.

Future considerations

- General Fund budget constraints
- State revenue sharing uncertainty
- ICMA Fire Study recommendations
- Since 2003, AAFD staff have decreased by 30 percent and the future is uncertain.
- New construction materials



Firefighting Guidelines

- NFPA 1710 (National Fire Protection Association) sets guidelines for minimum standards for initial responses but gives flexibility to the jurisdiction authority.
- OSHA (Occupational Health and Safety Association) two in two out law, which requires at least four personnel on scene before anyone can enter a burning building.
- NIST (National Institute of Standards & Technology) Fire Ground Field Experiments.



NFPA 1710 Rule

- NFPA response standard: Four people shall arrive within four minutes 90% of the time, and 14/15 people shall arrive within eight minutes, 90% of the time.
- The NFPA standard is based on a 2,000 s/f, single family, two-story home with no basement or exposures.
- The following restructuring proposal is better suited toward meeting standards than the existing AAFD structure.



Fire Restructure Proposal

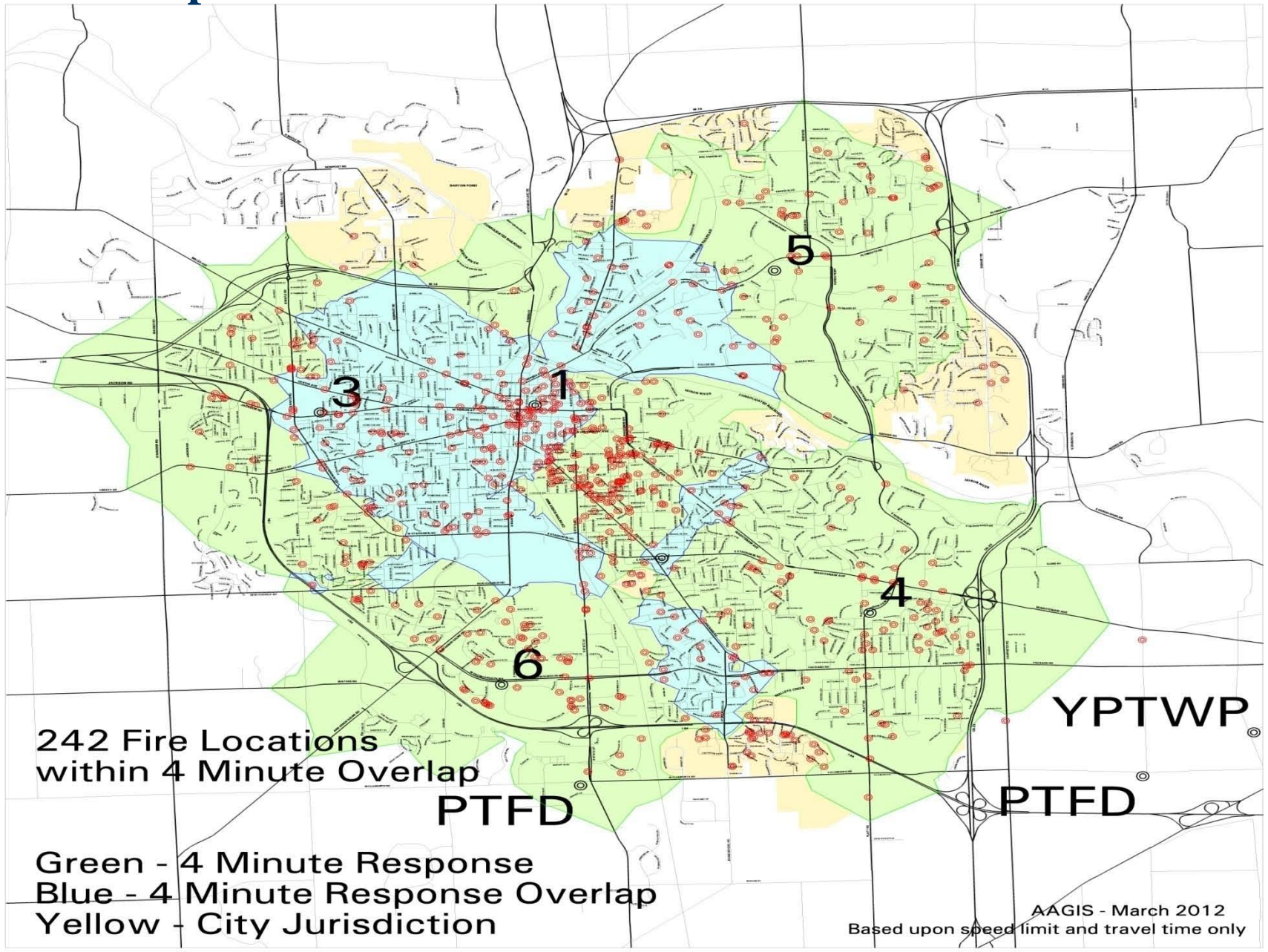
- One fire department operating out of three Fire Stations.
- One station will be located on the north side of the city (Station 5), one on the south side of the city (Station 2) and one downtown (Station 1).
- This plan requires Fire Station 2 to be re-opened for fire service usage.



How proposal will work

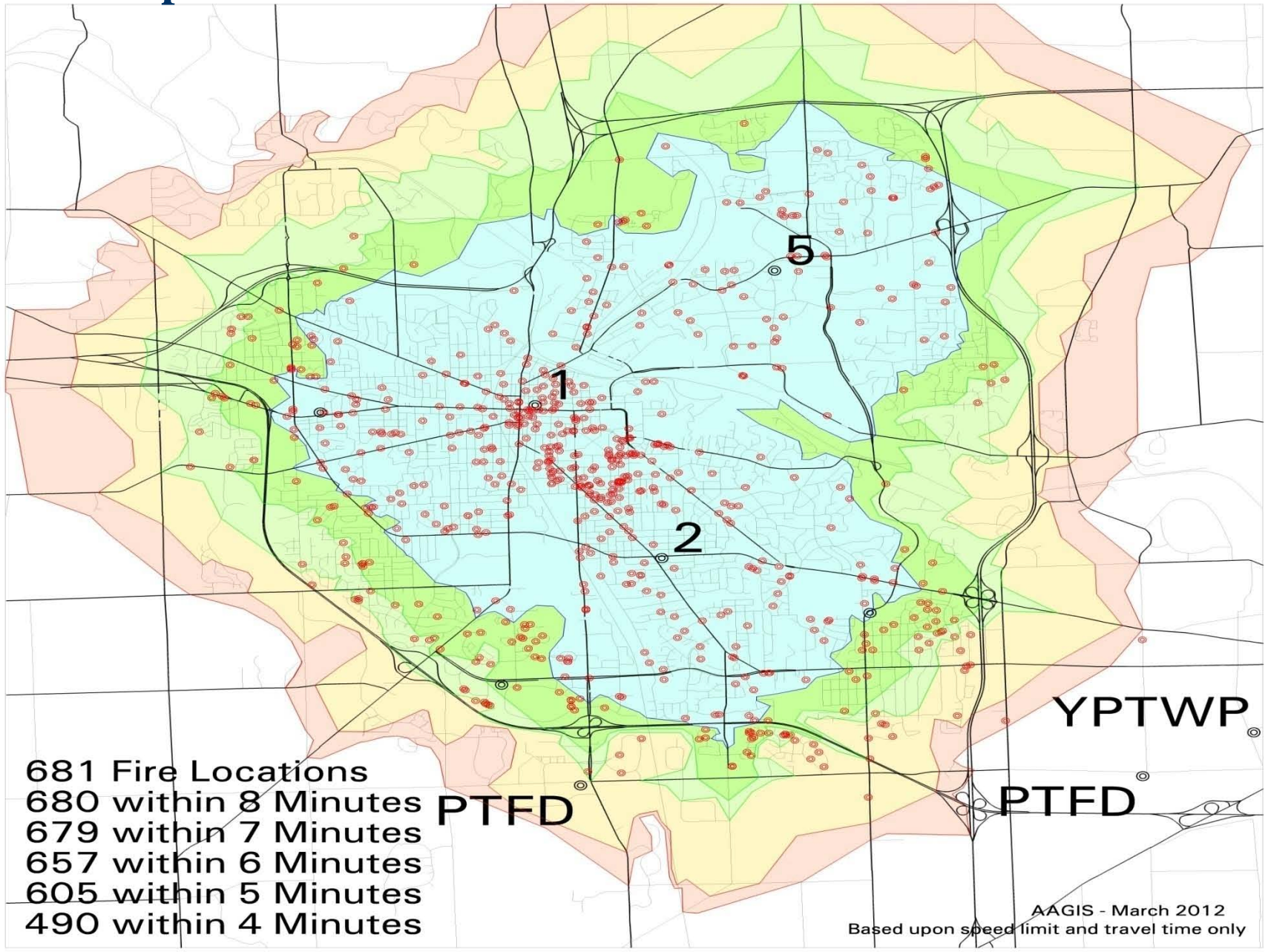
- Station 1: Two engines, one tower, one mini pumper/rescue, one Battalion Chief.
- Station 2: Two engines, one mini pumper/rescue.
- Station 5: One Ladder Truck.
- Staffing proposal enables four firefighters to be dispatched to most scenes within recommended industry response times.

Current Response Time – 4 Minutes



Fire Stations 1 3 4 5 6 - Four Minute Response

Future Response Time – 4 Minutes

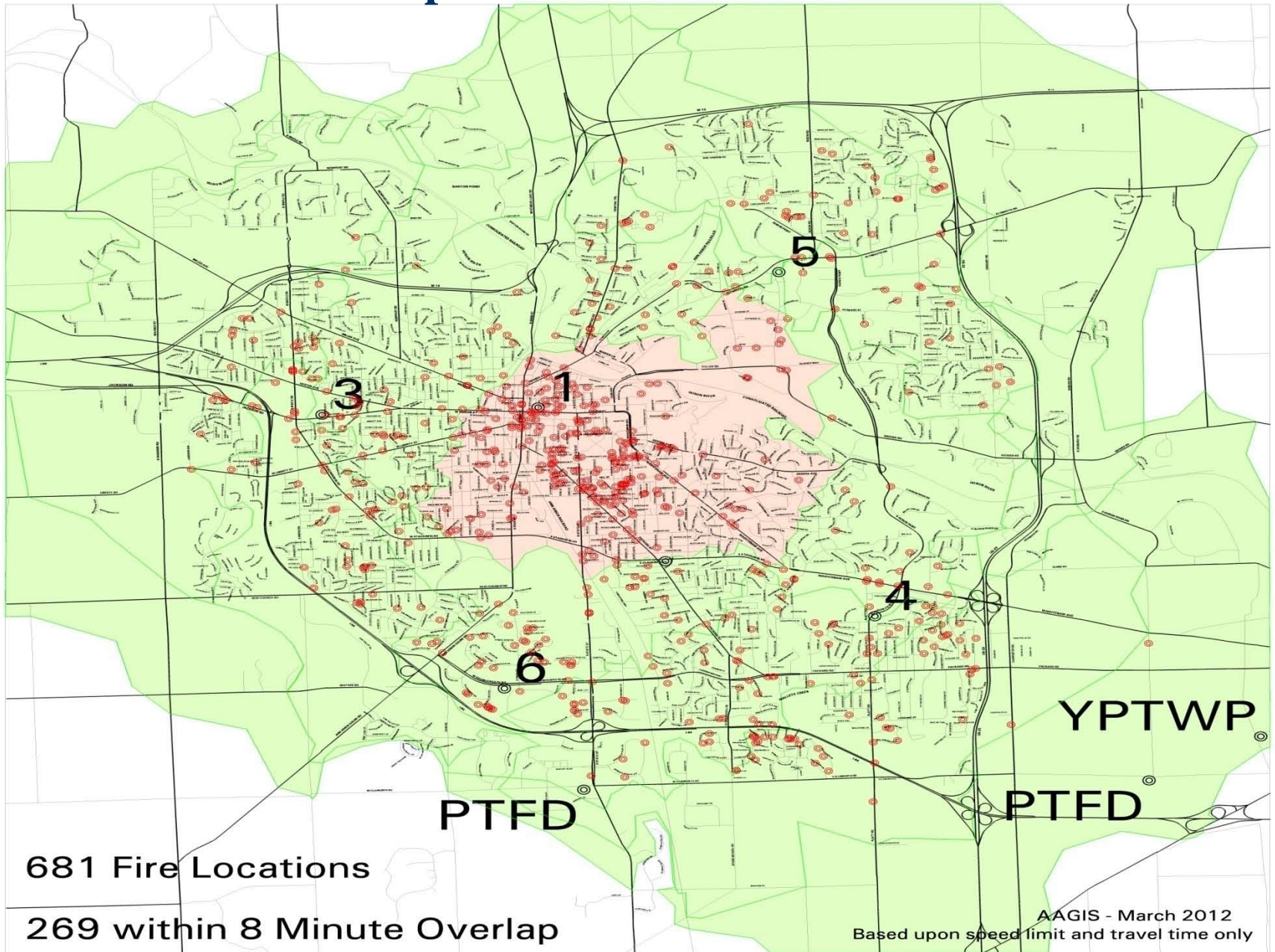


681 Fire Locations
680 within 8 Minutes
679 within 7 Minutes
657 within 6 Minutes
605 within 5 Minutes
490 within 4 Minutes

AAGIS - March 2012
Based upon speed limit and travel time only

Fire Stations 1, 2 & 5 - 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8 Minute Responses

Current Full Alarm Response Time



681 Fire Locations

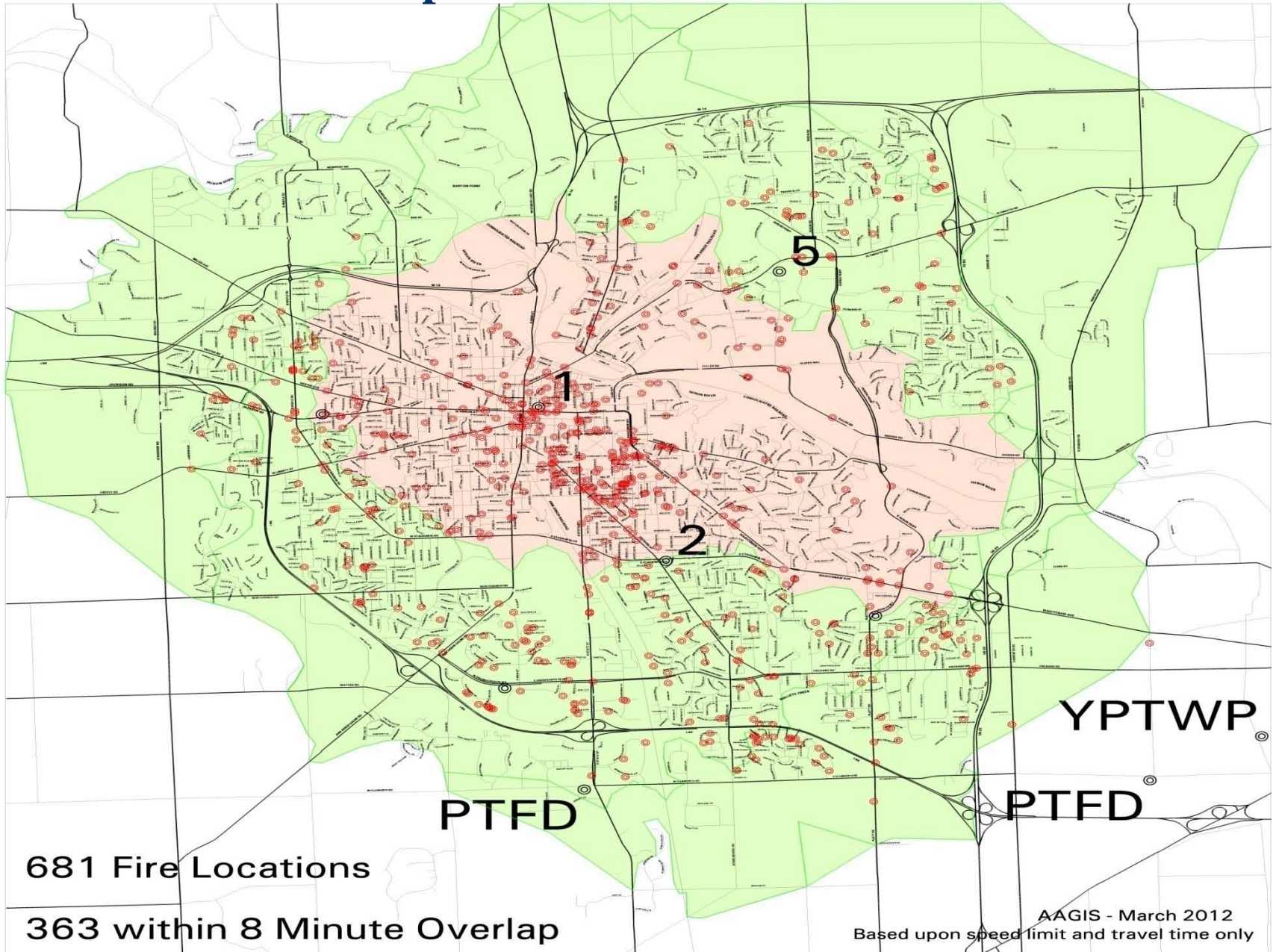
269 within 8 Minute Overlap

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Based upon speed limit and travel time only

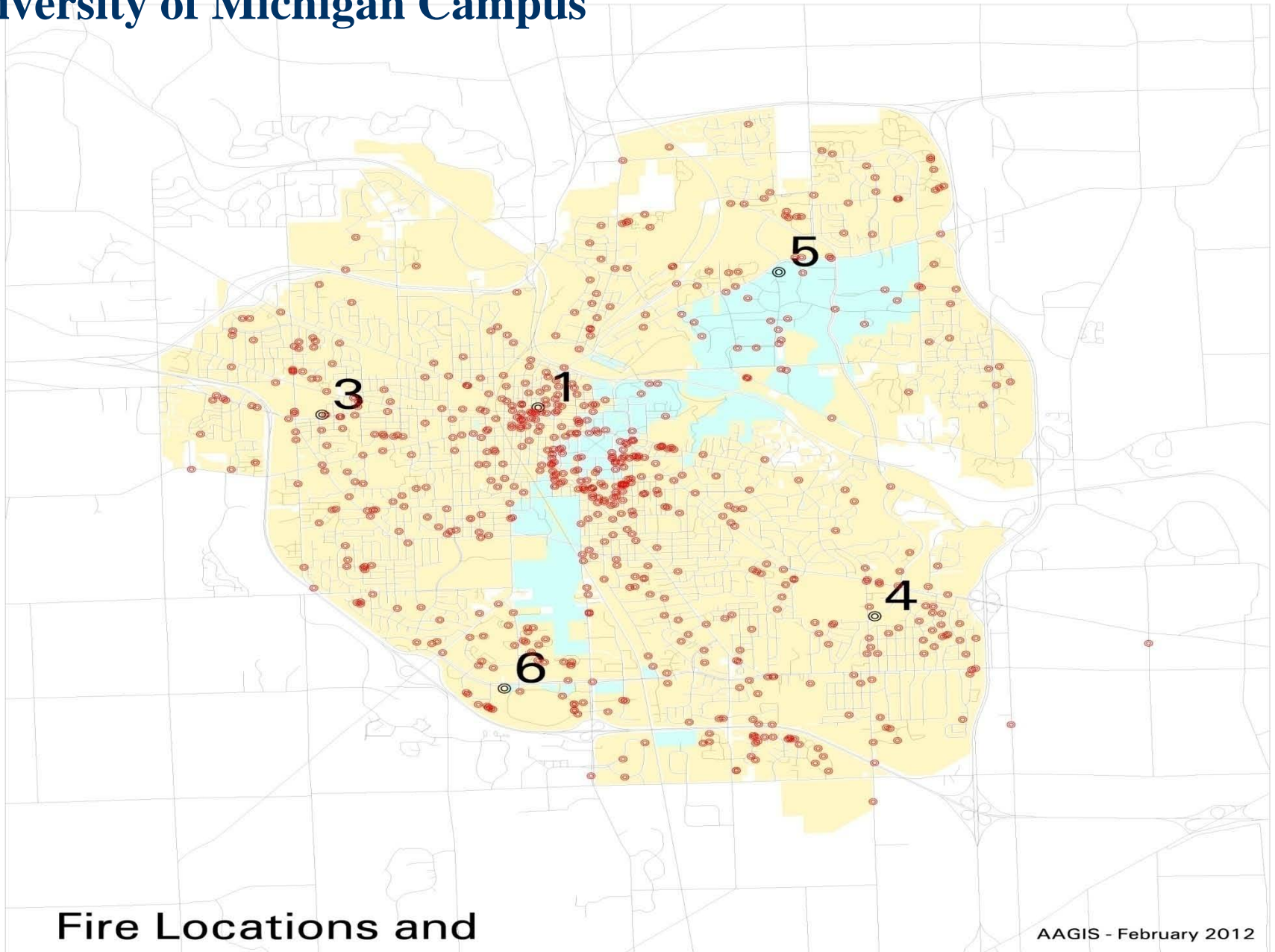
Fire Stations 1,3,4,5,6 - 8 Minute Response with Overlap

Future Full Alarm Response Time



Fire Stations 1, 2 & 5 - 8 Minute Response with Overlap

University of Michigan Campus



Fire Locations and

Extent of City and University of Michigan Campus



Proposal costs

- In order to be re-opened, Station 2 will need the following:
 - Seal off duct between garage and hose closet.
 - Cut carpet away from pole holes.
 - Code requires GFCI electrical outlets be installed within six feet of water sources and the garage wash basin needs to be plumbed.
 - In the next few years, the boiler and roof may need to be replaced.



Projected restructuring outcomes

- Gives AAFD the best opportunity to meet firefighting standards within current staffing constraints.
- Enhances the safety of the citizens and the firefighters.
- Better coverage of heavily populated areas with high run volumes.
- Satisfies ICMA fire study recommendations, which are based upon historical data and community best practices to optimize deployment.



Questions/Comments