

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Fairbanks****Federal Tax ID: 92-6000140****Project Title:****Project Type: Equipment and Materials**

Fairbanks - Heavy Duty Rescue Apparatus

State Funding Requested: \$625,000**House District: Fairbanks Areawide (1-5)**

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

The City of Fairbanks (City) Fire Department would like to replace current first line light duty rescue vehicle with a heavy duty rescue apparatus. The new apparatus will enhance crew safety, increase pay load, add more storage, and be easier to maintain with a hinged cab.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$775,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$150,000)
FY2014 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$625,000)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

Funding Details:

The Fire Department has a \$150,000 match in its Capital Account dedicated to rescue vehicle replacement.

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

The City's Fire Department is requesting grant funding to replace its current light duty fire rescue vehicle with a heavier duty fire rescue vehicle. Our current rescue rig is out of room for additional equipment to be carried and is 5% over its gross vehicle weight rating. We do have additional rescue equipment that should be carried on our primary response vehicle that is either in storage or on other apparatus. If we are awarded this grant we will be able to obtain a modern apparatus capable of carrying the proper compliment of fire and rescue equipment without worries of limited space or weight restrictions. The additional compartment space will enable us to properly store our equipment in safe and secure locations. The new unit will be built in compliance with National Fire Protection standards (NFPA 1901 Standard for Automotive Fire Apparatus 2009 Edition) and will meet all safety standards and comply with all environmental emission standards.

The present light duty rescue vehicle in service today was originally a 1985 army rescue vehicle that was surplused in 1995 and acquired by the City to replace its 1974 small rescue vehicle. In 1999 the engine compartment caught fire and totaled the chassis, which was replaced by the City in 2000. The original rescue body is now 28 years old and showing its age. Although the maintenance on this vehicle has been acceptable, it has almost tripled during the last five years, compared to the previous five years. See attachment for a comparison of our current vehicle to a vehicle similar to the one we are requesting to purchase under this grant.

This vehicle would be the first of its kind in interior Alaska. It will not only provide additional weight carrying capacity with a much needed increase in storage space, but also provide for a crew space for rescuers to change into survival suits for ice and water rescue. The elevated light tower would provide much needed emergency scene lighting not only for rescue events, but at fire scenes. Another benefit to this vehicle will be to store our confined space rescue equipment on this

vehicle instead of a separate trailer that must be brought to the scene after the initial response. We would be remiss if we did not point out that this new rescue vehicle will be state of the art and include all safety features to allow our firefighters to respond safely and arrive with all the necessary tools to affect a rescue, not only for City residents, but also the rest of the population within the interior of Alaska.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

The Project Manager would be Chief Warren Cummings. He has been with the Fire Department for over 40 years and has been the head of the department for the past 18 years. Chief Cummings has been the project manager on a variety of state and federal grants. He is responsible for the annual budget as well as 44 full-time employees. In 2007, Chief Cummings completed a two year term as President of the Alaska Fire Chiefs Association. He served as the Alaska Vice President for the Western Fire Chiefs Association for three years which covers a 10 state region. He is now serving on the International Association of Fire Chiefs and is a member of the Constitution, Bylaws and Resolution Committee.

PROJECT STAFF

The City manages over 50 federal and state grants every year. The City has an experienced staff that is familiar with state and federal grant guidelines and has completed the required audits with no findings identified. The City has established and maintained a financial management system to ensure:

- there are accurate, current, and complete disclosure of the financial results of the grant;
- there are effective controls over and accountability for all grant funds and property acquired with grant funds;
- there are accurate comparison of actual and budgeted amounts;
- that the accounting records, which are supported by source documentation, adequately identify the nature and use of, grant funds;
- there are separate financial records for the accounting of funds related to the grant;
- there are procedures to ensure timely reporting and receipt of grant funds; and
- that an audit is conducted every year in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.

The Fire Department has experience with emergency services grants awarded through various agencies such as the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the State of Alaska. The department has experience with financial and programmatic requirements of grantors and has been successful in achieving their goals. The following individuals will also be working on the project:

Specifications Committee: The committee is comprised of two individuals, Battalion Chief Brian Davis and Captain Scott Raygor. BC Davis and Captain Raygor have a combined 29 years of experience with the Fire Department. Both men attended a seminar on apparatus specifications. The committee is part of the Fire Department and will assist in the development of the bid and selection of the vendor. The committee will report directly to the Project Manager.

Grants Administration: Margarita Bell, CPA, CMA began her position as the grants administrator at the City in 2008. Prior to that time she worked in a non-profit organization and was responsible for managing and administering federal grants. Margarita works in the finance department and is responsible for the timely financial grant reporting and enforcing grant conditions. She works closely with the project managers and department administrators to accomplish the goals of each grant. She also maintains the capital assets list for the City which includes all assets, whose value exceeds \$5,000, that were purchased using grant funds. See attached Organizational Structure Charts.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The City's goal is to increase public safety by purchasing a fire rescue vehicle capable of providing efficiency in rescue incidents for residents. Considerable work has gone into the planning and preparation of this project, which positions us for quick implementation of the project should it be funded.

The Fire Department has the bid specification already developed for a new fire rescue vehicle. If we are successful in being awarded this grant, it will be first presented to the City Council in resolution form to be formally accepted. We then estimate it will take about 30 days to finalize the bid documents and another 60 days to complete the bid process. This would be followed by a 30 day bid review process, and final award by the City Council as this project is over the Mayor's \$500,000 authorization limit. Based on our recent history of new fire vehicle orders, it will take 12 months to build and deliver the new vehicle, followed by 60 days to arrange the equipment on it and train the fire fighters on its proper operation and handling through drivers training.

Problem/Needs Statement: Fairbanks is located in the heart of Alaska's interior on the banks of the Chena River in the Tanana Valley. The city has a population of approximately 32,036 and is the second largest city in the State of Alaska. In addition, residents from the Fairbanks North Star Borough visit the City daily. When combined with the city population, it brings the total population to 99,192 (Source: 2011 US Census Estimates). Large numbers of tourists also visit Fairbanks throughout the summer months (estimated 325,000) as Fairbanks is at the confluence of the Richardson, Parks, Steese and Elliot Highways which connect Anchorage, Canada, and the lower 48 states. This equates to even more traffic flow throughout our community. See attached graphs for total run volume and area EMS activity.

The Fire Department provides fire, rescue, and paramedic level pre-hospital emergency care with transportation via ambulance. The Fire Department is currently using a Ford F-450 for our rescue vehicle and has discovered we are over our gross vehicle weight ratings (GVWR). The GVWR of our current vehicle is 14,000 pounds and that of a heavy rescue vehicle will be 38,600 pounds, which will increase our carrying capacity by 275% for crew, equipment and supplies.

The Fairbanks Fire Department is a member of an area wide mutual aid agreement between all of our surrounding fire departments. This vehicle will be part of the resources available to departments in that agreement. Our mutual aid agreement is with two Federal fire departments, one student based fire department, one airport fire department, five combination/volunteer fire departments and one fire brigade. Within the ten mutual aid fire protection districts we have the Trans Alaska Oil pipeline (of national interest), a university campus, two military installations, two petrochemical plants, three major airports (two military), a railroad yard and many significant target hazards. This vehicle will not only enhance our operations but will also benefit the surrounding community.

The heavy duty rescue will increase crew safety, provide better visibility with the addition of reflective striping on the rear of the apparatus as outlined in NFPA (National Fire Protection Policy Association) 1901 and have increased equipment storage space. To ensure the safety of first responders, staff will be provided commercial vehicle driving classes and road test training on the new vehicle by qualified commercial instructors before placing the vehicle in service.

The U.S. Fire Administration reports that 15% of all fire fighter deaths are responding to and from emergency responses. The NFPA reported a total of 4,965 injuries to fire fighters while responding to or from emergency calls. Our need is not to add to these national totals but to safely save lives by serving the residents and visitors to the interior of Alaska.

Goals: The Fire Department will endeavor to reduce motor vehicle fatalities by upgrading our rescue vehicle to ensure

safety of responders and the public by:

- Improving emergency responder safety through better visibility, up to date safety features, improved equipment access, and up to date training by increasing the GVWR from 14,000 to 38,600 pounds.
- Improving rescue operations by upgrading a light duty rescue to a heavy duty rescue.
- Improving response to motor vehicle accidents by reducing maintenance time due to the design of the heavy rescue vehicle.
- Ensuring rescue vehicle availability to respond to motor vehicle accidents and other rescue incidents by extending the life of our rescue vehicle by eliminating our gross vehicle weight overage.

Risk Management: The heavy duty rescue apparatus is being used by a number of different agencies throughout the United States. This is not a new type of vehicle and should not be considered untested technology. As for unforeseen risk factors, we will not be taking our current rescue vehicle out of service until the new vehicle is ready for service and our emergency personnel are trained on its operation.

Project Timeline:

The Fire Department would complete specifications for this vehicle and award bid within 90 days of grant award. The current build time for a heavy duty rescue is 9 to 12 months, which would put delivery for this vehicle in the time frame from July to September 2014.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

City of Fairbanks Public Works Department - Vehicle Maintenance

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: City of Fairbanks Fire Dept - Warren Cummings
 Title: Fire Chief
 Address: 1101 Cushman Street
 Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
 Phone Number: (907)450-6604
 Email: wcummings@ci.fairbanks.ak.us

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes No

Legislative Request – 2013 Capital Project – Heavy Rescue Apparatus



Existing Equipment Storage



Proposed Area to expand storage

Legislative Request – 2013 Capital Project – Heavy Rescue Apparatus

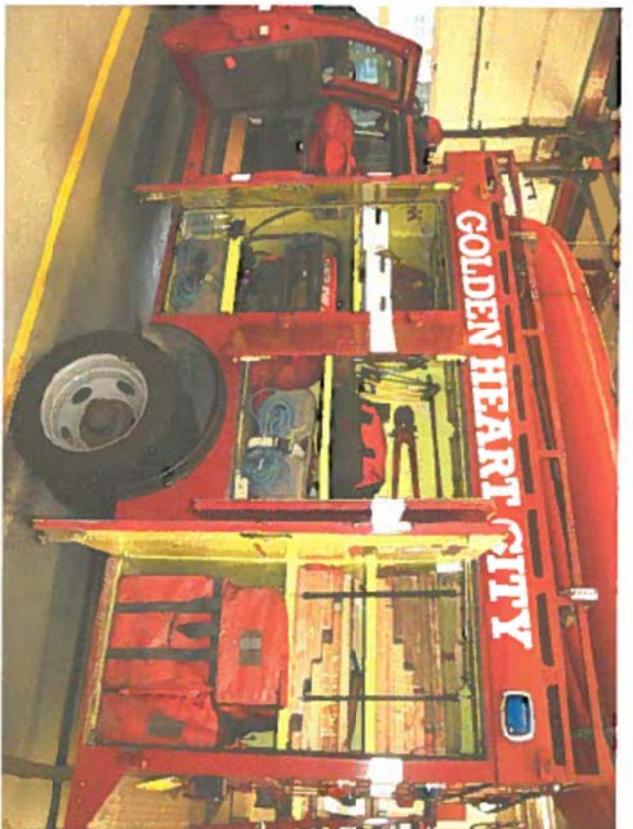


Existing Rear Storage Area

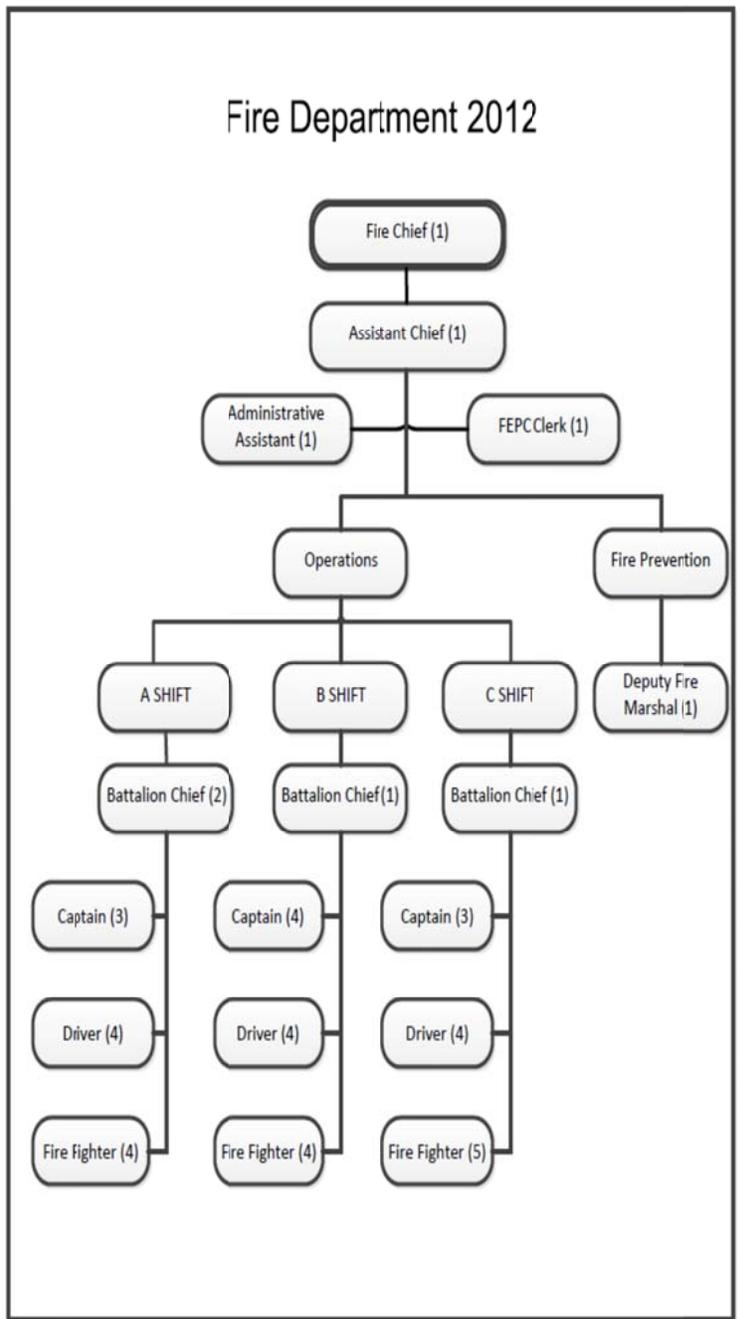
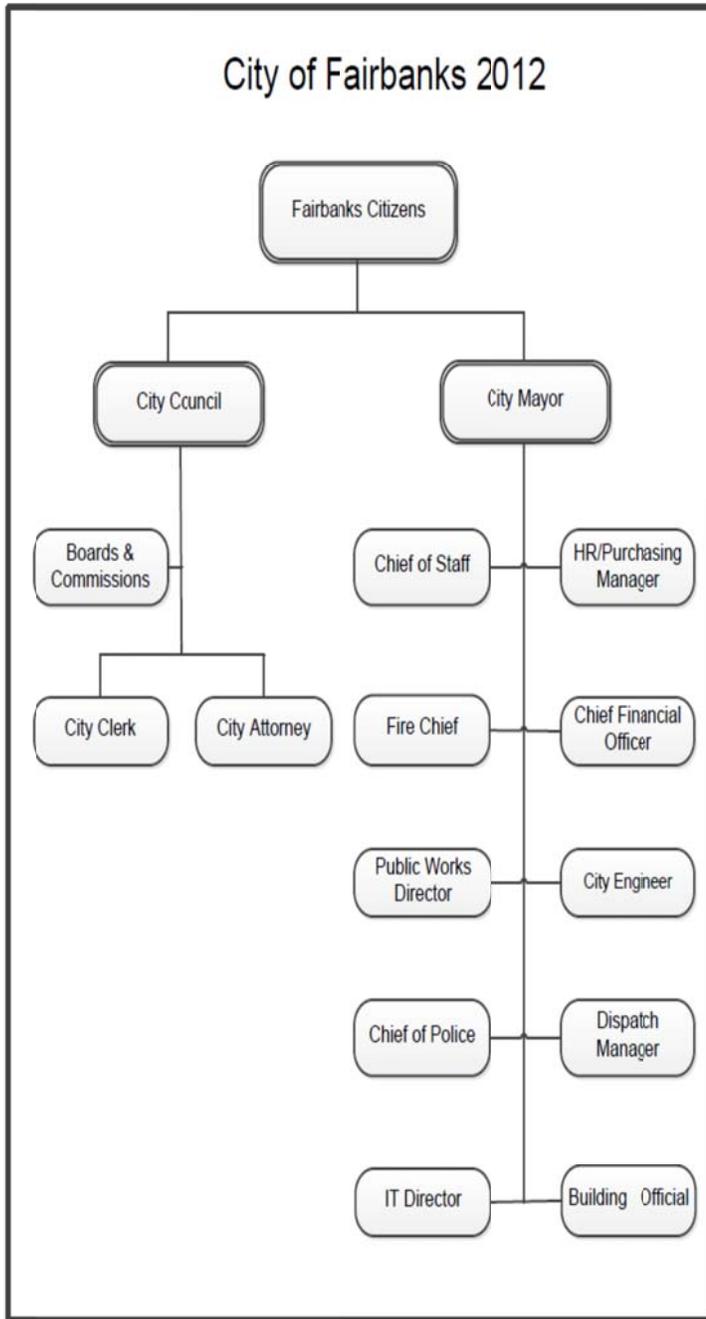


Proposed Storage Compartments to Expand Capabilities

Legislative Request – 2013 Capital Project – Heavy Rescue Apparatus

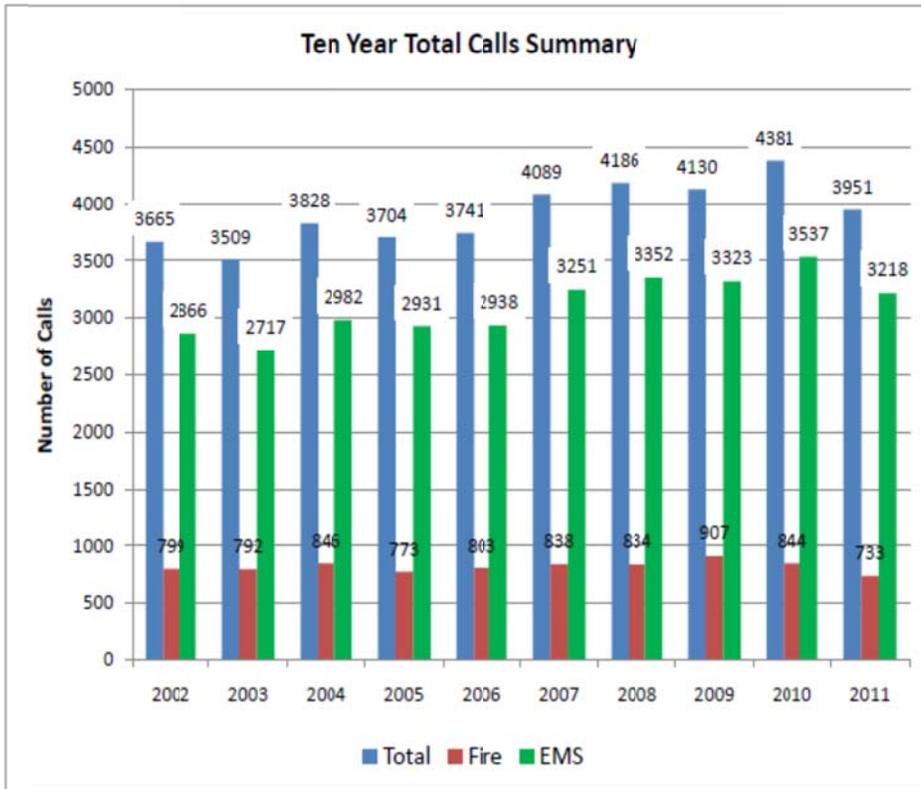


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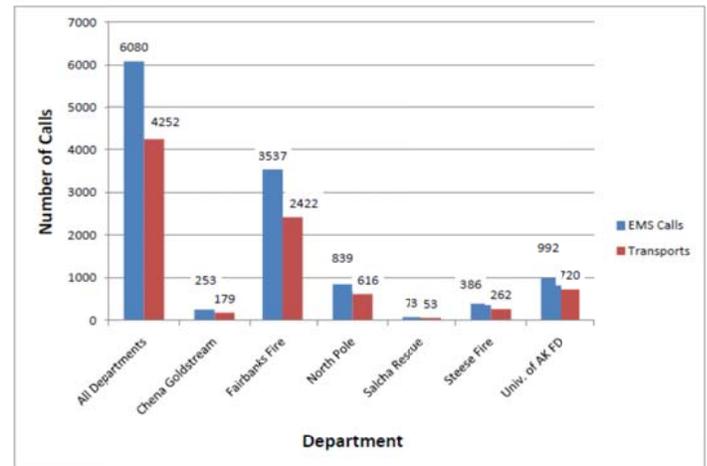
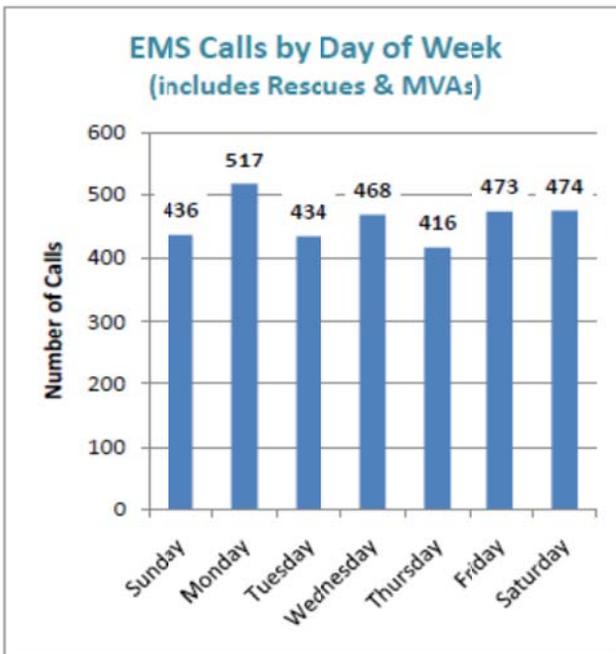
Legislative Request – 2013 Capital Project – Heavy Rescue Apparatus

Historical Comparisons (2002-2011)



**Fairbanks Fire Department
Statistics from our
2011 Annual Report**

Areawide Activity Comparison for EMS 2011 Areawide EMS Activity



	% of Area Cal Volume	EMS Calls	Transports	Transport Ratio
Chena Goldstream	4.15	239	183	76.6%
Fairbanks Fire	55.86	3218	2426	75.4%
North Pole FD	16.26	937	602	64.2%
Salcha Rescue	1.18	68	55	80.9%
Steeze Fire	6.77	390	327	83.8%
Univ. of AK FD	15.78	909	704	77.4%
All Departments	100.0	5761	4297	74.6%