



TOWN OF MERRIMACK, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Department of Fire Rescue
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Headquarters
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Assistance to Firefighters Grant

Acceptance Recommendation

Town of Merrimack New Hampshire
Fire and Rescue



2015

Assistance for Firefighters Grant 2015

INTRODUCTION

We are requesting permission to apply, accept and expend the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) for the purpose of replacing outdated Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) which is beginning to fail and incurring increasing maintenance costs.

This grant is to replace our current compliment of Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA's) that are at the end of their projected life cycle (15 years). The new SCBA's will be fully compliant with NFPA 1981 2013 edition. The total cost of the grant could range from \$347,000 to 400,000 depending upon pricing at the time of final purchase. Based on the demographics of the Town of Merrimack acceptance of the grant will require a 10% price match, therefore the town's portion could be up to \$40,000. The AFG Grant will include all SCBA's, Masks, spare bottles and other associated equipment to complete the project. If we are successful in the grant we would expect to begin taking delivery in late spring 2015.

BACKGROUND

Merrimack Fire Department is an all hazards department that responds to all types of emergency calls including: Structural and vehicle fires, hazardous materials, carbon monoxide and confined space rescues to name a few. All of these incidents require an SCBA to operate safely. SCBA's are the single most important piece of safety equipment we provide our personnel that allow them to operate in dangerous environments. In simple terms without SCBA's, along with the clothing that makes up our firefighter's protective envelope our personnel could not effectively do their jobs.

The current SCBA's we have are three generations old and are built to 1997 standards. When purchased they were very good pieces of equipment and have served us well. Our SCBA's were designed prior to 9/11/2001, since the terrorist attack on 9/11 new SCBA's are required to be Chemical, Biological, and Radiological (CBR) compliant. This is a critical component of the new technology incorporated into new SCBA's.

Regardless of the outcome of the grant we need to replace our SCBA's. We have included in our CIP the cost of \$347,000 over a three year consecutive period beginning in the capital budget year of 2015.

SUMMARY

Merrimack Fire Rescue is always trying to move in a progressive direction as well as striving to provide better service to our community as well as provide a safe work environment. By replacing end of life cycle equipment we will be able to continue to provide a high level of service to our customers.

Submitted By:

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Brian Borneman, Assistant Chief
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