

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development

Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)

Grant Recipient: Palmer

Project Title:

Project Type: Equipment and Materials

Palmer - Fire Department: Two Command Vehicles and Personal Protective Equipment

State Funding Requested: \$100,000

House District: 13 / G

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

Two four-wheel drive pickup trucks as command vehicles and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Palmer Fire & Rescue.

Funding Plan:

Total Cost of Project: \$100,000

	<u>Funding Secured</u>		<u>Other Pending Requests</u>		<u>Anticipated Future Need</u>	
	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>
Local Funds					\$10,000	FY2010
Total					<u>\$10,000</u>	

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

It is essential that the command officers have a reliable 4-wheel drive command vehicle capable of safe operation in rugged road conditions. When the command officers arrive on a fire scene, the command officer assumes responsibility for the safety of responders and effective response to the fire. Customarily, the fire officer uses the command vehicle as the Incident Command Post. Additionally, the command vehicle becomes a "rehab" center, in which responders and fire or accident victims can find shelter and warmth.

Currently, the Fire Chief uses a 1997 Ford Expedition which was purchased used at surplus. This vehicle, an SUV, has proven unsatisfactory as a command vehicle. Often, during a fire or vehicle accident, the rear doors of this SUV must remain open so that the Fire Chief and other responders can access equipment stored in the aft compartment. This causes the interior to lose heat, resulting in the vehicle being ineffective as a "rehab" center for responders and victims. This 12 year old SUV, while still serviceable, is nearing the end of its useful life as a daily command vehicle for the Fire Chief. (The Kelly Blue Book retail value, for this vehicle in fair condition, is \$3,730.) The Fire Chief needs to have a safe, 4-wheel drive pickup to be able to respond safely with lights and siren to emergencies, often at speeds exceeding the posted limit.

Currently, the Assistant Fire Chief/Training Officer uses a 2001 Ford F250 that has nearly 100,000 miles on it. This 10 year old pickup, while still serviceable, is nearing the end of its useful life as a daily command vehicle for the Assistant Fire Chief/Training Officer. This vehicle is used to respond to emergencies in the Palmer area and is also tasked for transportation of firefighters and equipment to and from emergency scenes.

The emerging consensus among area Fire Chiefs is that a crew-cab, 4-wheel drive pickup truck is most suitable for use as a

For use by Co-chair Staff Only:
\$100,000 Approved
6:10 PM 5/4/2010

Total Project Snapshot Report

FY 2011 Capital Budget

TPS Report 54842v1

Fire command vehicle equipped with a cap over the bed area. This allows for safe and effective storage of needed equipment such as thermal imaging cameras, gas detection devices, and radio communications gear. The isolation of the pickup's bed area from the interior allows for a warm "rehab" area for responders and victims. The bed of the command vehicle needs to be equipped with a command slide-out unit, to enable rapid access to emergency equipment as well as pre-fire plans of Palmer's buildings at a fire or accident scene. This slide-out unit is an additional purchase, but is fully customizable for ease of use in Palmer's inclement weather conditions. The slide-out unit would cost about \$4,500 including shipping to Anchorage. Under the State contract, the Ford or Chevy crew cab in 4-wheel drive would cost \$25,000. The emergency lighting package would cost about \$5,000. The bed cap, to shelter the slide-out and equipment, would cost \$2,000, bringing the total cost to about \$36,500.

This funding request for your consideration includes 2 fully-equipped command vehicles. The City of Palmer will pay for the mobile radios and installation (Palmer City share of about \$10,000). The vehicle funding request from the Legislature totals \$73,000.

We are also in need of updating our PPE. We have gear that is worn and torn and in need of replacement. Each set of PPE cost about \$2,200. This PPE includes boots, turnout coat, turnout pants, Nomex hood, and firefighting gloves. The City of Palmer is requesting legislative assistance in purchasing 12 new sets of full turnout gear to replace existing gear which is near the end of its useable life.

Project Timeline:

2010

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

City of Palmer Fire & Rescue

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Name: John Mcutt, Fire Chief
Address: 645 E. Cope Industrial Way
Palmer, AK 99645
Phone Number: (907)745-3854
Email: jmcnutt@palmerak.org

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

For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

6:10 PM 5/4/2010

Karen Sawyer

From: John McNutt [jmcnutt@palmerak.org]
Sent: Monday, April 12, 2010 4:26 PM
To: Rep. Carl Gatto
Cc: Karen Sawyer; Jonathan C. Owen
Subject: Request

Categories: Budget

Dear Representative Gatto,

I am requesting consideration for funding of two four wheel drive pickup trucks as command vehicles and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Palmer Fire & Rescue.

It is essential that the command officers have a reliable 4-wheel drive command vehicle capable of safe operation in rugged road conditions. When the command officers arrive on a fire scene, the command officer assumes responsibility for the safety of responders and effective response to the fire. Customarily, the fire officer uses the command vehicle as the Incident Command Post. Additionally, the command vehicle becomes a "rehab" center, in which responders and fire or accident victims can find shelter and warmth.

Currently, the Fire Chief uses a 1997 Ford Expedition which was purchased used at surplus. This vehicle, an SUV, has proven unsatisfactory as a command vehicle. Often, during a fire or vehicle accident, the rear doors of this SUV must remain open so that the Fire Chief and other responders can access equipment stored in the aft compartment. This causes the interior to lose heat, resulting in the vehicle being ineffective as a "rehab" center for responders and victims. This 12 year old SUV, while still serviceable, is nearing the end of its useful life as a daily command vehicle for the Fire Chief. (The Kelly Blue Book retail value, for this vehicle in fair condition, is \$3,730.) The Fire Chief needs to have a safe, 4-wheel drive pickup to be able to respond safely with lights and siren to emergencies, often at speeds exceeding the posted limit.

Currently, the Assistant Fire Chief/Training Officer uses a 2001 Ford F250 that has nearly 100,000 miles on it. This 10 year old pickup, while still serviceable, is nearing the end of its useful life as a daily command vehicle for the Assistant Fire Chief/Training Officer. This vehicle is used to respond to emergencies in the Palmer area and is also tasked for transportation of firefighters and equipment to and from emergency scenes.

The emerging consensus among area Fire Chiefs is that a crew-cab, 4-wheel drive pickup truck is most suitable for use as a Fire command vehicle equipped with a cap over the bed area. This allows for safe and effective storage of needed equipment such as thermal imaging cameras, gas detection devices, and radio communications gear. The isolation of the pickup's bed area from the interior allows for a warm "rehab" area for responders and victims. The bed of the command vehicle needs to be equipped with a command slide-out unit, to enable rapid access to emergency equipment as well as pre-fire plans of Palmer's buildings at a fire or accident scene. This slide-out unit is an additional purchase, but is fully customizable for ease of use in Palmer's inclement weather conditions. The slide-out unit would cost about \$4,500 including shipping to Anchorage. Under the State contract, the Ford or Chevy crew cab in 4-wheel drive would cost \$25,000. The emergency lighting package would cost about \$5,000. The bed cap, to shelter the slide-out and equipment, would cost \$2,000, bringing the total cost to about \$36,500.

This funding request for your consideration includes 2 fully-equipped command vehicles. The City of Palmer will pay for the mobile radios and installation (Palmer City share of about \$10,000). The vehicle funding request from the Legislature totals \$73,000.

We are also in need of updating our PPE. We have gear that is worn and torn and in need of replacement. Each set of PPE cost about \$2,200. This PPE includes boots, turnout coat, turnout pants, Nomex hood, and firefighting gloves. The City of Palmer is requesting legislative assistance in purchasing 12 new sets of full turnout gear to replace existing gear which is near the end of its useable life. We are grateful for your ongoing assistance in helping to make Palmer a safer place to live.

Respectfully,

John McNutt
Fire Chief
Palmer Fire & Rescue
645 E. Cope Industrial Way
Palmer, AK 99645
(907) 745-3854
Cell (907) 315-4981