



City of Homer

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Memorandum 21-069

TO: Mayor Castner and Homer City Council
FROM: Rob Dumouchel, City Manager
DATE: April 14, 2021
SUBJECT: Ord 21-25 Re: Appropriation of CAP Funds and SCBA Replacement

Community Assistance Program

Each year the State of Alaska provides Community Assistance Program (CAP) funds. The amount is highly variable and the City chose some years back to not include CAP funds in the budget. Instead we accept and allocate upon receipt. See below for examples of CAP usage in previous years:

- FY18 - \$205,118 to the Police Station Fund
- FY19 - \$177,172 to the Police Station Fund
- FY20 - \$152,080 to the Old Middle School CARMA

In FY 21 we were awarded \$76,842.94. These funds have been received by the City and are ready to be accepted and appropriated. In our application to the State for the funds, we indicated that we may place them in to the Old Middle School CARMA account like we did with FY20's disbursement. We do not have to follow through with the plan in the application, we just have to ensure that our use meets a public purpose as required under AS29.60.850(a) and accurately report how the funding was spent when we submit our application for FY22.

Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus System Replacement

Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) are worn by firefighters when working, or expected to work, in situations immediately dangerous to life and health such as atmospheres with smoke conditions, hazardous material spills, or other conditions that could result in a life threat. The Volunteer Fire Department has a total of 34 SCBA, one for each riding position on the fire vehicles.

SCBA consist of four parts: 1) the backpack frame and straps 2) the regulator assembly 3) the face piece, and 4) the high pressure cylinder. Cylinders are regulated by DOT standards and have a 15-year lifespan. The other SCBA components are regulated by OSHA and NFPA standards. Our current models are outdated by three NFPA cycles and some parts are no longer serviceable.

Full replacement of the SCBA inventory is approximately \$255,000. In the FY21 Capital Budget, \$170,000 was set aside to help replace the City's SCBA inventory. That number only funds a partial replacement of the SCBA. At that time there was an active attempt to supplement that replacement with grant funds. The grant attempt was unsuccessful and we do not have strong prospects for another program that could step in and fill the

gap. It is important that we replace these SCBA units soon, and it is important to firefighter health and safety that we replace them all to have a complete matching set. Mixing and matching different versions of this equipment could result in injury or death while responding to an emergency situation.

The SCBA units pair with a compression system which must also be replaced at a regular interval. The unit costs roughly \$110,000. Administration had previously expected that we would need to make a capital request for this item in FY 22/23 Capital Budget. Recently we were able to secure grant funding which paid for the cost of the unit which is now installed at the Fire Station.

Funding

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Fire CARMA | \$203,549 |
| Community Assistance Program Funds (to be added to Fire CARMA) | \$76,842 |
| SCBA Replacement | (\$255,000) |
| Total Remaining | \$25,391 |

Staff Recommendation: Accept CAP funds, transfer to Fire CARMA, approve purchase of SCBA system replacement