



City of Homer

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Volunteer Fire Department

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Memorandum 22-026

TO: Rob Dumouchel, City Manager
FROM: Mark Kirko, Fire Chief
DATE: 01/19/22
SUBJECT: Purchase of Fire Department Gym Equipment

Homer Volunteer Fire Department (HVFD) is currently working on a Firefighter Health and Wellness project utilizing the former Homer Police Department (HPD) building, turning the upstairs area into a work out facility for volunteers and staff to utilize.

Formerly the Fire Department and the Volunteer Membership Association had a program in which each organization contributed 1/3 the cost of the membership to a gym facility in our community. This worked well but had some administrative allocation to the tracking and accounting of the program. The Volunteer Membership Association has transitioned into a regional group including members of KESA and Western Emergency Services making this program no longer available.

The Fire Department has a Donation account that has been utilized to purchase capital equipment in the past. These include a new ATV for beach rescue and simulation mannequin for EMS trainings. The Fire Department members have volunteered over 40 hours of labor already cleaning, painting and preparing the floors for new carpet and tile. We have a small limited amount of equipment already on site, but are hoping to add a commercial treadmill, stair climber, and some miscellaneous free weights to complete this project.

The health and fitness of our members is one of our top priorities, this facility would create opportunity for members to have access to fitness equipment and allow staff to exercise onsite at the Fire Station keeping them more available for emergency response. Allowing us to allocate this funding towards this purchase meets several needs of our organization and bringing us closer to full compliance of NFPA 1500-11.2, 11.3 Addressing firefighter health and fitness and physical performance requirements.