



CITY OF  
**FORESTPARK**

# City Council Agenda Item

**Subject:** FOREST PARK FIRE & EMS – APPROVAL TO PURCHASE 2 AMBULANCES

**Submitted By:** SANDRA DAVIS – FIRE & EMS OFFICE COORDINATOR

**Date Submitted:** FEBRUARY 28, 2024

**Work Session Date:** MARCH 4, 2024

**Council Meeting Date:** MARCH 4, 2024

**BACKGROUND:** The fire department would benefit from the purchase of 2 new ambulances in many ways. With the newest ambulances being utilized as front-line apparatus, they run most of our EMS Calls, more than 70% of total yearly call volume. The next newest ambulance is a 2013 with over 195,000 miles on it. It has an average out of service percentage of 10-15%, meaning it is not able to be utilized during that time due to maintenance. This is based on a 5-year time span. The maintenance and repair costs are approximately 60%+ over the lifespan of the ambulance compared to the cost of a new one. These considerations along with the overall condition of the truck show a need for replacement. This would change us from a diesel engine to gasoline and allow for easier and cheaper routine maintenance costs (per Roscoe at Fleet Services). The patient compartment is also not equipped with the newest restraint systems and safety features as new ambulances to provide safety to personnel and allow for patient care to be carried out in a safe and organized manner. Rescue 4 and Rescue 5 are our current reserve ambulances. They are both 2009 models without the newest safety features and restraints. These ambulances are also in poor condition with rescue 4 having over 175,000 miles with a maintenance cost of over \$70,000. Rescue 5 has over 185,000 miles and a maintenance cost of over \$100,000. With different types of ambulances, it is hard to determine an accurate lifespan down to an exact number. Most resources online state that the “useful life” of an ambulance is typically between 150,000 and 250,000 miles, which equates to 4 to 7 years (acetech.com) with many services replacing them at the 5-year mark (Cleveland Association of Rescue Employees) (American Ambulance Association) (Fullbay.com). Replacing two of these ambulances would set our Department on the right path for a 5-year ambulance replacement plan to rotate older trucks out before the cost, maintenance and safety becomes expensive, dangerous, and outdated.

**Cost: \$** 535,036.00

**Budgeted for:**  Yes  No

**Financial Impact:** Budget Line 253-61-3510-54-2501 (Equipment)

**Action Requested from Council:** COUNCIL APPROVAL NEEDED.

