



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

AGENDA DATE: 9/12/2022

AGENDA ITEM: Consider allowing the Fire Department to purchase SCBAS from MacQueen Emergency Group.

PREPARED BY: Travis Cole

BACKGROUND:

The Grand Rapids Fire Department has been in need to replace our outdated SCBA's (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus) for some time now. Our current SCBA packs have reached their end life and finding parts or repair is becoming difficult. Some air packs that have been sent in for repair have been returned due to not being able to repair them. Our SCBA masks are failing apart and some FF's are not able to pass the mask fit test due to the condition of the masks.

Most of Itasca County Fire Departments have updated their SCBAs this past year and have gone to the new MSA G1 SCBA, which we have found out on fire scenes, are not compatible with our current packs. This creates challenges on mutual aid calls when we often use each other's gear to help fight fires. There have also been significant price increases on SCBAs over the past years and another round of price increases will be coming October 1st. The MSA G1 SCBAs are compatible with our current operations and equipment and we are able to utilize existing SCBA bottles that will save us a large amount of cost when updating SCBAs. The manufacture of this product is a sole source sale and only authorizes MacQueen to sell this product in our territory.

The Grand Rapids Fire Department would like to use an internal loan through the City and pay back the internal loan by using monies from our depreciation fund each year. The total price for packs, masks, batteries, chargers, and fittings to fill bottles is \$187,799.21.

REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION:

Make a motion to allow the Grand Rapids Fire Department to use an internal loan through the City and make payments from our depreciation budget each year to pay back the internal loan for a total purchase price of \$187,799.21 from MacQueen Emergency Group.