

MEMO



To: Finance and Personnel Committee
From: Fire Chief Carrel
Date: 09/03/2024
Re: ARPA Funding Request – Thermal Imaging Cameras

Background

Thermal imaging cameras are critical for firefighters, aiding navigation in smoke-filled environments and locating heat sources and victims in zero-visibility conditions.

The fire department currently faces an urgent need to replace two cameras purchased in 2007 and refurbished in 2014. Despite targeting a 20-year lifespan, they have reached the end of their operational life due to discontinued manufacturer-approved batteries. We've temporarily sourced unapproved aftermarket batteries, but this isn't a sustainable solution for critical life-safety equipment and should only be considered a stopgap measure.

Request

Given these circumstances, I am requesting \$18,000 of ARPA funds to be used to purchase (3) three thermal imaging cameras. This would allow both of our current cameras to be replaced, and allow for an additional camera to be placed on our ladder truck when it arrives.

Strategic Plan

The replacement of outdated life-safety equipment is crucial to support the mission of protecting our citizens and keeping our firefighters safe. These cameras are an essential tool that firefighters rely on at every structure fire.

Budget Impact

Up to \$18,000 of ARPA funds.

Recommended Action

Approve adding Thermal Imaging Cameras to the approved ARPA Project List.