



Watertown Fire Department

106 Jones Street, Watertown, WI 53094 • 920-261-3610 • 920-261-7527 fax
www.watertownfiredept.com

January 24, 2023

Re: ARPA Fund Allocation Request

This memo outlines a **request for \$289,000 in ARPA funding** to replace and upgrade the fire department's dispatching capabilities and radio communication system. These upgrades include adding 800 MHz channels to the dispatch consoles and purchasing dual band mobile & portable radios.

This operational change would allow the Fire Department to have their own private radio channels and move away from the shared county systems. Furthermore, it provides the fire department with a single source PSAP provider; eliminating the problems, that naturally occur, from having, three different agencies dispatch calls to the Watertown Fire Department.

I have spoken with Police Chief Kaminski and Dispatch Supervisor Fendt regarding moving all of the Watertown Fire Department dispatching responsibilities to their organization and have been assured this is possible.

A breakdown of costs is provided below. Some of the costs could be offset by selling our current radio inventory to other departments.

Consoles Upgrades	\$12,000	x 1	\$12,000
Mobile Radios	\$9,000	x 10	\$90,000
Portable Radios	\$8,500	x 22	<u>\$187,000</u>
			\$289,000

If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Travis J. Teesch

Travis Teesch
Fire Chief/Emergency Manager
Watertown Fire Department