



## Council Agenda Item

Meeting Date: 9/5/2023

Agenda Item: Fire Department Bunk Room & Bathroom Design Proposal

Staff Contact (name, email, phone): Chief Freeman, [kfreeman@whitewater-wi.gov](mailto:kfreeman@whitewater-wi.gov) (262) 473-0116

### BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what when, where, why)

The current Fire department bunk rooms were constructed from 2 closets, approximately 10 years ago and resemble jail cells. They are located in the basement of City Hall, directly below the Finance department, on the Fremont St side of City Hall. When staff receive a call for service in the middle of the night, they currently walk  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a city block to get to the apparatus bay where the apparatus is located. This brisk walk takes just under a minute to complete, while adding time to the crew's response to an emergent situation.

The most cost-effective solution to the problem would be to construct modern bunk rooms in the Police department breakroom area located directly off of the fire department apparatus bay. In this area are also 2 existing bathrooms with showers that staff would utilize on their way to the apparatus bay or for showering following a fire suppression call, cleaning up after an EMS call or to freshen up while working multiple shifts. These bathrooms are also in need of updating due to their current age of 20 plus years.

The current Fire department kitchen would serve as a shared space for both Police and Fire department staff.

### PREVIOUS ACTIONS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(Dates, committees, action taken)

No previous actions have taken place.

### FINANCIAL IMPACT

(If none, state N/A)

Estimate for design and bidding services would be provided on an hourly rate basis, plus expenses is estimated to be between \$25,000 and \$30,000.

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

On behalf of the Fire department staff working 24-hour shifts, I recommend Strand Associates for designing the new bunkrooms for the fire department due to their proven track record of designing and engineering capabilities for the City of Whitewater. With a strong focus on cost-effective solutions and compliance with all relevant codes and regulations, Strand Associates is the ideal choice to ensure that the fire department's bunkrooms meet the needs of staff, while ultimately reducing chute times, while increasing the well-being and operational efficiency of our dedicated firefighter/EMTs.

### ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED

(If none, state N/A)

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Project information, scoop of services provided by Strand Associates along with pictures of the current bunkrooms and bathrooms.

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