

Nikiski Fire Service Area

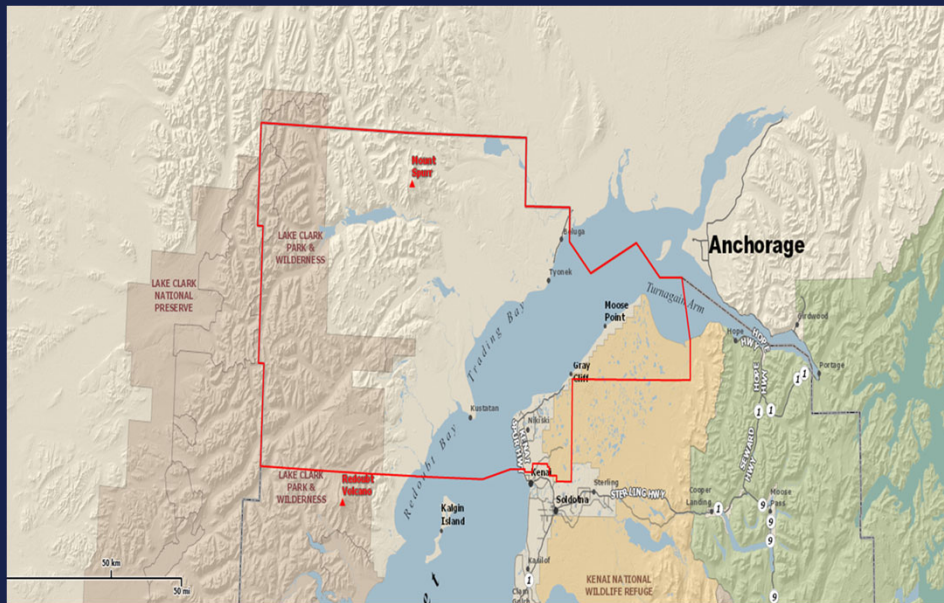
FY26 Budget Presentation

Bryan Ledahl, Deputy Chief



Background Information

- Established by a vote of the people in 1969
- Home to approximately 5,800 residents
- Service area is 5,480 square miles





Mission Statement



Nikiski Fire Department is committed to providing the highest level of public safety services for the community of Nikiski by maintaining highly trained emergency response personnel. We protect lives and property through fire suppression, emergency medical response, disaster management and community risk reduction.



Service Area Information



Diverse Community

- **Marathon Refinery**
- **Oil & Gas platforms**
- **Residential neighborhoods**
- **Homer Electric Co-Gen facility**
- **Elementary and Middle-High School**
- **Several lakes, Cook Inlet, Swanson River**
- **Wildland/Urban interface**



Service Area Information



NFSA Fire Stations

- **Station 1, Mile 17.9 Kenai Spur Highway**
- **Station 2, Mile 26.4 Kenai Spur Highway**
- **Station 3, Intersection Holt-Lamplight & Escape Route**
- **Tyonek Village**
- **Beluga**

Current Fire Board
 Dan Gregory - Chair (2020)
 Paul Walukewicz (2022) – Co-Chair
 Amber Oliva-Douglas (2017)
 Jasper Covey (2020)
 Kacey Walukewicz (2022)
 Tony Jackson (2022)
 Alan Bute (2024)

2025

**Peter Ribbens
 Assemblyman**

Nikiski Citizens

Peter Micciche KPB Mayor
 Fire Chief (40-hrs)
 Trent Burnett – EMT III

Administrative Assistant II (40-hrs)
 Rhonda White

Medical Director
 Michael Levy, MD

Mechanic (40-hrs)
 Gail White

Deputy Chief (40-hrs)
 Bryan Ledahl – EMT 3

Training Officer – Sr. Captain
 Sam Tauriainen

**Nikiski
 Fire Service Area
 Since 1969**



Sr. Captain (A-Shift) (56-hrs)
 Kole McCaughey – AEMT / Diver

Captain
 Jason Tauriainen – Paramedic 2

Firefighter 2
 Stephen Hartley – Paramedic 2

Firefighter 2
 Miles Jones – Paramedic 2

Firefighter 2
 Bailey Maxson – AEMT

Firefighter 2
 Tyler Morrison – AEMT

Firefighter

Paul Perry / Volunteer EMS Lieutenant

Sr. Captain (B-Shift) (56-hrs)
 JHenry Kane – AEMT

Captain
 Ty Smith – Paramedic 2 / Diver

Engineer
 Vlad Glushkov - AEMT

Firefighter 2
 Yarden Shalit - AEMT

Firefighter 2
 Aaron Brincefield - Paramedic

Firefighter
 Nick Corbin - EMT

Firefighter
 Daniel Bennett - EMT

20+ Volunteer Members for Nikiski / Beluga / Tyonek

Sr. Captain (C-Shift) (56-hrs)
 Jesse Spurgeon – Paramedic 2

Captain
 Eli Deatherage – AEMT

Engineer
 Angie Smith – Paramedic 2 / Diver

Firefighter 2
 Jeremiah Will - Paramedic

Firefighter 2
 Troi Burnett – AEMT

Firefighter 2
 Jesse Ross - Paramedic

Firefighter 2
 Kelcie Gahley – AEMT

Tim Tolar / Volunteer Fire Lieutenant /Chaplin



FY25 Accomplishments

- Received Federal grant for a pickup mounted skid unit for increased wildland fire response.
- Completed the wildland fire preparedness program in conjunction with OEM and WiRe.
- Extensive training including State Fire Conference, EMS symposium, Dive Rescue class, Fire Chief's Conference and Paramedic refresher.
- Established and filled a new Training Officer position.
- Continued health & wellness initiative by making physical fitness a top priority.



FY26 Objectives/Highlights

- Reduce Mil rate from 2.7 to 2.45
- Transfer \$1,000,000 to Capital Project fund for anticipated future equipment replacement. Also to bring fund balance closer to compliance.
- Purchase new ambulance, send older ambulance to Tyonek.
- Repair Station 2 fill site to ensure year-round reliability.
- Continue Station 2 training grounds project.
- Purchase/replace 1 additional pickup for emergency response and daily operations.
- Provide training and support to the communities of Tyonek and Beluga.



Expenditure Summary

| | FY 25 adopted budget | FY 26 proposed budget | Change |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| Personnel | \$4,957,664 | \$4,916,482 | -\$41,182 |
| Supplies | 330,254 | 318,897 | -11,357 |
| Services | 1,068,742 | 1,026,110 | -42,633 |
| Capital Outlay | 131,356 | 165,241 | 33,885 |
| Transfers | 369,111 | 1,069,111 | 700,000 |
| Interdepartmental charges | 162,200 | 160,668 | -1,532 |
| Total | \$7,019,327 | \$7,656,509 | \$637,182 |
| | | | |
| Change | | | 9.08% |

Capital Project Fund Summary

| Project Name | Medic 4 Replacement |
|---------------|---------------------|
| Priority | High (Priority 1) |
| Total Funding | \$375,000 |

This project is intended to replace 1 aging ambulance for NFSA. This will allow NFSA to update the ambulance fleet in Tyonek. The ambulance in Tyonek is a 2008 and has high mileage and increasing mechanical issues.



Capital Project Fund Summary

| Project Name | Station 2 Hydrant Repair |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| Priority | High (Priority 2) |
| Total Funding | \$60,000 |

This project is intended to fix a fill-site located at Station 2 that keeps freezing during the winter months. The project includes excavating the water line and wrapping with heat tape to prevent freezing. This also includes burying and repaving the dug-up areas.



Capital Project Fund Summary

| Project Name | Unit Emergency Response Vehicle Replacement |
|---------------|---|
| Priority | High (Priority 3) |
| Total Funding | \$75,000 |

This project is intended to replace an emergency response vehicle that is operating out of Station 2. This vehicle is used for daily emergency responses and is starting to have mechanical issues.



Significant Budgetary Items

**Off-Road UTV/ambulance for Tyonek
Code Blue Grant 20% Match
-Up to \$60,000 approved by NFSA Board**





Long Term Issues and Concerns

- Large equipment replacement on the horizon with increased costs and timelines.
- Unknown future of local Oil/Gas industry.
- Recruitment/retention an ongoing issue.
- Unreliable radio communications due to lack of ALMR infrastructure in our area.



Questions?

