



Kenai Peninsula Borough

Year 2019 State Capital Improvement Projects

SUPPORTING KENAI PENINSULA FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Funding Recipient: Kenai Peninsula Borough

Project Name: Areawide SCBA Replacement Project

Project Priority
Ranking:

1

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

On behalf of the municipal and volunteer fire departments, the borough respectfully requests \$1,999,200 to replace 294 SCBA units that are no longer serviceable or able to be upgraded. This grant will supplement the high cost to have total interoperability among all municipal and volunteer fire departments with standardized SCBA inventories and compliance with NFPA / OSHA mandates. The borough will purchase and distribute the SCBA to all participating departments through memorandum of agreements to non-borough entities. The goal of this project is to lower the risk of inhalation hazards, hardening the safety and wellbeing of our firefighters with properly outfitted, reliable SCBA. Additionally, purchasing SCBA units (consisting of a face mask, pack and two cylinders) will resolve the issue with the departments' current inventories of 4500 PSI air cylinders that are past their serviceable life and can no longer be legally hydro-tested.

In 2014 the Alaska Fire Chiefs Association received a legislative appropriation to repair and upgrade SCBA model years 2005, 2006 and 2007 for fire stations across Alaska. However, the last useful upgrade was to the 2013 standard; these aged SCBA continue to have problems with maintenance and serviceability that can no longer be addressed. Maintaining the mixed inventory of unserviceable cylinders, different versions of universal rescue connections (URC) or rapid intervention couplings (RIC), varying URC/RIC hose, pack frames and escape rope positions is not cost effective or safe for our firefighters. We should not issue cobbled packs to firefighters with the potential to expose them to chemical or biological hazards and expect them to have confidence in the issued PPE.

Aside from the municipalities of Homer, Kenai, Seward and Soldotna, our rural fire response zones do not have building plan requirements or construction codes, and fire code restrictions are nonexistent for single dwelling homes. Fire suppression is compounded by unpredictable construction techniques - where residents build houses with dilapidated materials, heat with fuel oil or propane tanks and stage fuels containers in/outside of structures. Our firefighters respond to structure fires with no knowledge of what they will be exposed to while encountering taxing conditions that are capable of pushing the limits of their abilities. In closing, the standardization will achieve interoperability and enhance firefighter safety. By using standardized SCBA, firefighters will be more confident and proficient in their personal protective equipment, which in turn will support their capabilities to perform at a high-functioning response level for our civilians that need protection of life and property.

The 2017 borough population is 58,024; the fiscal savings to our residents by the State supplementing this project is approximately \$35 per resident ($\$1,999,200 \div 58,024$). The total project cost of \$1,999,200 is a small investment versus losing a firefighter. (FEMA 2009 Benefit Cost Analysis calculates the value of \$1.74 million per statistical human life.)

Funding Requested: \$1,999,200

Total Project Cost: \$1,999,200

Local Match (if any): \$ See budget narrative

Election District: Senate: O, P

House: 29, 30, 31 & 32

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Funding Plan:		
Total Project Cost:	\$	1,999,200
Funding Secured:	\$	0
Funding Requested:	\$	1,999,200
Pending Requests	\$	0
Project Deficit:	\$	1,999,200

This should be the most accurate estimate of how much this project will cost.

How much of the project costs are in hand, secured, guaranteed, appropriated, etc. You may include in-kind contributions and volunteer labor. Do not include hypothetical funds.

How much is being requested from this year's capital budget.

Amount requested from other sources not yet received.

Additional funding needed to complete the project.

Please list Secured Funding Sources and Amounts:

The estimated cost per unit is \$6,800, and each department will provide any overrun costs for additional packs due to the high shipping costs in Alaska. See 2018 SCBA inventory list and individual department's financial contribution.

If this project is funded this year, will you be requesting state funding again?

Yes: ☐ No: ☒

Please describe the project time-line and when the expenditures will occur:

Has this project gone through a public review process at the local level?

Yes: ☒ No: ☐
 Yes: ☒ No: ☐

If a community or service area meeting was conducted, how was it advertised? When and where was it held? Who attended? Peninsula Chiefs have met three times throughout 2018 to evaluate different vendor options and training to the SCBA. The borough will work to negotiate with the chosen vendor to receive some credit for the existing SCBA and training to the new SCBA units will be done by departments. We will continue to use in-house technicians, ensuring that they are certified instructors that will perform training and maintenance to the new units.

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Who will own the project or facility? Kenai Peninsula Borough will own the equipment during the grant performance period and enter into memorandum of agreements with non-borough entities prior to distributing SCBA packs. Owner transfers will be issued with DCCED approval.

Entity responsible for providing ongoing operation and maintenance of this project? Each department will be responsible for operation and maintenance as well as training to equipment.

How will operations and maintenance be funded after the project is complete? Each department will have the funds in their annual operating budgets.

Please select a project type (chosed only one):

- ☐ Planning and Research
- ☐ Maintenance and Repairs
- ☐ Remodel, Reconstruction and Upgrades
- ☐ New Construction and Land Acquisition
- ☒ Equipment and Materials
- ☐ Information System and Technology
- ☐ Other:

Recipients Federal Tax ID: