## City of Rockaway Beach City Council Meeting Minutes



Date: Wednesday, March 9, 2022

**Time:** 6:00 P.M.

**Location:** Rockaway Beach City Hall, 276 HWY 101 -Civic Facility

Zoom Link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82594750270?pwd=SEp4d1RtLytUSmhqNThSWWVmRWtBQT09

Meeting ID: 825 9475 0270

Passcode: 899457

**CALL TO ORDER** - Sue Wilson, Mayor

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

#### **ROLL CALL**

Mayor - Sue Wilson: Present

Position #3 - Kristine Hayes: Present

Position #4 - Terry Walhood: Present

Position #1 - Mary McGinnis: Present

Position #5 - Penelope Cheek: Present

Position #2 - Tom Martine: Present

#### CONSENT AGENDA

Walhood made a motion, seconded by Martine to approve the February 9th 2022 Minutes; motion carried.

Position #4 - Terry Walhood: Motion

Position #2 - Tom Martine: 2nd

Position #3 - Kristine Haves: Abstain

Position #4 - Terry Walhood: Approve

Position #1 - Mary McGinnis: Approve

Position #5 - Penelope Cheek: Approve

Position #2 - Tom Martine: Approve

Walhood made a motion, seconded by Martine to approve the February 2022 Check Register; motion carried.

Position #4 - Terry Walhood: Motion

Position #2 - Tom Martine: 2nd

Position #3 - Kristine Haves: Approve

Position #4 - Terry Walhood: Approve

Position #1 - Mary McGinnis: Approve Position #5 - Penelope Cheek: Approve Position #2 - Tom Martine: Approve

#### CITIZEN INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

#### PRESENTATONS, GUESTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wilson read the following: Tillamook County Housing Coordinator Thomas Fiorelli will present information on national and local housing issues. Fiorelli will lead a discussion on potential action the city can take to mitigate these issues.

Thomas Fiorelli presented a history of the housing crisis in Tillamook County. Fiorelli spoke to the council on ways he and his team have come up with possible solutions to the current housing crisis in Tillamook County.

#### **STAFF REPORTS**

Sheriff Josh Brown reviewed the call report for Rockaway Beach and discussed an incident that occurred south of Tillamook County that the Sheriff's department assisted with. Brown encourages Rockaway Beach residents to install cameras at their homes.

Fire Chief Todd Hesse covered the department's calls for the month of February. Hesse discussed EMT class midterms have been completed and are holding weekly classes with fellow fire departments in Tillamook County. Hesse mentioned the department is still recruiting for the open position on the department.

Public Works Superintendent Dan Emerson welcomed Milton Hoffman to the public works team as a Treatment Plant Operator. Emerson stated the department held a training on rebuilding pumps and were able to rebuild a sewer pump. Emerson mentioned the annual flushing of the main water system would take place the last week of march.

City Manager Luke Shepard stated that there is a verbal agreement for the 10-acre high ground lot. Shepard mentioned at the next council meaning that the Fire Chief will give a presentation about the department's long term plan. Shepard stated the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade is back this year. Shepard told the council that the budget process will begin soon.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

<u>APPROVE FUNDING FOR THE 2021-2022 OFF-SEASON TOURISM</u>
MARKETING GRANTS

Wilson read the following: The purpose of this grant is to assist tourism-related businesses with marketing and promotion. This grant program is funded by lodging tax collected within the City of Rockaway Beach. Seven eligible project applications were received for the 2021-2022 City of Rockaway Beach Tourism Marketing Grant program. Funds are available to award all eligible projects. City Council has final authority on application approval.

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Tillamook Coast Deputy Director Amy Blackburn stated this is the second attempt for this grant program. No eligible applications were submitted previously. Blackburn stated there are 7 eligible applications this round and 2 additional application that require further review. Walhood asked about the out of state application and how that could be approved, Blackburn stated the applicant has been doing the charity event in Rockaway for many years and its proceeds go towards the Tillamook County Animal Shelter.

<u>Cheek made a motion, seconded by Martine to approve the funding for the 2021-2022 off-season tourism marketing grants; motion carried.</u>

Position #5 - Penelope Cheek: Motion

Position #2 - Tom Martine: 2nd

Position #3 - Kristine Hayes: Approve

Position #4 - Terry Walhood: Approve

Position #1 - Mary McGinnis: Approve

Position #5 - Penelope Cheek: Approve

Position #2 - Tom Martine: Approve

# <u>APPOINT CITY MANAGER AS BUDGET OFFICER FOR FISCAL YEAR</u> 2022/2023 BUDGET

Wilson read the following: Oregon Revised Statute 294.331 requires the governing body of each municipal corporation to designate a Budget Officer that shall prepare or supervise the preparation of the budget. The Rockaway Beach City Charter tasks the City Manager with preparation of the annual City Budget.

McGinnis made a motion, seconded by Cheek to appoint City Manager Luke Shepard as budget officer for fiscal year 2022/2023 Budget; motion carried.

Position #1 - Mary McGinnis: Motion Position #5 - Penelope Cheek: 2nd

Position #3 - Kristine Hayes: Approve

Position #4 - Terry Walhood: Approve Position #1 - Mary McGinnis: Approve Position #5 - Penelope Cheek: Approve Position #2 - Tom Martine: Approve

#### **COUNCIL CONCERNS**

McGinnis stated she is happy to see the grant applications for the tourism marketing grants. Walhood talked about property tax rates of various cities in Tillamook County. She pointed out that Rockaway Beach has the lowest rates in Tillamook County when bonds and Fire Districts are considered. Cheek thanked Sheriff Brown for being at the meeting and giving the staff report.

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Wilson stated she is thrilled for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade, fireworks show and all the other 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

McGinnis made a motion, seconded by Cheek to adjourn the meeting at 7:14pm; motion carried.

Position #1 - Mary McGinnis: Motion Position #5 - Penelope Cheek: 2nd Position #3 - Kristine Hayes: Approve Position #4 - Terry Walhood: Approve Position #1 - Mary McGinnis: Approve Position #5 - Penelope Cheek: Approve Position #2 - Tom Martine: Approve

Position #5 - Penelope Cheek: Approve Position #2 - Tom Martine: Approve	
	MINUTES APPROVED THIS 9 <sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2022.
	Mayor, Sue Wilson
City Manager, Luke Shepard	

## TILLAMOOK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



#### CONSERVATORS OF THE PEACE

Sheriff Joshua Brown

# Rockaway Beach Patrol Month of March

In the month of March, the Tillamook County Sheriff's Office Deputies responded to 149 calls within Rockaway Beach. Those calls included some of the following: 24 Civil Service, 10 suspicious calls, 14 traffic stops, 1 motor vehicle crashes, 5 Suicidal, 2 disturbances, and 11 follow up calls.

03/08/22 Deputy Ahlers responded to someone that having a mental crisis. Deputy Ahlers was able to defuse the situation and the subject voluntarily was given a courtesy ride to the hospital.

**03/22/22** Sgt Hopkins responded to a suicidal situation where a female subject was threating the hurt herself. Sgt Hopkins was able to talk to the subject before anyone was injured. The subject was transported to the hospital.

Tillamook Family Counseling Center provides crisis/emergency services and supports for individuals experiencing mental health crisis. These services are provided by a staff of qualified and experienced clinicians. Services are available 24 hours/day, 7 days/week and can be accessed by calling (503) 842-8201 or 1-800-962-2851. The range of available crisis services are as follows:

- Crisis screening and assessment
- Mobile Crisis Response in collaboration with Tillamook County community agencies and service providers
- Walk-in screenings and assessments
- Crisis triage in collaboration with Tillamook Regional Medical Center Emergency Department
- Pre-hospitalization screening, assessment, and coordination
- Crisis consultation with Tillamook County community agencies and service providers

**Undersheriff Matt Kelly** 

#### Rockaway Beach Fire Rescue

276 Hwy 101 S PO Box 5 Rockaway Beach OR 97136 503-374-1752



Date April 5, 2022

Honorable Mayor, City Council and City Manager of Rockaway Beach

Fire Department Council Report:

The following is a summary of the activities and operations of the Rockaway Beach Fire and Rescue Department for the month of March 2022.

The Department responded or participated in 60 events during the month of March, the breakdown is listed below.

911 calls for Service: 33 25- Medical 7- Fire Alarm 0- Structure Fire 0- Water Rescue 1- MVA 0- Outside Fire 0-Vehicle Fire	Trainings: 12 Drone\Water EMT Fire Operations Tactics	Non-Emergent: 15 7- Beach Safety 1- Public Assist 2- Lift Assist 1- Burn Complaints 4- Radio call-ins 0- Special Assignments
Year to Date 911 Calls Non-Emergent Trainings Total	2021 65 31 20 116	2022 107 41 33 181

Training update- The Department focused March training on Tactics and size-up practice used on Structure Fires to enhance the skills needed for structural firefighting. Drone Training and Ocean Rescue training was conducted, as well as Emily/Drone practice at Lake Lytle. The EMT continues with 14 students attending class each Wednesday night and all-day Saturday until May. Water Recue and Firefighting techniques are on the agenda for April as well as an ISO class.

Beach Safety continues to be a priority of the department. The focus continues to be on education and safety. During the month of March crews were on the beach 7 times providing information to citizens and visitors.

	March	YTD
Fire safety\Educational Moments-	5	9
Water Safety Messages\Out of Water-	7\8 persons	27\14
Stickers to kids-	0	0
Educational signs reset-	1	1
Education Signs Replaced-	0	0
Fires extinguished-	1	1
Volunteer Hours	16	30

I am still actively in the process of recruitment for a position the open full-time Position. I will keep the council informed of the progress.

Overall, my mission and goals have not changed. I continue to take care of the immediate safety of my crew and public needs as my highest priorities. If you have any questions, concerns or thoughts please let me know.

Respectfully submitted,

Todd Hesse Fire Chief

Rockaway Beach Fire Rescue

## City of Rockaway Beach, Oregon

276 S. Highway 101, PO Box 5 Rockaway Beach, OR 97136 (503) 374~1752 FAX (503)374~0601



April 4th, 2022

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

Now that the worst of the winter weather is behind us tree trimming and building maintenance has got more attention. During the month of March Public Works focused on pressure washing and getting ready for painting in addition to the normal daily operations. The public works mower is maintained and ready for spring. As mentioned in January's report the water treatment plant had several alder trees that damaged our pond liner, and some more that could. After cutting down the dangerous tree's public works is cleaning debris and will be making pond liner repairs soon.

Public works did maintenance on some prosses equipment at the sewer plant this equipment is original from 1950s, like Mr. Mammano knows they don't make them like they used to. With the warmer weather, asphalt is expected to be available soon. This will keep public works busy as there are many service cuts to patch, potholes to be repaired, and roads to pave.

As more and more visitors arrive in town, increased demand to our facilities is inevitable. This puts pressure on the operators to stay complaint with permits. I believe that with the addition of our new treatment plant operator our department is ready to meet all challenges.

And lastly, we recently had a water survey conducted this happens every three to five years depending on criteria met. A water system survey is an on-site review of a systems sources, treatment, storage facilities, distribution system, operation and maintenance procedures, monitoring, and management, for the purpose of evaluating the system's capability of providing safe water to the public. The Rockaway Beach Water Treatment Plant has successfully met the criteria for Outstanding performance during the last water system survey in 2021. This is a huge deal, as the city is always trying to meet criteria for outstanding performance now Rockaway Beach can say that we did it. I would like to thank the past employees for their help leading the way and I am so proud of our current staff working nonstop to get the water treatment plant to this position of outstanding performance. This is a very accomplished certificate and something to be proud of Rockaway Beach is one of six surface water plants to meet the Criteria for Tillamook County and one of three with a population over 1,000.

Are there any questions?

Thank you,

Dan W. Emerson, Superintendent City of Rockaway Beach Public Works P: 503.374.0586 / C: 503.457.6094 PublicWorks@corb.us



#### 2021-2022 Off-Season Tourism Marketing Grants

Funding Recommendation April 2022 Rockaway Seach City Council Meeting

Available Funding \$9,447

Proposed Funding: \$390

	Applicant	Organization Contact	Project Description & Budget	Modified Grant Request	Total Project	Business Type
			<b>Project Description:</b> Flyer Creation & Printing			
Н	Troxel's Gem & Jewelry	Victor Troxel	<b>Budget:</b> Only Line #1 Considered for funding. The remaining lines are not eligibe use of TLT funding.	\$390	\$390	Retail
			Totals	\$390	\$390	



Grant Program Managed By Tillamook Coast Visitors Association

Contact Arny Blackburn 503-842-2672 Ext 3 arny@tillamookcoast.com





#### **Business Name** Troxel's Rock Garden

Contact Name Victor Troxel Title owner

Phone Number 541.418.2842 Email rockawayrocks@gmail.com

Business Type tourist attraction Business Industry mini-golf, bike rental, ro

Physical Address 146 hwy 101 s rockaway beach, or 97136

Mailing Address po box 353 rockaway beach, or 97136

#### **Employer Identification Number (EIN)** SSN

Do not enter Social Security Number. Type 'SSN' if you are a sole proprietor.

#### **Company Principals**

Name victor troxel	Title <b>owner</b>	% Ownership	50%
Name jen troxel	Title owner	% Ownership	50%
Name	Title	% Ownership	
Name	Title	% Ownership	

Ownership totals should equal 100%. Use comments section to add additional information if necessary. Nan-Profits List Board Officers and 0% Ownership.

Recommended Funding \$390



**Grant Request** 

2790.00

**Total Project Cost** 

6290.00

\*This number is not required to be different than the grant request.

**Project Overview** Be specific regarding marketing plans. Response must fit in the space with provided formatting.

Part 1: Our bike rental season currently runs from March through August. There is a market demand to extend this to include off-season months so we have been preparing to offer this popular service year-round. We have invested in all-weather, aluminum fat tire bikes and a large outdoor storage building to store them and preform winter maintenance. We need to add smaller sized bikes to accommodate families with children and well as 1 additional full-sized bike.

Part 2: Our tri-fold flier (distributed to vacation rentals and hotels) needs updating to include the extended bike rental season as well as the beach wheelchair we maintain for use free of charge. This will mean 3-4 hours of design, full color, glossy printing and folding and distribution to locations in and around Rockaway Beach.



## Who is the target audience for the event or marketing promotion?

Any and all visitors to Rockaway Beach looking for something to do. We are seeking to inform our visitors of the many year-round offerings we have. From mini-golf, rock-hounding, metal detector rental, to (very soon) bike rental.
What are the anticipated challenges in completing this project or holding this event?
Obviously, getting funding to complete the initiative we began is a challenge. The other challenge we foresee is distribution of the tri-fold. Although it may prove cumbersome, we have resources to assist.
What are the anticipated benefits to the community?
We believe memories are the best souvenirs. And memories are best created through activities. By helping families create lasting memories, we are giving them reasons to return to our community and helping to ensure future tourism.  The flier is essential to educate our visitors on our offerings.

INCOME	
	BUDGET
City of Rockeway Tourism Marketing Grant	2790.00
OTHER INCOME	
(Additional amounts are NOT required, but if your project exceeds the grant limits, use this section to add additional funding sources.)	
Troxel's Rock Garden Profits	6300.00
	9090.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 0.00

	EXPENSES			
Line Item	Description	Tentative Vendor	Estimate Obtained (Yes/No)	BUDGET
1	Flier creation/printing	Coast Printin	Yes	390.00
2	Fat Tire Bikes	Micargi	Yes	3500.00
3	Kids Size Bikes	Micargi	Yes	1700
4	Storage/Maintenance Bldg	Amazon	Yes	3500.00
5	Andrews Assert Control of the Contro			
6				
7	Call a Superior Called			
8				
9	Program Course			
10				

Total Expenses

9090.00

\*\*Total income should equal total expenses.

**Additional Comments to Budget** 



# **AUTHORIZATION & CERTIFICATION**

Initial in the following authorization and certifications that apply:

vt

vt

I am an eligible applicant. Applicants must operate in the Rockaway Beach area or must serve tourists in Rockaway Beach area and be a business or non-profit engaged in tourism activities.

**My project fits within eligible use of tourism funds.** Applicants will be required to provide information to TCVA to support accountability for use of the funds in compliance with the application requirements for Transient Lodging Taxes as outlined in ORS 320.300:

- 1."Tourism" means economic activity resulting from tourists.
- 2."Tourist" means a person who, for business, pleasure, recreation or participation in events related to thearts, heritage or culture, travels from the community in which that person is a resident to a different community that is separate, distinct from and unrelated to the person's community of residence, and that trip:
  - a. Required the person to travel more than 50 miles from the community of residence; or
  - b. Includes an overnight stay.
- 3. "Tourism promotion" (as it relates to this grant) means any of the following activities:
  - a. Advertising, publicizing or distributing information for the purpose of attracting and welcoming tourists;
  - b. Marketing special events and festivals designed to attract tourists. (This applies to marketing and promotion only. Grant funds may not be used to fund event operations.)

vt

I agree to enter into a contract with TCVA upon grant approval. TCVA reserves the right to include such additional special conditions or requirements in each contract, as it might deem necessary or desireable to protect the public investment of tax dollars in the project. Furthermore, I agree to provide progress and completion reports as outlined in the grant award letter and grant contract. Failure to properly prove use of funds will result in disqualification of reimbursement and subject to repayment of disbursed funds.

vt

I agree to provide a W9-Request for Taxpayer Identification Number & Certification as needed. I certify that the Federal Employer Idenfication Number and business type provided in the above application is accurate and the organization is not subject to back-up withholding. OR I do not have an EIN and will provide a W9 with my social security number before funds are disbursed. I understand that grant funds received will be issued on a year-end 1099 as 'Other Income.'

vt

I agree to provide project management and oversight. Applicant activities must be well-documented and completed according to the grant contract timelines and as outlined in the grant application. TCVA's sole responsibility will be to process draw down requests and ensure Grantee's compliance with the grant contract. TCVA will provide overall guidance on best practices, vendor selection, and contract language through the cohort meetings. Subsequent changes to the project will be included as contract amendments.

vt

I give permission to TCVA and/or City of Rockaway Beach to use my project for public information, promotional, and educational purposes.

Applicants understand that the information supplied throughout the course of the project will be used by TCVA/City of Rockaway Beach to promote success stories and project deliverables. Information may be released to the media, social media channels, governmental legislative bodies or used in promotional materials intended for public release.

**AUTHORIZATION.** I certify to the best of my knowledge that all information, contained in this application, including all attachments and certifications, is valid and accurate. I further certify that the application has been reviewed and approved by the authorized owner(s), managers with appropriately delegated authority and/or in accordance with the organization's articles of incorporation or organization.

Signature Victor Troxel

Date 2/24/2022

**Printed Name** Victor Troxel

Title 2/24/22



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Do not enter Social Security Number. Type 'SSN' if you are a sole proprietor

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Name victor troxel Title owner % Ownership 50%

Name jen troxel

Title owner

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Name Title % Ownership

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OTHER INCOME	
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5						
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9	(See ) if 2001, if all the Color of the School of the Scho					
10						

**Total Expenses** 

9090.00

**Additional Comments to Budget** 

<sup>\*\*</sup>Total income should equal total expenses.

# **5** AUTHORIZATION & CERTIFICATION

Initial in the following authorization and certifications that apply:

vt\_\_\_

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**I am an eligible applicant.** Applicants must operate in the Rockaway Beach area or must serve tourists in Rockaway Beach area and be a business or non-profit engaged in tourism activities.

**My project fits within eligible use of tourism funds.** Applicants will be required to provide information to TCVA to support accountability for use of the funds in compliance with the application requirements for Transient Lodging Taxes as outlined in ORS 320.300:

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**AUTHORIZATION.** I certify to the best of my knowledge that all information, contained in this application, including all attachments and certifications, is valid and accurate. I further certify that the application has been reviewed and approved by the authorized owner(s), managers with appropriately delegated authority and/or in accordance with the organization's articles of incorporation or organization.

Signature Victor Troxel

Date 2/24/2022

**Printed Name** Victor Troxel

Title 2/24/22

# Fire Department Report to City Council

April 2022



Honorable mayor and city council of Rockaway Beach. Please find in this document a report on the current status and future plans of Rockaway Beach Fire Rescue. The report is intended to provide the information needed to develop both the short-term and long-term strategic plan to provide the appropriate level of Emergency services to the citizens and visitors of Rockaway Beach. This report includes information from the 2018 strategic plan as well as my findings as the chief of the department. The format of the report is to list a subject and give a brief description, information, status, or action taken. If additional information is needed on a subject, it can be provided on request.

#### History of the Department:

Rockaway Beach Fire Rescue was founded in 1936 as a Rural Fire Protection District through the efforts of the Peterson Family who managed the Sunset Water company. Al Schloth served as the first fire chief, he served from 1936 to 1943. On May 4<sup>th</sup>, 1943, the Rural Fire District disbanded services and transferred control and all their assets to the City of Rockaway. Since 1943 (79 years) the city has provided fire protection services to the citizens of Rockaway Beach and its visitors. In that time the city has had 21 fire chiefs, and each of the previous chiefs made strides to improve the capabilities of the department. Improvement in equipment, safety and service delivery have been a common theme. The department has a tradition of strong community and city support. The department has faced and met many challenges over the years. When looking at history, purchasing equipment, obtaining volunteers and training are the 3 most common subjects. These subjects continue to be concerns today.

Currently, Rockaway Beach Fire Rescue provides immediate Emergency and Non-Emergency services/responses 24 hours a day 365 days a year to the citizens and visitors of Rockaway Beach, Nedonna Beach, and Twin Rocks. The Department is currently comprised of a paid Fire Chief and 14 dedicated volunteer firefighters. The Department has four Firefighter 2's, 8 Firefighter 1's, 1 paramedic, 1 EMT- Intermediate, 1 EMT-Advanced, 4 EMT's and 4 EMTs in training. The Chief is the sole full-time paid employee and works a 40-hour office week and responds to after hour Emergencies and service requests as needed. 12 of the volunteers work full-time jobs and 2 are retired. This often leaves our daytime staffing levels at or below the minimum safe staffing level standards for an emergency response. The Department is currently in the process of hiring a second full-time position to help with daytime response needs. The Department does have a strong working relationship with other departments including automatic and mutual aid to help with short staffing, however there is often a delay in receiving the assistance. While surging call volume and limited staffing and remains our 2 greatest threats, strong community support, and dedicated volunteers are our greatest assets. Call volume surge from 2018 to 2021 is dramatic and consistent with no foreseeable end. 2022 year to date calls for service are currently on pace to exceed 2021. The chart below shows the steady increase in 911 calls for service. Non-Emergent calls for service are not included. In 2021 for example the nonemergent call types that include training, public education, beach safety, and public assists accounted for an additional 235 responses.

<u>Year</u>	911 Calls for Service
1950	35
2018	270
2019	283
2020	450
2021	520

#### Rockaway Beach Fire Rescue mission statement:

Rockaway Beach Fire Rescue is committed to protecting the people and property within our community. We will be responsive to the needs of our citizens by providing rapid, professional, and humanitarian services essential to the health, safety, and well-being of the community. We will accomplish our mission through prevention, public education, fire suppression, EMS services, training, and other related emergency and non-emergency activities. We will actively participate in our community, serve as role models, and strive to utilize all the necessary resources effectively and efficiently at our command to provide a level of service deemed excellent by our citizens.

#### Department Objectives:

- a. Be progressive in services delivered, meeting or exceeding accepted state, regional, national, and professional standards of service.
- b. Provide services within a level that is economically justifiable for the community, by maintaining an insurance industry rating that will provide the greatest total savings for the property owners via rates vs. department operation cost and limit the total personal and property loss through mitigation and prevention.

In 2018 the city of Rockaway hired BOLA consultants to develop a strategic plan for the fire department. The strategic plan was the starting point in analyzing the Fire Department. The goal of the plan was to identify a pathway to modernize the department and bring the department into compliance with local, state, and federal law as well as link day to day operations with the cities mission, vision, and values. The strategic plan then identified 12 priorities as the first steps to bring about the necessary changes to move the department on the road to compliance. The following is a list of the 12 priorities and the status or action taken to address each priority.

- 1. Hire a full-time Fire Chief
  - a. This was completed in March of 2020
- 2. Develop Fire Department organization chart
  - a. This process has been completed with a clearly identified and distinct chain of command.
- 3. Develop Job Description for Full-time Fire Chief position.
  - a. Job Description is in place
  - b. Job descriptions have also been developed for other full-time and volunteer positions.
- 4. Establish Fire and Medical emergency response standards.
  - a. Prior to 2020 not all calls for service received a response from the fire department. Medical calls did not always have staff available to respond.
  - b. Rockaway has an agreement with Tillamook County in the ASA plan to provide Quick Response Team (QRT) services.
  - c. Initial priority was to establish a response to all 911 calls by the fire department. This issue has been resolved with training, and the department does have an immediate response to all 911 requests for service.
  - d. The improvement in response was accomplished by recruitment of new volunteers and increasing training opportunities and standards.
  - e. The next objective is to create response standards. Data has been collected to track current response times and create a realistic standard for response.
  - f. NFPA 1720 is the standard for Volunteer Fire Departments. A copy of the standard is listed below along with an explanation of the importance of following the standard.
  - g. Rockaway is considered a Suburban area and is expected to have 10 staff members to respond to a fire emergency within 10 minutes 80 percent of the time. The time begins at dispatch and ends upon arrival of units. Automatic aid agreements do count in the computation.
  - h. 2021 only had one response of 10 personnel within the 10 minutes time frame. Average response time for the **first** responding unit in 2021 was 4 minutes and 55 seconds. This is a respectful time, however, does not meet current standards.

- i. Chief (paid staff met the response standard time on 78% of calls in 2021)
- j. Training, recruitment/retention, automatic aid, and on-call schedules are all components in reducing response times. This is a constant issue that is being addressed.
- k. Currently the focus is on safety of responding personnel and finding more efficient ways of using existing staff and budget to reduce/meet the response time objectives.

#### NFPA 1720

#### Standard for the

## Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Volunteer Fire Departments

Table 4.3.2 Staffing and Response Time

Demand Zone <sup>a</sup>	Demographics	Minimum Staff to Respond <sup>b</sup>	Response Time (minutes) <sup>c</sup>	Meets Objective (%)
Urban area	>1000 people/mi <sup>2</sup> (2.6 km²)	15	9	90
Suburban area	500-1000 people/mi <sup>2</sup> (2.6 km <sup>2</sup> )	10	10	80
Rural area	<500 people/mi <sup>2</sup> (2.6 km²)	6	14	80
Remote area	Travel distance ≥ 8 mi (12.87 km)	4	Directly dependent on travel distance	90
Special risks	Determined by AHJ	Determined by AHJ based on risk	Determined by AHJ	90

A jurisdiction can have more than one demand zone.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Minimum staffing includes members responding from the AHI's department and automatic aid

<sup>&#</sup>x27;Response time begins upon completion of the dispatch notification and ends at the time interval shown in the table.

#### What is NFPA 1720 and why is it important?

That means that if there is litigation, these standards will be held as the baseline against which to measure. So an expert witness testifying in a lawsuit against a volunteer department for negligence resulting in the loss of life or property would probably cite NFPA 1720 as the standard for organization and operations for a volunteer department.

Staff- staffing plan options to meet NFPA and community needs are in a constant state of review. Cost, need and compliance with NFPA are the in a perpetual struggle. The balance and efficient use of the limited resources to provide emergency services is always in consideration. Compliance is the goal; however, the financial resources simply do not exist. As mentioned earlier we do have strong mutual aid and automatic aid responses from neighboring fire departments. This does help with response times and available firefighter, but often does not meet the standards. Often the Chief or duty officer is the only responder to medical calls for example. The hiring of an additional full-time staff member will have immediate results and improve the safety and service level delivered to the community.

- 5. Educate the city administration on the minimum federal and state requirements for fire departments.
  - a. This is a continual and ongoing process.
  - b. The process includes reports and information such as NFPA standards for vehicle safety and response standards.
  - c. Compliance with PPE and SCBA service life as well as certified training and incident response standards
  - d. Full compliance with all NFPA, federal, state, and local standards and directives is the goal, however, this will take time to complete. Education, planning, implementation, and steady progression is the objective. There is no quick fix to compliance.
- 6. Develop timeline for securing financial support for hiring fulltime paid firefighters to meet the emergency response standards. Options include a tax levy, operational consolidation/mergers, contractual agreements or forming a fire district.
  - a. The options are in a constant state of review
  - b. As data is gathered a clearer look into the best options will become evident.
  - c. Current focus is to use existing resources while the best course of action for the future is identified.
  - d. The different funding options will be discussed later in this report

- 7. Develop Volunteer recruitment program.
  - a. The emphasis of the department has been on recruitment and retention of volunteers.
  - b. 8 of the 15 current members of the department have volunteered 2 years or less.
  - c. Recruitment during the covid pandemic has been difficult. It is unknown how community members will return to the volunteer ranks post covid. However, we will stay vigilant in our efforts to recruit new members to the department.
  - d. An expansion of the training program as well as a more structured expectations have led to a solid group of well-trained volunteers.
  - e. A regional SAFER grant with Bay City and Garibaldi (Garibaldi is the host department) to hire a full-time volunteer coordinator has been applied for.
  - f. Rockaway Beach has relied on Volunteers for Fire suppression and medical needs since the department was founded.
  - g. The volunteer model works for Rockaway Beach and will include a strong presence of community volunteers in the future. While added rules and regulations can place obstacles and setbacks, the program will be continued.
- 8. Review present volunteer training records to assure certifications meet the minimum requirements for the emergency response standards.
  - a. This has been the focus for the last two years.
  - b. The training program has offered the volunteers the opportunities needed to bring the department into compliance. This program has been successful, and most members have made the most of the training opportunities.
  - c. Classes for Firefighter 1 have been held the last 2 years and all current members have attended. There are a few members that are currently finishing some details to receive certification; however, everyone has attended the trainings.
  - d. An EMT class was hosted in conjunction with TBCC last summer and a second EMT class is currently being hosted. All members that have a desire to be EMT's have attended. Upon completion of the current class 11 of the 15 members will be certified at the EMT level or higher. The other 4 are all certified in CPR and First Aid.
  - e. The Department staff now comply with training requirements to respond to Fire and Medical Emergencies.
- 9. Fire Department monthly reports to City administration and the citizens of Rockaway Beach.
  - a. This is a continual process to keep the Council, City manager and public informed about the status and direction of the fire department.
  - b. Clear communication occurs at minimum once a week with the City Manager
  - c. City council is provided with monthly reports and is kept informed of department direction and decisions.

- d. Citizens are kept updated through the council as well as social media, appointments, and on the street face to face opportunities.
- 10. Develop peak season master plan for increased emergency response.
  - a. The Department prioritized meeting daily response needs and the associated training. Once we have a standard of response, time and efforts can be refocused to the development of a peak season master plan.
  - b. Currently the long-range staffing plans and response standards are being addressed as noted above in priority 4.
  - c. Since 2018 an increase in visitors has been noted in Rockaway Beach. What used to be a sunny weekend, holiday or summer vacation destination has become a steady tourist destination. As the Portland metro area continues to grow a significant reduction in visitors is unlikely.
  - d. Meeting both local citizen and visitors needs in emergencies continues to be the department priority.
- 11. Natural Disaster training for Fire Department and Community.
  - a. Additional staff is currently being hired to assist with Emergency Preparedness, CERT team and Radio programs.
  - b. Department goal is to have these programs fully operational in 2022
  - c. See more information later in the report.
- 12. Fire Inspection program for Rockaway Business Community.
  - a. Fire inspections are completed on a voluntary basis at this time.
  - b. Business inspections will be completed more often as staffed is increased and trained
  - c. The fire inspection program will reduce risk of fire as well as educate business owners in safe prevention practices.

These were the 12 priorities as listed in the strategic plan in 2018. The following subjects identified by the Chief are not included in the original plan. They represent the additional areas necessary for full compliance with local, state, and federal standards as well as the practical day to day needs to provide emergency services to the community. As the town needs and profile changes it is the intention of the fire department to adapt and respond appropriately with a pre-identified plan. The subjects are listed in no particular order.

- 1. Community needs assessment and standard of cover document
  - a. Conduct a community risk reduction and community needs assessment to identify the priority and types of services the community would like provided.
  - b. With the needs assessment the department can develop a standard of cover document that will provide the framework for budgeting, staffing and operation planning.

#### 2. Pre-fire planning

- a. Pre-fire plans consist of a thorough and detailed plan of how to address an emergency at a specific residence or business.
- b. Plans including fire suppression, known hazards, building floorplans, access plans, and needed resources are addressed prior to an emergency are drafted.
- c. This saves critical time in the event of an emergency and makes for a more efficient use of valuable resources.
- d. A KNOX system provides secure access to key buildings in town. KNOX systems provide a single master key to a Fire Department. Business or residential owners then place a KNOX box that is attached to a wall at a business or residence that contains the keys to the building for secure fire department access.

#### 3. Update fire suppression abilities

- a. This was a priority from the day of hire, the following is a list of a few of the updates the department has made in the last 2 years.
- b. Safety has been the constant message. Proper use of protective equipment, and safe operation at training and on fire and medical emergency scenes.
- c. Change supply line from 3" to 4" to increase available water to the pump of the fire engine. This change has doubled the fire suppression abilities of the department.
- d. Change hose packages to flow more water at a lower pressure for ease of operation as well as more efficient suppression. Both the city Engine and the Tender have been updated with high flow/low pressure nozzles.
- e. Train on ways to be more efficient with tactics and strategies. The focus has been on applying large volumes of water quickly, safely and efficiently.
- f. Use the limited manpower to gain maximum benefit with suppression strategies.

#### 4. Drone program

- a. The Department has purchased a large rescue drone and 2 smaller training drones
- b. Drone will be used in water rescues, pre-fire planning, search and rescue operations and to monitor fires during suppression
- c. Train staff to fly drones and be compliant with FAA regulations
- d. Develop SOP's that focus on quick/safe deployment of the drone

#### 5. Improve ISO rating

- a. Current ISO rating for the City of Rockaway is a 6
- b. The ISO (Insurance Services Office) has a 1 to 10 rating system that measures a fire departments ability to provide services to its respective communities

- c. Factors such as Fire Department, Communications, Water Supply and Community Risk Reduction
- d. 105.5 points are possible
- e. The rating system is then used to determine the fire insurance rates by insurance companies.
- f. While insurance rates can vary, generally the lower the ISO score, the better the insurance rate.

#### 6. Apply for grants

- a. Grants are critical to a small department to keep up with the constant state of rule changes and requirements.
- b. Often the financial requirements to change or improve safety equipment, fire apparatus, training and buildings outpace the ability for small departments and communities stay in compliance with current standards.
- c. Grants are constantly being researched for the potential benefits to Rockaway

  Beach
- d. Since 2020 Grants have become more competitive and fewer and farther in between. An example is the SAFER grant the city applied for in 2021. Of the over 27,000 Fire Departments in the USA only 203 were awarded grants.
- e. The department continues to apply for applicable grants and currently has 3 requests in process.

#### 7. Beach safety program

- a. In 2021 the department developed and implemented a program the inform/educate the citizens of Rockaway and its visitors in beach safety.
- b. The focus of the program was to focus on 2 of the greatest threats which are Beach Fires and Water safety.
- c. 50 signs were purchased by the Nedonna Rural Fire Protection district for the project.
- d. Signs were placed by department personnel at key entry points to our beach.
- e. Future signs will be produced and placed to keep the public informed.
- f. Volunteers also ride the beach to provide educational moments to visitors and citizens alike. This program could use some improvement as it depends completely on volunteer availability.
- g. Listed below is the data collected from the 2021 program.

#### Beach Safety data 2021

Fire Safety	174	Contacts to educate on safe use of beach fires
Rip Current	303	Contacts educating on dangers of swimming in the ocean
Out of Water	917	Number of people that went to dry land after being warned

Education Sign 37 Replacement/resetting of beach safety signs

Fires Extinguished 76 Number of beach fires extinguished

Volunteer Hours 232 Total hours spent on beach safety

#### 8. Maintenance program

- a. Currently monthly vehicle checks are made, and repairs and maintenance are performed as needed
- b. In the past the department spent time at each drill performing the basic maintenance tasks.
- c. With the current training system, the time to perform maintenance is limited. Options are being explored to perform maintenance and keep the emergency vehicles in proper working order.
- d. Ladders, Pumps, Hose, SCBA's, Compressors and fire extinguishers are on a scheduled annual maintenance
- e. Required service on Fire Apparatus is completed by a certified Emergency Vehicle Mechanic. Basic maintenance is completed with a local certified mechanic shop.

#### 9. Explore Funding Options

Stable funding is a priority of the department to maintain a consistent service level. The Fire Department is currently funded through the general fund through the annual budgeting process. The city also receives money for contracted services from Twin Rocks and Nedonna Beach RFPD. The Fire Department has historically used General fund money to operate and provide services. This funding has been in review to ensure that operational objectives can be met with the resources available. Currently as the department is growing to meet the current needs of the department the general fund model is still meeting the needs of the department. As the Department grows to meet future citizen needs and meet local state and national standards, a more stable funding source may need to be identified. Listed below are four options available to fund the department in the future, while other options are available these are the four that have been identified as the most viable/beneficial to the citizens of Rockaway.

- 1. Maintain funding through the general fund
- 2. Combine the 3 current service areas into a separate taxing district (Nedonna, Twin Rocks and Rockaway)
- 3. 5-year operating levy to and continue to contract with Nedonna and Twin Rocks.
- 4. Regionalize Fire Protection Services with Neighbor Fire Districts (Garibaldi and Bay City)

- 10. Develop short- and long-term staffing plan with an effective response.
  - a. An effective response force is the minimum amount of staffing and equipment that must reach a specific emergency within a targeted time to mitigate the situation. This effective response force should be able to handle the typical emergency medical incident or fire that is reported shortly after it starts, and that response must be within the maximum prescribed response time for the type of medical emergency or risk level of the structure. Considering that a district cannot hold fire risk to zero or successfully resuscitate every patient, the response objective should find a balance between effectiveness, efficiency, and reliability that will keep fire risk at a reasonable level and maximize the potential for saving lives and property (acceptable risk) at an acceptable level.

#### 11. Public education program

- a. The Department has a strong history of public education, covid regulations placed a strain on the program
- b. As covid restrictions are lifted this will allow the department access to schools and community groups.
- c. Focus on safety and education of current fire and medical issues including community First Aid/CPR classes, home safety, wildland urban interface fuel reduction, and fall safety.

#### 12. Health and wellness program

- a. Firefighting and EMS services are both physically and mentally challenging. To assist with retention of volunteers a health and wellness program becomes increasingly important.
- b. Heart attacks are the leading cause of death of firefighters
- c. Mental health issues are the leading cause of Firefighter and EMT burnout.
- d. PTSD and the cumulative effects of emergency responses are a serious threat to the mental health of first responders
- e. Develop a program to encourage physical fitness and wellness in general
- f. Purchase workout equipment to encourage physical activity and fitness
- g. Provide an avenue for members to receive mental health services if needed

#### 13. Repairs and update current station until new station is built

- a. Complete an enclosed office for administration
- b. Finish storage room project
- c. Build sleeping quarters for sleeper program
- d. Paint outside of building
- e. Re-roof the flat roof over the Engine Bay
- f. Complete the LED light upgrade and wire in the emergency power to open bay doors in the event of a power outage.

#### 14. Plan for new station

- a. Develop a needs list and priorities
- b. Design will include room for expansion of services
- c. Produce the master plan for the new facility

#### 15. Community Smoke detector inspection/replacement program

- a. Develop a procedure for citizens to contact the department to inspect home for safety issues and smoke detector testing
- b. Fund a program to replace missing and needed detectors

#### 16. Training props

- a. Purchase training props to give realistic training and experiences to the volunteers.
- b. Lack of Fire events where the risk is extremely high have become a less frequent event. This makes realistic training and props crucial to safe operations.
- c. Needed training props with costs are listed below
- d. Training Props are in order of importance with the associated costs. These are capital items that will need to be placed in future budgets as funds become available.

1.	Burn Container	(\$75,000.00)
ii.	Search and Rescue	(\$65,000.00)
iii.	Vehicle Fire	(\$50,000.00)
iv.	<b>Driving Course</b>	(\$5,000.00)
v.	Roof Prop	(\$10,000.00)
vi.	Forcible entry door	(\$7,500.00)

#### 17. Sleeper\Student FF program

- a. Coordinate with a local community college and provide housing in exchange for time/internship as a firefighter.
- b. Tuition can be provided to the student in a contract for a set number of hours as a student firefighter. Clatsop Community college is the closest local college as well as online options.

#### 18. Community EMT\Paramedic program

- a. The program utilizes EMT's and Paramedics in the community to provide care to local citizens in a non 911 situation.
- b. This is not a replacement of in-home medical care but a program that is designed to provide preventative measures to reduce medical transports.
- c. Primarily used in rural settings to provide preventative services to citizens that may lack access to traditional medical care
- d. Goal is to provide basic services to reduce transports to hospitals

#### 19. Be active with community events

- a. Fire Department has a strong history in community events
- b. Santa, Halloween, Parade, Easter, Beach Safety, 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Highschool athletic events.
- c. Civic clubs and community group meetings are also attended

#### 20. CERT Team/Emergency preparedness, and Radio Net

- a. This town faces several threats from natural disasters, including floods, Tsunamis, Landslides, and winter storms.
- b. Emergency preparedness and operations are common subject when visiting with both citizens and visitors.
- c. Review and revise the city of Rockaways Emergency response and preparation plans
- d. Fund the needs of Emergency management program through the annual budgeting process.
- e. With the ease of covid-19 restrictions the CERT team can get together and train again. The next several months will provide the time to begin placing the CERT team back into operation.

#### 21. Capital Replacement Fund

- a. Capital Items that are currently used and will be used in the future should have a dedicated replacement plan and funding source.
- b. The department currently has 12 vehicles to respond to the emergency needs in the city of Rockaway. Through a capital replacement plan the department will be able to reduce the number of fire apparatus while at the same time increasing our abilities to respond to emergencies.
- c. This replacement fund will also be in place to replace our non-apparatus capital items as well.
- d. Total Capital value in 2022 dollars is approximately \$2,450,000
- e. Resources needed annually to maintain current level of service is \$171,000.00. Capital replacement funds, grants, general fund and donations are currently used to meet needs.
- f. Appropriating the revenue from the fire service fee directly into the capital replacement fund would provide immediate steady funding. The balance of the fund can be provided through the annual budgeting process.
- g. Listed below are the non-vehicle Capital items and associated costs.
  - i. SCBA- (2007) 15-year service life (\$110,000.00)
  - ii. Jaws of Life (\$35,000.00)
  - iii. Heart Monitor (\$25,000.00)
  - iv. LUCAS (2) (\$15,000.00/each)
  - v. Rescue Drone (\$35,000.00)

- vi. EMS Mannequin- (\$10,000.00)
- vii. ISimulate- (\$10,000.00)
- viii. Fit Tester- (\$10,000.00)
- ix. EMILY (2) (\$15,000.00)
- x. Structural PPE- (18) (\$3.600.00/set) (Usable 10 year from manufacture date)
- xi. Portable Radios (20) (\$1,200.00/each) (need to be replaced during county radio upgrade)
- xii. Mobile Radios (10) (\$2,000.00/each) (need to be replaced during county radio upgrade)
- xiii. AED (3) (\$1,500.00/each)
- xiv. iPad/tablets (5) (\$1,200.00)
- xv. Computers (2) (\$1,500.00)
- xvi. Wildland PPE (18) (\$600.00\set

#### 22. Apparatus

Listed below are the current in-service vehicles as well as a recommended list of apparatus, along with an explanation of the role of each apparatus. The department goal is to become efficient in the use of apparatus through a combination of eliminating redundant apparatus types and combining roles. Included in parenthesis is the year of manufacture. I have attached the applicable portion of NFPA 1901, which provides the standards for Fire Department response vehicles. As you will note, several of our apparatus need replaced.

#### Current list of In-Service Apparatus

```
2150- Duty Officer Vehicle (2021)
```

2113- Primary Engine (2003)

2112- Pumper Tender (1993)

2195\*- Rescue (2010)

2116\*- Brush Engine (2010)

2122\*- Brush Engine (1960) FEPP Vehicle

2190- Utility (1984) FEPP Vehicle

4- Honda 4 Wheelers (2-2014, 2-2016)

Side By Side (2020)

Inflatable Boat and motor for flood and lake rescue (2021)

#### Recommended Apparatus

2150- Incident Command Response Vehicle

2151- Duty Officer Response Vehicle

Truck 21- Quint

Tender 21- Pumper/Tender

Rescue 21- Type 3 Engine

Beach 21- Side by Side

Beach 22- Side by Side

Boat 21- Inflatable Boat

#### 2150- Incident Command Response Vehicle

- This is a new vehicle purchased in 2021. The vehicle is scheduled to be replaced in 2036.
- Incident command vehicle is primarily used by the chief to respond to emergencies and department functions.
- Vehicle carries IC boards, Radios, Flashlights, Animal catch device, Forcible entry, medical gear, LUCAS device, Hazardous materials spill kits, portable lights, and Incident response plans.

#### 2151- Duty Officer Response Vehicle

This will be a new vehicle for the department and used for the duty officer response.
 The vehicle will also be used as a squad and general use vehicle for trainings and meetings.

#### Truck 21- Quint

- This Vehicle will replace 2113 the current in-service Engine in the city. 2113 was built in 2003 and has numerous mechanical issues. NFPA guidelines recommend that this apparatus should be removed from service. This is the highest priority vehicle for replacement.
- A quint is a combination of a Class A Pumper as well as a Ladder Truck. The need for both is the fire departments highest equipment replacement priority. Currently the Department does not have the ability to access a point on a building over 24' in height. This limits rescue on most 2 story or greater buildings in town. Currently the Ladder Truck in Tillamook is our closest aerial resource. The Quint that has been

identified as the proper vehicle for Rockaway will have a 79' Ladder and be able to access most parts of our multi-level structures.

• The Ladder is also needed to help improve our ISO rating. This rating is used to determine the fire insurance rates paid by homeowners. The system uses a point system to calculate the abilities of the local fire department. Rockaway is currently a protection class 5 on a 1 to 10 scale (a protection class 1 is the best and a 10 is considered no fire protection). With the improvements made to date in training and equipment, the addition of a ladder will lower our ISO rating and citizens will realize a lower fire insurance premium.

#### Tender 21- Pumper/Tender

- 2112 is our current in-service Pumper/Tender
- Vehicle was built in 1993. NFPA guidelines recommend that this apparatus should be removed from service.
- As a pumper/Tender this unit carries 2500 gallons of water and is used in our weaker hydrant areas. The water and pumping ability are valuable for initial fire knockdown while additional personnel and equipment are responding.
- It also carries equipment that a class A engine carries including SCBA's, Hoses, tools, and ladders.
- This unit has the ability to draft water from open water sources, this is important if we are in weak hydrant areas or water demand is higher than what the hydrant system can deliver.

#### Rescue 21

- Medical calls account for over 70% of our call volume.
- 2195 is our current rescue and was built in 2010.
- 2116 is our type 6 brush engine
- 2122 is our type 4 brush engine
- I would recommend when replacing the rescue 2195 that we combine into a unit that is also able to be used as a brush engine.
- This would eliminate 2 vehicles from the fleet reducing redundancy and increasing efficiency.

#### Side by side 21

- The department is currently researching the most efficient ways to respond safely to beach emergencies.
- The purchase of a side by side in 2020 has proved to be a positive addition to our beach response

- The side by side can carry 3 personnel along with rescue gear, medical gear and fire suppression abilities
- Current plans include the surplus of the 4 ATV's and purchasing a second side by side. This will improve both the safety and efficiency of Beach responses.

#### Boat 21

- In 2021 the department purchased a boat and a trailer for flood emergencies and lake rescues
- This unit is currently in service and in excellent condition.

#### NFPA® 1901

#### Standard for

#### **Automotive Fire Apparatus**

#### 2016 Edition

This edition of NFPA 1901, Standard for Automotive Fire Apparatus, was prepared by the Technical Committee on Fire Department Apparatus and acted on by NFPA at its June Association Technical Meeting held June 22–25, 2015, in Chicago, IL. It was issued by the Standards Council on August 18, 2015, with an effective date of September 7, 2015, and supersedes all previous editions.

This document has been amended by one or more Tentative Interim Amendments (TIAs) and/or Errata. See "Codes & Standards" at www.nfpa.org for more information.

This edition of NFPA 1901 was approved as an American National Standard on September 7, 2015.

# Annex D Guidelines for First-Line and Reserve Fire Apparatus

This annex is not a part of the requirements of this NFPA document but is included for informational purposes only.

**D.1 General.** To maximize fire fighter capabilities and minimize risk of injuries, it is important that fire apparatus be equipped with the latest safety features and operating capabilities. In the last 10 to 15 years, much progress has been made in upgrading functional capabilities and improving the safety features of fire apparatus. Apparatus more than 15 years old might include only a few of the safety upgrades required by the recent editions of the NFPA fire department apparatus standards or the equivalent Underwriters Laboratories of Canada (ULC) standards. Because the changes, upgrades, and fine tuning to NFPA 1901 have been truly significant, especially in the area of safety, fire departments should seriously consider the value (or risk) to fire fighters of keeping fire apparatus more than 15 years old in first-line service.

It is recommended that apparatus more than 15 years old that have been properly maintained and that are still in serviceable condition be placed in reserve status; be upgraded in accordance with NFPA 1912; and incorporate as many features as possible of the current fire apparatus standard (see Section D.3). This will ensure that, while the apparatus might not totally comply with the current editions of the automotive fire apparatus standards, many of the improvements and upgrades required by the current editions of the standards are available to the fire fighters who use the apparatus.

Apparatus that were not manufactured to the applicable NFPA fire apparatus standards or that are over 25 years old should be replaced.

- **D.3 Upgrading Fire Apparatus.** Any apparatus, whether in first-line or reserve service, should be upgraded in accordance with NFPA 1912, as necessary, to ensure that the following features are included as a minimum:
  - (1) Seat belts with seat belt warning systems are available for every seat and are new or in serviceable condition.
  - (2) Warning lights meet or exceed the current standard.
  - (3) Reflective striping meets or exceeds the current standard.
  - (4) Slip resistance of walking surfaces and handrails meets the current standard.
  - (5) A low-voltage electrical system load manager is installed if the total connected load exceeds the alternator output.
  - (6) The alternator output is capable of meeting the total continuous load on the low voltage electrical system.
  - (7) Where the gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) is 36,000 lb (16,000 kg) or more, an auxiliary braking system is installed and operating correctly.
  - (8) Ground and step lighting meets or exceeds the current standard.
  - (9) Noise levels in the driving and crew compartment(s) meet the current standard, or appropriate hearing protection is provided.
- (10) All horns and sirens are relocated to a position as low and as far forward as possible.
- (11) Signs are present stating that no riding is allowed on open areas.
- (12) A pump shift indicator system is present and working properly for vehicles equipped with an automatic chassis transmission.
- (13) For vehicles equipped with electronic or electric engine throttle controls, an interlock system is present and working properly to prevent engine speed advancement at the operator's panel, unless either the chassis transmission is in neutral with the parking brake engaged, or the parking brake is engaged, the fire pump is engaged, and the chassis transmission is in pumping gear.
- (14) All loose equipment in the driving and crew areas is securely mounted in accordance with the current standard.

- **D.4 Proper Maintenance of Fire Apparatus.** In addition to needed upgrades to older fire apparatus, it is imperative that all fire apparatus be checked and maintained regularly to ensure that they will be reliable and safe to use. The manufacturer's instructions should always be followed when maintaining the fire apparatus. Special attention should be paid to ensure that the following conditions, which are particularly critical to maintaining a reliable unit, exist:
  - Engine belts, fuel lines, and filters have been replaced in accordance with the manufacturers' maintenance schedule(s).
  - (2) Brakes, brake lines, and wheel seals have been replaced or serviced in accordance with the manufacturers' maintenance schedule.
  - (3) Tires and suspension are in serviceable condition, and tires are not more than 7 years old.
  - (4) The radiator has been serviced in accordance with the manufacturer's maintenance schedule, and all cooling system hoses are new or in serviceable condition.
  - (5) The alternator output meets its rating.
  - (6) A complete weight analysis shows the fire apparatus is not over individual axle rating or total GVWR.
  - (7) The fire pump meets or exceeds its original pump rating.
  - (8) The water tank and baffles are not corroded or distorted.
  - (9) If the apparatus is equipped with an aerial device, a complete test to original specifications has been conducted and certified by a certified testing laboratory.
- (10) If so equipped, the generator and line voltage accessories have been tested and meet the current standard.

#### Conclusion:

This document was intended to provide information about current mission and direction of Rockaway Beach Fire Rescue as well as the Future vision and plan of the fire department. Fire Department operation and services provided will always be in a constant state of review and revision to best meet citizen needs. I am available to answer questions or provide additional information at the council's request. Clear communication, sharing ideas and meeting the needs of our citizens and visitors continue to be our priority.

#### Department Motto:

"The desire to serve"

"The courage to act"

"The ability to perform"

Respectfully Submitted,

Todd Hesse

Fire Chief