



## **CAPITAL CITY FIRE/RESCUE**

820 Glacier Ave  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Date: December 12/30/16

To: Rorie Watt, City Manager

Through: Mila Cosgrove, Deputy City Manager

From: Rich Etheridge, Fire Chief

Re: FY-18 Marine Passenger Fee Funding Request

---

Capital City Fire Rescue respectfully requests FY-18 Marine Passenger Fee Funding for the following two programs:

### **Seasonal BLS/Firefighter Program**

#### ***Project Description:***

This funding pays for 6 permanent seasonal EMTs from April 17 to September 30. Last summer Medic 10 responded to 489 incidents and transported 340 patients. Total incident responses are up by 108 incidents over last year, the number of patients transported are up by 57 patients.

This is an increase of 2 EMT's for this season. The ambulance will be staffed with a total of 3 EMT's in order to stop the past practice of the fire engine or second ambulance responding to the cruise ships. (*unless dictated by severity of incident or size of patient*) The additional EMT is to assist with patient loading and unloading as well as assisting with transporting medical equipment and conducting patient care. With the weight of patients and medical equipment, EMT's are very prone to back injuries without adequate personnel. The high frequency of medical incidents are also shortening the useable life expectancy of the down town fire engine due to the additional 500+ incidents a year it responds to.

This budget request also provides for: training, testing, fuel costs, ambulance repair and maintenance, ambulance cell phone, replacement of consumable medical supplies, and personnel safety equipment for the seasonal employees. (see attached spread sheet)

All new EMT's will need to go through field training as well as being equipped with safety equipment and uniforms. Only one EMT is returning from the previous season.

**TOTAL REQUEST \$322,500.00**

### **Capital City Fire/Rescue (CCFR) Rescue Team Support**

#### ***Project Description:***

In the past, MPF funded the CCFR Air Medevac Program as the majority of the patients have been from the cruise ship. Due to a private air ambulance service being located in Juneau, the service demands on the department have shifted.

Our primary patients from the cruise industry have been cruise ship staff members at the Mendenhall Glacier getting lost or stuck on the West Glacier Trail. This directly benefits the ship; as delays from their staff being rescued could result in the complication of having unaccounted for crew member/s. The most labor intensive

part of these rescues is locating the patients and finding out the most direct and safest access for rescue. After that is determined rescue may be performed by boat, helicopter or ground teams.

When a rescue call to the West Glacier trail occurs, it takes on average 4 to 6 hours to conduct the operation with a minimum of 10 people. During the 2016 season 12 rescues were completed. As none of the people rescued were transported to the hospital, CCFR did not have the ability to recover any costs associated with these incidents.

CCFR requests \$3,000.00 to cover any unrecoverable helicopter rental time, and \$12,000.00 to purchase an unmanned aerial vehicle equipped with a transmitting video camera and infrared sensors. It is estimated this camera can reduce the rescue time by 60% since the safest and most direct access can be located before putting people into the field. It will also increase the safety to the rescuers in the field as they will not be having to scout paths by foot on the steep and slippery terrain. This camera is intended only to be used in this high rescue incident area. It is not intended for any other purpose.

**TOTAL REQUEST \$15,000**