



## LEGISLATIVE MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

**FROM:** Suzanne Sherman, City Manager

**THRU:** Richard E. Stover, Fire Chief

**DATE:** July 18, 2024

**RE:** Consideration of appropriating Undesignated Fund Balance funds to purchase equipment to outfit Engine 9 (\$457,692).

### SUMMARY:

Fire Rescue is requesting \$457,692.00 be transferred from Undesignated Fund Balance to the Fire Rescue General Fund Capital account to purchase equipment (Fire and EMS) to outfit Engine 9 for the Station 9 project in the south end of the city close to Sunrise Elementary School. Purchase of the apparatus for Station 9 and initial project funds were approved by City Council at the May 2, 2024 meeting. The estimate for the equipment includes a contingency to cover potential cost inflation for all necessary equipment. Any savings will be returned.

The impact of the continual and future growth of the City of Palm Bay justifies the need for the fire apparatus and equipment. Currently we are experiencing an 18 plus minute response time in this area of the city. Station 9, Engine 9, and other related cost are a new operational need in the city due to the high demand for services. This expansion of current service levels will be strategically located in areas that are currently experiencing growth. This engine and future station 9 will provide a benefit to new developments along with future residents and businesses of the South end. The need for an engine and equipment at the south end is to enhance Palm Bay Fire Rescue capabilities and allow fire suppression & EMS units to have reliable availability for low to high fire risks in the community.

Palm Bay has experienced a 7% growth since January 2023, and with growth being a focus in all parts of the city for the foreseeable future, this growth impacts the services provided by the Fire Department, particularly with incident operations. As Palm Bay continues to be developed, the need increases for stabilized and consistent response deployment methodology to ensure service demands are improved to accommodate efficient and safe operations on an emergency scene.

**REQUESTING DEPARTMENTS:**

Fire

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The total amount requested from undesignated fund balance is \$457,692.00 and will be transferred, upon approval, to Fire Rescue capital and operational accounts on the next scheduled amendment. This estimate includes a contingency to cover potential cost inflation for all necessary equipment. Any savings will be returned.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Motion to approve a budget appropriation of \$457,692.00 utilizing undesignated funds to purchase equipment for Engine 9.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Equipment List