



NEWS RELEASE

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State of Michigan Pledges Funding to City of Portage for Fire Apparatus

Today, State Senator Sean McCann and State Representative Christine Morse announced funding in the amount of \$1.1 million in the state's Fiscal Year 2023 budget for the purchase of a new aerial-type fire apparatus by the City of Portage. "We are appreciative of the leadership we have at the state level with legislators, Christine Morse and Sean McCann," said Mayor Patricia M. Randall. "This apparatus will assist the Department of Public Safety – Fire Division with keeping both our residents safe, as well as surrounding communities when mutual support is requested."

"Public Safety is the greatest expense in a municipality's operation," said Acting City Manager, Adam Herringa. "Not only is it a result of the need for 24-hour operations but also the need for equipment that can protect multi-story structures and large homes." The new aerial truck is estimated to cost at least \$1.6 million.

The new aerial fire apparatus will replace a 1998 aerial apparatus currently housed at Fire Station No. 1. The new aerial apparatus will be designed with the current and future city plans in mind, and it will contain many updated safety features. Once ordered, the manufacturing and inspection of the new truck are expected to take 18 to 24 months. The existing 1998 apparatus will be retired and sold through an auction service.

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