



Agenda Item: Purchase of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) and Associated Equipment

Submitted by: Charles Marcott, Fire Chief

Staff Recommended Action: Approve all necessary budget amendments to authorize the purchase of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) and associated equipment for the Grand Forks Fire Department at an approximate total cost of **\$702,000**, utilizing cash previously set aside (\$248,157), grant funding (\$453,843), and/or authorized purchasing cooperatives, and authorize City staff to proceed with procurement in accordance with City and state purchasing requirements.

Committee Recommendation: Motion by Weigel, second by Osowski to refer to City Council with recommendation to approve the request. Motion passed unanimously.

Council Action:

BACKGROUND:

The Grand Forks Fire Department (GFFD) relies on Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) as critical life-safety equipment for interior structural firefighting, hazardous materials response, and other immediately dangerous to life or health (IDLH) environments. The department's current SCBA inventory consists primarily of units compliant with the **2007 edition of NFPA 1981**, which are now **two full revision cycles behind current standards** and approaching the end of their service life.

In addition to the age of the SCBA harnesses and facepieces, the department's air cylinders are subject to federally mandated service life limits. A significant portion of the existing cylinders will begin expiring **in mid-2026**, at which point they can no longer be legally or safely used. This creates an urgent operational and safety concern, as expired cylinders would immediately reduce frontline staffing capability and reserve apparatus readiness.

The proposed purchase includes the replacement of SCBA units across frontline apparatus, reserve engines, and reserve aerial apparatus to ensure that the department can safely staff initial

alarms, callback staffing, and extended incidents. Associated equipment includes spare cylinders, Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) packs, and related components necessary to support modern firefighting operations and compliance with current standards.

While the City has previously pursued federal cost-sharing opportunities through the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program, the total replacement need exceeds grant-funded quantities. This staff report requests authorization to complete the full SCBA replacement project to ensure department-wide compliance, redundancy, and long-term operational readiness.

FUNDING DETAILS

Estimated Total Project Cost: Approximately \$702,000

Funding for this purchase will be supported through a combination of grant funding of \$453,842.73 (approved on 10/6/2025), and previously identified one time purchase funding from cash previously set aside in prior budgets for local cost-share of the grant (\$45,384.27) and associated equipment required (\$202,773). Finance staff have reviewed this request and confirmed that funding mechanisms and reserve balances are sufficient to support the purchase while maintaining overall fiscal stability.

This investment replaces aging, end-of-life equipment and avoids escalating maintenance costs, operational risk, and potential service disruptions associated with equipment failure or regulatory non-compliance.

ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS OF FACT

- SCBA equipment is **mission-critical life-safety equipment** required for nearly all interior fire operations.
- The department's current SCBAs are **two NFPA revision cycles out of date**, increasing maintenance challenges and limiting manufacturer support.
- Air cylinders will begin expiring in **2026**, which would immediately reduce operational capability if replacements are not secured.
- Partial replacement creates inconsistent equipment configurations across apparatus, increasing training, maintenance, and safety risks.
- Full replacement ensures:
 - Compliance with current NFPA standards
 - Improved firefighter safety and survivability
 - Standardized equipment across frontline and reserve apparatus
 - Reduced long-term maintenance and repair costs
- Procurement through cooperative purchasing programs or competitively awarded contracts allows the City to obtain government-discounted pricing without the delays of a

full independent bid process, consistent with City policy and North Dakota Century Code.

- Grant Funding for SCBA's approved on 10/6/2025 totaling \$499,227 (\$453,842.73 grant/\$45,384.27 local share) from Assistance to Firefighters Grant.
- General Fund Cash previously set aside in prior budgets still available to cover costs of additional associated equipment being requested (\$202,773).

SUPPORT MATERIALS:

- Prior City of Grand Forks Staff Report – Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) SCBA Replacement
- Grand Forks Fire Equipment Quote



City of Grand Forks
Staff Report
Committee of the Whole -
City Council - October 6, 2025

APPROVED & ACCEPTED
by City Council

10/06/2025

Maureen Storstad
Maureen Storstad
City Auditor

Agenda Item: Acceptance of Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) for Fire Department SCBA Replacement

Submitted by: Charles Marcott, Fire Chief

Staff Recommended Action: Approve acceptance of the FY 2024 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) award for the replacement of the Grand Forks Fire Department's Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) equipment and authorize the Mayor and City staff to execute all required agreements and procurement actions in accordance with federal and City regulations.

Committee Recommendation: N/A

Council Action: Motion by Osowski, second by Berg to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

BACKGROUND:

The Grand Forks Fire Department (GFFD) has been awarded a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) to replace its aging Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) units. The current SCBA units comply with the 2007 version of NFPA 1981 standards that are now two full revision cycles out of date. Additionally, the current air cylinders are expected to begin expiring by mid-2026, creating an urgent need for replacement. The awarded grant will fund the purchase of 48 new SCBA units, each including a harness, facepiece, and two air cylinders, along with Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) packs. The equipment will be distributed across all frontline apparatus, three reserve engines, and one reserve aerial apparatus to ensure full coverage for initial alarms and callback staffing during major incidents.

This project will:

- Bring GFFD into compliance with current NFPA standards.
- Enhance firefighter safety and operational readiness.
- Reduce the city's financial burden through federal cost-sharing assistance.

FUNDING DETAILS

- **Total Project Cost:** \$499,227
- **Federal Share (AFG Grant):** \$453,842.73
- **City Share (Match Requirement):** \$45,384.27
- **Funding Source:** FEMA AFG Grant FY 2024

The AFG grant significantly offsets the cost of critical life-safety equipment, enabling the

department to modernize operations, lessening the impact on the City's general fund

ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS OF FACT

- Current SCBAs are at end-of-life and two NFPA revision cycles behind.
- Cylinders will expire by mid-2026, limiting the department's ability to operate safely.
- New equipment will ensure operational readiness, firefighter safety, and compliance with national standards.

SUPPORT MATERIALS:

- FEMA AFG Grant Award Letter

Award Notification (Application Number: EMW-2024-FG-05404)

From FEMA GO <no-reply@fema.dhs.gov>

Date Wed 9/24/2025 14:37

To Marcott, Charles <CMarcott@grandforksgov.com>

Cc Stjern, Candice <CStjern@grandforksgov.com>; Storstad, Maureen <MStorstad@grandforksgov.com>; jeremyedwards@yourcsd.com <jeremyedwards@yourcsd.com>; Marcott, Charles <CMarcott@grandforksgov.com>

Dear Charles,

Congratulations! Your grant application submitted under the Grant Programs Directorate's Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Assistance to Firefighters Grant has been approved for award.

Please use the FEMA GO system at <https://go.fema.gov> to accept or decline your award. Please note that you will have thirty (30) days from the date of this award notification to either accept or decline the award, and that the award must be accepted or declined by an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) within the FEMA GO system. Instructions for registering within the system and becoming an AOR are available at <https://www.fema.gov/gmm-training-resources>.

Once you are in the system and made an AOR for your organization, your home page will be the first screen you see. You will see a section entitled My Grants. In this section, please select the award acceptance link for EMW-2024-FG-05404 under Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Assistance to Firefighters Grant. View your award package and indicate your acceptance or declination of award. If you wish to accept your grant, you should do so immediately. When you have finished, we recommend printing your award package for your records.

If you have questions on using the FEMA GO system, please reach out to the FEMA GO Help Desk (1-877-585-3242). For programmatic questions about your grant, please reach out to the AFG Helpdesk (firegrants@fema.dhs.gov / 1-866-274-0960).

All recipients are required to comply with FEMA EHP Policy Guidance. This EHP Policy Guidance can be found in [FEMA Policy \(FP\) 108-023-1, Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation Policy Guidance](#).

Sincerely,

Grants Management Branch

Assistance to Firefighters Grants

Department of Homeland Security / FEMA

Grand Forks Fire Equipment LLC

[fax] 701-746-6464
 921 N 3rd St
 Grand Forks ND 58203



Quote

Date	Quote #
1/5/2026	4771

Name / Address
GRAND FORKS FIRE DEPT. 1124 DEMERS GRAND FORKS, ND 58201 Sourcewell contract #939

			Project
Description	Qty	Cost	Total
Your ATO: A-GIFS444MA2C2LCR SYSTEM_PRESSURE4 4500 PSIG CYLINDER_CONNECTION4 CGA Quick Connect Remote Con HARNESS4 Serviceable Tunnel with Ch.S CRADLE_TYPER Metal Band LUMBAR_TYPEA Adjustable Swivel Lumbar Pad REGULATOR_TYPE2 Solid Cover Left Shd. T4 REGULATOR_HOSE_TYPEC Continuous EMERGENCY_BREATHING_SUPPORT2 Universal Extendaire II SPEAKER_MODULEL Left Chest PASSC PASS Telemetry Right Shd BATTERY_TYPER Rechargeable	50	7,407.44	370,372.00
Your ATO: A-GIFS424MA2C2LCR SYSTEM_PRESSURE4 4500 PSIG CYLINDER_CONNECTION2 CGA Threaded Remote Con HARNESS4 Serviceable Tunnel with Ch.S CRADLE_TYPER Metal Band LUMBAR_TYPEA Adjustable Swivel Lumbar Pad REGULATOR_TYPE2 Solid Cover Left Shd. T4 REGULATOR_HOSE_TYPEC Continuous EMERGENCY_BREATHING_SUPPORT2 Universal Extendaire II SPEAKER_MODULEL Left Chest PASSC PASS Telemetry Right Shd BATTERY_TYPER Rechargeable	12	7,212.15	86,545.80
cyl valve, qc, rc 4500 psi, lp	50	1,394.89	69,744.50
#10156426-SP	12	1,693.89	20,326.68
Cyl. Assy, G1, RC, 4500 psig, 60min,Pkgd			
Total			

Customer Signature

Grand Forks Fire Equipment LLC

[fax] 701-746-6464
 921 N 3rd St
 Grand Forks ND 58203



Quote

Date	Quote #
1/5/2026	4771

Name / Address
GRAND FORKS FIRE DEPT. 1124 DEMERS GRAND FORKS, ND 58201 Sourcewell contract #939

			Project
Description	Qty	Cost	Total
#10156426-SP Cyl. Assy, G1, RC, 4500 psig, 60min,Pkgd	11	1,693.89	18,632.79
Fcpc, G1, FS, MD, MD NC, 4PT C-HARN,C-NS	80	459.00	36,720.00
#10206313 G1 RIT System, 4500, FCPC, Regulator, 6-Ft Quick-Fill & ExtendAire II Systems (UEBSS, 2018 ed.), remote gauge, URC, Quick-Connect	2	5,779.45	11,558.90
MSA G1 6 Bank Smart Charger	7	955.00	6,685.00
G1 Rechargeable Battery	28	490.00	13,720.00
#10249972 PremAire System Complete w/Medium G1 Facepiece with rubber harness, 10-minute 3AL, right hip mount with case	4	3,441.18	13,764.72
#10107819 Technical Rescue Cart equipped with Hansen Brass Quick Disconnects	2	8,846.59	17,693.18
#455022 Air-Supply Hose, Neoprene, Brass, 50ft	0	396.12	0.00
hose assy, MP flow test G1	1	0.00	0.00
#10162403 Adapter Assy, QC to 1/4 NPT F, 5000 psig	5	624.77	3,123.85
#10110435 CD-ROM,SCBA TEST SOFTWARE,POSI 3 USB	1	1,573.00	1,573.00
Care certification training	6	1,500.00	9,000.00
cyl, vlv qc g1 rc, 4500 psi 66 cf lp, [no charge item, buy one get one free]	50	0.00	0.00
#10175710 [no charg item, buy on get one free] G1 SCBA Cylinders for Quick-Connect, 4500 psig, 60-min	12	0.00	0.00
#10083875 RFID Tag for programming G1 or M7 SCBAs	62	58.00	3,596.00
Total			

Customer Signature

Grand Forks Fire Equipment LLC

[fax] 701-746-6464
 921 N 3rd St
 Grand Forks ND 58203



Quote

Date	Quote #
1/5/2026	4771

Name / Address
GRAND FORKS FIRE DEPT. 1124 DEMERS GRAND FORKS, ND 58201 Sourcewell contract #939

			Project
Description	Qty	Cost	Total
#10197700 MSA HUB Fireservice - US	1	5,131.75	5,131.75
#10158407 Kit, RFID Reader/Writer, G1	1	955.00	955.00
spectacle kit, G1 facepiece	12	176.00	2,112.00
#10144231-SP G1 APR filter adapter assembly	1	159.25	159.25
#805078 QuikChek III Fit Test Adapter for Advantage 4100 Facepieces	1	215.00	215.00
#496081 OptiFilter XL, Type HE, 6 per package	1	205.00	205.00
#69542 Union Adapter 1/4" NPT x 3/4" UNF, Snap-Tite (AL)	4	24.58	98.32
#630313 Male Plug w/Female 1/4" NPT, Hansen (BR)	4	16.05	64.20
cyl valve, qc, rc 4500 psi, lp [cylinders for RIT pack]	2	1,394.89	2,789.78
#10202459 Manifold Assy, Test, G1, Extendaire Univ	1	328.25	328.25
#10188838 [truck connections] G1 IND AIRLINE ADAPTER, HANSEN, BRASS UN	5	299.00	1,495.00
Snaptite alum locking airline hose connections	12	430.00	5,160.00
		Total	\$701,769.97

Customer Signature _____