

# Sauvie Island Fire District 30

## Future Project's

### **Emergency Vehicles \$570,000 - \$620,000:**

Being partially in Multnomah County, considered part of the metro area, and visited by over 1 million visitors annually, we are financially impacted by the metro population without proper funding to account for this impact.

Our top project priorities is the replacement of our current primary Fire Engine. Our newest and primary Fire Engine is a 1995 engine (26 years old), our second newest Engine is a 1991 (30 years old) which the Fire District acquired used and the reserve Fire Engine was built in 1988 and is the oldest (33 years old) also the Fire District acquired used.

The industry standard and best practice for the service life of a Fire Engine is 10 years as a primary Engine in an urban department and 15 - 20 years as a primary Engine in rural departments. Engines typically over 30 years are retired as they typically exceeded their service life.

We are constantly moving engines around into the primary response position because all are becoming more unreliable with ongoing maintenance issues. We have attempted to save for replacement by having some monies budgeted, but we are constantly trying to catch up with equipment who falls out of mechanical safety and compliance. We have been diligently working to possibly procure a "surplus" Fire Engine for the past 18-months and so far, have been unsuccessful. The average cost of a standard new type 1 structural Fire Engine is between \$450,000 - \$500,000.

Our priority alongside replacing our primary Engine is acquiring a rescue boat and tow vehicle pickup. Because our community is literally an island, responding to water related incidents are not uncommon to our organization. In January, we experienced a rescue in the northern part of the island causing a delayed and difficult rescue. During this incident, we asked, our neighboring Fire agencies to help us. It took two law enforcement marine units and two fire boats from neighboring Fire agencies over two hours to locate and the rescue the three victims. Sauvie Island Fire District was unable to respond due to no water rescue equipment. Due to the need for a Fire Engine replacement and a limited operating budget (approximately \$200,000 annually), we are unable to budget monies to acquire this needed resource.

A large portion of the island is used for recreation (beaches) and wildlife refuge which is marshy, shallow water and at a distance of 21 miles from the closest Fire Station. These conditions make access for timely rescues often impossible. With over 1 million visitors annually, the impact to our organization and neighboring Fire agencies, the need for a rescue boat is becoming critical. A used rescue boat and trailer would cost approximately \$60,000. Our organization would need a four wheel drive, multi-purpose pickup to pull/ transport a rescue boat and access remote areas. The cost to purchase and equip a standard pickup truck is \$60,000.