

SUBJECT: INFORMING THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY OF THE SUBMITTAL OF ANNUAL VOLUNTEER FIRE CAPACITY GRANT APPLICATIONS FROM THE ALASKA STATE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION BY THE CASWELL, SUTTON, TALKEETNA, AND WILLOW FIRE SERVICE AREAS.

AGENDA OF: December 17, 2024

ASSEMBLY ACTION:

Presented to the Assembly 12/17/24 - EMW

AGENDA ACTION REQUESTED: For information only.

Route To	Signatures
Originator	1 2 / 5 / 2 0 2 4 X P a m e l a G r a h a m Signed by: Pamela Graham
Department/Finance Director	1 2 / 5 / 2 0 2 4 X C h e y e n n e H e i n d e l Signed by: Cheyenne Heindel
Borough Attorney	1 2 / 5 / 2 0 2 4 X J A f o r N S Signed by: John Aschenbrenner
Borough Manager	1 2 / 5 / 2 0 2 4 X M i c h a e l B r o w n Signed by: Mike Brown
Borough Clerk	1 2 / 6 / 2 0 2 4 X L o n n i e M c K e c h n i e Signed by: Lonnie McKechnie

ATTACHMENT (S): Grant opportunity announcement (2 pp)
Printout of electronic submittals (5 pp)

SUMMARY STATEMENT: The Volunteer Fire Capacity grant program provides funding assistance for training, supplies, equipment purchases and prevention activities. Fire Services Areas can apply for up to \$10,000.00 in assistance. The Caswell, Sutton, Talkeetna and Willow Fire Services Areas (FSA) have completed the online application. The attached printouts show what each FSA has requested.



October 14, 2024

Dear Volunteer Fire Department:

The Volunteer Fire Capacity (VFC) program, formerly VFA, provides funding assistance in training, supplies, equipment purchases, and prevention activities on a cost share basis. The Volunteer Fire Capacity (VFC) program is available from the USDA Forest Service through the State of Alaska, Division of Forestry. The VFC program may be used for both wildland and structure protection needs. The assistance is provided to increase firefighter safety, improve the firefighting capabilities of rural volunteer fire departments, and enhance protection in the urban-wildland interface. The amount available to apply for is capped at **\$10,000**. The 2025 Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant Program application period will be open from October 14th, 2024 – December 13th, 2024.

Basic Volunteer Fire Assistance Criteria

- Serve a population of 10,000 or less
- Be registered with the Alaska Division of Fire & Life Safety at the time the application is submitted
- Be NIMS Compliant
- Be in compliance with past VFC awards
- Provide documentation of a minimum of 10% matching funds with application

VFC applications will **only** be accepted through the State of Alaska, Division of Forestry's Online Line Application System (OLAS) <https://dnr.alaska.gov/olas/>.

If, as a fire department, you have already registered equipment in OLAS, use the same username and password to access the 2025 VFC Grant Application. If you are new to using OLAS, please register. To register, chose 'Register Now!' on menu bar at top of page. Have your department's Fire Department Identification (FDID) number on hand as it is needed to complete the registration process.

Volunteer Fire Departments (VFDs) will also need to know their State of Alaska (SOA) vendor number to apply. Also be sure your VFD is set up to receive funds electronically from the State of Alaska. Please refer to the 2024-5 VFC Grant Manual on how to obtain and/or find your SOA vendor number. Electronic payment agreement information can also be found in the 2024-5 VFC Grant Manual which can be found online within VFC OLAS and on this web page:

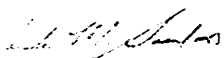
<http://forestry.alaska.gov/fire/vfa>

Once you have registered in OLAS, log in, and go to the menu bar at the top of the page and click 'Volunteer Fire Capacity Grant Program', from there you will be able to apply, view and/or print and sign and upload all relevant documents. While there, review the 2024-5 VFC Grant Manual which includes all VFC criteria as well as the instructions in this letter.

When submitting your 2024-25 application in OLAS, be sure to enter the **correct** SOA vendor number, as awards are issued electronically. Not knowing or entering an incorrect SOA Vendor number and/or not having an EFT agreement in place will cause significant delays in receiving any awarded VFA funding. **Paper checks will no longer be mailed.**

If received, a VFC grant is an award of Federal financial assistance (CFDA # 10.664) and is subject to the OMB guidance in subparts A through F of 2 CFR Part 200 as adopted and supplemented by USDA in 2 CFR Part 400. Adoption by USDA of the OMB guidance in 2 CFR 400 gives regulatory effect to the OMB guidance in 2 CFR 200 where full text may be found. Electronic copies of the CFRs can be obtained at the following internet site: www.ecfr.gov.

Sincerely,



Sarah Saarloos
Fire Staff Officer
State of Alaska - DNR
Division of Forestry
(c) 907-301-0971
sarah.saarloos@alaska.gov



Project Detail Information

10% Minimum Match Requirement

Maximum Funding Award is \$10000.00

NOTE: If awarded a grant, disbursement will be only for items that are listed below. Refer to the manual for instructions on how to get prior approval to make changes to this list of items.

+ Create New Request		Wildland	Structural	Both	Item Description	Cost Per Item	Quantity	Total Cost	Match Type (Cash or In-kind)	Matching Share Amount (10% minimum)
Item Actions ⚙				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1" forestry hose	171.90	10	1,719.00	Cash	171.90
Item Actions ⚙				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 1/2" forestry hose.	183.75	10	1,837.50	Cash	183.75
Item Actions ⚙				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mini-Striker mini pump, single stage fire pump, Honda GXH50 engine, 1 1/2 NPSH outlet.	1,845.00	2	3,690.00	Cash	369.00
Item Actions ⚙	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				Regular size new generation Fire shelter with blue caring case.	624.65	4	2,498.60	Cash	249.86
Item Actions ⚙	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				3/4" x 50' Altra Fore-X-Flo hose.	54.60	10	546.00	Cash	54.60
Item Actions ⚙	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				Tripod sprinkler base with brass impact head.	58.19	8	465.52	Cash	46.55
Item Actions ⚙	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				EZ Flow 2 Way Water control Valve	10.87	8	86.96	Cash	8.70
Totals							52	10,843.58		1,084.36

Grant Funding Requested (Total cost minus 10% fire department match share): \$9,759.22



Project Detail Item successfully updated.

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+ Create New Request										
Item Actions				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	APX-900 handheld portable radio with spare battery, desk charger and speaker mic	3,200.00	3	9,600.00	Cash	960.00
Item Actions				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	APX-900 mobile charging unit	330.00	3	990.00	Cash	99.00
					Totals		6	10,590.00		1,059.00

Grant Funding Requested (Total cost minus 10% fire department match share): \$9,531.00



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Item Actions ⚙️	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Navy Blue 7oz Tecasafe Plus Dual-Compliant Brush Pants	221.00	15	3,315.00	Cash	331.50	
Item Actions ⚙️	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Regular Size New Generation Fire Shelter with Blue Carrying Case and Plastic Liner	631.50	2	1,263.00	Cash	126.30	
Item Actions ⚙️	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Large Size New Generation Fire Shelter with Blue Carrying Case and Plastic Liner	709.50	2	1,419.00	Cash	141.90	
Item Actions ⚙️	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1X100' Coupled 1NPSH Plain 187 Spec Type SJ Hose	155.50	10	1,555.00	Cash	155.50	
					Totals	58	11,147.05		1,147.05	

IM 24-229

+ Create New Request

Wildland Structural Both

Item Description
1.5X100' Coupled
1.5NPSH Plain 187
Spec Type I SJ Hose

Cost Per Item
162.20

Quantity
10

Total Cost
1,622.00

Match Type
(Cash or In-kind)

Cash

Matching Share
Amount
(10% minimum)
162.20

Item Actions  ▾



Item Actions  ▾



Item Description
3.75# Pulaski
Mattock Axe with
36" Wood Straight
Handle

Cost Per Item
68.30

Quantity
5

Total Cost
341.50

Cash

34.15

Item Actions  ▾



Item Description
McLeod Tool, 48"
Handle Forest
Service Spec 5100-
353D

Cost Per Item
103.30

Quantity
6

Total Cost
619.80

Cash

61.98

Item Actions  ▾



Item Description
Fire Swatter with
60" Wood Handle *
NSN: 4210-00-223-
9820

Cost Per Item
65.55

Quantity
5

Total Cost
327.75

Cash

32.78

Item Actions  ▾



Item Description
1.5NHF X 2-
1.5NHM Long
Handle Forestry
Gated Wye

Cost Per Item
228.00

Quantity
3

Total Cost
684.00

Cash

100.74

Totals

58

11,147.05

1,147.05

Grant Funding Requested (Total cost minus 10% fire department match share): \$10,000.00

Return to Grant Application Summary





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Item Actions				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1" Forestry Hose.	171.90	10	1,719.00	Cash	171.90
Item Actions				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 1/2" Forestry Hose.	183.75	10	1,837.50	Cash	183.75
Item Actions				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mini Striker mini pump, single stage fire pump, Honda GXH50 engine, 1 1/12" outlet.	1,845.00	2	3,690.00	Cash	369.00
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Item Actions		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			EZ Flow 2 way water control valve.	10.87	8	86.96	Cash	8.70
Totals							52	10,843.58		1,084.36