



RAPID CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Prepare, Prevent, Protect



To: Mayor Sam Kooiker
From: Fire Chief Mike Maltaverne
Subject: Equipment needs for Public Safety
Date: April 3, 2014

Winter Storm Atlas was a significant event for Rapid City and the surrounding area. During the height of the storm, emergency responders in Rapid City were literally paralyzed. For approximately 14 hours, both Rapid City Police and Fire Departments were physically unable to respond to calls for service due to a lack of vehicles capable of operating in deep snow. Fortunately, there was no loss of life in Rapid City that was attributed to the storm or our inability to respond. In total, 14 West River Counties and two reservations were declared disasters by President Barack Obama.

In the aftermath, FEMA has authorized reimbursement amounts for the City of Rapid City for damages, costs associated with cleanup and our response efforts during the storm. In addition, FEMA is now allowing the City of Rapid City to apply for hazard mitigation grants for projects that would enhance the resiliency of the City should another disaster to occur. After much research, it was determined that "equipment" does not meet the guidelines for a hazard mitigation grant from FEMA. Therefore, the Rapid City Police Department and Rapid City Fire Department have worked jointly to review our response to the storm and identify potential short falls in our preparedness for such an event. The following list represents equipment needs for both Departments. We feel this list of equipment will better prepare public safety and adequately address the demands placed on Police and Fire during a severe winter storm producing deep snow.

BV 206(1)	Tracked Troop Carrier	\$95,000
Removable Tracks (2)	Tracks for Yamaha Grizzly's	\$6,000
Removable Tracks (1)	Tracks for SUV	\$38,000
Removable Tracks (2)	Tracks for John Deere Gator's	\$6,500
Misc. Equipment	Equipment for Type III IMT	\$40,000
Total:		\$185,500

Lastly, an After Action Review was held for City Departments that provide services during storms. These departments have been working jointly to determine how to share resources and facilities and work as one team to meet the needs of the City. It is critical that Police, Fire, Public Works and Parks and Recreation work together to assure we have response capabilities during significant natural disasters



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like a winter storm. Therefore, we fully support Public Works' needs for equipment as it relates to snow and debris removal. During a winter storm, we have identified a Task Force concept that would provide us with a strategy to place fire trucks, police cruisers and snow removal equipment in the same locale, thus allowing the equipment to lead police and fire to specific critical calls for service. In addition, debris removal is critical to restore services like clearing right of ways, opening of streets and restoring power. Parks and Rec and the Fire Department work jointly on debris removal and the need for specialized equipment like a chipper and haul truck is critical to the response and recovery phases.

Thank you for your consideration,

Mike Maltaverne

Fire Chief-Rapid City Fire Department