



GODERICH FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Jeff Wormington
248 Suncoast Drive East • Goderich, ON N7A 4K4

Subject: Proposal for Replacement of Rescue #12

1. Current Status of Rescue #12:

- Rescue #12, a 2004 International 4300 with a Walk-in Rescue body, has exhibited multiple structural concerns which have emerged over recent years. Despite structural repairs to extend its service life, it has reached a stage where replacement is prudent.
- The unit has seen extensive use, and several mechanical failures reported over the past fiscal year. Increasing maintenance requirements have affected our operational readiness. This highlights the urgent need for replacement to ensure reliability and safety in emergency response.
- Additionally, newer equipment required for current operational demands has maxed out the storage capacities of Rescue #12, creating significant challenges in our efforts to optimize response efficiency and safety.

2. Strategic Transition Plan:

- The current front-line pumper, 14 (a 2011 Spartan Metro Star), is nearing its expected operational end by 2026 as per our underwriters. NFPA 1901 recommends the replacement of front-line pumpers after 15 years unless stringent testing is performed to certify them for extended life. Addressing our fleet modernization now, while aligning with these standards, offers strategic benefits.

3. Replacement Cost Considerations:

- A custom-built Rescue vehicle can cost between 628,000–1,000,000 with a minimum wait period of 18 months. This delay rivals the scheduled replacement date for Pumper #14.
- Additionally, a custom cab option increases costs by approximately \$300,000 compared to a commercial cab and reduces seating capacity from 6 to 5 members, which impacts our operational capability.



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4. Proposed Cost-Efficient Solution:

- By introducing a stock pumper (service-ready within 6 months for approximately \$900,000), we could convert Pumper #14 into a Rescue with a cost of approx. \$50,000, deferring its replacement by about 5 years. This would potentially ease the fiscal burden by deferring a large capital expenditure while retaining operational integrity.
- In 5 years, another stock unit could be procured to replace the front-line pumper, allowing the existing unit to transition to a rescue role. This strategic movement would provide a 10-year grace period before any further apparatus purchases are necessary, offering long-term budgeting stability.

5. Operational and Financial Advantages:

- First-responder unit capabilities would improve with an onboard pump integrated into the Rescue truck, aiding in quick responses to vehicular incidents and fires without dependencies.
- Creating a 5-year replacement cycle through this transition mechanism offers substantial long-term savings and operational flexibility.

This strategy positions us well to manage budget allocations conscientiously and improve our emergency response framework for the residents of Goderich and surrounding areas of Central Huron and ACW, effectively balancing needs with fiscal responsibility. Hence, it's deemed our best option for replacement due to costs.

Fire Services Manager/ Fire Chief

Jeff Wormington