

# REPUBLIC TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT



## RESPONSE TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION



Dear Commission Members,

Per our conversation during the meeting on July 16, 2010, asking for the needs of the fire department, we have thought about the needs and categorized them into a system of priorities from most serious to needs that are of less importance.

1) The most serious need that presents itself is the upgrading of the Self Contained Breathing Apparatus. This will include a PASS device, which is an accountability system for life safety. We are currently using mine surplus, of approximately 1980's vintage that is seriously out of date.

2) Currently the department has several outdated vehicles. One needing the most attention is the main line class "A" pumper that is used for structure fires. This is identified as truck no. 1, is of 1987 vintage, and is need of a total refit or replacement with a new apparatus.

3) The department has ropes in need of replacement that are used as lifelines for personnel that enter into a structure for search and rescue purposes. They are tied to the firefighter and lead to the outside in case of disorientation of the firefighter. They are also used in a mayday situation where a firefighter is incapacitated by injury or medical emergency to find them.

4) With the current federal government action concerning bandwidth on the VHF radio band, and the movement to a wide area 800 MHz, the need for radios and pagers returns to the table. This period is compressed due to the

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Republic Township Fire Department

16 August, 2010