



BUDGET MESSAGE
Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Over the last year, there has been many questions regarding the impacts throughout our region based on the current economic situation. For the Fire District things have stayed status quo. The tax funding remains constant much like previous years. The Fire Districts budget remain strong as we continue to take advantage of funding/ grant opportunities. This all helps the Fire District's financial outlook for the future remain secure.

The District's leadership constantly monitors today's ability to provide the quality community base service while keeping an eye on the future. It is with this awareness, the district leadership will continue to provide the tools and plans necessary for long-term stability and service delivery to the residents and visitors to our Island community. It is with pleasure that I share some of the accomplishments from the past year.

Some of the accomplishments for FY22/23 include:

Continuing to train new and existing members to the NFPA Firefighter 1 and to the Emergency Medical Responder levels. This provides a strong foundation for both firefighting and emergency medical services building a base for future District leaders.

A new training plan was put into place based on opportunities provided by Oregon Department of Public Safety, Standards, and Training allowing much of the firefighter academy and other needed training, typically shared by outside instruction, to be taught in-house and in a hybrid curriculum with a more flexible schedule. This will allow more folks to participate in this training.

Purchased wildland firefighting personal protective equipment (PPE) for all firefighters, class A foam, chain saws, and wildland fire hose through grant funds. All firefighters now have required and accordance with best practice, needed PPE for wildland firefighting. This first for the Sauvie Island Fire District, includes each person having their own leather boots and fire escape shelter.

Purchase two new portable fire pumps for wildland and land based marina firefighting through grant funding. These pumps can also be used as "portable fire hydrants" around the island. This gives our crews more opportunity for a water supply from anywhere there is standing water. The final location for these fire pumps are to have one live on each water tender.

Replace ten SCBA cylinders through grant funding allowing our SCBAs to provide a longer service life. One of the limited lifespan components on an SCBA is the cylinder. By replacing our cylinders, we can add years to their usefulness and serviceability.

Order a new fire engine, rescue boat and purchase a tow vehicle through grant funding. These were to be purchased as part of the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funding agreement. The rescue boat should arrive early summer 2023 and the fire engine is not expected until winter of 2024.

Purchased new fire hose so all fire engines will have enough hose to meet current standards and best practice. This purchase was related to part of last year's budget process.

Purchase and build a garden shed for station yard tools and mower. This storage building was needed to free up some of the limited space in the station apparatus bays.

This year will bring about the following anticipated budgetary expenses:

- Sealing the fire station driveway. Long past due.
- Updating station kitchen. This will include updating kitchen storage, upgrade/ replace broken appliances and making the kitchen functional for day to day use.
- Upgrading one water tender with a swivel chute and electric dump valve.
- Replacing worn out chairs in the training room.
- Continue purchasing new firehose to add to and replace worn existing hose.
- Potentially purchasing Type 3 wildland fire engine(s) from Cal Fire.

The Board of Directors and Fire Chief maintain the goal of replacing as much equipment and providing facility updates with grants, donations, trades and unforeseen opportunities in addition to using reserve funds as opposed to bonding for capital replacement. The District remains confident in their financial practices and focus on fiscal responsibility and transparency to the residents of Sauvie Island.

On behalf of the Sauvie Island Fire District membership, I thank you for your continued support and willingness to allow us to serve your community in this vital role.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Lake". The signature is fluid and cursive, starting with a large loop and ending with a long horizontal stroke.

Chris Lake, Fire Chief
Sauvie Island Fire District