



Margate Fire Department

PROUDLY SERVING THE RESIDENTS AND VISITORS OF
THE CITY OF MARGATE
ISO Class 1 Fire Department



Memo

To: Cale Curtis, City Manager

From: Roberto Lorenzo, Fire Chief *Roberto Lorenzo*

Date: August 22, 2022

Subj: Use of Impact Fees for Improvement of Emergency Medical Services and Site Improvements

Margate Fire Department is an ISO Class 1 Department that offers a full-time career Fire and Emergency Medical Services to over 58,000 residents within nine square miles. Our firefighter paramedics respond to approximately 8,500-8,800 calls for service per year from three fire stations.

We have an opportunity to improve our Emergency Medical Services capabilities and make much-needed site improvements on capital projects.

Each of the following requests give merit to utilizing impact fees for the articulated items below.

Improvement/Expansion on Emergency Medical Services

Reference City Code 9.26

Florida State Statute 163.31801

Update: Acquisition of a Rescue Vehicle – We currently provide fire and emergency medical services within the City of Margate. We also have various Automatic and Mutual Aid Agreements with neighboring cities as well as the sheriff's office. The ability to purchase this capital item will support the need to expand the fire department fleet needs; moreover, it will permit additional accessibility to respond to emergency calls for service, as we are a participant in the County closest unit response system.

Acquisition of a Rescue Cart - We currently provide Emergency Medical Services at City sponsored events. An enclosed rescue cart will allow the firefighter paramedics to assess patients and perform procedures in an environment away from all inclement weather and needed privacy. This will have a direct positive impact in every patient outcome by providing faster access to the patient, safer transportation to high pedestrian traffic areas, and significantly less wear on large rescue apparatus. This valuable resource allows for alternate patient transport when access to patient is limited.



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Site Improvement on Capital Projects

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Eight years ago, the firm of Lunz Prebor Fowler Architects performed an architectural and structural review of each of the three fire stations. In their 95-page analysis, they identified key improvements to our fire stations. Listed below are the major summaries:

Station 18 - Built in 1987, this building is 4800 square feet in size and has two bays to house fire apparatus. They identified the lack of a commercial kitchen with protective systems, the lack of a decontamination room for personnel / equipment, privacy concerns regarding sleeping quarters and noted the radio tower, which is subject to heavy wind movement and lightning strikes, immediately next to the station. Short of building a new fire station at a different site, the recommendation is to remodel the existing fire station to increase the interior size, conform to industry standards and bring up to current code the stations life safety systems.

Station 98 - Built in 1997, this building is 9452 square feet in size and has three bays to house fire apparatus. They identified the lack of a separate men/women bathroom and showers. The report also recognized that several areas such as the bunker gear storage, washer/dryer area, the ice machine, the air refill station, and the decontamination area all share the same atmosphere within the bays, exposing them to the elements.

Update: Exterior perimeter camera system at Fire Station 98 and a generator monitoring system at each of all of the fire stations (3).

Update: Exterior doors into the buildings and bi-fold bay doors at the stations, all of which would meet hurricane impact standards.

Update: Acquisition of a portable generator to connect to the fire administration building. This building serves as a backup for the City's EOC and the fire departments command center during large scale events.

Those findings were not adequately addressed and with an additional eight years, further wear and tear of the stations has significantly increased.