



CITY OF PARK RIDGE

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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The Park Ridge Fire Department (PRFD) has been awarded a grant of \$500,000 from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program under the guidance of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to purchase a new fire engine. The AFG Program helps fire departments obtain the equipment they need to do their jobs effectively, including protective gear, emergency vehicles, training, and other resources that help protect the public and emergency personnel from fire and other related hazards. This grant program is highly competitive and PRFD is very fortunate to receive this grant funding. PRFD is responsible for a \$50,000 matching portion of this grant.

The new fire engine will replace one of PRFD's existing engines that is over twenty years old and has logged almost 130,000 miles over its service life. The new engine will be delivered at some point in 2017 and will be assigned to Fire Station 35 at Devon and Cumberland.

PRFD has been actively seeking grant awards every year in an effort to provide much needed equipment and training to its personnel while still trying to minimize our requests from the taxpayers. With this latest grant award, the PRFD has successfully applied for and received over \$1.1 million dollars in just the past three years. This grant is the first ever award for PRFD for a vehicle from the AFG Program, which has been in existence since 2001. Fire Department Executive Officer Paul Lisowski's initiative and diligence were instrumental in the Department securing this grant.

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