



# HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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1. The sponsoring representative's first name:  
Natalie
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:  
Price
3. The cosponsoring representatives' names. All cosponsors must be listed. If none, please type 'n/a.' A signed letter from the sponsor approving the co-sponsorship and a signed letter from the member wishing to co-sponsor are required. Attach letters at question #9 below.  
n/a; local officials' endorsement letters are attached under question #9.
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
City of Berkley
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
3338 Coolidge Hwy, Berkley, MI 48072
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:  
2395 12 Mile Rd, Berkley, MI 48072
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:  
6th House District
8. Purpose of the legislatively directed spending item. Please include how it provides a public benefit and why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funding. Please also demonstrate that the item does not violate Article IV, S 30 of the Michigan Constitution.  
Engine 4 is a 2007 Spartan Darley fire engine with a 1500 gpm pump and a 1000-gallon water tank. It is our main front-line fire engine that responds to all emergency incidents within the City of Berkley and to mutual aid requests from other communities within Oakland County. Engine 4 is equipped with a compressed air foam system (CAFS) that incorporates an air and foam

mixture to further aid in fire suppression activities. However, in the spring of 2023, the onboard generator caught fire, causing significant damage to the airline, electrical wiring, CAFS system, and the onboard generator. Due to the age of the fire truck, our insurance carrier chose not to replace the generator due to the cost (\$12-15,000). The generator supplied power to our scene lights, which illuminated the emergency scene for personnel safety. The CAFS system is also inoperable since the generator was removed from the fire truck.

In addition to fire suppression equipment, Engine 4 carries our vehicle extrication tools (Jaws of Life), our electric vehicle fire blanket, specialized rescue and stabilization equipment, and our rapid intervention tools. Engine 4 is vital to our emergency response capabilities. Due to the age of the apparatus, mileage, and hours on equipment and components, Engine 4's maintenance cost is climbing each year due to normal wear and tear. Fortunately, due to our short responses in terms of mileage and aggressive preventive maintenance schedule, Engine 4 is in far better shape for its age compared to other agencies. The engine has a limited market where another agency would explore the possibility of purchasing it to place into service as a limited-use reserve apparatus.

When Engine 4 was purchased in 2007, it was purchased as a demo fire truck through Circle K in Midland, Michigan. Due to its use as a demo truck, it came to the City of Berkley with miles and hours already on the unit from being demonstrated at other fire departments around Michigan. The purchase price back in 2007 was under \$400,000, but currently, in 2025, costs for fire trucks have increased dramatically. Replacing the current Engine 4 with a similar new fire engine costs \$1.1 million. Manufactured lead times to build and deliver a new fire truck have also increased to approximately 18 months to begin the manufacturing from the date of hire to 30 months for the delivery of the completed fire truck. Engine 4 is 18 years old, and purchasing a new replacement fire engine as of today's date would likely have a future anticipated

delivery  
in the spring of 2028, making the current Engine 4 21 years old. The National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) standard 1901 states that apparatuses should be moved from front-line service after 15 years of age and from all emergency services after 25 years.

The \$1.1 million will be used to design, build, and deliver the new fire truck to our Public Safety Building, bringing us into compliance with the NFPA. Our leadership team within the Department of Public Safety, with the support of our fire truck committee, will be the point people for this project. This truck will allow Berkley Public Safety to maintain the safety of our community and help other municipalities in our region respond to emergencies by having equipment that is up to date.

9. **Attach documents here if needed:**

Attachments added to the end of this file.

10. **The amount of state funding requested for the legislatively directed spending item.**

1100000

11. **Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received any of the following types of funding? Check all that apply.**

["None"]

12. **Please select one of the following groups that describes the entity requesting the legislatively directed spending item:**

Local unit government

13. **For a non-profit organization, has the organization been operating within Michigan for the preceding 36 months?**

Not applicable

14. **For a non-profit organization, has the entity had a physical office within Michigan for the preceding 12 months?**

Not applicable

15. **For a non-profit organization, does the organization have a board of directors?**

Not applicable

16. For a non-profit organization, list all the active members on the organization's board of directors and any other officers. If this question is not applicable, please type 'n/a.'

n/a

17. "I certify that neither the sponsoring representative nor the sponsoring representative's staff or immediate family has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the legislatively directed spending item."

Yes, this is correct

18. Anticipated start and end dates for the legislatively directed spending item:

Start Date: 11/2/2025; Expected Date of Arrival: 11/2027

19. "I hereby certify that all information provided in this request is true and accurate."

Yes

March 31, 2025

Dear Representative Price,

I am writing in support of the \$1.1 million funding request to replace the City of Berkley's aging front-line fire engine (Engine 4). This investment represents a critical public safety priority with regional impact.

Engine 4's current status presents significant operational concerns. In service for 18 years, it exceeds the National Fire Protection Agency's 15-year front-line service standard. It was purchased as a "demo" unit with pre-existing wear on both chassis and pump systems. Generator failure in spring 2023 resulted in fire damage to critical response equipment, and insurance declined to replace the generator, rendering its compressed air foam system (CAFS) inoperable and compromising firefighting capabilities. Additionally, rising maintenance costs are becoming prohibitive despite aggressive preventative maintenance efforts.

This apparatus serves as the primary emergency response vehicle for all Berkley incidents while also supporting mutual aid throughout Oakland County. It carries essential life-saving equipment including Jaws of Life extrication tools, electric vehicle fire suppression systems, specialized rescue and stabilization equipment, and rapid intervention tools for firefighter safety.

The City of Berkley cannot afford to delay this replacement, as manufacturing lead times for new fire apparatus currently extend up to 30 months. This funding requested will enable the department to transition Engine 4 to a limited reserve role with another agency while ensuring Berkley's emergency response capabilities meet current safety standards.

This investment directly enhances public safety outcomes throughout Oakland County through improved reliability, expanded capabilities, and alignment with national safety standards.

Thank you for your consideration of this essential public safety request.

Sincerely,



**Charlie Cavell, Commissioner**  
District 19  
Oakland County Board of Commissioners



# CITY OF BERKLEY

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

2395 TWELVE MILE RD, BERKLEY, MICHIGAN 48072

March 31, 2025

Dear Representative Natalie Price,

I am writing in support of the \$1.1 million funding request to replace the City of Berkley's aging front-line fire engine (Engine 4). This investment represents a critical public safety priority with regional impact.

Engine 4's current status presents significant operational concerns:

- In service for 18 years, exceeding the National Fire Protection Agency's 15-year front-line service standard
- Purchased as a "demo" unit with pre-existing wear on both chassis and pump systems
- Generator failure in Spring 2023 resulted in fire damage to critical response equipment, and insurance declined to replace the generator
- Compressed air foam system (CAFS) now inoperable due to generator failure, compromising firefighting capabilities
- Rising maintenance costs despite aggressive preventative maintenance efforts

This apparatus serves as the primary emergency response vehicle for all Berkley incidents while also supporting mutual aid throughout Oakland County. It carries essential life-saving equipment including:

- Jaws of Life extrication tools
- Electric vehicle fire suppression systems
- Specialized rescue and stabilization equipment
- Rapid intervention tools for firefighter safety

Our community cannot afford to delay this replacement, as manufacturing lead times for new fire apparatus currently extend up to 30 months. This funding will enable the department to transition Engine 4 to a limited reserve role with another agency while ensuring Berkley's emergency response capabilities meet current safety standards.

This investment directly enhances public safety outcomes for both our residents and neighboring communities through improved reliability, expanded capabilities, and alignment with national safety standards.

Thank you for your consideration of this essential public safety request.

Chief Matt Koehn

Berkley Director of Public Safety/Oakland County Tactical Consortium President



Village of Beverly Hills  
Public Safety Department  
18600 West Thirteen Mile Road  
Beverly Hills, MI 48025  
248-540-3400

March 31, 2025

Representative Natalie Price  
House of Representatives  
PO Box 30014  
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Representative Price,

I am writing to you in support of the \$1.1 million funding request for the City of Berkley to replace their aging front-line fire engine, Engine 4. Without this investment a critical public safety void will exist at the local and regional level.

Engine 4 currently has notable major deficiencies that present significant operational and reliability concerns. They include:

- Having been in service for 18-years, it now exceeds the National Fire Protection Agency's 15-year front-line service standard outlined in NFPA 1911 due to the age of the vehicle.
- It was purchased as a "demo" unit with pre-existing wear on both the chassis and pump system
- A generator failure resulted in the vehicle catching fire which damaged response equipment, and insurance declined to replace the generator; so the apparatus is not fully functional as designed or as needed for response
- The Compressed Air Foam System (CAFS) is now inoperable due to the generator fire and resulting failure, compromising firefighting capabilities, as well as the safety of firefighters and the public
- Remarkable rising maintenance costs that are unsustainable for the City of Berkley despite their aggressive preventative maintenance efforts.

This apparatus serves as the main emergency response vehicle for all Berkley fire incidents and supports an initial fire response for the Village of Beverly Hills, and the Cities of Huntington Woods and Oak Park as part of an Automatic agreement. Furthermore, it responds to mutual aid requests to all of the 41 fire departments throughout Oakland County. In addition to functioning as a front-line fire suppression apparatus, it carries such essential life-saving equipment that includes the Jaws of Life extrication tools, electric vehicle fire suppression systems, specialized rescue and stabilization equipment, and rapid intervention crew tools for firefighter safety. This versatility of purpose is what makes Engine 4 so important to our regional response plans, and Beverly Hills has come to rely on its close proximity.

Berkley simply cannot afford to delay the replacement of this necessary lifesaving equipment, as manufacturing lead times for new fire apparatuses are currently extending to 30 months. The funding they are requesting will enable the department to transition Engine 4 to a limited reserve role with another agency while ensuring Berkley's emergency response capabilities meet current safety standards.

This funding award will allow the department to safely respond to all emergencies in the city as well as to automatic and mutual aid requests in a timely manner, compliant with all national and state laws and standards. The cost/benefit of this investment is significant and will directly enhance emergency response outcomes for the public in Berkley, Beverly Hills and all of the communities in Oakland County through current safety compliance, improved reliability, and expanded capabilities. Thank you for your consideration to support this essential public safety funding request.

Sincerely,

Lieutenant Robert Ginther, Fire Marshal  
Beverly Hills Department of Public Safety