



Saginaw Fire Department

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DOUG SPEARS
FIRE CHIEF

TO: City Manager Gabe Reaume

FROM: Fire Chief Doug Spears

DATE: November 13, 2019

RE: SCBA Equipment Disposal/Donation

We have recently completed the transition to our new Self Contained Breathing Apparatus or SCBAs and all the new associated breathing air equipment. We have removed from service, inventoried and packaged our old breathing air equipment and are now prepared to properly discard it.

We are seeking approval to donate our old breathing air equipment through the Helping Hands program administered by the Texas Forestry Service. The purpose of the Helping Hands program is to collect gently used fire equipment and redistribute it to registered and eligible volunteer fire departments throughout the State who are permitted to still utilize equipment that career fire departments may be prohibited from using due to exceeding the regulated service life expectancy or who have otherwise replaced equipment with useful life still remaining. We have donated expiring equipment through the Helping Hands program on previous occasions, primarily our PPE/bunker gear.

Donating equipment through the Helping Hands program eliminates the liability issue associated with donating used fire equipment directly to another fire department. The liability relief is provided through enacted State House Bill 680.

Included in the equipment are 24 SBCAs, approximately 16 of which are still operational and will be able to be utilized by a volunteer organization while others can be used for parts, 60 SCBA masks with approximately 30 still in fair and usable condition, and 60 various SCBA bottles with most within one to two years of definitive end of service life.

Attached is the donated equipment inventory list, the required donation form and an explanatory letter from the Forest Service.

It is my recommendation that we dispose of the listed equipment through donation to the Texas A&M Forest Service Helping Hands program.