

LADDER TRUCK COMMITTEE REPORT

QUESTION PRESENTED

- Whether the public safety needs of the Town of Gray require the replacement of the current ladder truck?

CURRENT LADDER TRUCK

- Identified as Truck 44
- 1996 Ferrara/HME/LTI
- 75 foot aerial platform
- 500 gallon water tank
- 1250 gpm water pump
- Carries ground ladders, water supply hose, fire attack hose, lighting equipment, power saws, powered fans and hand tools
- Large complement of ground ladders, special tools and equipment required by NFPA 1901 to be carried on an aerial apparatus; Department's other apparatus not capable of taking on this additional load



AERIAL PLATFORM APPLICATIONS



- Access to elevated structures
- Access to areas that cannot support ground ladders
- Access to vehicles/people needing assistance up or down an embankment
- Elevating a master stream of water or large volume nozzle
- Overhead access to rail cars or semi-trailers
- Access to persons in trouble working in bucket trucks/lifts/tree work

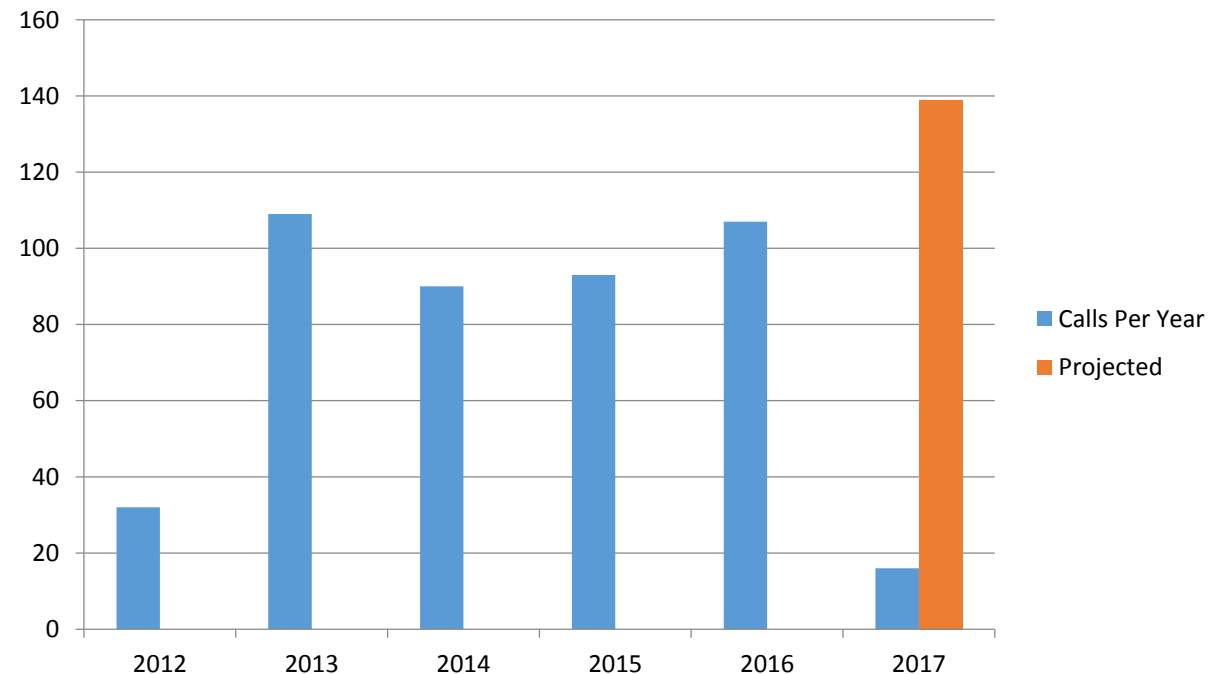
FIREFIGHTER SAFETY

- Minimizes the need to carry heavy tools and equipment up ground ladders
- Aerial platform provides safe working platform with tools already on board



MUTUAL AID

- Truck 44 averaged approximately 100 calls/year during 2014-16
- Approximately 30% were out of town calls
- On average, about 50% of out of town calls cancelled en route



OPTIONS EVALUATED

- Continue to Use Current Ladder Truck As-Is
- Refurbish Current Ladder Truck
- Purchase New Ladder Truck
- Share a New Ladder Truck with Another Town or Towns

USE CURRENT TRUCK AS-IS

- Truck 44 is 21 years old and has exceeded its 20 year life expectancy
- Availability of replacement parts is an issue
- Likelihood of catastrophic failure increases with age

REFURBISH CURRENT TRUCK

- Estimate to refurbish aerial portion of truck: \$235-280K
- Truck would be out of service for 9+ months
- No estimate for engine, drive train, chassis, cab, body, water pump, and tank: incremental cost unknown

PURCHASE NEW LADDER TRUCK

- Newer safety features and equipment
- Latest NFPA Safety Standards
- Latest state and federal motor vehicle safety standards
- No additional personnel required
- Operating cost comparable to current truck
- No anticipated lapse in ladder truck availability
- Trade-in value of current truck
- Estimate cost of new ladder truck: \$1.4M

SHARE NEW LADDER TRUCK

- Cost sharing: purchase; operation; maintenance; repair
- Where truck will reside
- Response time impact
- Reallocation of Fire & Rescue Assets
- Town Manager exploring surrounding towns' level of interest

RECOMMENDATION

- Purchase new aerial fire equipment to replace Truck 44