Public Presentation
Selkirk Fire District
Building Project
NOVEMBER, 2018
Background

- Four studies over the last 10 years (all available on website) have pointed to the need

- Four decision factors:
  - Determine operational needs
  - Assess issues with health and safety of firefighters
  - Confirm that facility locations meet the needs of the community and the volunteer firefighters
  - Ensure cost efficiency for Selkirk taxpayers
Selkirk Fire District:
- Largest in Bethlehem
- Includes 7 miles of NYS Thruway and the Hudson River.
- Covers much of the industry in the Town including Sabic, GE and CSX
- Has approximately 50 volunteer firefighters located at three fire stations (Selkirk, Glenmont and South Bethlehem)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Square Miles</th>
<th>2018 Annual Budget</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Selkirk</td>
<td>29.8 (60%)</td>
<td>$1,533,326</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delmar</td>
<td>8.407 (17%)</td>
<td>$1,046,025</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elsemere</td>
<td>5.458 (11%)</td>
<td>$949,681</td>
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<tr>
<td>Slingerlands</td>
<td>4.232 (9%)</td>
<td>$634,213</td>
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<tr>
<td>N. Bethlehem</td>
<td>1.675 (3%)</td>
<td>$564,851</td>
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Selkirk Fire District
60% of the Town Area
32% of the Town Fire Taxes
SFD – Volunteer Hours

Through September 2018:
• 8,175 volunteer hours for fire calls and drills
Station #1
126 Maple Ave. in Selkirk

Station #2
301 Glenmont Rd. in Glenmont

Station #3
480 Bridge St. in South Bethlehem
Operational Needs

- Up-to-date firefighting equipment, technologies and practices to protect residents’ lives and property
- NFPA compliance
- Gender equality
- Better energy efficiency of building and systems
- Office space (District offices are currently in a trailer)
- Flexibility and expansion for the next 50+ years
- Additional community space for local groups
- ADA compliance
INCREASING IMPORTANCE OF TRAINING
requires more frequent and more intense training to support the ever more complex missions.
Health & Safety of Volunteer Firefighters

- Improvements needed to protect current and future volunteer firefighters
- Concerns include limited ventilation and areas to decontaminate, limited space to perform maintenance and to “gear up”
- Firefighters must stop traffic to back trucks into stations
- Recruiting volunteers in the coming years will be difficult without changes
Locations

- Property became available to SFD which works with the plan (based on previous studies) and was able to be purchased at a discount

- The new property meets criteria for a location:
  1. It must meet the current and future demands of the district
  2. It must maintain or improve response time
  3. It must be affordable
Costs

Based on decision factors:

1. Rehabbing the three current facilities will not be enough to provide for the future needs of the department. A fourth building would still be needed.

2. The costs to rehab the three current stations and build a smaller fourth facility (Plan A) will be greater than the cost to rehab two of the stations and build a larger building at the new site to replace one of the current buildings (Plan B).

3. The cost to phasing this project in over time will be significantly greater than doing it all at once.
Plan A vs. Plan B

- Studies of SFD needs indicate a total need of approximately 47,000 square feet
- SFD’s preference – Plan A – was to retain all three current facilities, rehab and build them out to their maximum capacity. That resulted in, at most, 42,000 square feet, resulting in the need for the construction of a fourth facility.
- Estimated costs for Plan A are approximately $21 million
- Plan B includes:
  - Construction of a HQ building on new property already purchased on Rt. 9W
  - Reconstruction of Station 2 and renovations at Station 3
  - Efficiencies reduced square footage to 45,066
  - Total cost of $17.65 million
New HQ Building
New HQ Building
New HQ Building
New HQ Building
Public Outreach

• Since 2016, SFD has reached out to the public about this project in a number of manners:
  • Small group meetings
  • Open houses in November 2017
  • Displays at public events
  • Five public mailings

• The SFD website has been continuously updated to provide ALL project information, background studies, etc. Information from this week’s meetings will be on the website ASAP and a document recapping Q&A will also be available.
Response Time Impacts

- Based on 2017 call data (301 total calls but 21 calls with insufficient addresses were removed)
  - 80.7% of 2017 calls would have seen improved response time if HQ Building on Rt. 9W was utilized
  - 3.93% would have the same response time
  - Of the 15.36% of total calls which would see longer response times, 51.16% (or 7.86% of the total calls) would be within two minutes or less of the current response time
  - A total of 92.5% of the calls would see an improved call time or be no worse than two minutes longer

- Of the 56 members in 2017 (only 55 with usable addresses)
  - 70.91% could respond faster to the new HQ building
  - 10.9% would have the same response time
  - 12.73% would have a longer response time but by less than two minutes
  - 94.55% of members would see an improved response time or be no worse than two minutes longer
Project Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
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<td>Referendum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction Documents</td>
<td>12/11</td>
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<td>Bidding &amp; Mobilization</td>
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<td>Construction of Station 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction of Station 2</td>
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Summary of Impacts

- Based on studies of previous years’ calls and current members’ residences, there will be virtually no impact on response time.
  - Future response time could be improved as development continues in the southern end of town.
- New firehouses will make volunteer firefighters safer, making it easier to recruit and retain volunteers, avoiding the cost of a paid staff (which will still require the same safety modifications).
- New facilities will allow SFD to purchase and utilize modern firefighting equipment without costly modifications, improving ability to protect lives and property of district residents.
Summary of Impacts

- Project is designed to provide additional community space to Town groups and serve as a safe zone for students at A.W. Becker.
- Total cost of the project ($17.65 million) is offset by the sale/rental of current Station 1 property and additional land on Rt. 9W. Cost will be less than $100/year for the average resident homeowner.
For More Information

www.selkirkfd.org