

The current supervisor response vehicle is a 2008 F-250 with a primary purpose of carrying extrication equipment. The Ford was scheduled to be replaced 2 years ago per the established replacement schedule. At that time, it was decided that we did not want to replace the Ford with another truck because we were looking at an alternative way to deploy the extrication equipment in times of need. However, the truck is bulky in nature and gets less than desirable gas mileage. At this time, I do not see the EMS department being able to do away with extrication equipment. The county fire departments are all volunteer and in many circumstances are unable to respond to calls. It is important that the extrication equipment be available in a timely manner. After pondering the decision not to replace the Ford, it would benefit the department and Franklin County to have a vehicle that can be responded on all calls that is newer, lower in mileage, lighter, and with better gas mileage.

In 2016, FCEMS responded to 3543 calls, only 308 (9%) of these calls were motor vehicle accidents. Less than 50 of those 308 calls required any form of extrication. With such a low incidence of needed, EMS does not need to respond with extrication equipment every call. In turn, it would be a better option to have a protocol to follow as to when the Ford should respond with extrication equipment.

The 2008 Ford is more expensive to operate than the Ford Explorers that we currently own. The Explorers have been used to get patients from their house to awaiting ambulances in situation where mud or snow prevents an ambulance from getting to the location. This is not an option with the Ford because of the space needed to contain the needed medical equipment should the Ford be the first to arrive on-scene. The Explorers have the hatch back to solve this problem of space.

I have found a used 2013 Tahoe that has 39,000, miles on it. This Tahoe has been used as the Division Chief vehicle for Andover Fire. The Tahoe is already outfitted with emergency lighting and a command cabinet in the rear to handle and secure EMS gear. Additionally, this cabinet would serve as a perfect command station should the county experience a mass casualty incident. The Tahoe is available for purchase for \$30,000. I have researched the cost of buying a new Tahoe and outfitting it with the needed equipment. The cost would be up to \$45,000 for these vehicles.

It is my recommendation that we keep the Ford as a rescue truck, and use it to respond to possible accidents where extrication may be needed. Additionally, the 2013 Tahoe should be purchased allowing the Tahoe to be utilized as a supervisor response vehicle. This will extend the life of the Ford and ultimately enhance the budget since it would not need replacement. Knowing the high cost of trucks, I will continue to work on other solutions to get extrication gear on the calls that need it when the Ford is no longer an option.