



HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

1. The sponsoring representative's first name:
Betsy
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:
Coffia
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.
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
Glen Lake Fire Department
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
6401 W. State St Glen Arbor, MI 49636
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:
n/a.
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:
Betsy Coffia - 103rd 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. The Glen Lake Fire Department currently owns a 2006 Pierce ladder truck with a 105' aerial ladder that responds to numerous emergencies throughout our coverage area and the surrounding townships. The ladder truck has greatly benefited the department during its tenure and has been requested to assist various fire agencies in Leelanau County and other surrounding counties. The ladder truck is now 19 years old and over the past five years it has begun to show its age. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1911, the serviceable lifespan for a ladder truck is 25 years. Once the 25-year

mark is reached “the fire apparatus should be retired” and “any truck over 20 years old will see no value from upgrading”.

In the last three years the ladder truck has been removed from service and sent for repair numerous times. These combined trips to the repair shop typically see the truck out of service for several weeks to a few months which has amounted to approximately one year of the last three-year period. During this time, the department has spent over \$55,000 which has been financially taxing. Some of the issues they have had involve various sensors, various hydraulics, the chassis air system which runs the pumps, the pump gear box, and the retractable stabilizing arms to name a few. Some of these issues are complicated by the fact that parts for this truck are no longer available. The department has had emergency calls where the ladder truck would have been very useful but, due to concerns over the ability to safely operate the truck, it was decided not to have it respond.

The purpose of this funding proposal is to purchase a new ladder truck for the Glen Lake Fire Department to serve both residents and millions of annual visitors. They are requesting funds at this time because, according to sales representatives from various truck manufactures, delivery could be upwards of four years and the department hopes to replace the current truck before it reaches its 25-year serviceable lifespan. Additionally, they intend to keep the current truck operational until delivery but realize that may not be possible and the department may have to operate without this useful piece of equipment until such time as a new truck can be acquired.

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.

2070000

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 fire department

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:

ASAP

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

Yes



6053 S Glen Lake Rd / POBox 260 Glen Arbor, MI 49636 231.334.3000 jeff@northwoodshardware.com

2/10/2025

Glen Lake Fire Department
PO Box 212
Glen Arbor, MI

Letter of Support for Ladder Truck Appropriations Request

Dear Glen Lake Fire Department,

'Northwoods Hardware Home Garden & Nursery' and our Team of employees are proud to share our support for your appropriations request to the State of Michigan for the purchase of a new ladder truck. We have many contractors and Do-It-Yourselfers coming to the hardware. We understand firsthand the importance of having the proper tools – large or small – in order to get the job done with safety and with care.

We have the pleasure of being able to serve and more importantly, getting to know the many Fire and EMT professionals. We are so very fortunate to have the Glen Lake Fire Department support across the communities of Glen Lake, Glen Arbor and Empire.

We can only imagine the importance of having updated and reliable equipment when dealing with community emergencies. Our communities continue to grow and with this growth, the buildings become larger and more complex. Given the current ladder truck is 19 years old, and the time the process takes to secure the new truck, we can certainly understand the importance of planning and preparation.

We greatly appreciate the Glen Lake Fire Department's service to our communities, and we would like to request the State of Michigan to support this request on behalf of all of the communities that will benefit from this added protection.

Sincerely,

Jeff Gietzen

Owner Northwoods Hardware Home Garden & Nursery



January 31, 2025

Glen Lake Fire Department
PO Box 212
Glen Arbor, MI 49636

Friends,

Let me begin by saying that I am honored to be asked to support the Glen Lake Fire Department's plan for purchasing a new ladder truck. I say that because my family and our business have worked with and been helped by the department for more than 50 years.

In the early years, it was an all-volunteer department headed by Frank Basch, who was also head of maintenance at our property. Today, it is larger, better-equipped, professionally staffed organization. That, of course, is a significant change.

In contrast, there are two things that have not changed. One is the willingness to do what needs to be done, regardless of risk, to protect people and property in our community. The other is attitude - it has always been positive.

By copy, I am asking the associations who represent the one-thousand families who own property here to join me in supporting the department.

Please feel free to contact me should you wish to discuss our unqualified support for the department and men and women in it.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Kuras
President

CC: Association Presidents

FY 25-26 Appropriations Request

Date: March 7, 2025

Name of project: Aerial Truck- Glen Lake Fire Department

Project location: Glen Lake Fire Department
6401 W. State St
Glen Arbor, MI 49636

Counties served: Leelanau County
Serving Glen Arbor and Empire Townships

Funding recipient(s): Glen Arbor Township (DBA- Glen Lake Fire Department)
(include any associated lobbying, consulting, or public relations firms, if applicable)

Requestor type of organization: Local Fire Department
(nonprofit, local unit of government, etc.)

Amount of state funding requested: \$2,070,000.00

Total cost of project: \$2,300,000.00

Boilerplate section: _____

State department to disperse funds: _____

Primary contact: Nate Perdue

Position/relationship to the project: Lieutenant

Phone number: Work: (231) 334-3279
Cell: (231) 835-1589

Email address: nateperdue@glenlakefire.org

Project description and funding proposal purpose:

The Glen Lake Fire Department currently owns a 2006 Pierce ladder truck with a 105' aerial ladder that responds to numerous emergencies throughout our coverage area and the surrounding townships. The ladder truck has greatly benefited our department during its tenure and has been requested to assist various fire agencies in Leelanau County and other surrounding counties. Our ladder truck is now 19 years old and over the past five years it has begun to show its age. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1911, the serviceable lifespan for a ladder truck is 25 years. Once the 25-year mark is reached "the fire apparatus should be retired" and "any truck over 20 years old will see no value from upgrading".

In the last three years the ladder truck has been removed from service and sent for repair numerous times. These combined trips to the repair shop typically see the truck out of service for several weeks to a few months which has amounted to approximately one year of the last three-year period. During this time, we have spent over \$55,000 which has been financially taxing. Some of the issues we've had involve various sensors, various hydraulics, the chassis air system which runs the pumps, the pump gear box, and the retractable stabilizing arms to name a few. Some of these issues are complicated by the fact that parts for this truck are no longer available. The department has had emergency calls where the ladder truck would have been very useful but, due to concerns over the ability to safely operate the truck, it was decided not to have it respond.

The purpose of this funding proposal is to purchase a new ladder truck for the Glen Lake Fire Department. We are requesting funds at this time because, according to sales representatives from various truck manufactures, delivery could be upwards of four years. We hope to replace the current truck before it reaches its 25-year serviceable lifespan. Additionally, we intend to keep the current truck operational until delivery but realize that may not be possible and the department may have to operate without this useful piece of equipment until such time as a new truck can be acquired.

Description of funding proposal's public benefit and the need for state funding:

The Glen Lake Fire Department serves the Townships of Glen Arbor and Empire in western Leelanau County. According to the 2020 census each of these Townships have a total population of less than 800 residents. These numbers are misleading because both townships are surrounded by the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore which annually brings over 1.5 million visitors to our service area and the National Park Service relies on the Glen Lake Fire Department to respond to numerous and varied calls. Additionally, the populations of each of these townships increase to nearly 5,000 as the many summer residents return for the summer season. A new and reliable ladder truck will benefit not only the citizens, summer residents, and visitors to our service area but all of Leelanau County and even neighboring counties. Our current ladder truck is 1 of only 2 ladder trucks in Leelanau County. It is frequently requested by neighboring agencies for both fire and technical rescue related calls. Regionally our ladder truck is listed on the 3rd alarm for every commercial structure fire in Grand Traverse County, regardless of the department.

Our MABAS division consists of several agencies within the region who utilize their resources and apparatus to respond to emergencies throughout the State, if requested. If the State needed a Ladder Strike Team, we believe our ladder truck would likely be requested. While that has not yet happened, we anticipate that our ladder truck would be one of the first to be requested in our MABAS division.

In the early 2000's, the Glen Arbor Fire Department, dba Glen Lake Fire Department, moved into a new, larger fire station, transitioned to full-time municipal Fire/EMS staff and merged with

Empire Township to cover their Fire and EMS needs. This period of rapid growth resulted in the purchase and donation of several vehicles over a short period of time. Unfortunately, this means that several vehicles are reaching their life expectancy at the same time. A new engine was purchased in 2023, and the department currently has a mini pumper truck and a new ambulance on order. The mini pumper will replace two of our current vehicles and will make servicing homes with narrow driveways much easier. Delivery of the mini pumper is expected in the fall of 2026 and the ambulance delivery is expected in early 2027. A tanker truck, engine, and ladder truck all need to be replaced by 2030. These necessary purchases are putting a strain on our capital budget and the department finds itself with a lack of capital funds for the ladder truck which is currently priced at \$2.3 million. We considered applying for FEMA's Fiscal Year 2024 Assistance to Firefighters Grant program but that grant is capped at \$1 million and we are unable to fund the remaining \$1.3 million. In our rural vacation area with many multi-story homes and several multi-story, multi-unit condos a ladder truck is critical to the department's ability to adequately serve the community.

A copy of our capital vehicle replacement plan is attached. Since 2020 the department purchased a new ambulance and a new engine. We currently have a mini-pumper truck and a 2nd ambulance on order. The costs for these four vehicles total \$1,945,466.00 which has and will be covered by our Capital Vehicle Fund. Unfortunately, these required purchases have greatly reduced the balance in the Capital Fund and we find ourselves in need of appropriation funds in order to replace the ladder truck.

Please provide a description of any research or evidence backing the project's approach to its stated goal (include any attachments):

We provide the following as evidence to support our requested funding for a ladder truck. The Glen Lake Fire Department protects over 60,000 acres of national park wilderness, the structures within its borders, and the annual 1.8 million plus visitors. The ladder truck may not be needed to fight a forest fire but if there's somebody that's stuck in a ravine, a river, or other below grade area it can, and has been, used as an anchor point for a technical rescue.

The Homestead Resort is located within our coverage area. The resort houses roughly 15,000 temporary residents in the summer months and has over 300 residential structures. The majority of these structures are multi-story, multi-unit condos that have access issues which only a ladder truck can handle. For any fire related incident in this resort, the ladder truck is the first to respond. Not having a ladder truck would significantly hinder our fire response as we can pull citizens from the top of a building or from a window and can reach the upper levels and roof with water. Prior to acquiring our current ladder truck the department struggled with fire response at the Homestead Resort.

Three years ago, an attic fire occurred at the LeBear Resort which is another multi-story, multi-unit structure in our service area. While one-third of the building was a loss, the ladder truck made it possible for two-thirds of the structure to be saved.

Our current ladder truck is nearing its serviceable life and is experiencing numerous mechanical issues for which parts are not available. Cumulatively, the truck has spent one-third of its time in the repair shop over the last three years hindering the departments' ability to respond appropriately in the event of a fire.

Have you sought any community input on this project? If so, please provide a brief description:

Community input has been sought at public budget hearings and through the Departments Emergency Services Advisory Committee (ESAC). ESAC is composed of community members from both Glen Arbor Township and Empire Township and provides budgetary recommendations to the Glen Arbor Township Board. The need for a new ladder truck, along with the other vehicles referred to above, the costs involved with the purchase of a ladder truck, and the timelines involved with ordering and receiving have been discussed at several ESAC meetings. Because we lack the funds in the capital budget, this project has been repeatedly pushed back.

The Glen Lake Fire and Rescue Association, a 501(c)(3) organization whose goal is to provide supplementary support to the Glen Lake Fire Department through fund-raising activities, is aware of the departments need to replace several vehicles, including the ladder truck, in the next few years. This last December the Association embarked on a three-year capital campaign with the goal of raising \$600,000 to assist the department with acquiring the new mini-pumper truck and ambulance along with other items. All tax payers in Glen Arbor and Empire Townships, roughly 3,500 individuals, were notified of the Capital Campaign and its goals. To date 228 community members have contributed over \$54,459.00 to the campaign.

Has this project or requesting entity received state funding in the past? If so, please provide a brief description, including previous state funding sources, fiscal years, and amounts:

To our knowledge, the only state funding the Department received in the past was during the COVID-19 pandemic. We received ~\$200,000 for COVID hazard pay during the FY2020-2021 and those monies went directly to our personnel.

If grants are to be included as State funding, then we have received three grants over the past two years. We received a State of Michigan Turnout Gear Grant for \$49,000.00 in FY 2023-2024. This provided each full-time Department member with a second set of turnout gear. We also received two grants from the Michigan DNR for Wildland Personal Protective Equipment. The first grant was in FY 2023-2024 and the second in FY 2024-2025. The total of both grants was \$9,999.98.

How long has funding been sought for this project? How long has state funding been sought for this project?

A new ladder truck has been on our Capital Vehicle Replacement Schedule for a number of years. This schedule is reviewed annually. The need for a new ladder truck has been seriously talked about for the last couple of years as the truck is nearing its serviceable lifespan and a large amount of money has been spent on repairs. We recently learned that State funding may be available through appropriations. This is our first request for appropriations funding.

Will this project be receiving other funding? If so, how much and what are the funding sources?

No additional funding sources beyond the match described below will be used for this project.

If the funding for this project is granted, will funds be matched? If so, how much and what are the funding sources?

The Glen Lake Fire Department will contribute \$230,000.00, or 10%, matching funds from our Capital Vehicle Replacement fund.

Please describe any potential opposition, including organizations or arguments, to the project or funding proposal:

Most community members are very supportive of the Glen Lake Fire Department. They would be pleased that we are pursuing an appropriations award rather than asking the community to pursue a bond. The Department also enjoys great support from both the Glen Arbor and Empire Township Boards. Both boards are aware that we are submitting this funding proposal and both boards are aware of the numerous repair issues we are having with our 19-year-old ladder truck. The only opposition to the project would arise due to a lack of funding. If funding is not obtained through appropriations, we would likely have to do without a ladder truck in the near future.

Please list any other supporting organizations regarding this funding request (attach any letters of support):

The following organizations have expressed their written or verbal support for this funding request:

LeBear Resort
Glen Lake Fire and Rescue Association
Northwoods Hardware Store
Glen Arbor Art Center
Homestead Resort
Empire Township

Please list any other government officials that you have engaged with regarding this funding request:

We have engaged with US Senator Gary Peters through his Northern Michigan office. Because our department only recently learned of the appropriations monies, we were unsure if information was to be requested from Senator Peters or through State Representative Betsy Coffia. Correspondence back from Senator Peters office led us to make contact with the office of Representative Coffia.

Please share any information on your operations plan:

Our operations plan for acquiring a new ladder truck is as follows:

- Seek a funding source
- Contribute 10% from the Glen Lake Fire Department's Capital Budget
- Establish a committee to determine specs for the new ladder truck - typically a 2-month process as input will be sought from all department members
- Gather quotes from various vendors
- Open the quotes at a public meeting
- Establish a committee to evaluate the quotes and choose the vendor
- Make the down payment
- Participate in a pre-build meeting
- 2 – 3 inspection meetings during the build
- Final inspection prior to delivery
- Delivery of the truck
- 1 month to outfit the truck with all ancillary equipment and train all personnel on the vehicle
- Place truck into service

We anticipate that it will be at least 4 years from the date the order is placed to the date the truck is delivered.

Please share any information on similar projects:

Each time the department needs to acquire a new vehicle the steps outlined above are followed with the exception of seeking funding. The department's capital budget has supported all past and current purchases. Below is a list of purchases since 2020.

- In March, 2020 a new ambulance for Station 2 was purchased at a cost of \$254,877.00 and delivery was taken in April, 2021.
- In July, 2022 a new Engine was purchased at a cost of \$825,589.00 which reflected a \$24,837.00 discount for prepaying. Delivery was taken in April of 2024.
- A Mini-pumper truck, which will replace a brush truck and an engine, was ordered in August 2024 at a cost of \$429,000.00 and delivery is expected in October 2026.
- The Department ordered a new ambulance for Station 1 in October, 2024 at a cost of \$436,000.00 with an expected delivery date of September 2026.

Please share any other relevant information that our office should know regarding this request:

We believe it may be useful for you to understand the set-up of the Glen Lake Fire Department. Prior to the early 2000s the Fire Department was known as the Glen Arbor Township Fire Department which was an all-volunteer department. In the early 2000s the Township began transitioning the department to full-time employees and in 2003 its EMS services became Advanced Life Support certified. During this time neighboring Empire Township still operated a volunteer fire department from a small station they own in the Village of Empire.

In 2008, Empire Township began contracting with Glen Arbor Township for fire and ambulance services. At that time, it began doing business as the Glen Lake Fire Department, however its legal name remains the Glen Arbor Township Fire Department. The Empire Fire Station became Station 2 with Empire Township retaining ownership of the building. At that time, it was agreed that Empire Township would pay for 47% of the operational costs, Glen Arbor Township would cover 53% of the costs, and each Township would contribute to the Capital Vehicle Replacement fund.

As previously mentioned, a majority of the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore resides in our two townships. This equates to roughly 60,000 acres of deeded wilderness according to the National Park Service. This Lakeshore attracts 1.8 million visitors per year, which has steadily increased since 2010. Our call volume significantly increases when the tourist season comes and we routinely respond into the park weekly for emergencies. While we have an MOU with the park stating their Law Enforcement Rangers and our Fire/EMS personnel will respond together, we receive zero dollars of contributed funding for our responses into the park.

The Glen Lake Fire Department appreciates the opportunity to submit a proposal for a State of Michigan Appropriations Request to assist the Department with the purchase of a new Ladder Truck. Our department and township may be small but our services are vital to the Northern Michigan region.



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February 18, 2025

Glen Lake Fire Department
PO Box 212
Glen Arbor, MI 49636

Dear Glen Lake Fire Department,

On behalf of Cherry Republic, I am pleased to offer support for the Glen Lake Fire Department's appropriations request to the State of Michigan for the purchase of a new ladder truck. Ensuring the safety of our community, businesses, employees, and customers is of the utmost importance, and we recognize the vital role that the fire department plays in protecting lives and property.

The Glen Lake Fire Department's current ladder truck, now 19 years old, is approaching the end of its serviceable lifespan as outlined by the National Fire Protection Association. Given the extended build time of over four years for a replacement, it is essential that action is taken now to ensure that the department is equipped with the necessary resources to effectively respond to emergencies.

Cherry Republic relies on the Glen Lake Fire Department for the safety and security of our facilities, employees, and the thousands of customers who visit our business each year. Whether responding to a fire, handling an emergency, or ensuring road safety during peak tourism seasons, the department provides an invaluable service that directly supports our operations. Their ability to respond swiftly and effectively in times of crisis gives our employees confidence and our customers peace of mind when visiting our locations.

Ladder trucks are indispensable for fire suppression in multi-story and multi-unit structures, including those at Cherry Republic. Additionally, their versatility in serving as anchor points for technical rescues within the national park and for road safety during traffic incidents further underscores their importance to our entire community. Without a modern, fully functional ladder truck, the department's ability to provide life-saving services is compromised, putting businesses like ours and the people who rely on us at risk.

Cherry Republic is proud to stand in support of this funding request and urges the State of Michigan to approve the appropriations needed to secure a new ladder truck for the Glen Lake Fire Department. Investing in this essential apparatus is an investment in the safety and well-being of our residents, visitors, and local businesses. The continued reliability of emergency services is critical not only to



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protecting physical property but to sustaining a thriving local economy where businesses and families can feel secure.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Nicole Agruda

Human Resources Director, Cherry Republic



6031 S Lake Street/PO Box 305 | Glen Arbor, MI 49636 | 231 334 6112 | director@glenarborarts.org | GlenArborArts.org

1/31/25

Glen Lake Fire Department
PO Box 212
Glen Arbor, MI 49636

Subject: Letter of Support for Ladder Truck Appropriations Request

Dear Glen Lake Fire Department,

On behalf of the Glen Arbor Arts Center, I am pleased to express our strong support for your appropriations request to the State of Michigan for the purchase of a new ladder truck. Your department's dedication to protecting our community is invaluable, and we recognize the critical role that a ladder truck plays in ensuring the safety of residents, businesses, and visitors alike.

A new ladder truck is an essential investment for the Glen Lake Fire Department. Given that your current truck is already 19 years old and the build time for a replacement exceeds four years, securing funding now is both timely and necessary. As an arts organization that welcomes hundreds of visitors, artists, and students each year, we understand the importance of well-equipped emergency responders. Whether safeguarding multi-story structures, facilitating complex rescues, or supporting traffic safety, a reliable ladder truck is indispensable to our community's well-being.

We greatly appreciate the Glen Lake Fire Department's continued service and urge the State of Michigan to support this request. This investment will help ensure the continued safety of our residents, visitors, and the irreplaceable natural and cultural assets of our region.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can be of further assistance. Thank you for your dedication and service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott Bouma".

Scott Bouma
Executive Director
Glen Arbor Arts Center

Be inspired



February 12, 2025

Dear Representative Coffia,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Glen Lake Fire and Rescue Association to support the Glen Lake Fire Department's State of Michigan appropriations request for the purchase of a new ladder truck. This truck is essential for our community to continue providing vital fire and rescue services.

Our 501(c)(3) association is volunteer-run and funded by donations from our community. We are dedicated to ensuring the safety and well-being of our Fire Department staff, the residents of Glen Lake and the surrounding areas. We strive to maintain the highest standards of service at our department by supporting training, community outreach, and the acquisition of state-of-the-art equipment. However, to sustain and enhance the Department's capabilities, additional support for this significant investment is needed. The Association fully supports the Department's appropriations request.

The Department's current ladder truck is 19 years old and is nearing its serviceable lifespan. Also, it's a little over four years from date of order to delivery of this truck. The current cost for a ladder truck is \$2.3 million, and the department is seeking funding of about \$2 million.

Ladder trucks are essential for fighting fires at multi-story, multi-unit structures such as those at several of the resorts in the Department's service area. They are also useful as anchor points for various types of rescues, such as those that might occur within the National Lakeshore, and are regularly used to block off roads during traffic accidents.

Thank you for considering the Glen Lake Fire Department's request. We are hopeful that you will support the Department's request and our mission to enhance the safety and resilience of the Glen Lake community. Please feel free to contact me at 231-649-4492 or fsiepkjer@gmail.com if you require any further information or have any questions.

Sincerely,

Frank Siepker Jr
President
Glen Lake Fire and Rescue Association

GLEN LAKE FIRE & RESCUE ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 417 | Glen Arbor, MI 49636