



# FIRE DEPARTMENT CITY OF MELROSE

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

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Chief of Department

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## MEMORANDUM

To: Melrose City Council  
From: Melrose Fire Chief Edward Collina  
Re: FY24 Fire Department Budget  
Date: May 15, 2023

***Please identify any noteworthy changes or events that took place during FY23 in your department (staffing changes, technology upgrades, new regulations or procedures, etc.):***

On September 27, 2022, the Fire Department's new TDA ladder truck was officially placed in service. At 5:05p.m., five minutes after the truck was placed in service, the members of the ladder truck took the truck on its first official run which was for a medical aid call to 743 Main Street.

In May of 2023, the Fire Department received brand new Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) equipment. This equipment was purchased through the FY23 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant, FY23 State Earmark Grant, and a purchase order through free cash by the City. This equipment includes SCBA Air Packs, SCBA Face Pieces, and SCBA Cylinder Bottles, which will all replace aged-out SCBA equipment that our Department currently has.

The Fire Department is also anticipating a delivery of a new Ambulance. Due to supply chain problems in the vehicle industry, the estimated delivery is unknown at this time.

In FY23, the Fire Department had a major staffing change. The Department is currently down 7 firefighters. We hope to fill these positions as soon as possible.

***Do all of your department's salaries come from the same budget, if not, please identify the split among multiple budgets?***

Of all 52 Fire Department employees, 44 are paid from a "fire" budget, and the other 8 of the employees are paid from an "ambulance" budget.

***Are there any significant changes to your FY24 budget compared to previous years? Please explain.***

One significant change to the Fire Department's FY24 budget is that a new budgeted line has been created under salaries and wages. This line is "OT Training". These funds will be used to cover

overtime to send members for outside training/professional development, at the discretion of the Chief. Some examples of these trainings are as follows; Mass Fire Academy, National Fire Academy, Infectious Control Training, "Train the Trainer" Programs, etc..

*Any events or changes you anticipate in your department for FY24?*

Increase our training to stay in line with national standards as well as documenting said training by implementing Lexipol/Fire Rescue Academy. Lexipol/Fire Rescue Academy is an online training module that sends out and tracks the training performed by the Fire Department members. The Lexipol side of the module holds policies and procedures, most mandated by the State. The Fire Rescue Academy side of the module contains training videos and allows our department to upload our own videos for training purposes.

We look forward to filling the 7 open firefighter positions.