

Sycamore Fire Department Press Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sycamore Fire Department awarded a federal grant for the replacement of self-contained breathing apparatus

On Friday, July 31, the City of Sycamore was informed that the Sycamore Fire Department was awarded a federal grant in the amount of \$218,534 for the replacement of the Department's self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) through the Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program. The AFG program is administered by the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency in cooperation with the U.S. Fire Administration.

The grant award of \$218,534 covers approximately 65% of the total estimated cost (\$338,116) of the replacement of 31 self-contained breathing apparatus. The City is responsible for the remaining 35% of the cost of the project which will be approximately \$119,581.

We are excited to receive this award and the grant award will be a big help in securing vital personal protective equipment for our personnel. Our existing self-contained breathing apparatus are nearing the end of their service life and the newer self-contained breathing apparatus are lighter weight, have a more comfortable back pack frame, have increased air capacity, and are better designed with newer technology. We believe our firefighter safety will be greatly enhanced when firefighters are required to enter IDLH (Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health) atmospheres.

The FY 2019 Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG) Funding had an appropriation of \$350 million with a projection of 2,500 awards.