

BRIEFING PAPER

Title: Type 6 Wildland Engine Request

Department of Natural Resources/Division of Forestry (DOF)

Date: March 26, 2021

Contact: *Norm McDonald, Chief of Fire & Aviation, 907 761-6225, norman.mcdonald@alaska.gov*

The Division of Forestry (DOF) uses an engine replacement plan developed in 2000 to manage our fleet replacement cycle and ensuring funding is available when replacement is needed. It is essential DOF maintains an operational fleet of wildland capable fire engines to support wildland fire suppression. Engines are a crucial tactical tool used in the protection of life, property, and natural resources. DOF has used the DOT vehicle replacement process using fleet credits successfully since the last CIP funding in 2005. During our last round of purchases (2019), vehicle prices went up dramatically. In the four years since our last purchase, it was discovered the accrued replacement credits were not sufficient to cover the full replacement plan. The GO Bond funding will bring DOF engine capabilities up to minimum staffing levels. The single engine replacement is the same specifications as the current Type 6 engines in our fleet, ensuring DOT mechanic and DOF firefighter familiarization and standardized training and operations.

The DOF Type 6 fire apparatus is a Composite body Brush Truck that meets NFPA 1906 Standard for wildland apparatus. The engine build specification is the standard DOF spec and will be integrated into the fleet as a uniform engine configured for fleet standardization and consistency. Type 6 engines are a quick attack type truck that are nimble and configured for wildland fire fighting in the urban interface and the rural off-road fire environments. This vehicle is a crew cab configuration F-550 with a 19,500 GVW upgrade. This allows for up to five firefighters to staff the apparatus while carrying hose, hand tools, power saws, and water handling equipment. It carries 300 gallons of water, 17 gallons of Class A foam. It has a 25 horsepower Kubota pump (115 gallons per minute @ 150 psi) that is integrated into the vehicle's primary fuel system.

