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Tennessee

Rural Housing Services • Community Facility Loan & Grant

Improving Fire Protection for Rural Dyer County

The Dyer County Volunteer Fire Department strives to provide its citizens with the best services and fire protection possible. The department was in desperate need of new equipment and infrastructure. One of their top priorities was a new fire truck. Seven of the nine pumper trucks in service were more than 25 years in age. While the current pumper trucks still had some functionality, they no longer met the needs of the county.

The county began seeking financing to purchase the fire trucks and invited the Union City Rural Development Office to the table. After discussion with the County Mayor and Commissioners, it was determined the Rural Development Community Facility (CF) Loan and Grant program was a great fit. Dyer County applied and was awarded a $50,000 CF grant in June 2019 for the purchase of two trucks

“We appreciate the efforts of the local USDA Office to help make this project a reality,” County Mayor Chris Young said. “This new fleet will serve the residents of Dyer County for years’ to come.” Over the course of several months, Union City staff continued talks with Dyer County Mayor Chris Young on the need to replace its entire fleet. A cost overrun application was completed and Dyer County was awarded an additional $1.9 million CF Loan paired with a $150,000 CF Grant to purchase the remaining trucks. Each truck is a 2020 2nd Generation Pumper truck equipped with 1,000 gallon tanks. The trucks are scheduled to be complete and delivered in Summer 2021; and each station will receive a truck for its own use.

As a direct impact of the project, Insurance Services Office (ISO) ratings will be impacted because of the updated equipment. Residents can hopefully look forward to lower renter and homeowner insurance policies and much quicker and reliable response times to remote areas of the county.

Obligation Amount: $1,975,000 loan; $200,000 grant
Date of Obligation: 06/26/2019 grant; 01/16/2020 loan/grant
Congressional District: Representative Kustoff, District TN-08; Senators Marsha Blackburn and Bill Hagerty
Partners: Dyer County Government
Demographics: Dyer County, Tenn.
Impact: Public Safety

Story updated June 2021 • USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.