



Media Release

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON
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Council Endorses Eight Year Strategic Plan for Fire Rescue Services

On Monday October 23, 2017, the City of Vernon Council endorsed an Eight (8) Year Strategic Plan for Vernon Fire Rescue Services (VFRS). The plan addresses key enablers for the provision of reliable and safe service which include a funded replacement schedule for fire apparatus, such as fire engines, tenders and a ladder truck; a life cycle replacement plan for equipment including self-contained breathing apparatus, ladders, personal protective equipment; the long term operation of the three fire halls; staffing and one time projects.

“Our plan is focused on providing a reasonable level of public safety through a well prepared and equipped firefighting force. The plan fills in identified gaps in resourcing and addresses the most pressing needs for the consistent provision of service. Council’s endorsement and support of the plan is critically important to the success of VFRS and the ability to serve the community”, said David Lind, Interim Fire Chief.

The plan sets out immediate objectives to replace breathing apparatus in 2017, to contract out dispatch services in 2018, to initiate fire apparatus replacement through purchase of a fire engine in 2018, to initiate hose replacement in 2018, to add four career firefighters in 2019, and to increase paid-per-call and paid-on-call firefighters.

“This is an investment into the safety of our community”, says Mayor Mund. “Interim Chief Lind brought forward a comprehensive, eight year plan to build the capacity of VFRS to meet the increasing demands on our firefighters. Council has given Interim Chief Lind the support and direction to move forward.”

The *Vernon Fire Rescue Services Eight Year Strategic Plan, 2018 – 2025* is available for viewing on the City of Vernon website.