



Memo

To: Public Safety Committee
From: Todd Blaser, Chief Fire Rescue
Date: June 4, 2024
Re: FEMA Port Security Grant

We would like to bring to your attention a valuable opportunity to secure funding through a competitive grant program. The grant presents an opportunity for the Manitowoc Fire Rescue Department to enhance our protection of our Lakeshore and Harbor.

The Fire Rescue Department was notified in March of 2024 that there will be no Coast Guard presence in Manitowoc County, as we previously relied upon, due to staffing issues of the United States Coast Guard (USCG).

We believe that pursuing this grant opportunity meets our Mission and Vision Statement and has the ability to enhance our safety along the Lakeshore and Harbor of Manitowoc. Our recent designation as a National Marine Sanctuary successful industrial business and recreational water activities has enhanced our need for the proper equipment to address fire suppression, rescue and Emergency Medical Services to those in need off our shores.

We respectfully request your consideration authorizing our pursuit of this grant opportunity. Fire Administration is confident with our collective efforts, collaboration, and support from local businesses, a strong application that highlights the impact of our proposed project and the value it will provide to enhancing the safety of our Lakeshore and Harbor will be submitted.

Thank you for your consideration of the grant and we look forward to discussing this opportunity and working to secure this grant for the benefit of our community.