



CHELSEA AREA FIRE AUTHORITY

Date: 11.27.2018

Chelsea Area Fire Authority Rokon Request/Budget

CHELSEA FRIENDS AND FAMILY WELLNESS COALITION

In February 2015, Potawatomi Mountain Bike Association and Michigan Department of Natural Resources signed an Operating Agreement to construct the Midwest's most epic mountain bike trail system. In early 2016, the DTE Energy Foundation provided over a quarter-million dollars to fund trail construction. The first 5.2 mile loop of the trail at Green Lake was completed in June 2016, the trails were open to the public.

In the time the DTE Energy Trails have been open to the public, Chelsea Area Fire Authority (CAFA) has responded to twelve calls for service for injured persons on the trails. Because CAFA was not part of the discussions in the planning stage of the trails, a plan of how emergency medical services would gain access to, render aid and ultimately remove injured persons from the trails had not been taken into consideration. Our current resources and equipment are not conducive to navigating the trails. Our current vehicle for off road use, equipped with emergency medical services equipment along with capabilities of transporting a patient, is a John Deere Gator. On several previous calls to the bike trails and attempts to gain access to patients we have found the John Deere Gator will not fit through the trails. Hand carrying a patient on a litter is also not conducive to a good patient outcome with serious injuries, not to mention the man power it takes to carry a person a mile or more across rough terrain.

Chelsea Area Fire Authority began a fund raising campaign in efforts to raise funds for this project without using taxpayer dollars. At this time we have secured \$3100.00 of the \$39,000 requested, along with providing a trailer for transporting all of the equipment, at a savings of \$2500.00. As part of our fund raising efforts Mr. Jim O'Brien of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources has been working closely with us. In Mr. O'Brien's efforts to aid us in this matter he placed the Rokon ATV in his equipment request for the upcoming year. This request was granted, at this time the Michigan Department of Natural Resources will be funding the Rokon ATV.

As we stated at the October meeting this would be a dynamic budget, as funds are raised and donations received our amount could and would change. Now at this time with this donation from the Michigan DNR our budget amount is greatly reduced. I would like to ask the coalition to consider aiding our efforts with funding assistance of the remainder of the equipment listed?

Rescue Trailer \$4200.00

EMS Equipment package:

- Monitor \$20,000.00
- Rescue Back Pack, Splint Kit, Sling Set, Airway adjunct set, Stokes basket, \$6720.00

EMS Package Total \$26,720.00

Thank you

Captain Christopher Smyth

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