

**KCFD 51/ Snoqualmie Pass Fire Department**  
Facilities and Apparatus Assessment  
September 14, 2007

**Facilities**

Fire Station 291 is located at 69802 Highway 906, Snoqualmie Pass, WA.

The facilities were constructed during the mid 1950's and have gone through several renditions and occupations during this time period. Currently the building is utilized by the Fire Department with a small portion used by the King County Sheriffs Department for a remote office for their Search and Rescue Division.

The building is of heavy beam construction with a log veneer overlay. There is visible damage from years of heavy snow load, and signs of dry rot. There is an outside deck railing which has fallen off due to snow. The roof of the building is metal sheeting and appears to be of sound condition, however, the roof is pitched to the front and rear of the building resulting in snow sliding off the roof and blocking the apparatus bay doors in the front and piling up in the rear of the building causing visible damage to the building by compressing against the back wall. The State Department of Transportation has been aiding the Fire Department by assisting with snow removal.

The interior of the station is showing its age but is in overall reasonable condition. There is a need for painting and flooring as well as other cosmetic upgrades.

The major downside of this facility is the apparatus bays. They are approximately 35 feet deep resulting in a lack of the required three (3) foot front and rear clearance around the apparatus. The station has no vehicle exhaust extraction system.

The building is equipped with an emergency generator capable of supporting the entire facility.

I feel that the building with a lot of cleaning and a big dumpster would fit the needs for a few more years until property is secured and a new facility constructed.

On the down side of this, it would be necessary to see if Eastside Fire & Rescue affiliation with the Snoqualmie Pass Fire Department would limit their ability to secure grants to build a facility.

Eastside Fire & Rescue has not been involved in facilities maintenance or management with Snoqualmie Pass Fire & Rescue in the past, and this would be an additional burden on an already manpower short division.

## **Apparatus**

Apparatus owned and operated by the Department consist of two engine companies, two aid units, and a command unit.

Engine 291 is a 2005 HME, 1500 gpm Hale pump, 750 gallons water, dual agent foam system, with a stainless steel cab and body. This vehicle is fairly new but does have some maintenance concerns. The primary concern with this truck is the fire pump valves. The discharge and suction valves are of a design that they are very difficult to operate while the pump is under pressure. The second deals with the lack of vehicle undercoating and the chemicals used by the DOT for snow and ice melting and removal. Both of these items are being dealt with by the truck manufacturer.

Engine 292 is a 1982 Sutphen pumper, 1500 gpm Hale pump, 750 gallons water. This vehicle was purchased from King County Fire District 10 in 2000. This engine is in serviceable condition and the only major concern is the vehicle age and the ability to upgrade the unit to NFPA 1912 standards or the NFPA 1911 annex D, D.3 minimums.

A cost benefit analysis would have to be performed to determine the value of refurbishing the apparatus to current standards.

Aid 291 is a 2001 Braun Northstar built on a Ford F-350 chassis. This vehicle is in excellent condition.

Aid 292 is a 1988 Wheeled Coach on a Ford F-350 chassis. This unit was bought from the City of Bellevue in 1999. The vehicle is serviceable, but should be considered for replacement soon.

Command 291 is a 1994 Chevrolet Suburban. The vehicle is serviceable and fits the current need for the Department.

Eastside Fire & Rescue has been performing the vehicle maintenance for Snoqualmie Pass Fire & Rescue under service contract for several years, so there are no concerns of additional workload.