

# City of Graceville

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Graceville, Minnesota 56240  
Phone 320-748-7911

02/10/2022

Dear Chair Mariani, Chair Limmer and members of the Committee:

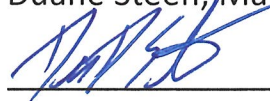
The City of Graceville is writing you in support of HF 2821/SF 2670. Our Firefighters, EMR's and Ambulance Personnel depend on our ARMER radios to perform our jobs effectively and to save lives.

Our Radios were purchased several years ago and are coming to the end of their life cycle. They are very expensive for our small jurisdiction. We, as a City, do not have the funds to replace our outdated radios. Our budget is very tight, it is very difficult to take care of everyday needs let alone replacing these very expensive radios. We urge you to fund a grant program that allows our small communities to upgrade our ARMER radios.

Between the Fire Department and our Ambulance service we would need to replace the equipment in 7 emergency vehicles and all of our handhelds for our 25 firefighter and 4 hand-held radios for our Emergency Medical Technicians. With a cost of \$2500.00 to \$4800.00 our city would have to incur a cost of \$135,000.00 or more. In our small city that would be 25% of our General Fund budget. Most of our radios were purchased in 2011 and are no longer supported by Motorola. It has become very difficult to find radio parts.

Thank you for your consideration funding a program to assist us, on behalf of our Ambulance Service, our dedicated Fire Department and the citizens of our Primary Service area which covers approximately 340 square miles, spanning into 2 counties, 4 small cities, many farms and thousands of acres of public land.

Duane Steen, Mayor Graceville



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