

EQUIPMENT SHARING AGREEMENT BETWEEN MILWAUKEE COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENTS

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 66.0301 and 66.03125, this Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement (“Agreement”) is entered into as of the date signed by the respective parties, each a Wisconsin municipal corporation acting by and through its fire department, each with proper authorization to execute this Agreement (herein referred to collectively as “the Parties” or “the Departments” or singularly as “Party” or “Department”) for the sharing of fire and emergency medical services apparatus and equipment. Participating agencies should create a list of equipment eligible for sharing.

RECITALS:

The Parties are municipal corporations duly organized and validly existing under the laws of the State of Wisconsin with the power to carry on their business as it is now being conducted under the Constitution, the statutes of the State of Wisconsin, and their respective Municipal Codes.

The Parties are interested in occasionally sharing equipment to ensure efficient and effective operations.

The Parties desire to enter into an Agreement to establish procedures for sharing equipment and defining legal relationships and responsibilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is mutually agreed by and between the Parties as follows:

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Agreement is to create a system for the occasional sharing of motor vehicles, equipment, tools and machinery (collectively referred to in this agreement as “Equipment”) between the Parties for efficiency and effectiveness of operations.

The Parties agree to make available to each other vehicles, equipment, tools, machinery, and related items in the manner and pursuant to the terms and conditions provided in this agreement. A Party supplying Equipment shall be designated the “Provider.” A Party receiving Equipment shall be designated the “Borrower.”

TERM

The term of this Agreement shall be two (2) years from the date of execution. Upon mutual agreement of all Parties, this Agreement may be extended for three additional one-year periods.

This Agreement shall be in full force and in effect with the passage and approval of an authorizing ordinance or resolution by all participating member municipalities, in the manner provided by law, and upon the signing of this agreement by the Village President or City Mayor or authorized representative and the comptroller or clerk, as applicable.

EQUIPMENT USAGE

- a. Usage Scenarios. Instances in which Equipment owned by a party to this Agreement is operated by another party to this Agreement shall fall into two categories:
 1. Just In Time Operations: Non-pre-planned operation of equipment
 2. Short-Term Sharing: The Parties agree to permit Equipment to be used pursuant to this agreement for a time period not to exceed thirty (30) days. Equipment usage that exceeds that timeframe will be reassessed by the parties and requires execution of an additional agreement between the parties.
- b. Operator Qualifications. The Parties agree to permit Equipment to be used only by properly trained, properly licensed and supervised operators. All drivers shall be licensed and shall have a satisfactory driving record. All equipment operators shall be properly trained and qualified to operate the Equipment shared under this Agreement. In cases of Short-Term Lending, borrower shall make available to Provider upon request proof of training, licensing, and qualifications of operator prior to release of Equipment.
- c. Usage Requirements. Equipment shared under this Agreement shall be used by Borrower's employees only to conduct official business. Borrowers shall use and operate Equipment only for its intended purpose, in a careful manner and in compliance with all requirements for operation and of any governmental authority having jurisdiction, if applicable. Borrower shall not sublease or allow anyone other than Borrower's employees to use Equipment shared under this Agreement.

JUST IN TIME OPERATIONS

“Just In Time Operations” are those operations occurring at emergent responses where personnel from assisting agencies may be needed to operate other municipalities’ vehicles/apparatus. Early identification of needs is key to assessing and handling these situations, which includes the following considerations:

It is preferred that personnel from the Department owning the vehicle operate the vehicle/apparatus, and, if additional personnel are necessary for mitigating an emergency while the vehicle is being operated, those personnel be requested from a Department that does not own the vehicle/apparatus.

If all personnel from the Department owning the vehicle are needed to mitigate the emergency and a driver is needed to operate an apparatus/vehicle owned by another Department, the following should occur:

1. Officer in charge of apparatus/vehicle needing operation should communicate with the incident commander that assistance is needed in driving the apparatus/vehicle.
2. Incident Commander should identify a driver to assist.

3. The member selected to drive should review the “just in time” training document specific to the vehicle/apparatus.
4. Officer in charge should strongly consider directing the vehicle/apparatus be operated in a non-emergency status during “just in time” operation.
5. Wisconsin Statute pertaining to Emergency Vehicle Operations always applies.
6. The provisions of this agreement relating to negligence shall apply to the aiding Operator.

SHORT TERM SHARING

a. Borrower Responsible for Charges and Fees. Borrower is responsible for all fines and other liens that might be incurred against equipment shared under this Agreement, and shall hold the Provider harmless from and against any and all fines, assessments, fees, charges, expenses, penalties and forfeitures incurred in connection with the use of shared Equipment.

b. Fuel. Borrower shall be responsible for supplying all fuel used during the period it borrows the Equipment. Provider shall ensure that the fuel tank(s) are full when Borrower picks up the Equipment, and Borrower shall ensure that the fuel tank(s) are full when it returns the Equipment to Provider.

c. Charges for Equipment. Lender shall not charge Borrower for use of equipment unless there would be reimbursement from a third party.

d. Delivery/Pickup. Borrower shall be responsible for picking up and returning any Equipment shared under this Agreement, unless Provider and Borrower mutually agree to other arrangements. Equipment may generally be picked up and returned between standard business hours. However, it is understood that when dealing with the necessity of emergency equipment, requests may occur at hours outside of standard business hours.

e. Notification. Borrower shall contact Provider as well in advance as reasonably possible of each pick-up and delivery to confirm. The acceptance of any request is at the discretion and timing of the Provider.

f. Condition of Equipment. Provider shall ensure that any Equipment being shared is serviced consistent with recognized industry standards prior to Borrower’s pick-up.

g. Inspections. Providers sharing Equipment under this agreement certify that the Equipment is in good repair and ready for the intended use. Equipment shared under this Agreement shall be inspected by representatives of both Provider and Borrower at the time of delivery/pickup and again when returned. The inspections shall include an examination of the tires on the Equipment, which the Parties must agree are sound at the time Borrower picks up the Equipment, and which must have adequate tread depth to ensure safe and legal operation during the share period. The results of these inspections shall be documented on an Equipment Inspection Form and on a High Wear Item Inspection Form (if used by the provider or borrower). Digital photographs of the equipment should be taken at the time of pickup to ensure that any existing damage is documented appropriately.

h. Operations and Safety Manuals. Provider shall make a copy of all Equipment operation and safety manuals available to Borrower at the time of Equipment delivery.

i. Contact Person. Each Party agrees to appoint a person or persons to act as liaison(s) for each rental request and inspection and to otherwise facilitate the orderly and efficient distribution of equipment-sharing requests and related information. Contacts by agency are as indicated below:

A list of each Department's contact person shall be maintained by the Milwaukee County Association of Fire Chiefs or its designee.

j. Maintenance and Repair of Equipment. Borrower shall be responsible for performing all required maintenance during the share period, such as fluid level checks and daily pre-trip inspections.

k. Borrower shall be responsible for the following items during the share period:

1. Tire repair and replacement of any damaged tires that cannot be safely repaired;
2. Replacement of any damaged or worn-out tools such as cutting edges and bits;
3. Replacement of any windows or windshields that are cracked or damaged;
4. Minor repairs and adjustments required to keep the Equipment in safe operating condition during the share period, including but not limited to replacement of defective lighting or mirrors, adjustment of hinges or latches, adding fluids to correct levels, and adding air to tires. If it is observed that Equipment requires an excessive amount of minor repairs and adjustments as described above, Borrower is to promptly notify Provider of specific issue prior to utilizing Equipment.

Any repairs or replacements made by Borrower pursuant to the requirements of this agreement shall be performed by qualified personnel; specifically, persons or contractors employed by Borrower to maintain and repair Borrower's own fleet equipment.

Notwithstanding anything contained herein to the contrary, Provider shall be responsible for latent defects that may occur during the normal operation of Equipment by borrower.

1. Provider shall be responsible for the repair or replacement of Equipment when:

1. Equipment fails during its normal operation, and;
2. Equipment, is being used as intended by the manufacturer, and;

3. Equipment has received all manufacturer required maintenance during its use by the Borrower.
- m. Borrower shall reimburse Provider for the cost of repair or replacement of Equipment when:
1. Operating Equipment outside of its normal operation, or;
 2. Operating Equipment in a manner not intended by the manufacturer, or;
 3. Operating Equipment without performing required maintenance.
- n. Borrower shall not claim damages from the Provider in the form of monetary, lost efficiency or time or consequential damage as a result of equipment failure.
- o. Borrower Responsibility for Damage. Borrower shall be responsible for the cost of repairing all damage to equipment incurred during the share period that is not considered to be normal wear and tear necessitated by misuse or negligent operation and for the maintenance and/or replacement of high wear items identified in each Provider's Equipment Catalog and as noted on each Provider's Equipment Inspection Form.
1. Borrower shall notify Provider immediately if Provider's Equipment is involved in any accident during the share period.
 2. Provider shall be responsible for the cost of repairing all Equipment damage due to accidents caused by equipment defects.
 3. In cases of equipment damage resulting in a total loss, Borrower shall be responsible for covering the loss. Provider shall submit an invoice to Borrower, equal to eighty percent of the current retail market value of the Equipment prior to the damage as determined by an independent appraisal, for any Equipment determined to be a total loss.

In cases of Equipment damage resulting in a total loss caused by a third party where that party assumes responsibility, Borrower shall seek reimbursement from the third party's insurance carrier. If the reimbursement is greater than eighty percent of the retail market value prior to the damage, Borrower shall give the entire amount of the reimbursement to Provider.

Provider shall not be entitled to consequential damage for the loss of use of the equipment due to accidental damage.

WARRANTY

Provider is neither a manufacturer nor supplier of the Equipment and therefore makes no warranties, express or implied, including, without limitation, the condition of the equipment, its design, capacity, performance, construction, workmanship, or fitness for any particular use. All Equipment is shared on an "as-is" basis. Provider shall not be responsible or liable to Borrower for any loss, delay, or damage of any kind resulting from defects in or accidental breakage of Equipment shared under this agreement.

INSURANCE

During the term of this agreement, each Party will keep in force, at its own expense, insurance requirements as specified by the Parties. It is understood by the Parties that the City of Milwaukee is self-insured.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS & LIABILITY

Nothing in this Agreement shall alter the employment status of any employee providing services under this Agreement. Employees shall at all times continue to be subject to all standards of performance, disciplinary rules, and other terms and conditions imposed by their employer. No Party shall be responsible for the direct payment of any salaries, wages, compensation, or benefits of any employee of another Party to this Agreement. Any employee of any Party, while providing services under this Agreement, shall be covered by that Party for purposes of worker's compensation, unemployment insurance, benefits under Chapter 40 of the Wisconsin Statutes, and any civil liability.

For the purposes of third party claims or lawsuits, each Party shall be solely responsible for its own acts and those of its employees and officers under this Agreement. No Party shall be responsible or liable for consequential damages to another Party arising out of providing or using equipment, services, or labor under this Agreement.

NO WAIVER

The Parties acknowledge and affirm that they are governmental entities entitled to immunities pursuant to, among other provisions, common law and Wis. Stat. § 893.80, and agree that nothing contained in this Agreement is intended as a waiver of any defenses, immunities, or limitations to which they are entitled.

GOVERNING LAW

This Agreement shall be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Wisconsin.

TERMINATION

Any Party may terminate this Agreement for any reason by giving thirty (30) days' prior written notice to all other Parties. In the event of such termination, all costs incurred up to the date of termination shall be the responsibility of the User.

ENTIRE AGREEMENT & AMENDMENT

This Agreement represents a complete understanding of the Parties with respect to its subject matter and may not be amended except in writing. The Agreement may be executed in multiple counterparts or duplicate originals, each of which shall constitute and may be deemed as one and the same document.

The Municipality/Department signatory certifies that this Apparatus Sharing Agreement has been adopted and approved by ordinance, resolution, or other manner allowed by law, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Upon receipt of this local signatory, the Fire Chief shall provide this document to the Secretary/Treasurer of the Milwaukee County Association of Fire Chiefs to acknowledge and apprise all parties participating in this agreement.

Signatory

Date