



# CITY OF PLAINFIELD

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND SAFETY

200 EAST FOURTH STREET

PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY 07060

Phone: (908) 753-3225 – Fax: (908) 663-2512

Email: [carl.riley@plainfieldnj.gov](mailto:carl.riley@plainfieldnj.gov)



Carl N. Riley

Department Director

Adrian O. Mapp  
Mayor

## INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

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TO: Adrian O. Mapp, Mayor  
R. Allen Smiley, City Administrator

FROM: Carl N. Riley, Director  
Public Safety and Police

DATE: December 4, 2014

Re: Equipment Justification

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Over the past several years, the City of Plainfield has been exposed to two extreme storm events. When Hurricane Irene hit, water levels rose throughout several parts of the city to depths that had not been seen in decades. The city had one vehicle that was able to make it through most of the water covered areas.

When Sandy hit, the city was left without power in many areas for over ten days. Power generation was difficult, even at city shelters that were manned by city workers and volunteers. Most of the City's agencies were on limited or no power. Providing logistic support to the shelters and working agencies was difficult with limited roadway access. Due to the dedication of the workers and citizens of Plainfield, not a life was lost during both storms.

Recognizing our successes and our failures, we must better prepare for future events. As a result, the Police Division has acquired several medium sized cargo vehicles from the United States Military surplus program.

These vehicles are capable of getting through large amounts of water and snow that our current police fleet cannot completely endure. We also have two large dump trucks and one large cargo truck that will get through the extreme water and snow levels similar to past events. In addition, we received a large fork lift capable of elevating a platform to a second floor window during deep water rescue if need be. None of this equipment is armored.

This equipment is only intended for use to assist the citizens of Plainfield if needed only during major events similar to Sandy, Irene and or extreme snow storms. We also have many large and small generators as well as small and mid-sized trailer containers at our disposal.

In the event of city wide power loss for an extended period of time, our power generation equipment would need to be distributed immediately to critical areas of command within the city. With the trailers, forklift, and generators located throughout areas in the City such Police Headquarters, Fire Houses and Department of Public Works, they could be distributed and managed with expedience and efficiency. There are two diesel mobile pumping stations containers that we can deploy as well. We also have in our possession back up emergency radio and communication equipment if our primary and secondary ways of communication fail.

In the event of a long term detail, small and mid-sized trailers and containers and can be detailed to any of the facilities in lieu of the Police Command Center. Not only can the storage containers house supplies provided from outside resources during critical events, at least a few of the boxes can be moved to different locations and used as a distribution box. If need be, supplies can be handed out to the community from the box. They can be towed by the 2007 Freightliner Tractor that we received. The tractor allows this city to move heavy equipment during these situations, without outside support. Although the County DPW has proven that they are more than willing to do anything to help Plainfield, during major emergencies they may have other obligations during a countywide critical event.

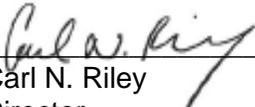
As there are many duplicate pieces of equipment listed, all are accounted for and much of it is stored at the Municipal lot adjacent to Police Headquarters at this time. Military equipment is clearly expensive and proprietary. Having duplicate pieces and spares are necessary as parts can be very costly.

We are in the process of painting the vehicles white to remove the stereotypical military paint style. In the near future the vehicles and other equipment will be dispersed to and deployment from Police Headquarters, 3 Fire House and DPW Yard.

In closing, I would like to reiterate that none of this equipment is armored and we did not ever seek or receive any firearms. The only intention for this equipment is for emergency rescue purposes only.

As the Director of Public Safety and Police, I am committed to using all available resources, to ensure that we are prepared and capable of keeping every citizen safe through all events that may come our way.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Carl N. Riley  
Director