

# PRESS RELEASE

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## De Pere health, fire departments receive substantial healthcare grant

**DE PERE, WIS.** – The City of De Pere's Health and Fire Rescue departments were awarded a grant totaling \$206,831 today (June 16, 2022).

Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA) Secretary-designee Kathy Blumenfeld, joined by Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) Secretary Dawn Crim, visited the City of De Pere to present the grant and highlight the impact of the Healthcare Infrastructure Capital Grant Award - a \$22 million statewide investment [previously announced](#) by Governor Tony Evers.

"This opportunity will benefit both departments to enhance current programming and allows them to plan future initiatives that will enrich the services they provide to the residents of De Pere," De Pere Mayor James Boyd said. "By working together for the health of our community, they solidify their commitment to the City; a city that has valued the continued presence of their own fire and health departments."

Mayor Boyd, Health Director/Officer Debbie Armbruster, and Fire Chief Al Matzke were on-hand to accept the grant.

Armbruster outlined the ongoing collaboration De Pere's health and fire rescue departments have enjoyed, and how this new funding will further enhance and expand existing initiatives.

De Pere will utilize the grant money by purchasing a dedicated mobile unit, stocked and ready with supplies and materials, that can benefit all ages of the City for health programs, services, and education.

Meanwhile, the health department will no longer need to utilize fire rescue equipment to transport items or conduct operations out of, which will free up resources for De Pere Fire Rescue in the event of a community emergency.

Among many other uses, Armbruster said bleeding control training, vaccination clinics, school and community presentations, post-stroke victim visitations, shelter response during emergencies and incidents, and the Stay-at-Home program designed for older residents are just a few of the many offerings that may benefit from this dedicated-mobile unit.

"We are excited for the opportunities that await us and offer our thanks for receiving this grant. We assure all that it will be well utilized to protect and promote the health and safety of our community," Armbruster said.

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