

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Freehold Township Fire District # 2 Urges Community to Vote on Crucial Funding for New SCBA Air Bottles

Freehold Township N.J. October 21, 2026 the Freehold Township Fire District # 2 and the East Freehold Fire Company is officially calling on community residents to vote in the upcoming public referendum on **Tuesday November 10th at the Dutch Lane Road fire station from 6-9PM** to approve essential funding for new Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) air bottles. These air cylinders are the single most critical piece of safety equipment firefighters wear, providing the clean, life-saving breathing air needed to breathe inside burning buildings and hazardous environments.

The department's current inventory of SCBA cylinders is rapidly approaching the end of its mandatory, federally regulated **15-year lifespan**. By law, these bottles must be retired from service. Without a voter-approved upgrade, the department faces a critical shortage of compliant breathing equipment, directly impacting its ability to safely and effectively respond to structure fires and hazardous material emergencies.