


**TOWN OF OCEAN VIEW**  
**DELAWARE**

April 5, 2022

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Carol S. Houck, Town Manager 

SUBJECT: Recommendation to Purchase a Truck Mounted Mosquito Sprayer

**Background**

As you are aware, the Town of Ocean View provides mosquito control spraying from Spring to Fall. Our mosquito control plan is comprised of two distinct operations including that of DNREC and the Ocean View Public Works division. Treatment is contingent upon acceptable weather at the time of applications. Larvae treatments and weekly spraying (both backpack and truck mounted) will begin in May and continue until the end of September. Our spraying takes place on Tuesday and Friday mornings between 2:30 a.m. and 6 a.m.

The Town owns two truck mounted spraying systems. Both of our public Works employees are certified by the State of Delaware, Department of Agriculture for the purchase, storage, and administration of mosquito control products with the goal of reducing the proliferation of mosquitoes in our area as associated with the possible transmission of Zika, West Nile virus and other diseases. Our program has been well received within the community for some time.

**Replacement of One Unit**

The planned replacement of one truck mounted unit is now required in association with its age (8 years) and parts availability. The unit is currently out of service. One unit serves as our primary unit with the 2<sup>nd</sup> unit used as a backup and or for additional spraying if determined necessary as a result of weather conditions or increased mosquito proliferation any given season. Going forward it is our plan to replace the oldest unit every 5 to 6 years.

The Clarke Mosquito Control company has a representative located in Virginia that has supported the Town of Ocean View's program for many years including product and equipment sales and the provision of parts, training, and unit repairs. Working with Clarke we get access to their in-house experts dedicated to public health mosquito control, including entomologists, biologists, and environmental scientists. The representative visits our maintenance facility at least once a year to calibrate and certify our equipment to State standards as well as to help diagnose performance issues (educating staff on repairs to make or making the repairs on the spot for us (internal modem/etc.).

**Funding**

Funds are available for the replacement of this truck mounted unit from the FY2023 Capital Improvement Program (on the agenda this evening for approval) totaling \$17,412.

**Recommendation**

It is therefore recommended that Mayor and Council authorize the issuance of a purchase order to Clarke Mosquito, following approval of the FY2023 Capital Improvement Program, in advance to May 1, 2022 (start of our FY2023 Budget year) to facilitate the receipt of the new unit in relationship with delivery delays being experienced.

