



Our beautiful and historic firehouse has been an integral part of the Bedford Village Green since 1929. At that time, Route 22 was our main highway: the Saw Mill Parkway opened in 1954, and I-684 opened north from Armonk in 1974. Today, our fire district encompasses dirt roads, a section of I-684, farms, riding and hiking trails, residential and commercial areas, wilderness preserves, quarries, a river, numerous lakes and ponds, 3 group homes for disabled adults, numerous preschools, St. Patrick's School, Bedford Village Elementary School, the upper campus of Rippowam Cissqua School, and the Fox Lane Campus.

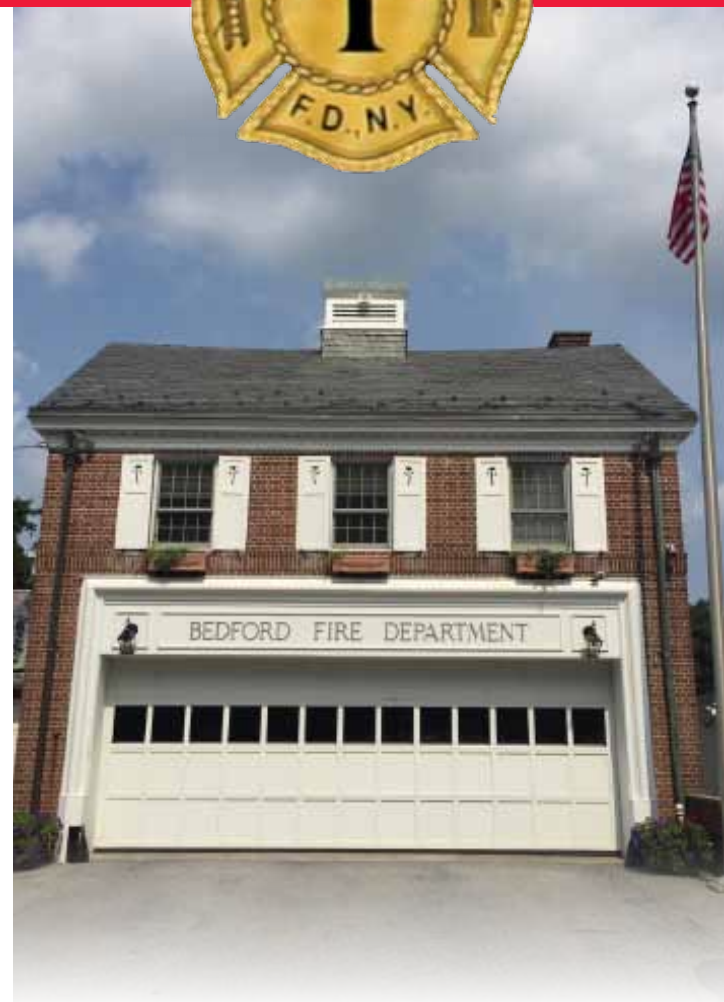
Just as Bedford Village has evolved and grown, so have the technology and apparatus that fire and emergency services use. In the face of modern standards, our current firehouse is severely undersized. For example:

- *The weight capacity of the apparatus floor precludes us from having a tanker, a distinct tactical disadvantage in a district with few fire hydrants.*
- *Our trucks must be custom built to be smaller, lighter, and carry less equipment than industry standards.*
- *We do not have room for an OSHA and NFPA approved ventilation system to remove carcinogenic truck exhaust, which blows directly onto our gear.*
- *The building predates the ADA and does not have sufficient space to make accommodations: we do not have a handicapped-accessible bathroom or an elevator.*
- *Women were not admitted to emergency services when the firehouse was built in the '20s and renovated in the '50s, and we do not have adequate facilities for female members.*



After years of preparation, the volunteers of the Bedford Fire Department and the commissioners of the Bedford Village Fire District look forward to holding a public referendum in the Spring of 2019 for a new firehouse that will meet our current and future needs. The new firehouse would be centrally located on Old Post Road (Rte. 22) at South Brook Road. Planned features include:

- *Handicapped accessible and compliant with current building safety codes such as OSHA and NFPA.*
- *4 full-sized drive-through bays to accommodate 8+ pieces of emergency response apparatus.*
- *Defined areas for EMS and fire operations and the public.*
- *Training facilities to keep our volunteers ready, able, and in the district to respond to emergencies.*
- *Drainage, ventilation, filtration, and decontamination systems to protect both our volunteers and the environment.*



2019 **FIREHOUSE**
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www.bedfordfire.com
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Our Building

The firehouse at 34 Village Green was completed in 1929 and was expanded in 1957. This building is beloved by 90 years worth of Bedford Fire Department volunteers and has served the department and the community well beyond what could have been imagined or expected when it was designed and built.

THEN



NOW



Our Fire Trucks

The fire trucks of the 1920s were quite small: shorter, narrower, and not much longer than today's SUVs. The 1957 renovation of the firehouse combined 3 front entrances into one apparatus door to give the Department the maximum apparatus passage possible: 9 feet tall is the best we can get. This is still too low for a present-day fire truck or ambulance: we custom build our vehicles to clear the door, some with as little as an inch and half to spare. Even so, we will never be able to accommodate a tanker truck in this building, which is a safety concern in a mostly rural district with few fire hydrants.

THEN



NOW



Our Ongoing Challenges...



The current firehouse has very little storage and we have used every square inch for decades. Here, EMS supplies and equipment are stored in a small closet under a stairwell.



Our apparatus is stacked 3 deep on each side of the truck floor, with mere inches between the 3 fire trucks, 2 ambulances, and rescue truck.

Our volunteers must "gear up" for a call just inches from the fire apparatus, which start up and move out of the firehouse at the same time, posing an obvious safety hazard. The proposed new firehouse would have a gear room adjacent to the truck floor.

