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Hamden obtains state grant for Fire Department onboard computers.

Mayor Craig Henrici announced Hamden has been awarded a state grant for onboard computers on first-line firefighting and rescue vehicles. The \$10,000 grant was presented to Mayor Henrici, Fire Chief David Berardesca, and Fire Commissioner Henry Candido by State Senator Joe Crisco.

The computers will provide Hamden's firefighters with up-to-the-minute information that will assist them in the field, including weather conditions and hazardous-materials information, and will allow firefighters to report directly from the field. Chief Berardesca says the computers will improve safety and efficiency for firefighters and the public.

"Access to real-time information is not just convenient, it saves lives. We are certainly thankful to Mayor Henrici and Senator Crisco for their continued commitment to Hamden's Firefighters and the public's safety", said Berardesca. "These grant dollars will be worth a whole lot more in the field."

Henrici said that the on-board computers were critical because "in addition to fighting fires, Hamden Firefighters are our first responders to medical calls, and these computers have the potential to speed response time and care quality."