

SOLVAY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Marine Operations Program

Onondaga Lake



Onondaga Lake

Once one of the nation's most polluted lakes, Onondaga Lake has undergone decades of environmental restoration.

Millions of dollars have been invested to restore the lake and revitalize the waterfront.

Today the lake supports boating, fishing, paddling, rowing, navigation to the amphitheater and various community events.

Growing recreational use creates a growing need for rapid marine emergency response.



About Solvay Fire Department

Volunteer department serving the Village of Solvay and Town of Geddes.

Provides fire suppression, EMS support, rescue, hazardous materials response, and technical rescue.

Marine operations are currently being implemented to increase our services in our evolving community.



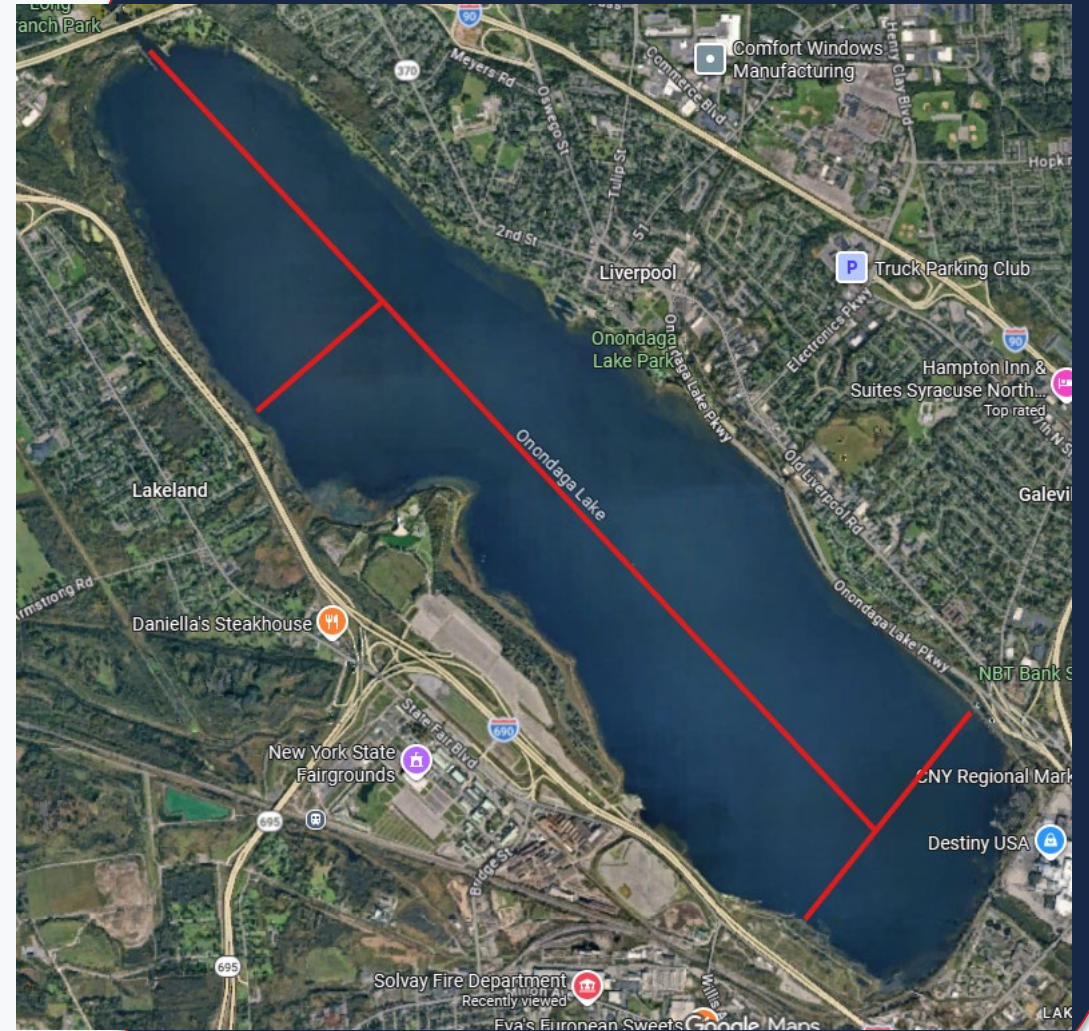
Area of Coverage

Strategic access to the southern end of Onondaga Lake via the boat ramp at State Fair Blvd and Interstate 690.

2nd Largest Coverage area of the lake

Well positioned to rapidly deploy marine resources when they are needed most.

Responding to the amphitheater during concert season.



Training & Readiness

Significant investment in advanced water rescue education.

Members completed advanced water rescue training and ongoing proficiency drills.

Our personnel are among the most highly trained water rescue responders in the region -Swift Water Technicians

Equipment is only effective when backed by highly qualified firefighters.

Our agency consists of over a dozen Career firefighters.



Marine Response Area

Primary coverage of Onondaga Lake and surrounding shoreline.

Supports neighboring agencies through mutual aid.

Prepared for parks, marinas, launches, and waterfront events.





Boat Launch Sandaga Lake



What Water Emergencies We Prepare For

Medical emergencies

Water rescues

Vehicle-in-water incidents

Ice & shoreline rescues

Missing persons

Boat fires





Building the Marine Program

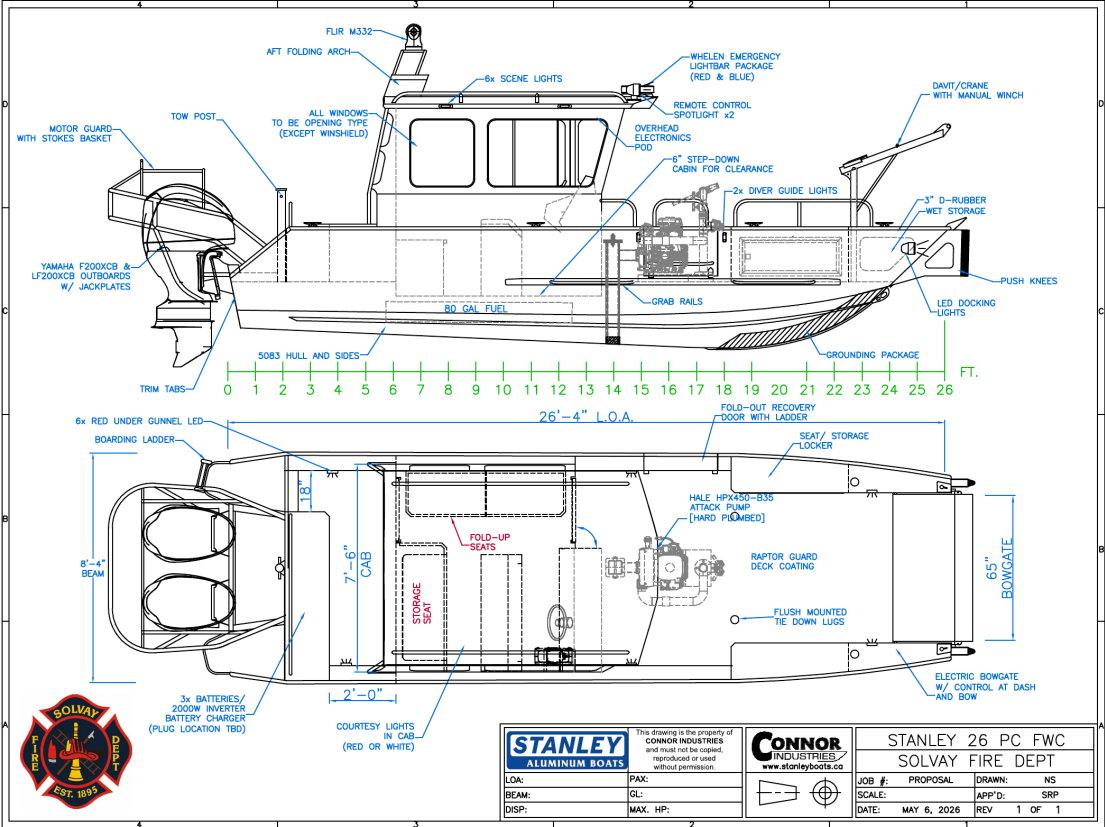
Member training & qualifications

Specialized water rescue equipment

Operational deployment planning

Dock & boat lift infrastructure

Dedicated rescue vessel



Regional Partnerships

Works alongside county fire departments, EMS, law enforcement, and emergency management.

Adds capacity to the regional response system.

Creates another trained marine rescue asset available for major incidents.



Project Timeline

Needs Assessment

Boat Acquisition/Build Time

Equipment Installation

Dock & Lift

Training



OUR TIMELINE

1970s Onondaga Lake faced severe pollution from industrial waste.	1980 The lake was declared one of the most polluted in the nation.	1980s–2000s Major cleanup efforts by local, state, and federal partners began.	2000s Water quality improves, wildlife returns, recreation grows.	Today Onondaga Lake is a vital resource — and our call volume has grown.	Now We're investing in the right equipment to meet today's demands.
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The Vision

Protect the public investment made in Onondaga Lake.

Provide a sustainable long-term marine rescue capability.

Enhance firefighter safety and regional emergency response.

Be ready when seconds matter.



Project Investment Breakdown

Rescue Vessel & Trailer \$293,485

Marine Rescue Equipment\$15,000

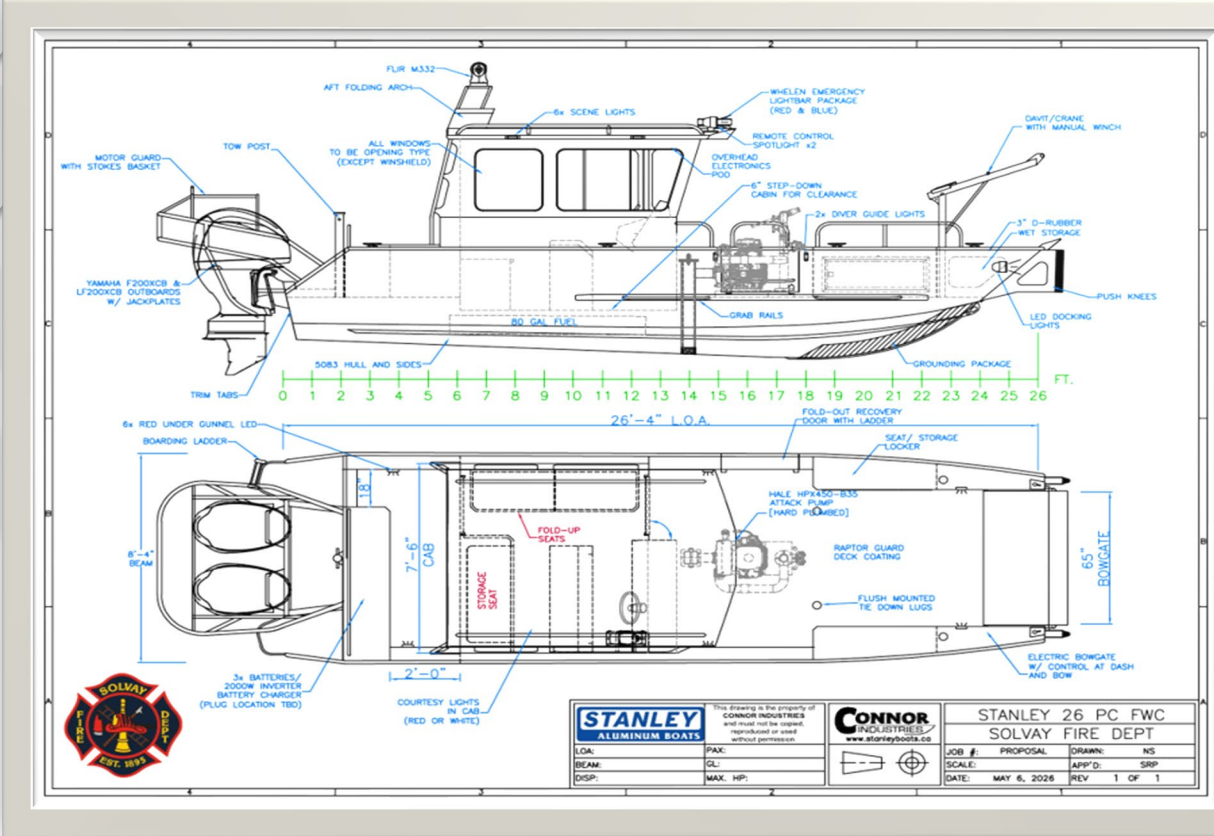
Dock Construction \$25,000

Boat Lift \$30,000

Total Project Cost.....\$363,485

Funding Secured via CREST Grant..... \$160,000

Funding Requested.....\$203,485



Questions

