



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: William L. McDonald
Jennifer A. Maguire

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: July 25, 2012

Approved

Date

7/25/12

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2011 STAFFING FOR ADEQUATE FIRE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE (SAFER) GRANT AWARD

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) Ratification of the City Manager's acceptance on July 23, 2012 of the 2011 SAFER Grant in the amount of \$8,623,206.
- (b) Adopt the following Appropriation Ordinance and Funding Sources Resolution Amendments in the General Fund in fiscal year 2012-2013:
 - (1) Increase the Personal Services appropriation to the Fire Department in the amount of \$2,796,585;
 - (2) Increase the Non-Personal/Equipment appropriation to the Fire Department in the amount of \$139,802;
 - (3) Increase the Earmarked Reserve: Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grant by \$300,000; and
 - (4) Increase the estimate for Revenue from the Federal Government by \$3,236,387.
- (c) Approve the following position additions to the Fire Department effective September 2, 2012:
 - (1) 6.0 Fire Captains to the Fire Department;
 - (2) 7.0 Fire Engineers to the Fire Department; and
 - (3) 14.0 Firefighters to the Fire Department.

OUTCOME

The 2011 SAFER grant will allow the San José Fire Department to hire 27 Firefighters, which will significantly improve the level of emergency services by reducing the frequency of fire companies being browned out and adding much needed fire resources to the community.

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BACKGROUND

In February 2011, the City was awarded its first SAFER Grant (for grant year 2010) in the amount of \$14.9 million. This allowed the City to hire 49 Firefighter positions, which was the number of Firefighter positions eliminated in August 2010. In an unprecedented action, the City received its second SAFER award (\$8.6 million) for grant year 2011 in July 2012 to hire an additional 27 Firefighter positions. The combined total for these two awards is \$23.5 million. These consecutive awards (2010 and 2011) represent the highest combined total dollar value for SAFER Grants from FEMA/DHS to date.

City Council Resolution No. 64250 authorizes the City Manager to execute agreements during Council recesses where the City would suffer detriment if the action should be delayed until the next scheduled Council meeting. The 2011 SAFER grant that was awarded to the City needed to be accepted before Council would meet on August 7, 2012. Therefore, the City Manager exercised the contract authority to accept the SAFER grant on July 23, 2012, and authorized Fire staff to accept through an on-line process.

ANALYSIS

Council's ratification of the grant acceptance will assure the receipt of the 2011 grant. This grant will allow the Department to staff more fire companies, resulting in an increase in on-duty staffing levels, which will enable the Department to better meet the needs of the community.

The grant will restore 27 Firefighter positions that were eliminated in 2010-2011 and will support the Department's efforts in providing the City's million citizens with enhanced protection from fire and fire-related hazards. The addition of 27 Firefighter positions will reduce frequency of fire companies browned out through deployment of a fire engine company and squad car companies.

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP

The period of performance for the 2011 SAFER Grant is September 29, 2012 through September 28, 2014. Prior to the end of the grant period (currently estimated at September 2014), the City Manager's Office will include ongoing costs related to the 27 Firefighters in the 2014-2018 Five-Year General Fund Forecast.

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PUBLIC OUTREACH/INTEREST

- Criterion 1:** Requires Council action on the use of public funds equal to \$1 million or greater. **(Required: Website Posting)**
- Criterion 2:** Adoption of a new or revised policy that may have implications for public health, safety, quality of life, or financial/economic vitality of the City. **(Required: E-mail and Website Posting)**
- Criterion 3:** Consideration of proposed changes to service delivery, programs, staffing that may have impacts to community services and have been identified by staff, Council or a Community group that requires special outreach. **(Required: E-mail, Website Posting, Community Meetings, Notice in appropriate newspapers)**

This action meets Criterion 1, and will be posted on the City's website for the August 7, 2012 Council Agenda.

COORDINATION

This action has been coordinated with the City Attorney's Office.

COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS

Of the total \$8.6 million grant award, \$3.2 million will be appropriated in 2012-2013 to fund the 27 Firefighter positions from October 2012 through June 2013. In 2013-2014, \$4.3 million is anticipated to be appropriated to fund the positions for the entire fiscal year, and the remaining \$1.1 million is anticipated to be appropriated in 2014-2015 to fund the positions from July 2014 through September 2014. As mentioned previously, the City Manager's Office will include ongoing costs related to the 27 Firefighters in the 2014-2018 Five-Year General Fund Forecast to fund the 27 positions for the remainder of 2014-2015 and ongoing.

City costs related to the two-year implementation of this grant are estimated at approximately \$1.2 million. As part of the 2012-2013 Adopted Operating Budget, \$300,000 was set aside in the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grant Earmarked Reserve to fund fire academy training costs for the 27 new positions. Higher personnel costs of approximately \$900,000 are also anticipated to be needed over the two year grant cycle.

In order to restore fire engine companies, the City must restore Fire Engineer and Fire Captain positions in addition to Firefighter positions. In addition to the training costs, the City must fund the cost difference between the Firefighter positions funded by the grant and the higher level Engineer and Captain positions. With updated retirement information, the second Firefighter Recruit Academy for 2012-2013 will no longer be necessary, allowing the Department to reallocate \$900,000 of budgeted costs for this academy to fund the costs that will not be

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supported by the grant. The Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grant Earmarked Reserve will be increased by \$300,000, for a total of \$600,000 to fund the costs not supported by the grant in 2013-2014 and 2014-2015.

BUDGET REFERENCE

Fund #	Appn #	Appn. Name	Total Appn	2012-2013 Proposed Budget Page*	Last Budget Action (Date, Ord. No.)
001	0541	Fire Department Personal Services	\$143,601,356	VIII - 126	06/19/2012 Ord. No. 29102
001	0542	Fire Department Non-Personal/Equipment	\$7,722,709	VIII - 126	06/19/2012 Ord. No. 29102
001	8342	Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grant Earmarked Reserve	\$300,000	IX - 31	06/19/2012 Ord. No. 29102

* The 2012-2013 Operating Budget was Adopted by the City Council on June 19, 2012; however, the Adopted Budget Document has not been released, so the Proposed Budget Document is cited for reference.

CEQA

Not a Project, PP10-066.

/s/

WILLIAM L. MCDONALD
Fire Chief

Margaret McCabon for

JENNIFER A. MAGUIRE
Budget Director

For questions please contact Ron D'Acchioli, Deputy Director Fire Administration, at 794-6953.

I hereby certify that there will be available for appropriation in the General Fund in the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 moneys in excess of those heretofore appropriated therefrom, said excess being at least \$3,236,387.

Margaret McCabon for

JENNIFER A. MAGUIRE
Budget Director