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2015 NOV -5 PM 5:31

# AGENDA REPORT

**TO:** Sabrina B. Landreth  
City Administrator

**FROM:** Teresa Deloach Reed  
Fire Chief

**SUBJECT:** SAFER Grant (2014) Funding Request      **DATE:** October 28, 2015

City Administrator Approval

Date:

11/5/15

## RECOMMENDATION

**Staff Recommends That The City Council Adopt Of A Resolution Authorizing The City Administrator, Or Her Designee To 1) Enter Into A Grant Agreement With The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) To Accept Staffing For Adequate Fire Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant Funds In The Amount Of Four Million Two Hundred And Sixty Eight Thousand One Hundred And Twelve Dollars (\$4,268,112.00); 2) Accept, Appropriate, And Administer Said SAFER Funds; And 3) Expend Funds To Hire Up To Sixteen Firefighters And/Or Firefighter Paramedics For The Grant Performance Period Of February 21, 2016 To February 20, 2018, In Accordance With The City's Hiring Policies.**

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In March of 2015, the Oakland Fire Department (OFD) applied for and was awarded on August 28, 2015 the SAFER grant in the amount of four million two hundred and sixty eight thousand one hundred and twelve dollars (\$4,268,112.00). The grant is intended to fund the salary and benefits for up to 16 firefighters and/or firefighter paramedics for two (2) years. The OFD requests Council approval to accept, appropriate, and administer these grant funds.

## BACKGROUND/LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

The SAFER grant was created to provide funding directly to fire departments and volunteer firefighter interest organizations to help them increase the number of trained, "front line" firefighters available in their communities.

The goal of SAFER is to enhance the local fire departments' abilities to comply with staffing, response, and operational standards established by the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). The SAFER program provides funding for the salary and benefits of firefighters in eligible agencies with staffing needs.

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The City of Oakland first received a SAFER grant award in 2009, since that time there have been three (3) grant awards to the Department for hiring firefighters and/or firefighter paramedics, which total \$9,011,211.00.

	2009	2010	2012
<b>Amount in dollars</b>	921,736.00	307,245.00	7,782,240.00

Source: FEMA, SAFER grant awards list, <https://www.fema.gov/staffing-adequate-fire-emergency-response-grants-awards>

**ANALYSIS AND POLICY ALTERNATIVES**

Adequate staffing in the OFD Field Operations Bureau is both essential and necessary to the City's ability to provide quality emergency response services to the residents of Oakland. Staffing levels within the department have steadily decreased over the last five (5) years due to attrition and budget reductions. Acceptance of this grant will provide funding for up to 16 full-time firefighters and/or firefighter paramedics, thereby enhancing the ability of the Department to provide public safety services, without cost to the General Purpose Fund during the two (2) year performance period.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Fund Source	Organization	Account	Project	Program	Amount
2124 – Federal Emergency Management Agency	20411 – Oakland Fire Department, Field Operations Bureau			PS17 – Fire Suppression Program	\$4,268,112.00
<b>Total Project:</b>					\$4,268,112.00

**PUBLIC OUTREACH/INTEREST**

No outreach was deemed necessary for the proposed policy action beyond the standard City Council agenda noticing procedures.

**COORDINATION**

The Office of the City Attorney and the Controller's Bureau were consulted in the preparation of this report.

**SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES**

**Economic:** Acceptance of this grant will provide funding for up to 16 full-time firefighters and/or firefighter paramedics.

**Environmental:** There are no environmental opportunities associated with this report.

**Social Equity:** Acceptance of this grant will provide funding for up to 16 full-time firefighters and/or firefighter paramedics thereby enhancing the ability of the Department to provide public safety services to residents of the Oakland community.

**ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

Staff recommends City Council approval of a resolution authorizing the City Administrator, or her designee to enter into a grant agreement with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to accept Staffing for Adequate Fire Emergency Response (SAFER) grant funds in the amount of four million two hundred and sixty eight thousand one hundred and twelve dollars (\$4,268,112.00); accept, appropriate, and administer said SAFER funds; and expend funds to hire up to sixteen firefighters and/or firefighter paramedics for the grant performance period of February 21, 2016 to February 20, 2018, in accordance with the city's hiring policies.

For questions concerning this report, please contact Teresa Deloach Reed, Fire Chief, at (510) 238-4050.

Respectfully submitted,



Teresa Deloach Reed  
Fire Chief, Fire Department


Reviewed by:  
Tracey Chin, Captain  
Field Operations Bureau

Prepared by:  
Melinda Drayton, Battalion Chief  
Training and Support Services

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OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

  
City Attorney

RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S.

Introduced by Councilmember \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR OR HER DESIGNEE TO:**

- 1. ENTER INTO A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) TO ACCEPT STAFFING FOR ADEQUATE FIRE EMERGENCY RESPONSE (SAFER) GRANT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF FOUR MILLION TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY EIGHTY THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED AND TWELVE DOLLARS (\$4,268,112.00);**
- 2. ACCEPT, APPROPRIATE AND ADMINISTER SAID SAFER GRANT FUNDS; AND**
- 3. EXPEND FUNDS TO HIRE UP TO SIXTEEN FIREFIGHTERS AND/OR FIREFIGHTER PARAMEDICS FOR THE GRANT PERFORMANCE PERIOD OF FEBRUARY 21, 2016 THROUGH FEBRUARY 20, 2018, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CITY'S HIRING POLICIES.**

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant funding program was created to provide funding directly to fire departments and volunteer firefighter interest organizations to help increase the number of trained, "front line" firefighters available; and

**WHEREAS**, the goal of the SAFER grant program is to enhance local fire departments' ability to comply with staffing, response, and operational standards established by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). The SAFER grant program provides funding for the salary and benefits of firefighters in eligible agencies with staffing needs; and

**WHEREAS**, adequate staffing in the Fire Department's Field Operations Bureau is essential to the City's ability to provide effective emergency response services to the residents of Oakland and will allow the hiring of up to sixteen Firefighters and/or Firefighter Paramedics; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, the City Administrator or her designee is authorized to enter into an agreement with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to accept Staffing For Adequate Fire Emergency Response (SAFER) grant funds in the amount of four million two hundred and sixty eight thousand one hundred and twelve dollars (\$4,268,112.00) ; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, the City Administrator or her designee is authorized to accept, appropriate, and administer SAFER grant funds; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, the City Administrator or her designee is authorized to expend said SAFER grant funds to hire and fund up to sixteen Firefighters and/or Firefighter Paramedics for the Oakland Fire Department from February 21, 2016 through February 20, 2018 in accordance with the city's hiring policies; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, these SAFER funds shall be deposited into the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Fund (2124), Field Operations Bureau, Organization (20411), Fire Suppression Program (PS17) various accounts according to the grant award agreement (all personnel) and a project to be determined; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, the City Administrator or her designee is authorized to complete all required negotiations, certifications, assurances, and documentation required to accept, modify, extend and/or amend this agreement; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, the City Attorney shall review and approve said agreement as to form and legality and copies of said agreement shall be filed with the Office of the City Clerk.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, \_\_\_\_\_

**PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

AYES - BROOKS, CAMPBELL WASHINGTON, GALLO, GUILLEN, KALB, KAPLAN, REID, and PRESIDENT GIBSON MCELHANEY  
NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

LaTonda Simmons  
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council  
of the City of Oakland, California