

CITY OF OAKLAND
AGENDA REPORT

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CITY OF OAKLAND
2007 JUL 10 10:03

TO: Office of the City Administrator
ATTN: Deborah Edgerly
FROM: Fire Department
DATE: July 10, 2007

RE: Resolution Authorizing the City Administrator to Accept and Appropriate Up to Twelve Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$12,500.00) of Grant Funds From Fireman's Fund Insurance Company for the Purchase of Heavy Rescue Operations Equipment

SUMMARY

A resolution has been prepared authorizing the City Administrator to accept and appropriate up to \$12,500.00 from the Fireman's Fund Insurance Company for the purchase of heavy rescue operations equipment.

On June 6, 2007 staff submitted a competitive grant application requesting funding for the purchase of heavy rescue operations equipment. The proposed equipment consists of low pressure lift bags and a fiber optic camera. The low pressure lift bags can be used to support collapsed structures, including buildings and freeways, enabling rescue workers to quickly reach trapped victims. The camera can be inserted into very small openings to allow for the search for trapped victims. The combination of low pressure lift bags and the fiber optic camera significantly enhance heavy rescue operations. The equipment meets National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards.

There is no matching funds requirement for this grant.

FISCAL IMPACT

Authorizing this resolution allows the City Administrator to accept and appropriate grant funds, in an amount not to exceed \$12,500.00 from the Fireman's Fund Insurance Company for the purchase of heavy rescue operations equipment. There is no matching fund requirement for this grant. OFD grants and contract staff will be responsible for administering this agreement and ensuring that all requirements set forth in the agreement are met. The grant funds will be appropriated to Private Grant fund (2190) Personnel, Safety and Liability organization (20811), Minor Tools and Equipment account (52914), project TBD, Special Operations program (PS18) and offset by revenue Private Grant fund (2190) Personnel, Safety and Liability organization (20811), Private Party Grant account (46411), project TBD, Special Operations program (PS18).

Item: _____
Public Safety Committee
July 10, 2007

BACKGROUND

In the event of a large scale earthquake or similar disaster structures including high rise buildings and freeways may collapse. As demonstrated in the Loma Prieta earthquake the possibility that victims could potentially be trapped beneath the debris from a collapsed structure, large trees or other matter is a reality. The ability to quickly locate and lift the collapsed structure from those trapped and allow emergency personnel to reach any victims significantly decreases the risk of lost lives and increased injury.

The Oakland Fire Department (OFD) continues to aggressively pursue alternate funding sources as a means of providing necessary rescue and safety equipment, training and community programs. Fireman's Fund Insurance Company provides grant funds for fire departments facing funding challenges. The grant funds provide equipment, training, and community education programs in support of the fire service and the firefighters who protect the lives and property of the citizens in the jurisdictions they serve.

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACT

The OFD Heavy Rescue Team is often the initial responder to confined space and collapsed structure incidents. The team members specialize in rescuing victims trapped by collapsed structures and in hard to reach confined spaces. Additionally, the team provides initial response through mutual aid to heavy rescue incidents in neighboring cities. One of the Department's goals is to obtain the necessary equipment and personnel training to become a recognized Type I Heavy Rescue Unit within the next two years. The proposed equipment is on the list of required equipment for obtaining the Type I recognition.

Collapsed structure and confined space rescue operations present unique challenges in that the trapped victim is often under debris weighing from several hundred pounds to many tons. In many cases the trapped victim is losing blood, unconscious or has severed a limb. The chances for survival decrease the longer the victim remains trapped. In some instances trapped victims have had to have limbs amputated in order to remove them from beneath fallen debris.

The proposed equipment significantly enhances heavy rescue operations by allowing responding personnel to utilize the camera to search and identify the location of trapped victims and then deploy the low pressure lift bags to lift collapsed structures enough for the trapped victim to escape or be reached by emergency personnel. The combination of proper equipment and trained personnel gives Oakland an edge as initial responders in the event of a structure collapse. Further, the team will continue to respond to other jurisdictions through mutual aid responses and will utilize the equipment and expertise to assist others.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed equipment meets NFPA and OSHA standards. Importantly these items are on the list of equipment required to obtain recognition as a Type I Heavy Rescue Unit. The low pressure lift bags are essentially deflated bags that, when placed between two objects and inflated, expand two feet and hold fourteen thousand pounds. They can be used to support collapsed buildings or freeways to significantly enhance rescue operations and searches. Additionally, they can be used to fill voids during trench collapses and move objects of up to seven tons away from potentially trapped victims.

The search camera is a fiber optic camera that can be inserted into very small holes to search for potential victims in most any situation. The camera is successfully utilized by all Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) teams in the United States.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic- Having the ability to identify and remove collapsed structure debris from trapped victims decreases the chance of lost lives and increased injury.

Environmental- There are no environmental issues related to this project.

Social Equity- The proposed project provides the ability to quickly identify and effectuate heavy rescue operations when there is a collapsed structure at any location within the city. Further, the equipment could significantly decrease the risk of further injury and lost lives as a result of a collapsed building, freeway or other structure.

DISABILITY AND SENIOR ACCESS

There are no disability or senior access issues related to this project.

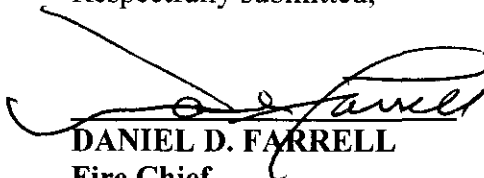
RECOMMENDATION(S) AND RATIONALE

Staff recommends approval of the proposed resolution authorizing the City Administrator to accept and appropriate up to \$12,500.00 in grant funds from Fireman's Fund Insurance Company for the purchase of heavy rescue operations equipment.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff requests the City Council to approve this report and a resolution authorizing the City Administrator to accept and appropriate up to twelve thousand five hundred dollars (\$12,500.00) from Fireman's Fund Insurance Company for the purchase of Heavy rescue operations equipment.

Respectfully submitted,



DANIEL D. FARRELL
Fire Chief

Reviewed by: Renee' A. Domingo
Division Manager

Prepared by: Nina Morris, Personnel Ops. Specialist
Personnel, Safety &
Liability Division

**APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:**



Office of the City Administrator

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

2007 JUN 23 PM 8:03

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL


City Attorney

RESOLUTION No. _____ C.M.S.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE UP TO TWELVE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$12,500.00) OF GRANT FUNDS FROM FIREMAN'S FUND INSURANCE COMPANY FOR THE PURCHASE OF HEAVY RESCUE OPERATIONS EQUIPMENT

WHEREAS, the city of Oakland is a multiple hazard risk area; and

WHEREAS, there is a great likelihood of buildings, freeways and other structures collapsing during an earthquake, terrorist attack or other catastrophic event, which could potentially result in victims being trapped by fallen building materials and other debris; and

WHEREAS, the Oakland Fire Department's Heavy Rescue Team provides initial response to collapsed structure rescue and search operation incidents in the city of Oakland and in neighboring jurisdictions through mutual aid agreements; and

WHEREAS, Fireman's Fund Insurance Company awards grants to fire departments to provide specialized equipment and training to personnel; and

WHEREAS, an application requesting grant funds of up to twelve thousand five hundred dollars (\$12,500.00) for the purchase of heavy rescue equipment was submitted on June 7, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Fireman's Fund Insurance Company grant does not require a matching fund contribution and proceeds will be appropriated to fund 2190 organization 20811, account 52914, project TBD, program PS18 and offset by revenue fund 2190, organization 20811, account 46411, project TBD and program PS18; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council of the City of Oakland accept and appropriate up to twelve thousand five hundred dollars (\$12, 500.00) in Fireman’s Fund Insurance Company grant funds; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Administrator is authorized to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to applications, letters of commitment, agreements, amendments, payment requests which may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the aforementioned grant

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 20_____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES – BRUNNER, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN BROOKS, REID, CHANG AND PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST: _____
LaTonda Simmons
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California