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OAKLAND

2013 FEB 14 AM 11:19

AGENDA REPORT

TO: DEANNA J. SANTANA
CITY ADMINISTRATOR

FROM: TERESA DELOACH REED
FIRE CHIEF

SUBJECT: SAFER Grant (2012) Funding Request DATE: January 23, 2013

Approval Deanna John Date 1/31/13

COUNCIL DISTRICT: City-Wide

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends 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 Seven Million Seven Hundred Eighty Two Thousand Two Hundred and Forty Dollars (\$7,782,240); and accept, appropriate, and administer SAFER Grant funds; and expend funds to hire twenty-four firefighters for the Oakland Fire Department from March 9, 2013 through March 8, 2015, provided the City's hiring policies are followed.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In December of 2012, the Oakland Fire Department (OFD) applied for and was awarded the Staffing for Adequate Fire Emergency Response (SAFER) grant in the amount of Seven Million Seven Hundred Eighty Two Thousand Two Hundred and Forty Dollars (\$7,782,240). The grant is intended to fund the salary and benefits of twenty-four firefighters for two years. Oakland Fire Department requests the Council's approval to accept, appropriate and administer these grant funds which will be used to hire 24 firefighters from March 9, 2013 through March 8, 2015.

OUTCOME

Acceptance of these grant funds will allow the Oakland Fire Department to fund the salary and benefits of twenty-four firefighters for the period of March 9, 2013 through March 8, 2015. As such, fire emergency services will be augmented from the current service level without additional costs from local funding.

Due to the budget reduction, two out of thirty-two fire companies are currently in rotational closure, which leaves the current service level at thirty fire companies. With the grant funding, the service level will be restored to thirty-two companies without additional local funds.

Item: 5
Public Safety
February 26, 2013

BACKGROUND/LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

The Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant 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 in their communities.

The goal of SAFER is to enhance the 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.

ANALYSIS

Adequate staffing in the Department's 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 few years due to attrition and budget reductions. Acceptance of this grant will provide funding for twenty-four full-time firefighters, thereby enhancing the department's ability to provide public safety services, without impacting the General Fund during the two-year performance period.

The grant request was substantiated by the FY 2011-12 policy budget which reduced funding for OFD staffing by four million dollars, resulting in the current rotational brown out strategy which closes two companies per day within the City. The rotational brown out strategy reduces staffing levels within the Field Operations Bureau by eight firefighters per shift or 24 firefighters each brown out cycle. This is equivalent to two engine companies. SAFER grant funding will allow the Fire Department to hire this same number of personnel in order to reinstate two engine companies. This will result in a more timely response to all emergency calls and a greater level of customer service and public safety across the City without impacting the general fund.

COORDINATION

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

COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS

1. AMOUNT OF RECOMMENDATION
Grant Amount: \$7,782,240
Performance Period: March 9, 2013 through March 8, 2015
2. COST ELEMENTS OF AGREEMENT/CONTRACT

Item: *
Public Safety Committee
February 26, 2013

Salary and Benefits of twenty-four FTE firefighters: \$7,782,240

3. SOURCE OF FUNDING: FEMA SAFER Grant.
4. FISCAL IMPACT: SAFER grant funds will finance twenty-four full-time firefighters for two years, which is currently funded by the general fund. Accepting this grant will increase staffing for FY 2013-14 with no impact to the general fund and save \$2.67 million dollars of the general fund for FY 2014-15.

Funds shall be deposited into the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Fund (2124), Fire Suppression/Field Operations Bureau, Organization (20411), various accounts according to the grant award agreement (all personnel) and a project to be determined, Fire Suppression Program (PS17) and the revenue will be deposited into FEMA Grants Revenue account (46130).

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

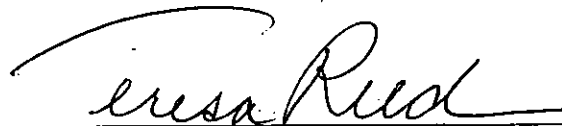
Economic: Acceptance of this grant will provide a greater assurance of timely response to emergency calls and thereby provide greater protection to the life and property of the residents of Oakland, which makes a positive contribution to the current state of the City's overall economic condition and public safety.

Environmental: There are no environmental opportunities.

Social Equity: Acceptance of this grant will provide funding for twenty-four full-time firefighters, thereby enhancing the Department's ability to provide public safety services to the residents and visitors of Oakland.

For questions concerning this report, please contact Ms. Donna Hom at (510) 238-2038.

Respectfully submitted,



Teresa DeLoach Reed
Fire Chief

Reviewed by:
Chief Financial Officer Donna Hom

Prepared by:
Battalion Chief Melinda Drayton

Armedy South
City Attorney

2013 FEB 14 AM 11:18 **OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL**

RESOLUTION No. _____ C.M.S.

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 SEVEN MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED EIGHTY TWO THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND FORTY DOLLARS (\$7,782,240), AND**
- 2) **ACCEPT, APPROPRIATE, AND ADMINISTER SAFER GRANT FUNDS, AND**
- 3) **EXPEND FUNDS TO HIRE TWENTY-FOUR FIREFIGHTERS FOR THE OAKLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT FROM MARCH 9, 2013 THROUGH MARCH 8, 2015, PROVIDED THE CITY'S HIRING POLICIES ARE FOLLOWED**

WHEREAS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grants 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 twenty-four firefighters which is the same number of personnel affected by the rotational brown out schedule allowing the restoration of two engine companies, without impacting the City's General Fund the first year, and creating a savings the second year; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that 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 Program grant funds in the amount of seven million seven hundred and eighty two thousand two hundred and forty dollars (\$7,782,240); and be it

5
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FEB 26 2013

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

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Administrator or her designee is authorized to expend SAFER grant funds to hire twenty-four firefighters for the Oakland Fire Department from March 9, 2013 through March 8, 2015, provided the City’s hiring policies are followed; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that these SAFER funds shall be deposited into the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Fund (2124), Fire Suppression/Field Operations Bureau, Organization (20411), various accounts according to the grant award agreement (all personnel) and a project to be determined, Fire Suppression Program (PS17) and the revenue will be deposited into the same fund, organization, program and FEMA Grants Revenue account (46130); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Administrator or her designee is hereby 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, that 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, _____, 20_____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

BROOKS, GALLO, KAPLAN, REID, GIBSON McELHANEY, SCHAAF, KALB and PRESIDENT KERNIGHAN

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

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

5
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FEB 26 2013