

CITY OF OAKLAND
AGENDA REPORT

2010 APR -1 PM 1:15

TO: Office of the City Administrator
ATTN: Dan Lindheim
FROM: Gerald A. Simon, Fire Chief
DATE: April 13, 2010

RE: **Resolution Authorizing the City Administrator to 1) Accept a Grant from FEMA and the Department of Homeland Security in the Amount of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000) and 2) Award a Contract To The Lowest Responsible, Responsive Bidder For Equipment, Installation and Training to Implement A Live Burn Simulator Training Unit in an Amount up to \$375, 000, Without Return To Council**

SUMMARY

A resolution has been prepared requesting that the City Council authorize the City Administrator to 1) accept a grant from FEMA and the Department of Homeland Security in the amount of \$300,000 and 2) award a contract to the lowest responsible, responsive bidder for a Live Burn Simulator Training Unit in an amount up to \$375,000, without return to Council.

This grant project will allow the Oakland Fire Department (OFD) to incorporate an essential live burn training component to its aggressive fire training program, which provides training for all OFD emergency response personnel, and also offers a high quality program and facility to neighboring jurisdictions.

FISCAL IMPACT

Resolution No. 80831 C.M.S., approved by Council on September 18, 2007 authorized staff to apply for grant opportunities during the period of October 1, 2007 to September 30, 2009 for the upgrade and enhancement of the OFD Training Division.

The grant award amount is \$300,000, with matching costs of \$75,000. The grant funds will be deposited to Fund 2124 Federal Emergency Agency (FEMA), Organization 20611 Education and Training, Project TBD, Assistance to Firefighters Grant, Program PS27, Fire Department Safety, Education and Training. The matching costs will be funded from the OFD FY 2009-2011 adopted budget. In addition, staff will aggressively pursue qualified alternative funding sources to offset costs charged to the OFD budget.

The Deputy Chief assigned to manage the Training Division and the Assistant to the Chief who is assigned to manage grants and special projects will share responsibility for project

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management and ensuring that the terms set forth in the grant agreement are met. The grant performance period is January 29, 2010 through January 28, 2011.

BACKGROUND

The Assistance to Firefighter's Grant provides one-year grants to fire departments in order to enhance their abilities with respect to fire and fire-related hazards. The primary goal is to provide assistance to meet fire departments' firefighting and emergency response needs.

OFD has a long-term goal of becoming a "world class" regional training facility. This entails significant upgrading and enhancement of the facility and training programs. In 2007 staff began the process of forming private-public relationships and seeking alternative funding sources to fund necessary equipment and training. As part of this effort, in 2009 staff developed a competitive Assistance to Firefighter's Grant application proposing the purchase of a live burn simulator to enhance the firefighter training program in the amount of \$375,000. We received notice of the award in February 2010. To date, this effort has resulted in partnerships with private companies such as PC Professionals and Target Safety, under which private companies donated equipment, training and services to upgrade and enhance the OFD Training Division. To date grant awards and donations total approximately \$1 million.

The grant project is the purchase and implementation of a live burn simulator. To accomplish this task, OFD staff will work with Contract Administration and Purchasing to advertise and conduct a competitive bid process and select the lowest responsible, responsive bidder to provide the equipment, installation and necessary training for a Live Burn Simulator Training Unit.

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

Employee health and safety are a number one priority. The skills firefighters develop in their training is critical because when it becomes necessary to use them, there is no room for error. Firefighters must be well prepared and effective or tragic consequences can occur. The highest quality training with state of the art equipment such as the proposed live burn training unit are the best defense tools we can provide for our firefighters who risk their lives to protect life and property in the Oakland community.

OFD's current training program has the necessary multi-media software, facilities and staff to provide excellent classroom education to our department and others. However, the addition of a live burn simulator upgrades the program such that firefighters receive the benefit of effective and practical live burn training situations.

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There is only "so much" that can be learned in a classroom setting. Our ability to provide "hands on" training is extremely important because a large number of the current firefighters have less than 15 years experience on the job. The best way to hone the skills necessary to reduce the risk of injury or death and protect life and property in the Oakland community is to actually practice what is taught in the classroom. The portable live fire training unit allows for the direct delivery of onsite fire training. It will heighten our state of readiness and enhance safety to our firefighters by increasing the amount of direct delivery training they receive each year.

OFD staff will work with Contract Administration and Purchasing to advertise and conduct a competitive bid process and select the lowest responsible, responsive bidder to provide the necessary equipment, installation services and training. The Oakland Municipal Code requires the Council to approve and award contracts for equipment and services over \$100,000. O.M.C. Chapter 2.04, Section 2.04.030. The resolution seeks Council authorization for the City Administrator to award a contract to the lowest responsible, responsive bidder following advertising and bidding in an amount up to \$375,000 which is the grant amount and matching cost requirement combined. This will expedite the project by eliminating the requirement to return to Council for award of the contract.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed equipment allows firefighters to practice critical tactical skills for fighting structure fires that are essential to their safety and their ability to protect the life and property of others. The live burn simulator is a mobile, propane-fired, 2-story structural trainer that consists of a smoke machine and delivery system, an onboard generator and propane supply, emergency shutdowns and assorted burn props to create a realistic fire setting. The live fire training unit utilizes an environmentally safe fuel and allows for complete mobility and is very easy to use and set up. The trainer has two door entrances, two windows, multiple burn props, and is equipped with a ventilation/cutting unit to give a practical experience in performing vertical ventilation. The unit will be housed at the OFD Training Division and used as part of the mandated training received by firefighters each year. The objectives for the proposed grant funded program include:

- Provide live burn training safely to all firefighters
- Provide practical and live burn experience for each firefighter in the use and response of a rapid intervention team (RIT) in a live burn scenario
- Effectively utilize an incident command system in a live burn scenario
- Provide vertical and horizontal ventilation training to firefighters
- Provide practical experience in the application of a confined space rescue

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- Provide a self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) confidence course for all firefighters twice a year
- Provide and assist area Fire Departments with practical live burn training
- Provide an avenue for area Fire Departments to train together on live fire training as if performing on a mutual aid request.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: Improved firefighter safety training significantly reduces the risk of injuries and death to firefighters and the Oakland community.

Environmental: There are no environmental issues associated with this report.

Social Equity: There are no social equity issues associated with this report

DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

All work performed under approved agreements will be in compliance with ADA laws.

RECOMMENDATION AND RATIONALE

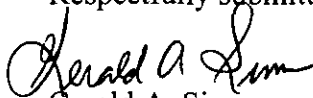
The ability to receive “hands on” training gives firefighters the knowledge and actual practice that increases their confidence and effectiveness when responding to structure fires and significantly reduces the likelihood of injury or death associated with such responses. Therefore, staff recommends that the City Council authorize the City Administrator to 1) accept a grant from FEMA and the Department of Homeland Security in the amount of \$300,000 and 2) award a contract to the lowest responsible, responsive bidder for the purchase and implementation of equipment, installation and training for a live burn simulator at the Oakland Fire Department (OFD) Training Division in an amount up to \$375,000, without return to Council.

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ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff requests that the City Council approve a Resolution authorizing the City Administrator to 1) accept a grant from FEMA and the Department of Homeland Security in the amount of \$300,000 and 2) award a contract to the lowest responsible, responsive bidder for the purchase and implementation of equipment, installation and training for a live burn simulator at the Oakland Fire Department (OFD) Training Division in an amount up to \$375,000, without return to Council.

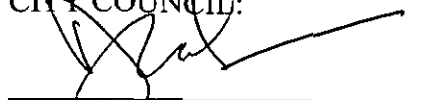
Respectfully submitted,



Gerald A. Simon
Fire Chief

Prepared by:
Nina S. Morris, Assistant to the Director
Office of the Fire Chief

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE
CITY COUNCIL:



Office of the City Administrator

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FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

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Approved as to Form and Legality


Oakland City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. _____ C.M.S.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO:
1) ACCEPT A GRANT FROM FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY IN THE AMOUNT OF THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$300,000) AND 2) AWARD A CONTRACT TO THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE, RESPONSIVE BIDDER FOR EQUIPMENT, INSTALLATION AND TRAINING TO IMPLEMENT A LIVE BURN SIMULATOR TRAINING UNIT IN AN AMOUNT UP TO \$375,000, WITHOUT RETURN TO COUNCIL

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 80831 C.M.S authorized the City Administrator to apply for grant funds to upgrade and enhance the Oakland Fire Department Training Division and programs; and

WHEREAS, Oakland Fire Department staff submitted a competitive grant application and was awarded a grant for the purchase of a live burn simulator to improve its structure fire training program under the Department of Homeland Security 2009 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program in the amount of \$30,000; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Homeland Security Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program will award 80% of the cost of the live burn simulator driving simulator (\$300,000), which will be appropriated to Fund 2124 Federal Emergency Agency, Organization 20611 Education and Training, Project TBD Assistance to Firefighters Grant, Program PS27 Fire Department Safety, Education and Training and the 20% matching requirement in the amount of \$75,000 will be funded by the Fiscal Years 2009-2011 adopted budget for the Oakland Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, Oakland Fire Department staff will work with Contract Administration and Purchasing to advertise and conduct a competitive bid process and select the lowest responsible, responsive bidder for the purchase of equipment, installation and training for a Live Burn Simulator Training Unit in an amount up to \$375,000; and

WHEREAS, Oakland Municipal Code Section 2.04.030.A.1 requires the Council to approve and award contracts for equipment and services over \$100,000 and this resolution seeks Council authorization for the City Administrator to award the contract for purchase of equipment, installation and training for the Live Burn Simulator Unit in order to expedite the project by eliminating the requirement to return to Council for award of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the City Administrator has determined that the contract for purchase to be authorized hereunder is of a professional, scientific or technical and temporary nature and shall not result in the loss of employment or salary by any person having permanent status in the competitive service; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby authorizes the City Administrator to accept a grant from Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Homeland Security in the amount of \$300,000; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Council authorizes the City Administrator to award the contract for purchase of equipment, installation and training for the Live Burn Simulator Unit to the lowest responsible, responsive bidder in an amount up to \$375,000, without return to Council, provided the winning bidder is selected in accord with City of Oakland advertising and bidding requirements of the Oakland Municipal Code; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby authorizes the City Administrator, as agent of the City, or his designee, to complete all required negotiations, certifications, assurances, and documentation required to purchase and implement a live burn simulator, including equipment training and supplies for the Oakland Fire Department Training Division; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That said agreements shall be approved as to form and legality by the Office of the City Attorney and placed on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, DE LA FUENTE, KAPLAN, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, REID, AND
PRESIDENT BRUNNER

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST:

LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of
the City of Oakland, California