

CITY OF OAKLAND
AGENDA REPORT

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
2007 FEB 15 PM 2:53

TO: Office of the City Administrator
ATTN: Deborah Edgerly
FROM: Oakland Fire Department
DATE: February 27, 2007

RE: A Resolution Authorizing The City Administrator To: 1) Apply For, Accept And Appropriate A Grant From The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) For The Period June 01, 2007 To September 30, 2008 In The Amount Of Seven Hundred Sixty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$769,500) To Meet Continuing Management, Training And Equipment Needs Of The Fire Department's Urban Search And Rescue (USAR) Team, 2) Waive The City's Competitive Bidding Requirements And Authorize Procurement Of Equipment From The General Services Administration Agency, And 3) Award Equipment Contracts Without Return To Council.

SUMMARY

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has been the funding source for 28 Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) teams nationwide since the program's inception in 1990. During this period, the Oakland Fire Department has sponsored one of these teams, California Task Force 4 (CATF-4). The annual grant award has gradually increased over time to the current level of \$769,500 for the coming 15 months. This amount will cover our projected expenses for the acquisition, storage and maintenance of team equipment as well as training, personnel and administrative costs associated with the program. The grant period runs from June 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008. No matching funds are required.

FISCAL IMPACT

This Administrative Preparedness grant of \$769,500 is to staff, equip, train and support CATF-4 for disaster work, in accordance with FEMA grant guidelines. The coding block is fund #2124, organization # 20815, program PS18

The first year maintenance costs on all new equipment will primarily be covered by warranties. The on-going costs of maintaining and replacing any equipment purchased

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under this grant fund will either be covered by subsequent grants or the equipment will be returned to the grantor. This spending plan has been approved by FEMA.

A detailed break down of the FEMA approved budget is as follows:

For Personnel, management and medical screening expenses. This includes a newly added Assistant Chief of Fire Department. The USAR grant funded this position for an Alameda County incumbent Assistant Chief until December 2006. The position is currently under the Oakland Fire Department since the Alameda County incumbent has retired. The cost of the position is \$240,363. We are requesting a waiver of \$21,412 departmental overhead cost since the administrative cost limit is mainly spent at the federal level. The total personnel and management costs are estimated to be: \$397,397.

Pre-existing contract for warehouse rental and cache maintenance (storage for cache)	132,210
New equipment/supplies acquisition	78,200
Travel (as required by FEMA)	87,000
Training delivery (as required by FEMA)	<u>74,693</u>
Total:	\$769,500

We are requesting to shorten the City's travel authorization requirements to allow for the short notification (i.e., a few days) given by FEMA for travel paid from grant funds.

For security reasons, FEMA requests that we do not disclose specific details with regard to the amount and types of equipment purchased.

The grant is subject to the requirements of the Single Audit Act of 1996, generally accepted governmental audit standards (GAGAS) and Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) circular A-133, Audits of State, Local Governments and Nonprofit Institutions.

BACKGROUND

Since the World Trade Center disaster on September 11, 2001, Congress has taken the National USAR program and funded it to a higher level. The 28 teams have broadened their mission capabilities from the handling of natural disasters (i.e. flood, earthquakes, etc.) to include weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and terrorist incidents. In 2005 CATF-4 responded with rescue teams to New Orleans, Louisiana and Biloxi, Mississippi for Hurricane Katrina, Houston, Texas for Hurricane Rita and with overhead personnel

for Hurricane Wilma, Miami, Florida. In 2006 CATF-4 responded with overhead personnel for Hurricane Ernesto, in various points of the Gulf.

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

Unless Oakland's USAR team continues to equip and train as per FEMA guidelines they will not be a part of FEMA's national system and will lose federal government funding. As all USAR teams are first and foremost a local asset, we would therefore have a limited ability to respond to WMD and/or natural disaster incidents in Oakland or other local jurisdictions.

CATF-4 has been authorized by FEMA to allocate grant money in the following manner:

Personnel (overtime includes 12.29% overhead)	\$385,397
This money covers the projected cost of one full time program manager, one full time office assistant and additional part time help as needed to manage the team and meet FEMA requirements.	
Pre-existing contract for warehouse rental and cache maintenance (storage for cache)	\$133,403
New equipment/supplies acquisition and maintenance	\$78,200
This is for the reimbursable cost of equipment and supplies as required by FEMA	
Travel (as required by FEMA)	\$87,000
Travel specifics become known less than 30 days prior to events. This amount is based on past history and expectations. Team members attend FEMA training and working groups that require travel.	
Training delivery (as required by FEMA)	\$74,693
FEMA specifies particular training that must be delivered to either the entire 210 member team, or members in specific job classifications.	

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The purpose of the FEMA USAR Preparedness Grant is to allow each National Urban Search and Rescue Task Force the opportunity to raise its standard and condition of operational readiness as an available FEMA and local resource.

There is a great deal of equipment to be purchased to bring the cache up to a full compliment. The current value of the entire cache is in excess of \$3.5 million. The Task

Force will use all means possible to purchase this equipment from local vendors. On occasion FEMA grant guidelines require that we use their purchasing process so it is also recommended that the City Administrator be authorized to make these purchases when necessary using the federal competitive bid process and without returning to Council.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic:

CATF-4 provides opportunities to local vendors and merchants. Whenever possible, and unless otherwise directed by FEMA agreements, we spend our grant monies locally.

Environmental:

Our Task Force recycles waste products and uses environmentally safe practices in our handling of the various materials we use.

Social Equity:

CATF-4 is 1 of 8 teams in California and 1 of 28 USAR Teams nationwide. The Oakland USAR Team will be used as a local asset in the event of a local natural disaster, accident or terrorist attack. If the team is needed in Oakland or surrounding communities, it will respond to local needs first. CATF-4 would be taken out of consideration for national deployment if it was needed locally.

DISABILITY AND SENIOR CITIZEN ACCESS

The Task Force will be better prepared to respond to the City of Oakland's needs in a time of emergency. Many lives will be saved due to the rapid response with sophisticated equipment to detect and extricate victims, especially to those people who would have difficulty to "self rescue" in times of disaster.

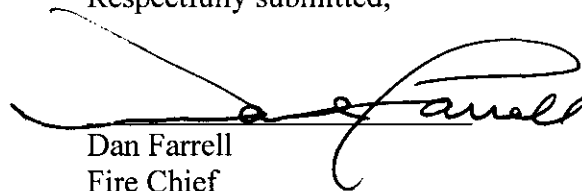
RECOMMENDATION AND RATIONALE

Staff recommends that the City Administrator be authorized to apply for, accept and appropriate a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the period June 1, 2007 to September 30, 2008 in the amount of Seven Hundred Sixty-nine Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$769,500) to meet the continued expenses of the Oakland Fire Department's Urban Search and Rescue Team as they equip and train to respond to natural disasters or weapons of mass destruction.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the resolution.

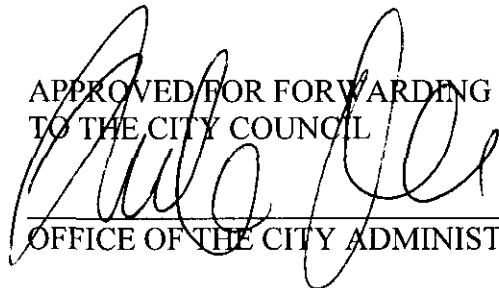
Respectfully submitted,



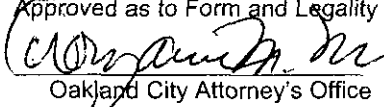
Dan Farrell
Fire Chief

Prepared by: Mark Hoffmann
Battalion Chief

APPROVED FOR FORWARDING
TO THE CITY COUNCIL


OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR

2007 FEB 15 PM 2:53

Approved as to Form and Legality

Oakland City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION No. _____ C.M.S.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO: 1) APPLY FOR, ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE A GRANT FROM THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) FOR THE PERIOD JUNE 01, 2007 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2008 IN THE AMOUNT OF SEVEN HUNDRED SIXTY NINE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$769,500.00) TO MEET CONTINUING MANAGEMENT, TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT NEEDS OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT'S URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE (USAR) TEAM, 2) WAIVE THE CITY'S COMPETITIVE BIDDING REQUIREMENTS AND AUTHORIZE PROCUREMENT OF EQUIPMENT FROM THE GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION AGENCY, 3) AWARD EQUIPMENT CONTRACTS WITHOUT RETURN TO COUNCIL.

WHEREAS, the Oakland Fire Department is the Sponsoring Agency for California Task Force 4 (CA TF4) Urban Search and Rescue (USAR); and

WHEREAS, CA TF4 is one of 8 California and 28 national USAR teams; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), a component of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), is the federal management agency; and

WHEREAS, FEMA supports all 28 USAR teams with federal grants; and

WHEREAS, after the events of September 11, 2001 Congress has increased the funds to equip and train all 28 USAR teams to respond to possible weapons of mass destruction (WMD) events as well as natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, CA TF4 is eligible to apply for an administrative preparedness grant in the amount of seven hundred sixty nine thousand five hundred dollars (\$769,500.00) for weapons of mass destruction response and operational readiness preparedness and equipment; and

WHEREAS, the terms and conditions of this FEMA grant require the City to procure equipment needed for the program from the General Services Administration Agency and to travel per FEMA directives on short notice; and

WHEREAS, this task force is available to the City of Oakland in the event of an attack within the City or surrounding communities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Oakland City Council, hereby authorizes the City Administrator to apply for, accept and appropriate a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the period June 01, 2007 to September 30, 2008 in the amount of seven hundred sixty nine thousand five hundred dollars (\$769,500.00) to meet the continued expenses of the Oakland Fire Department's Urban Search and Rescue Team as they equip and train to respond to natural disasters or weapons of mass destruction incidents; and, be it

FURTHER RESOVLED: That, pursuant to Oakland Municipal Code Title 2, Chapter 2.04, Section 2.04.050.I.5, the City Council hereby finds that it is in the best interests of the City to waive competitive bidding requirements for the purchase of equipment needed for the USAR team weapons of mass destruction training and preparedness because the grant is contingent on procurement of said equipment from the General Service Administration Agency; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby authorizes the City Administrator to procure grant-funded equipment needed for the USAR team weapons of mass destruction team training and preparedness from the federal General Service Administration Agency, and, for timeliness and security reasons, to do so without return to Council; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the all contracts issued hereunder shall be reviewed and approved by the office of the City Attorney for form and legality and a copies shall be placed in file in the Office of the City Clerk.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 2007

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

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

NOES –
ABSENT –
ABSTENTION –

ATTEST: _____
LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California