



# AGENDA REPORT

**TO:** Edward D. Reiskin  
City Administrator

**FROM:** Reginald Freeman  
Fire Chief, Oakland Fire  
Department

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Year 2018 Urban Search and  
Rescue (US&R) Supplemental  
Funding

**DATE:** September 29, 2022

City Administrator Approval 

Date: Sep 30, 2022

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**Staff Recommends the City Council Authorize The City Administrator To Accept, Appropriate, And Administer Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 Urban Search And Rescue Grant Funds From The Federal Emergency Management Agency In The Amount Of One Million Three Hundred Twenty One Thousand Eight Hundred And Twenty Three Dollars, By Extending The Period For Receipt Of Said Grant Funds To August 31, 2022**

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Consistent with the intent of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) grant program, which provides funding for the operation, maintenance, and preparedness of California Task Force Four (CA-TF4), amending the proposed resolution will enable the City to extend the period to accept receipt of funds to August 31, 2022, so CA-TF4 may use those funds for the purchase of a vehicle which was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The cumulative FY 2018 FEMA US&R grant award allocation award is not to exceed one million, three hundred twenty-one thousand, eight hundred and twenty three dollars (\$1,321,823).

## **BACKGROUND/LEGISLATIVE HISTORY**

On January 10, 2019, City Council approved Resolution No. 87503 C.M.S., authorizing the City Administrator to accept, appropriate, and expend the initial FEMA; US&R Grant funds. On June 16, 2020, City Council approved Resolution No. 88161 C.M.S., authorizing the City Administrator to accept, appropriate, and expend supplemental FEMA; US&R Grant funds.

The City of Oakland Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 FEMA US&R grant application was approved by FEMA and the City of Oakland has been awarded a cumulative grant allocation of one million three hundred twenty one thousand and eight hundred and twenty-three dollars (\$1,321,823). The proposed and approved spending plan for this grant award was appropriated to fund staffing, maintain and procure equipment. Some of these funds have been administered toward

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the appropriation; while other funding of the appropriation is underway as we are still within the timeline of this grant performance period.

## **ANALYSIS AND POLICY ALTERNATIVES**

There are twenty-eight (28) FEMA US&R Task Forces in the United States, with eight (8) in California. The City of Oakland is the Sponsoring Agency for a FEMA US&R Task Force, California Task Force 4 (CA-TF4). The Oakland Fire Department Task Force has agreements with fifteen (15) participating fire agencies from the Bay Area that provide Task Force personnel and support the training and responses of the Oakland Task Force. Federal funds are provided to sponsoring agencies to support a US&R Response System that provides for the coordination, development, and maintenance, of the effort to locate, extricate, and provide immediate medical treatment to victims trapped in collapsed structures, and to conduct other lifesaving operations.

In addition to the Federal funding, The State of California supports the eight (8) California US&R Task Forces with funding through the California Fire and Rescue Training Authority (CFRTA), California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI), or State of California identified training center that facilitates Mobilization Exercises and conducts other pertinent trainings, in preparation for response to disasters such as earthquakes, wildfires, flooding, and terrorist attacks.

Since the Loma Prieta Earthquake in October of 1989, the City of Oakland Fire Department has taken an active role in preparing for an US&R response. In 1991, FEMA sponsored 25 National US&R Task Forces and Oakland CA-TF4 has been a part of the National Response System since the inception.

On January 10, 2019, the City Council approved Resolution No. 87503 C.M.S. authorizing the City Administrator to accept appropriate up to one million, two hundred thirty seven thousand, nine hundred and ninety dollars (\$1,237,990) FEMA; US&R Grant funds (**Attachment A**).

On June 16, 2020, City Council approved Resolution No. 88161 C.M.S., authorizing the City Administrator to accept appropriate an additional amount of eighty three thousand, eight hundred and thirty three dollars (\$83,833) FEMA; US&R Grant funds (**Attachment B**). These funds have been and will be used for the following purposes:

- Fleet purchase or replacement

This grant has and will continue to have a positive impact for the City of Oakland and advances the Citywide Priority of ensuring **holistic community safety**. The members of the Task Force are members of OFD and other Participating Fire Agencies, and they receive training for response to man-made and natural disasters. The training provides knowledge, skills, and abilities to a network of local first responders, so they can perform search and rescue operations, victim extrication, wide area search and patient treatment to reduce loss of life as the result of emergency incidents in the City and region.

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### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Acceptance of Grant Funds: During the grant period of September 1, 2018 to August 31, 2021, with an extension to August 31, 2022. FEMA will reimburse the City for the purchase of fleet purchase or replacement to the program amendment. Approval of this resolution will authorize the extension of the FY 18 FEMA grant funds (**Attachment C**).

FY 2018 Supplemental FEMA grant funds will be deposited into the FEMA Fund (2124), Special Operations Division (20815), the Miscellaneous Grants Revenue account (46129), 2018 US&R Supplemental FEMA Grant Project (1005106), Special Operations Program (PS18), Task (2124.PS18) and Award (23689).

### **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 Budget Bureau were consulted in the preparation of this report and resolution.

### **SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES**

**Economic:** Acceptance of this grant amendment will allow for the purchase and maintenance of equipment, which will contribute to the local economy.

**Environmental:** There are no environmental impacts associated with this action because the facility will be used for the storage and maintenance of technical rescue equipment.

**Race & Equity:** There is a large race and equity benefit to the City. The City is in an active earthquake fault zone. All the citizens of Oakland will benefit from the unique training that is available to members of the FEMA US&R Task Force as these members respond to emergencies within the City on a daily basis. In the event of a local disaster, the US&R Task Force equipment cache is available to local responders.

### **ACTION REQUESTED OF CITY COUNCIL**

Staff Recommends the City Council Authorize The City Administrator To Accept, Appropriate, And Administer Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 Urban Search And Rescue Grant Funds From The Federal Emergency Management Agency In The Amount Of One Million Three Hundred Twenty

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One Thousand Eight Hundred And Twenty Three Dollars, By Extending The Period For Receipt  
Of Said Grant Funds To August 31, 2022

For questions regarding this report, please contact Battalion Chief Tracey Chin, at (510) 615-5872.

Respectfully submitted,



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Fire Chief  
Oakland Fire Department

Reviewed by:

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Attachments (3):

- A. Adopted Resolution No. 87503 C.M.S
- B. Adopted Resolution No. 88161 C.M.S
- C. US&R Program Directive 2021-006 – Blanket Extension of FY 2018 Readiness Cooperative Agreement