

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



ITEM: 3.23
(ID # 17645)

MEETING DATE:
Tuesday, December 07, 2021

FROM : FIRE DEPARTMENT:

SUBJECT: FIRE DEPARTMENT: Authorization to Apply for Department of Homeland Security FY 2021 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program; All Districts. [up to \$4.6 million available, 85% Federal Funds, 15% Local Match]

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors authorize Riverside County Fire Department to apply for the FY 2021 Assistance to Firefighters Grant.

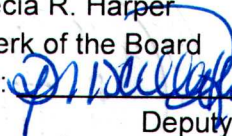
ACTION:


Bill Weiser, Fire Department Chief 11/4/2021

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Perez, seconded by Supervisor Hewitt and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Hewitt
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: December 7, 2021
xc: Fire

Kecia R. Harper
Clerk of the Board
By: 
Deputy

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FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost
COST	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
NET COUNTY COST	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
SOURCE OF FUNDS: 85% Federal and 15% Local Match			Budget Adjustment: No	
			For Fiscal Year: 22/23, 23/24	

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: Approve

BACKGROUND:

Summary

The purpose of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program is to enhance the safety of the public and firefighters with respect to fire and fire-related hazards. The program provides direct financial assistance to fire departments for critically needed resources to equip and train emergency personnel to recognized standards, enhance operational efficiencies, foster interoperability, and support community resilience.

As specified in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Quadrennial Homeland Security Review, the AFG Program supports the basic mission to Strengthen National Preparedness and Resilience. The “Core Capabilities” of the National Preparedness Goal are addressed through Fire Management and Suppression, Operational Coordination and Communications, and Community Resilience.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is responsible for the implementation and administration of the AFG Program. Since Fiscal Year 2001, the AFG Program has distributed approximately \$7.7 billion in grant funding to provide critically needed resources that equip and train emergency personnel to recognized standards, enhance operational efficiencies, foster interoperability, and support community resilience. Examples of eligible high priority grant items include:

- Training evaluated using national or state standards
- Personal protective equipment
- Equipment needed for effective response, firefighting, rescue, and emergency medical operations to enhance the public safety
- Certain modifications to facilities, and
- New vehicles

The Department of Homeland Security Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) appropriates \$414 million in grant funds for the FY 2021 AFG program and anticipates 2,500 awards to be granted. The maximum grant award amount is determined by the population served by a jurisdiction and is capped at one (1) percent of total available grant funds, with a

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maximum award of up to \$4.6 million per jurisdiction. The maximum cost sharing portion for jurisdictions serving more than 1,000,000 residents is fifteen (15) percent of non-federal funds to be allocated to the AFG awarded project.

In accordance with Board of Supervisors Policy A-30, the Department is requesting authorization to apply for a grant in the amount not to exceed \$4.6 million with the maximum 15% local match of \$690,000 allocated from the departments operating budget. The NOFO further stipulates the application deadline is December 17, 2021 and the projected period of performance for awarded grants is from May 1, 2022 through April 30, 2024.

The Fire Department's grant request will include funding for operational and safety equipment for effective response, firefighting, rescue, and emergency medical operations, and to enhance the public safety in Riverside County. If awarded, the grant funding will enhance our dedication to protecting the health and safety of the public and protecting firefighting personnel against fire and fire related hazards in unincorporated areas.

If the Fire Department is awarded funding, approval and acceptance of the award will be sought from the Board of Supervisors.

Impact on Residents and Businesses

These funds are dedicated to protecting the health and safety of the public and firefighting personnel against fire and fire related hazards in unincorporated areas.

Additional Fiscal Information

The AFG program requires a 15% cost share match, which will be covered by funds budgeted for in the department's operating activities. There is no general fund request.

Contract History and Price Reasonableness

On September 13, 2019, the department was awarded \$547,107 in AFG Federal funding, with a match amount of \$82,066, to purchase and install Source Capture Exhaust Systems (SCES) in multiple Riverside County owned and operated fire stations in order to address the risks posed by exposure to diesel fumes as well as to purchase much needed extrication equipment for traffic collision response calls. The Board of Supervisors action on March 17, 2020 (Minute Order 3.09) authorized the acceptance of the grant and the terms of the grant are currently being performed.

On June 23, 2017, the department was awarded \$364,375 to purchase ruggedized tables for several medic apparatuses in support of our Electronic Patient Care Reports (EPCR) program. The Board of Supervisors action on August 29, 2017 (Minute Order 3.67) authorized the acceptance of the grant and the terms of the grant have been satisfied.

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On July 6, 2015, the department was awarded \$193,360 in AFG funding to purchase four (4) Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus fill stations. The Board of Supervisors action on August 18, 2015 (Minute Order 3.33) authorized the acceptance of the grant and the terms of the grant were satisfied.