

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 10/17/23

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 23-0851

LOG NAME: 36AFG2021FPS

SUBJECT

(ALL) Ratify Application for and Authorize Acceptance of a Grant from the Department of Homeland Security - Federal Emergency Management Agency Under the Fiscal Year 2021 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program - Fire Prevention and Safety Grant, in an Amount Up to \$204,761.90, Reallocate Resources and Authorize Transfer in the Amount of \$10,238.10, as Required, for the City's 5% Cost Match from the General Fund to the Grants Operating Federal Fund, and Adopt Appropriation Ordinances

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Ratify application for and authorize acceptance of a grant from the Department of Homeland Security - Federal Emergency Management Agency under the Fiscal Year 2021 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program - Fire Prevention and Safety Grant, in an amount up to \$204,761.90 to be used to further develop the Fort Worth Fire Department's capabilities in the areas of fire and arson investigations;
2. Adopt the attached ordinance reallocating appropriations in the Fire Department of the General Fund by decreasing appropriations in the Operating and Maintenance category in the amount of \$10,238.10 and increasing appropriations in the Transfers and Other category by the same amount for the purpose of transferring to the Grants Operating Federal Fund, as required, for the City's 5% cost match; and
3. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Grants Operating Federal Fund in the amount of \$215,000.00, subject to receipt of a grant from the Department of Homeland Security - Federal Emergency Management Agency.

DISCUSSION:

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) - Federal Emergency Management Agency provides Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) grants as part of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program. The FP&S grants are intended to support projects that enhance the safety of the public and firefighters from fire and related hazards. The DHS recently notified the Fort Worth Fire Department (FWFD) that its application for financial assistance submitted under the Fiscal Year 2021 AFG Program - FP&S grant had been approved in the amount of \$204,761.90. As a condition of this award, the City is required to contribute a 5% cost match in the amount of \$10,238.10, for a total project cost of \$215,000.00.

The FWFD Arson Investigation Unit is working toward the goal of aggressively investigating every fire that occurs within the City of Fort Worth. The FP&S grant will be used to fund training improvements to allow personnel to more aggressively investigate fire incidents and to pursue the successful prosecution of those committing these crimes. The estimated cost to accomplish this endeavor is \$215,000.00, which includes the following expenditures.

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES	AMOUNT
Fire Burn Lab	\$200,000.00
Investigation training	\$15,000.00
Total	\$215,000.00
Federal Share (FP&S grant)	\$204,761.90
Recipient Share (FWFD)	\$10,238.10

Approval of this Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) will ratify the application for the Fiscal Year 2021 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program. Additionally, approval will also authorize acceptance of this award and transfer of the City's match in the amount of \$10,238.10 from the General Fund budget to the Grants Operating Federal Fund. This amount was not included in FWFD's Fiscal Year 2024 budget because the award was unplanned. Therefore, the department will re-allocate funds in the amount of \$10,238.10 from Fire Administration Other Contractual budget to meet the City's portion of the match.

The Fire Department will be responsible for the oversight and management of this project. No salary costs are supported by this grant. Indirect costs are not applicable to this grant.

This project will serve ALL COUNCIL DISTRICTS.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This contract will be with a governmental entity, state agency or public institution of higher education:
Department of Homeland Security - Federal Emergency Management Agency

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendations, adoption of the attached appropriation ordinances and adoption of the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget by City Council, funds will be available in the Fiscal Year 2024 operating budget as appropriated in the Grants Operating Federal Fund. The Fire Department (and Financial Management Services) will be responsible for the collection and deposit of funds due to the City. Prior to an expenditure being incurred, the Fire Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds. This is a reimbursement grant.

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