

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Staffing for Adequate Fire Emergency Response (SAFER) Grants award.

Recommendations for Council action, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

1. AUTHORIZE the Chief, Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), or designee, to:
 - a. Accept the FY 2016 SAFER Grants award from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in the amount of \$25,084,512, with a Federal share of \$15,468,782 and City share of \$9,615,730, for the performance period of January 22, 2018 through January 21, 2021 to add and fill 48 Firefighter positions and restore four engine companies to Fire Station Nos. 1, 20, 73 and 75.
 - b. Execute any documents or agreements necessary to accept the grant on the City's behalf, subject to the review and approval of the City Attorney as to form.
2. AUTHORIZE the LAFD to:
 - a. Spend up to the FY 2016 SAFER Grant amount total of \$25,084,512 in accordance with the grant award agreement.
 - b. Submit grant reimbursement requests to FEMA and deposit grant funds received into LAFD Grants Fund No. 335/38.
 - c. Modify the 2017-18 approved Firefighter Recruit Training schedule as follows:
 - i. Delay the recruit class originally planned to be held at the Valley Recruit Training Academy (Drill Tower 81, 17-3) starting January 22, 2018, to take place February 19, 2018 through July 21, 2018.
 - ii. Delay the recruit class originally planned to be held at Drill Tower 81 starting June 25, 2018, to take place in 2018-19 (18-1).
3. AUTHORIZE the Controller to:
 - a. Establish a grant receivable and appropriate up to \$15,468,782 to an appropriation account, number to be determined, in Fund No. 335/38 for the receipt and disbursement of the FY 2016 SAFER Grant funds.
 - b. Transfer appropriations as needed from Fund No. 335/38, account number to be determined, to LAFD Fund No. 100/38, Salaries Sworn Account No. 001012 or Sworn Bonuses Account No. 001030 upon submission of proper documentation by the LAFD, subject to the approval of the City Administrative Officer (CAO), of direct costs incurred during the grant performance period.
 - c. Transfer FY 2016 SAFER Grant funds from Fund No. 335/38 to Fund No. 100/38, Revenue Source Code No. 5346, Reimbursement of Grant Related Costs, for fringe

benefits and related costs upon submission of proper documentation by the LAFD, subject to approval of the CAO, of related costs incurred during the grant performance period.

4. INSTRUCT the CAO and LAFD to report to Council on the Fire Captain and Engineer of Fire Department position authorities necessary to restore four engine companies, and if provided, the controls that will ensure that the FY 2016 SAFER Grant Staffing Maintenance Number of 2,759 will be sustained over the grant term.
5. INSTRUCT the LAFD, with assistance from the CAO, to report to the Council for approval of any plans to modify the FY 2016 SAFER Grant program to add resources or change the deployment of SAFER-funded position authorities.
6. AUTHORIZE the LAFD and Controller, based on LAFD submissions to the CAO of grant budget modifications approved by FEMA, to transfer funds, as needed, between Fund No. 335/38 and Fund No. 100/38 for implementation of the FY 2016 SAFER Grant.
7. INSTRUCT the CAO to issue a memo to City departments and offices on the approval process of grant applications required by Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 14.6.
8. AUTHORIZE the LAFD to prepare Controller instructions for any technical adjustments, subject to the approval of the CAO; and, AUTHORIZE the Controller to implement the instructions.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) reports that approval of the recommendations within this report will authorize the LAFD to accept a grant award of up to \$25,084,512, with a Federal share of \$15,468,782 and City share of \$9,615,730, for the FY 2016 SAFER Grant from FEMA over a three-year term from January 22, 2018 through January 21, 2021. Per the grant program terms, the LAFD will add and keep filled 48 Firefighter positions and restore four engine companies at a total estimated cost of \$32,103,111 over the three-year grant period. The 48 Firefighter position salaries and fringe benefits are eligible for funding of approximately 60 percent from the grant award, with FY 2016 SAFER reimbursements estimated at \$13,793,425. The remaining \$18,309,686 will be a City General Fund obligation. The estimated cost of the program in 2017-18 is \$3,689,822 with a General Fund impact of \$2,247,272 (\$2,110,587 in direct costs and \$136,685 in related costs) and an anticipated grant contribution of \$1,442,550 provided on a reimbursement basis.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

(Personnel and Animal Welfare and Public Safety Committees waived consideration of the above matter)

SUMMARY

At its regular meeting held on January 22, 2018, the Budget and Finance Committee considered reports from the Los Angeles Board of Fire Commissioners, the CAO, and the CLA relative to the FY 2016 SAFER Grants award from FEMA to provide funding for the restoration of Firefighter positions and engine companies.

The CLA, Assistant CLA, and representatives of the LAFD addressed the Committee and provided a brief overview of the matter, and responded to related questions. During discussion, CLA reported that FEMA will provide a SAFER Grant of up to \$25.1 million to hire 48 firefighters and restore four engine companies. The cost sharing for the grant is 60 percent federal and 40 percent City. The total cost of the 48 firefighters is \$32.1 million over the three-year grant period which includes fringe benefits and other costs not covered by the grant. The City's total share of the cost would be \$18,309,686 (the tables in the CLA report provide additional detail).

Additionally, CLA reported that the purpose of the grant is to increase sworn positions, and as a result, the City will be required to maintain a total staffing maintenance number of 2,759 operational sworn staff positions in the LAFD during the grant period.

Upon conclusion of the discussion of this matter, the CLA requested that the Committee exclude Recommendation Nos. 2(c)(i) and 4 of the CLA report from consideration inasmuch as the Council took separate action on January 19, 2018 on those recommendations (Council file No. 17-1434-S1).

After providing an opportunity for public comment, the Committee approved the recommendations in the CLA report, as amended to exclude Recommendation Nos. 2(c)(i) and 4. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE



MEMBER	VOTE
KREKORIAN:	YES
ENGLANDER:	ABSENT
KORETZ:	ABSENT
BLUMENFIELD:	YES
BONIN:	YES

REW 1/22/18 FILE NO. 17-1434

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-