

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to a transfer of funds for necessary expenses and the purchase of equipment items as part of the 2011 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Task Force Readiness Cooperative Agreement Grant.

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

1. TRANSFER up to \$130,000 from Fund No. 100/38, Account No. 1012 (Sworn Salaries) to Fund No. 335/38, Account No. 38011R, to support the necessary expense and purchase of equipment items that will be reimbursed by the 2011 FEMA USAR Task Force Readiness Cooperative Agreement Grant.
2. AUTHORIZE the Fire Chief, or designee, to deposit the FEMA grant funds received under this cooperative agreement into Fund No. 335 (Fire Department Grants), Department No. 38.
3. TRANSFER FEMA grant funds, from Fund No. 335/38 Account 38011R to Fund No. 100/38, Account 1012 (Sworn Salaries), based on Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) submissions to the City Administrative Officer (CAO) documenting actual costs incurred for this FEMA USAR no-match Cooperative Agreement Program through the end of the grant term of January 31, 2014.
4. TRANSFER the uncommitted balance of advanced funds as of February 1, 2014 from Fund No. 335/38, Appropriation Account No. 38011R to Fund No. 100/38, Account No. 1012 (Sworn Salaries) to meet payroll needs.
5. AUTHORIZE the LAFD to prepare Controller's instructions for any technical adjustments, subject to the approval of the CAO; and, AUTHORIZE the Controller to implement the instructions.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The CAO reports that this action will not impact the General Fund. The acceptance and use of FEMA grant funds is consistent with City financial policies in that Federal grant funds will be used for one-time expenses to support the continued development and maintenance of the USAR Task Force.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

SUMMARY

In a report to the Board of Fire Commissioners dated July 10, 2013 (attached to the Council file), the LAFD requests approval of a transfer of funds to support the necessary expenses and purchase of equipment items that will be reimbursed by the 2011 FEMA USAR Task Force Readiness Cooperative Agreement Grant. In 1993, the Mayor and Council authorized the LAFD to execute a Memorandum of Agreement with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and FEMA which established LAFD as a sponsoring agency and host of a FEMA USAR.

FEMA's ongoing method of supporting USAR Task Forces throughout the country is by funding Cooperative Agreement Grants to sponsoring agencies for necessary equipment, training, supplies, and program administration costs. The most recent grant term agreement was scheduled to end January 31, 2013. FEMA extended this agreement until January 31, 2014 in order to complete the grant expenditures as part of the 2011 Statement of Work. According to the LAFD, a transfer of funds is needed to complete the goals of this grant.

The LAFD goes on to report that the agreement's funding mechanism uses a "draw-down" system where the LAFD loans funds from its existing general fund accounts for program expenditures, which is reimbursed by drawing down from the grant award and reimbursing LAFD accounts. All grant-mandated expenditures shall be reimbursed from the FEMA USAR account in a timely, on-going basis, as expenditures are processed according to City procedures.

On July 23, 2013, the Board approved LAFD's request and recommended actions. The CAO concurs with this action, as indicated in a report to the Mayor and Council dated August 9, 2013 (attached to the Council file).

At its meeting held August 23, 2013, the Public Safety Committee recommended that Council approve the actions above relative to a transfer of funds for LAFD's USAR program expenditures, as recommended by the Board of Fire Commissioners and the CAO.

Respectfully Submitted,

<u>Member</u>	<u>Vote</u>
ENGLANDER:	YES
BUSCAINO:	YES
BONIN:	ABSENT
O'FARRELL:	ABSENT
MARTINEZ:	YES

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-