

REPORT FROM

## OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

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Date: March 8, 2023

CAO File No. 0130-02138-0000

Council File No. --

Council District: --

To: The Mayor and Council

From: Matthew W. Szabo, City Administrative Officer

Reference: Transmittal from the Board of Fire Commissioners dated August 16, 2022; referred for report February 10, 2023.

Subject: **ACCEPTANCE OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 HIGH FREQUENCY COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT PROGRAM GRANT AWARD – LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT**

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### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor:

1. Authorize the Fire Chief, or designee, to:
  - a. Accept funds up to the amount of \$56,290 in accordance with the Fiscal Year 2021 High Frequency Communications Equipment Program grant award, from the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), for the performance period of April 1, 2022 to October 31, 2023, and any extension of the performance period granted by Cal OES;
  - b. Expend up to \$56,290 from the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), Fund No. 100, Department No. 38, Account 006020 Operating Supplies, for the high frequency radio equipment in accordance with the Fiscal Year 2021 High Frequency Communications Equipment Program grant award, from Cal OES;
  - c. Deposit Fiscal Year 2021 High Frequency Communications Equipment Program reimbursement grant funds into Fund 335, Department 38, account to be determined.
2. Authorize the Controller to:
  - a. Transfer reimbursement grant funds up to \$56,290 from Fund 335, Department 38, account to be determined to the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), Fund No. 100, Department No. 38, Account 006020 Operating Supplies, for high frequency radio equipment, upon submission of proper documentation, subject to the review and approval of the City Administrative Officer; and,

3. Authorize the LAFD to prepare Controller instructions for any technical adjustments, subject to the approval of the City Administrative Officer, and authorize the Controller to implement the instructions.

## **SUMMARY**

The Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) requests authority to accept funds up to the amount of \$56,290 in accordance with the Fiscal Year 2021 High Frequency Communications Equipment Program grant award, from the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), for high frequency radio equipment. The performance period is from April 1, 2022 to October 31, 2023. No matching funds are required for this grant.

On May 31, 2022, the LAFD received notification of an award of funds from the Cal OES for high frequency radios. The purpose of the Fiscal Year 2021 High Frequency Communications Equipment Program grant award is to provide funding for the acquisition of high frequency communications equipment, which will consist of a base station and a transportable field radio unit. The LAFD will utilize the funds to obtain this necessary equipment to manage its amateur radio program under the Auxiliary Communication Services (ACS) Agreement with Cal OES. Under the provisions of the ACS, the LAFD is authorized to enroll up to 500 licensed amateur (ham) radio operators to back up the Department's 800-MHz radio system. ACS members are utilized to facilitate auxiliary communications during brush fires and other disasters through the City's Emergency Operations Center. The LAFD will be required to front-fund the grant related expenditures. Reimbursements will be made on an ongoing basis and upon submission of documentation of actual expenditures.

## **FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

Approval of the recommendations within this report will allow for the acceptance of the Fiscal Year 2021 High Frequency Communications Equipment Program grant award in the amount of \$56,290 for high frequency radio equipment. The LAFD will front-fund costs in the amount of \$56,290 and seek full reimbursement from the Cal OES. No matching funds are required for this grant.

## **FINANCIAL POLICIES STATEMENT**

The recommendations provided in this report comply with the City's Financial Policies in that all grant funds will be utilized to fund grant activities.