



CITY OF SALINAS COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: **SEPTEMBER 4, 2018**

DEPARTMENT: **FIRE**

FROM: **JEFFREY JOHNSON, FIRE CHIEF**

TITLE: **ACCEPT REGIONAL ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT
FOR PARAMEDIC TRAINING**

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

A motion to approve a resolution accepting a regional Assistance to Firefighters Grant for the procurement of Paramedic Training totaling \$579,000.

RECOMMENDATION:

The City of Salinas and City of Monterey submitted a regional assistance to firefighters grant to provide training and backfill costs to send three firefighters from each agency to paramedic school. The total amount of the grant is \$579,000. \$526,364 are Federal funds with a 10% cost match of \$52,636. City Council approved a cooperative agreement between the City of Salinas and the City of Monterey designating the City of Salinas as the host agency for the grant. This agreement established, in consideration of the City of Salinas administering the grant, that the City of Monterey would assume a larger portion of the cost-match for the grant. The City of Salinas cost share (grant matching funds and grant management fees) is estimated at \$17,503, but not to exceed \$20,000, as stipulated in the agreement.

BACKGROUND:

The challenge of recruiting and retaining firefighter-paramedics in the City of Salinas continues to increase. Not only are local fire departments struggling to find and retain qualified personnel to fill paramedic positions but so are private emergency medical service companies. The City of Monterey Fire Department is currently starting an advanced life support first responder program and are encountering similar challenges with recruiting paramedic trained personnel. Faced with these challenges, both agencies submitted a regional Assistance to Firefighters Grant Proposal to the United States Department of Homeland Security for the procurement of paramedic training and subsequent backfill costs. The total amount of the proposal is not to exceed \$579,000.

The proposal passed the first phase of review and in June 2018 City Council approved an agreement between the City of Salinas and the City of Monterey identifying Salinas as the host agency. This agreement also established a larger share of the cost match by the City of Monterey in consideration of the City of Salinas hosting and administering the grant.

The Department of Homeland Security approved the grant application for a total of \$579,000. \$526,364 are Federal funds with a 10% cost match of \$52,636. The City of Salinas cost share and fees are estimated at \$17,503, but not to exceed \$20,000. The City of Monterey's cost match (including City of Salinas host agreement and fees) is approximately \$43,822, but not to exceed \$45,000.

Fire department staff are currently working to establish selection criteria as well as evaluating schedules and available paramedic training schools. Training of three personnel will take up to 12 months to complete all required education and licensing requirements.

CEQA CONSIDERATION:

Not a Project. The City of Salinas has determined that the proposed action is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378).

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVE:

This item supports the following City Council Goals:

- Safe, Livable Community
- Effective, Sustainable Government

DEPARTMENTAL COORDINATION:

Coordination between Fire and Finance to ensure proper and timely expenditures in compliance with the AFG Grant program.

FISCAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

The approximate cost match and grant administration costs to the City of Salinas is \$17,503 but will not exceed \$20,000. These funds are available in the approved 2018-2019 Fiscal Year CIP EMS Program (9377).

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution
Grant Application
Grant Award
Salinas/Monterey Agreement