

# Agenda Report

May 11, 2015

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Fire Department

**SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PASADENA RECOGNIZING THAT THE PERSONNEL OF THE PASADENA FIRE DEPARTMENT ARE COMPENSATED ON A PORTAL TO PORTAL BASIS WHEN ASSIGNED TO EMERGENCY INCIDENTS**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the proposed action is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061, (b) (3), the general rule;
2. Adopt the resolution recognizing that the personnel of the Pasadena Fire Department are compensated on a portal to portal basis when assigned to emergency incident mutual aid deployment; and
3. Authorize the Fire Chief to take appropriate action to file this resolution with Cal OES and other fire agencies.

**BACKGROUND:**

On January 30, 1951, a resolution of the City of Pasadena approving and agreeing to abide by the California Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement was taken up and adopted as Resolution No. 7665, agreeing to participate in the California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid System dated November 15, 1950. Provisions of the agreement have been amended over the years. Participating cities automatically accept amendments to the agreement, unless a notice of termination of participation is filed with the state. The State of California, Governor's Office of Emergency Services, hereinafter referred to as Cal OES, has entered into an agreement with other state and federal agencies under the provisions of managing the California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement. This additional agreement is entitled "Agreement for Local Government Fire and Emergency Assistance to the State of

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California and Federal Fire Agencies”, hereinafter referred to as the “California Fire Assistance Agreement”, or CFAA.

Under past provisions of the CFAA with the Cal OES, the City of Pasadena has been reimbursed for the expenses associated with apparatus and personnel assigned to an emergency incident in the jurisdiction of another fire agency. Over a 10 year average, Pasadena Fire has responded to approximately four mutual aid emergencies per year. The response commitment has varied from hours to days. The past practice provided for reimbursement when the duration of the response exceeded a 12-hour period. The reimbursement was based on a rate that began at dispatch from the home agency, to the time the resources returned to their home base (portal to portal). Provisions of the current CFAA agreement dated January 1, 2015, state: “if the duration of the response exceeds 12-hours, and local agencies have an existing MOU/MOA, governing body resolution, or equivalent that indicates compensation for all hours worked, reimbursement for personnel and emergency apparatus shall cover the entire time of commitment, beginning at the time of initial dispatch from home base, to the time of the return to home base. If local agencies do not have an existing MOU/MOA, governing body resolution, or equivalent that indicates compensation for all hours worked, local agencies will be reimbursed for actual hours worked.” The past practice of the City has been to compensate personnel on a portal to portal basis with Cal OES reimbursing the City on a portal to portal basis.

The OES is updating existing agreements to recognize portal to portal reimbursement. This resolution is a requirement under the agreement to be reimbursed on a portal to portal basis when city firefighters are deployed to emergency incidents.

### **COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:**

This action supports the City Council’s strategic goal to improve financial stability.

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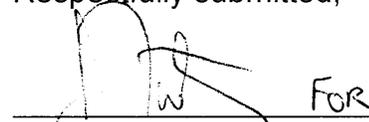
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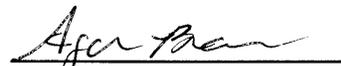
**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This agenda report seeks to establish a resolution outlining how emergency responders will be compensated when requested to do so by Cal OES and, as such, without approval of this recommendation, the General Fund would incur higher expenses due to salaries charged to the fund without reimbursement from Cal OES.

Respectfully submitted,

  
FOR  
BERTRAL T. WASHINGTON  
Fire Chief  
Fire Department

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