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CITY CLERK

July 14, 2019

Office of the Mayor and City Council
City of Pasadena
Pasadena City Hall
100 North Garfield Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91101

Dear Mayor Tornek and Councilmembers,

As advocates for the health and safety of Pasadena's firefighters, PFFA Local 809. I'm writing to ask for your support of City Council agenda item # CC 5 "Single layer Wildland Firefighting Personal Protective Equipment.

As you know, Pasadena firefighters are currently utilizing a "dual-layer" model of Wildland Firefighting Personal Protective Equipment, which contributes to a number of challenges. The current PPE being used takes longer to don, resulting in longer turnout times. The current PPE is bulkier and less breathable, meaning that firefighters are more susceptible to heat-related injury or illness.

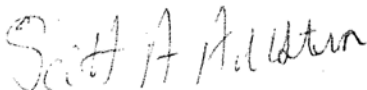
The majority of fire departments in Los Angeles County and Area C have transitioned to a newer, preferable model of Wildland Firefighting Personal Protective Equipment that is "single layer". This type of PPE is also dual-compliant to NFPA 1975 and NFPA 1977. The updated PPE consists of ensemble elements that reduce the risks of heat related injury to firefighters. Additionally, the way in which these elements are worn and donned allows firefighters to respond more quickly, thus improving service and public safety.

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If you have any questions or concerns regarding Single layer Wildland Firefighting Personal Protective Equipment. Please feel free to contact me.

We thank you in advance for your consideration in supporting this much needed Personal Protective Equipment improvement.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Scott Austin".

Scott Austin
President
Pasadena Firefighters Association, Local 809

CC: Steve Mermell, City Manager
Fire Chief Bertral Washington