

Agenda Report

September 16, 2024

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

THROUGH: Finance Committee (September 9, 2024)

FROM: Fire Department

SUBJECT: AMENDMENTS TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT'S AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT'S FISCAL YEAR 2025 ADOPTED OPERATING BUDGETS

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the proposed action herein is not a "project" subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 21065 and within the meaning of Section 15378(b);
2. Amend the Public Health Department and the Fire Department's Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Adopted Operating Budget as detailed in the following report by increasing revenues and appropriations by \$955,080.

BACKGROUND:

Throughout the fiscal year, budgetary adjustments are necessary to account for unanticipated changes to the adopted budget. These revenue and appropriation amendments are presented to the City Council for consideration. This agenda report includes proposed amendments to the Fire Department and Public Health Department's FY 2025 Operating Budget as adopted by the City Council on June 10, 2024.

1. 2023 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Grant Funds

The Fire Department recommends recognizing and appropriating \$388,500 in the Fire Grants Fund (230) for a 2023 UASI Grant Award from the City of Los Angeles as a subrecipient. The City of Pasadena is eligible to receive annual grant funding through UASI as part of a nation-wide program to improve and enhance emergency response capability for terrorist-related activity. The funds available to the City are the result of new grant allocations.

Under 2023 UASI, the Fire Department will receive \$53,000 for a range of urban search and rescue (US&R) equipment, \$100,000 for US&R related training, and \$175,000 for catastrophic planning training, for a total grant award of \$328,500. The Public Health Department will receive \$50,000 for consultant services to hold a Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) Workshop, and \$10,000 for Powered Air Purifying Respirators (PAPRs), for a total grant award of \$60,000. All purchases related to this grant will be made in accordance with the City's applicable procurement policies and procedures.

2. 2023 Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) Grant Funds

The Fire Department recommends recognizing and appropriating \$319,380 in the Fire Grants Fund (230) for a 2023 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) from the Department of Homeland Security. The primary goal of the AFG is to meet the firefighting and emergency response needs of fire departments and non-affiliated emergency medical service organizations. AFG funds have helped firefighters and other first responders obtain critically needed equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles, training and other resources necessary for protecting the public and emergency personnel from fire and related hazards.

Under 2023 AFG, the Fire Department will receive \$232,342 to provide cancer screenings to all sworn employees over a two-year period, \$53,700 for mental and behavioral health and wellness checkups for all personnel, \$25,000 for training funds for the Department to continue and grow its Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Program, and \$40,276 for personnel and consumables to complete a Live Fire Training. Of the \$351,318 total award, \$319,380 will be available through Federal funding and \$31,938 (10%) will be contributed by non-Federal funds to meet cost sharing requirements. All purchases related to this grant will be made in accordance with the City's applicable procurement policies and procedures. CISM is a comprehensive, integrated, systematic, and multi-tactic crisis intervention approach to manage stress after traumatic events, and to alleviate negative reactions to traumatic experiences.

3. 2023 and 2024 Regional Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Response Training Reimbursement for Regional US&R Task Force Four (RTF-4)

The RTF-4 is comprised of 30 people across seven (7) fire departments in the region who are specially trained and equipped for large or complex US&R operations. The multi-disciplinary organization provides eight functional elements that include Supervision, Search, Rescue, Medical, Planning, Safety, Haz-Mat and Tool/Equipment Support. RTF-4 is to be requested through the standard California Master Mutual Aid System. The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) requires the Pasadena Fire Department to govern the reimbursements for RTF-4's costs of providing training, exercises, backfilling positions, overtime, and travel costs to allow staff to attend, and successfully complete US&R response training required by Cal OES specifically related to the Regional US&R program. The intent is to provide RTF-4 reimbursement for the least extraordinary costs incurred to send staff to Cal OES for provided urban search and rescue response training. The reimbursement will allow

participating fire agencies to maintain regular staffing to avoid degradation of services or reduction in emergency response capabilities to the local community during the training due to the absence of one or more trainees. The staff attending the training courses will help assure that the region is prepared for response to larger or more complex urban search and rescue events within the State of California.

The Pasadena Fire Department will receive \$77,250 from Cal OES under the 2023 Agreement, and \$169,950 under the 2024 Agreement. The contract includes training dollars for RTF-4 to attend/host and complete their certified Regional Task Force Leader (RTFL), Regional Technical Search Specialist (RTSS), Plans Team Training (PTT), Heavy Equipment Rigging Specialist (HERS), and Safety Officer (SO) courses provided by California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI) or any mutually agreed upon US&R or other acceptable training/exercise that meets CSTI requirements/standards and is approved by Cal OES Contract Manager.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

The City Council's strategic planning goal of maintaining fiscal responsibility and stability and ensuring public safety will be advanced by implementing necessary budget amendments.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:


CEQA excludes, from environmental review, actions that are not "projects" as defined by CEQA Guidelines Section 21065 and within the meaning of Section 15378(b). Sections 21065 and 15378(b) define a project as an action which may cause either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. Section 15378 excludes from the definition of "project" government fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment. The actions proposed herein, amending the Fire Department's FY 2025 Operating Budget, are governmental fiscal activities that do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment, and therefore is not a "project" as defined by CEQA. Since the action is not a project subject to CEQA, no environmental document is required

FISCAL IMPACT:

Approval of the proposed budget amendments will increase the FY 2025 total authorized operating appropriations in the Fire Grants Fund (230) by \$955,080. These additional costs will be offset through increased revenue of \$955,080.

The budget amendments included in this agenda report are not anticipated to impact existing FY 2025 budgeted indirect and support costs.

Respectfully submitted,



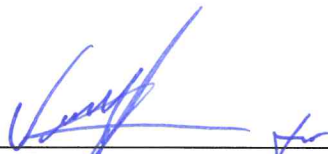
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