

REPORT FROM

OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Date: February 7, 2024

CAO File No. 0150-12040-0002

Council File No. 22-0347

Council District: --

To: The City Council

From: Matthew W. Szabo, City Administrative Officer 

Reference: Board of Fire Commissioners transmittal dated November 29, 2023

Subject: **CONTINUATION OF THE 2021 REGIONAL HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
RESPONSE TRAINING AGREEMENT – LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT**

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council, subject to approval of the Mayor:

1. Authorize the Fire Chief, or designee, to:
 - a. Accept the 2021 Regional Hazardous Materials Response (RHMR) amended agreements for an additional amount of \$225,000, for a revised total of \$475,000 and any increases during the performance period from October 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024, as granted by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), and to execute any documents or agreements necessary to accept the grant on the City's behalf;
 - b. Expend the remaining funds in an amount up to \$341,078.47 and any additional increases from the Fire Department's Fund 100, Department 38, Account 001098 Variable Staffing Overtime; Account 002130 Travel; Account 006010 Office and Administrative; and Account 6020 Operating Supplies, for all training and travel expenses incurred in accordance with the RHMR agreement terms from Cal OES;
2. Authorize the Controller to deposit reimbursement grant funds up to \$341,078.47, and any additional increases from Cal OES, into Fund 335, Department 38, Account to be determined;
3. Authorize the Fire Department to:
 - a. Transfer reimbursement grant funds from Fund 335, Department 38, Account TBD to Fund 100, Department 38, Account 001098 (Variable Staffing), Account 002130 (Travel), Account 6020 (Operating Supplies), and Account 006010 (Office and Administrative), and Fund 100, Account 005301 (Reimbursement from Other Funds), upon submission of proper documentation by the LAFD of actual costs incurred from the eligible

Hazardous Materials Training Courses, subject to the review and approval of the City Administrative Officer (CAO); and,

- b. Prepare Controller instructions for any technical adjustments, subject to the approval of the CAO, and authorize the Controller to implement the instructions.

SUMMARY

On June 27, 2017, a Standard Agreement was executed between the City and the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to implement a hazardous materials (hazmat) training program. The Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) was required to provide ongoing annual hazmat training to fill in gaps across the State where limited or no response capability existed for Hazardous Materials by Rail (HMBR). The training was required in order for the Department to accept one of twelve Cal OES Type II Hazmat Response Vehicles (HMRV) with assigned equipment provided as a result of Assembly Bill (AB) 102, which authorized funding for Regional Response Teams to improve emergency response capabilities throughout California. The purpose of the ongoing required training is to maintain response capabilities to the Regional Response Team. In addition, there are training requirements for sworn personnel responding with a Type II HMRV.

At its meeting of December 7, 2021, the Board of Fire Commissioners approved a report and its recommendations authorizing the LAFD to accept and expend funds provided in the Regional Hazardous Materials Response (RHMR) Standard Agreement #A211006361 in the amount of up to \$100,000. The funding will reimburse the LAFD for personnel costs for training and exercises which may include overtime and travel expenses for attending.

The performance period for the Agreement covers the period from October 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024, during which Cal OES will have the ability to increase the program budget on an annual basis, at a rate to be determined by the agency. The first amendment to this agreement, approved during 2022-23, provided an additional \$150,000 for the program. A second amendment, signed by Cal OES on August 31, 2023, includes an additional \$125,000; and a third amendment signed on September 26, 2023, provided an additional \$100,000 for programmatic expenses. The total allocation from Cal OES is currently \$475,000. The Department expended \$25,687.50 in FY 2021-22; \$108,234.03 in FY 2022-23; with a remaining balance of \$341,078.47 to be spent in FY 2023-24.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Approval of the recommendations in this report will allow for the acceptance of the Regional Hazardous Materials Response (RHMR) Standard Agreement amendments in an additional amount of \$225,000, for a revised total program amount of \$475,000, from the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), for a three year term commencing October 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024. Acceptance of this award will require the LAFD to front-fund expenditures of up to \$341,078.47 in FY 2023-24. The Cal OES will reimburse the LAFD a total amount of up to

\$341,078.47 and may increase the program budget on an annual basis at a rate to be determined by Cal OES. There is no additional fiscal impact to the LAFD departmental budget.

FINANCIAL POLICIES STATEMENT

These actions are in compliance with the City's Financial Policies in that all grant funds will be utilized to fund grant activities.

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