

REPORT FROM

## OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

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Date: November 15, 2023

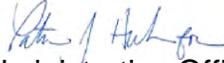
CAO File No. 0100-00144-0349

Council File No. 22-1423

Council District: Various

To: The Mayor and Council

From: Matthew W. Szabo, City Administrative Officer



Reference: Transmittal from the Board of Fire Commissioners dated November 8, 2023.

Subject: **SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING FOR THE 2022 FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT GRANT AWARD FOR THE URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE CALIFORNIA TASK FORCE ONE – LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT**

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### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor:

1. Approve and authorize the Fire Chief, or designee, to accept supplemental funding in the amount of \$158,477 for a term from October 1, 2022 through August 31, 2025 relative to the 2022 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Cooperative Agreement Grant for the Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Task Force - California Task Force One (CA-TF1), and execute any documents or agreements necessary to accept the grant, subject to the approval by the City Attorney as to form;
2. Authorize the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) to deposit the 2022 FEMA grant funds received under this cooperative agreement into Fund 335, Department 38, Account 38022R;
3. Authorize the Controller to transfer \$158,477 from Fund 100, Department 38, Account 001012 Salaries Sworn to Fund 335, Department 38, Account 38022R, for the purchase of expense and equipment items, to be reimbursed by the FEMA grant during the grant performance period and any extensions granted by FEMA;
4. Authorize the LAFD and Controller to transfer funds, as needed, between Fund 335, Department 38 and Fund 100, Department 38, based on the submissions to the City Administrative Officer (CAO) of grant budget modifications approved by FEMA, through the end of the grant performance period of August 31, 2025; and,

5. Authorize the LAFD to prepare Controller instructions for any technical adjustments, subject to the approval of the CAO, and authorize the Controller to implement the instructions.

## **SUMMARY**

In accordance with Executive Directive No. 3, the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) submits the proposed request to accept \$158,477 in additional funding relative to the 2022 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Cooperative Agreement Grant for the Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Task Force - California Task Force One (CA-TF1). The proposed funding will increase the total grant award from \$1,211,650 to \$1,370,127. The grant performance period will remain unchanged from October 1, 2022 through August 31, 2025.

## **BACKGROUND**

On April 4, 1993, the City entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with FEMA and the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, to establish the LAFD as one of 28 participating agencies of the FEMA US&R Task Force (C.F. 92-2021-S1). Under the terms of the MOA, the LAFD is responsible for organizing and administering the Task Force to include recruiting and training, designating a Program Manager, maintaining capability for 24-hour activation, and complying with financial, administrative, reimbursement, and reporting requirements. As a participating agency, the LAFD receives funding from FEMA for the equipment, supplies, training, and salaries in support of the US&R CA-TF1 Team. Upon request by the State or Federal government, the LAFD will mobilize US&R CA-TF1 for the purpose of locating, extricating, and providing initial medical treatment to trapped victims of structural collapses at a designated disaster site. On August 12, 2011, the Council approved an amendment to the MOA (C.F. 10-2283-S1) reflecting the transfer of FEMA to the Department of Homeland Security and the publication of the National Urban Search and Rescue Response System regulations.

On February 10, 2023, the Council approved the Public Safety Committee report and Cooperative Agreement for the acceptance of the 2022 FEMA US&R grant award in the amount of \$1,211,650, for a three-year performance period beginning on October 1, 2022 through August 31, 2025 (C.F. 22-1423).

At its meeting on November 8, 2023, the Board of Fire Commissioners (Board) approved a LAFD report relative to the acceptance of additional grant funds from the FEMA in the amount of \$158,477 for the purpose of developing a comprehensive plan to prioritize and finance the replacement of equipment for the US&R Task Forces. Specific equipment eligible for replacement will be detailed in a forthcoming Program Directive from the FEMA Branch Office. Among the recommendations in the Board report, the LAFD is requesting to transfer funds from the Department's Salaries Sworn Account to the 2022 FEMA Account to front-fund the cost of purchasing equipment, which will be reimbursed by the grant award following submission of proper documentation.

In accordance with Los Angeles Administrative Code (LAAC) Section 14.6, the LAFD is required to transmit grant applications for Mayor and Council approval before accepting and receiving the grant award. In addition, Mayoral approval is required for any grant program amendments, subject to the approval of the City Attorney as to form (LAAC Section 14.8).

### **FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

Approval of the recommendations stated in this report will authorize the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) to accept supplemental funding in the amount of \$158,477 for the purchase of equipment in support of the 2022 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Cooperative Agreement Grant for the Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Task Force - California Task Force One (CA-TF1) for a total grant award amount of \$1,370,127. The term of the cooperative agreement will remain unchanged from October 1, 2022 through August 31, 2025. The LAFD will front-fund the costs for the purchase of the equipment, subject to reimbursement by FEMA upon submission of proper documentation. The FEMA grant does not require matching funds by the City. There is no additional impact to the General Fund.

### **FINANCIAL POLICIES STATEMENT**

The recommendations stated in this report comply with the City's Financial Policies in that all grant funds will be utilized to fund grant activities.

*MWS:JNR:04240058*

Attachment

# LOS ANGELES FIRE COMMISSION

BOARD OF  
FIRE COMMISSIONERS

GENETHIA HUDLEY-HAYES  
PRESIDENT

SHARON DELUGACH  
VICE PRESIDENT

CORINNE TAPIA BABCOCK  
JIMMY H. HARA, M.D.  
JIMMIE WOODS-GRAY

LETICIA GOMEZ  
COMMISSION EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT II



**KAREN BASS**  
Mayor

TYLER IZEN  
INDEPENDENT ASSESSOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
200 NORTH MAIN STREET, SUITE 1840  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

(213) 978-3838 PHONE  
(213) 978-3814 FAX

November 8, 2023

Honorable Karen Bass  
Mayor, City of Los Angeles  
Room 303, City Hall  
Attn: Legislative Coordinator

Honorable Members of the City Council  
City of Los Angeles  
City Hall  
Attn: City Clerk

[BFC 23-112] – ACCEPTANCE OF FY 2022 FEMA URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE TASK FORCE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING (C.F. 22-1423)

At its meeting of November 7, 2023, the Board of Fire Commissioners approved the report and its recommendations. The report is hereby transmitted to the Mayor for consideration and approval.

Should you need additional information, please contact the Board of Fire Commissioners' office at 213-978-3838.

Sincerely,

Leticia Gomez  
Commission Executive Assistant II

Attachment

cc: Fire Chief Kristin M. Crowley (via email)  
Office of the City Administrative Officer

November 7, 2023



**LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT**

KRISTIN M. CROWLEY  
FIRE CHIEF

APPROVED: 11/7/23  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
BY: *[Signature]*  
COMMISSION EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

October 18, 2023

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
FILE NO. 23-112

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

FROM: *[Signature]* Kristin M. Crowley, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2022 FEMA URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE  
TASK FORCE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT SUPPLEMENTAL  
FUNDING (C.F. 22-1423)

FINAL ACTION:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved w/Corrections	<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn
	<input type="checkbox"/> Denied	<input type="checkbox"/> Received & Filed	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

**SUMMARY**

On April 4, 1993, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was executed between the City, the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), establishing the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) as a sponsoring agency of a FEMA Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Task Force, California Task Force 1 (CA-TF1). An Amendment to the MOA was executed in 2011 (C.F. 10-2283-S1). Since 1993, the City has been awarded annual FEMA Cooperative Agreement grants to fund equipment, supplies, training, contractual services, and LAFD personnel to administer and manage the US&R CA-TF1 program.

The LAFD was awarded an additional \$158,477 for the 2022 FEMA US&R program, with a period of performance from September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2025. No matching funds are required, but the grant is on a reimbursement basis requiring the LAFD to front-fund expenditures. Following submission of appropriate supporting documentation, FEMA reimburses the City for those expenditures.

The expenditure plan is as follows:

Equipment:

- \$158,477 – to fund the purchase of specific equipment, which will be provided in a subsequent Program Directive from the FEMA Branch Office.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no impact on the General Fund. The FEMA Urban Search and Rescue grant agreement does not require City matching funds. In accordance with grant guidelines, project funds are disbursed on a reimbursement basis.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Board:

1. Approve and transmit the report to the Mayor and the Office of the City Administrative Officer for Committee and City Council consideration.

It is also recommended the Board request that the Mayor and City Council:

2. Accept the 2022 FEMA Cooperative Agreement Supplemental Grant for the Urban Search and Rescue CA-TF1 in the amount of \$158,477 for the term of September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2025, and authorize the Fire Chief, or designee, to execute any documents or agreements necessary to accept the grant on the City's behalf.
3. Authorize the Fire Department to deposit 2022 FEMA grant funds received into Fund 335, Department 38, Account 38022R.
4. Authorize the Controller, to transfer \$158,477 from Fund 100, Department 38, Account 001012 (Salaries Sworn) to Fund 335, Department 38, Account 38022R, for the purchase of expense and equipment items, to be reimbursed by the FEMA grant during the period of September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2025, and any extensions granted by FEMA.
5. Authorize the Fire Department to prepare Controller instructions for any technical adjustments, subject to approval of the City Administrative Officer (CAO), and instruct the Controller to implement the instructions.
6. Based on Fire Department submissions to the City Administrative Officer of grant budget modifications approved by FEMA, authorize the Fire Department and Controller to transfer funds, as needed, between Fund 335, Department 38 and Fund 100, Department 38 for implementation of the 2022 FEMA Urban Search & Rescue Cooperative Agreement program through the end of the grant performance period.

Board report prepared by Victoria Rodriguez, Management Analyst, Emergency Operations Bureau.