

VENTURA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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September 10, 2019

Board of Directors
Ventura County Fire Protection District
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

SUBJECT:

Ratification of the Ventura County Fire Protection District's Submission of Five Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Applications to the California Office of Emergency Services for Selection and Funding by the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the Acquisition and Installation of Three Communication Towers with Early Warning Systems and Two Emergency Power Generators in a Total Aggregate Grant Amount of \$841,174 and a Total Aggregate Cost Share of \$210,294.

RECOMMENDATION:

Ratify the submission by the Ventura County Fire Protection District (Fire District) of five Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) applications to the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) for selection and funding by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in the total amount of \$841,174, with a total Fire District cost share of \$210,294, for acquisition and installation of three communication towers with early warning systems and two emergency power generators.

REASON FOR RATIFICATION:

Cal OES HMGP approved the Fire District's Notice of Interest (NOI) in these five grants in late May 2019, and the grant applications had a due date of July 5, 2019. The narrow window between the authorization and the deadline to submit the applications did not allow the Fire District adequate time to obtain formal approval from your Board at the time. Therefore, the Fire District petitioned the County Executive Office and received approval to submit these grant applications in time to meet the HMGP deadline.

Committed to Excellence...Delivered with Pride

Providing protection and preservation of life, property and environment to: The Cities of Camarillo, Moorpark, Ojai, Port Hueneme, Santa Paula, Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks, and the unincorporated areas of Ventura County.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact at this time.

If the grants are awarded, the Fire District will return to your Board for approval to accept the grants. A minimum twenty-five percent dollar-for-dollar funding match of the federal grant share is required under this program.

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Total of Five Grants: | \$ 841,174 |
| Total of Federal Grant Share: | \$ 630,880 |
| Total of Fire District Match: | \$ 210,294 |

If awarded all five grants, the Fire District has sufficient Fund Balance Restricted for Public Protection to meet the required funding match.

| Current FY 2019-20 Budget Projection for the Fire District - BU 2731 | | | | |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Adopted Budget | Adjusted Budget | Projected Budget | Estimated Savings/(Deficit) |
| Appropriations | 16,364,000 | 19,073,783 | 19,073,783 | |
| Revenue | | | | |
| Net Cost | 16,364,000 | 19,073,783 | 19,073,783 | |

DISCUSSION:

President Trump declared a major disaster for the State of California on November 12, 2018, as a result of the Woolsey, Hill, and Paradise wildfires pursuant to his authority under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law No. 93-288 (1974) (codified, as amended, at 42 U.S.C. § 5121 et seq.).

This major disaster declaration, numbered FEMA-4407-DR-CA, affected the counties of Ventura, Los Angeles, and Butte. The Disaster Recovery Reform Act authorizes FEMA to provide HMGP assistance for hazard mitigation measures that substantially reduce the risk of future damage, hardship, loss, or suffering in any area affected by a major disaster. FEMA, through Cal OES, reviews and accept sub-applications from local government entities statewide under HMGP guidelines.

HMGP is a competitive grant program focused on mitigating risks from future disasters through the implementation of long-term independent solutions to increase the scope of protection measures and the capacity of existing fully functioning facilities.

The highest scoring grant applications progress to final approval for funding awards provided by FEMA.

The Fire District filed an NOI for five projects and was approved to submit the following five grant applications:

1. Communication Tower with Early Warning System Fire Station 30
Federal Share Request: \$187,500 - Fire District Match: \$62,500;
2. Communication Tower with Early Warning System Fire Station 53
Federal Share Request: \$187,500 - Fire District Match: \$62,500;
3. Communication Tower with Early Warning System Fire Station 54
Federal Share Request: \$187,500 - Fire District Match: \$62,500;
4. Emergency Power Generator Fire Station 25
Federal Share Request: \$150,000 - Fire District Match: \$50,000; and
5. Emergency Power Generator Fire Station 56
Federal Share Request: \$150,000 - Fire District Match: \$50,000.

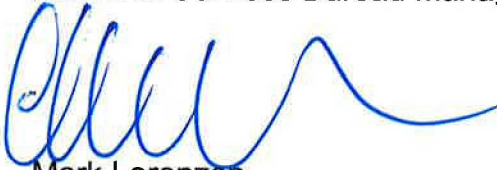
Weather-related events in the past few years have impacted the areas within the Fire District's jurisdiction and its many stakeholders during storm events and wildfires. The Fire District utilizes an array of historical and real-time data to make operational area decisions. The requested communication towers for Fire Stations 30, 53, and 54 will be strategically located and provide high-speed data acquisition and collaboration for real-time situational awareness and communication.

Due to the devastation caused by wildfires and extreme weather in recent years, utility companies are proposing shutting down power in order to keep communities safe. (Information on preparing for a public safety power shutoff can be found at the following link: <https://prepareforpowerdown.com/>.) In preparation for public safety power shutoffs, the Fire District is requesting grant funds to enhance the existing generators at Fire Stations 25 and 56 by the installation of technologically advanced, fuel-efficient, emissions-compliant, high-output generators.

If the Fire District receives the funding, it will ensure that the local competitive bid process conforms to all applicable Federal Office of Management and Budget rules and guidelines during the procurement process. Furthermore, the Fire District, as the administrator of the grant, will maintain all invoices and conform its procedures to environmental and reporting requirements, pursuant to FEMA and State protocols.

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The County Executive Office, the Auditor-Controller's Office, and County Counsel have reviewed this letter. If you have any questions, please contact me at (805) 389-9704 or Business Services Bureau Manager Tom Kasper at (805) 389-9764.



Mark Lorenzen
Fire Chief

ML/TK/GF:bw

Attachments: Exhibit 1 – 2019 Cal OES HMGP Sub-application DR-4407-0250
Exhibit 2 – 2019 Cal OES HMGP Sub-application DR-4407-0276
Exhibit 3 – 2019 Cal OES HMGP Sub-application DR-4407-0287
Exhibit 4 – 2019 Cal OES HMGP Sub-application DR-4407-0289
Exhibit 5 – 2019 Cal OES HMGP Sub-application DR-4407-0290