



## VENTURA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

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March 28, 2023

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

### **SUBJECT:**

Approval and Ratification of the Ventura County Fire Protection District's Submission of Two Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program Applications, Including One Brush Engine Grant Application and One Regional Grant Application for 35 Automatic Chest Compression Devices and Accessories; Ratification of a FEMA AFG Sub-Recipient Grant Application Submitted by Fillmore City Fire Department for Fire Prevention Training; Ratification of a FEMA AFG Sub-Recipient Grant Application Submitted by Oxnard City Fire Department for Urban Search and Rescue Training; Ratification of a FEMA AFG Sub-Recipient Grant Application Submitted by Ventura City Fire Department for Hazardous Materials Training.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. Approve and ratify the Ventura County Fire Protection District's (Fire District) submission of a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program Application for \$408,182 for a new brush engine, which requires a Fire District cost share of \$40,818, for a total budget of \$449,000. (Exhibit 1)
2. Approve and ratify the Fire District's submission of a FEMA AFG Program Regional Grant Application for \$806,612 for 35 Automatic Chest Compression Devices (ACCDs) and accessories, which requires a Fire District cost share of \$80,661 for a total budget of \$887,273. (Exhibit 2)
3. Approve and ratify the submission of a FEMA AFG Program sub-recipient grant application by Fillmore Fire Department, on behalf of the Fire District, for \$402,970 for fire prevention training, for sub-recipient Fire District, which requires a Fire District cost share of \$40,297 for a total budget of \$443,267.

4. Approve and ratify the submission of a FEMA AFG Program sub-recipient grant application by Oxnard City Fire Department, on behalf of the Fire District, for \$61,090 for urban search and rescue (USAR) training for sub-recipient Fire District, which requires a Fire District cost share of \$6,788 for a total budget of \$67,878.
5. Approve and ratify the submission of a FEMA AFG Program sub-recipient grant application by the Ventura City Fire Department, on behalf of the Fire District, for \$13,090 for hazardous materials (Haz-Mat) training for sub-recipient Fire District, which requires a Fire District cost share of \$1,455 for a total budget of \$14,545.

**REASON FOR RATIFICATION:**

FEMA announced the call for applications for the 2022 AFG program on January 10, 2023, with a due date of February 10, 2023. The narrow window for applications did not allow the Fire District adequate time to obtain formal Board approval. Therefore, the Fire District petitioned the County Executive Office and received approval to submit and participate in regional grant applications in order to meet the deadline. The Fire District is now requesting approval and ratification of these applications.

**FISCAL/MANDATES IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact at this time.

If the grants are awarded, the Fire District and regional partner agencies will return to your Board for approval to accept the grants. A minimum ten percent match of the federal grant share is required under this program. The funding match will be apportioned among the Fire District and participating regional fire departments. If awarded all five grants, the Fire District has sufficient Fund Balance Restricted for Public Protection to meet the required funding match.

**DISCUSSION:**

The region's all-risk fire departments are summoned to the dynamic public safety needs on land, air, and sea. The Fire District is prepared with trained personnel and equipment for the jurisdiction. The Fire District's engagement in regional collaboration, enhanced readiness, relevancy, and responsiveness propagates throughout Ventura County's communities and our mutual aid partners.

Through technological improvements and evolution in fire service industry standards, the apparatus, equipment, and training requested in the three applications benefit the Fire District but, more importantly, are mutually beneficial to the region's fire

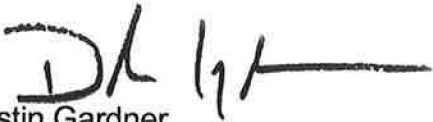
agencies. The enhanced apparatus, equipment, and training will provide greater safety and service and positively impact the Fire District's collaborators and mutual aid partners.

The Fire District's role in each of the five grant application processes and intended utilization of the grants vary as follows:

1. Sole applicant for a grant to fund the purchase of a new technologically advanced Brush Engine for the Fire District (Exhibit 1). The grant application amount is \$449,000, with a cost share of \$40,418.
2. Lead agency for a regional grant to fund the purchase of 35 ACCDs and accessories equipped with the latest automatic chest compression technology incorporating the current standards for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). (Exhibit 2.) The grant application amount is \$887,273, with a cost share of \$80,661. The grant and cost share will be allocated between the Fire District and our regional partners - Oxnard Fire Department (FD), Ventura City FD, and Fillmore FD. The Fire District is requesting 20 ACCDs for a cost of \$507,013 and a cost share of \$46,092.
3. Sub-recipient for a regional grant to fund Fire Prevention Training. Lead agency is Fillmore FD, with additional sub-recipients Ventura and Oxnard FD to the FEMA AFG Program. The Fire District's portion, if awarded, is in the amount of \$402,970 with a cost share of \$40,297.
4. Sub-recipient for a regional grant to fund USAR Training. Lead agency is Oxnard FD, with additional sub-recipients Ventura and Fillmore FD to the FEMA AFG Program. The Fire District's portion, if awarded, is in the amount of \$67,878, with a cost share of \$6,788.
5. Sub-recipient for a regional grant to fund Haz-Mat Training. Lead agency is Ventura FD, with additional sub-recipients Oxnard and Fillmore FD to the FEMA AFG Program. The Fire District's portion, if awarded, is in the amount of \$14,545 with a cost share of \$1,455.

The Fire District's Fiscal Bureau will ensure that its local competitive bid process conforms to applicable Federal Office of Management and Budget policies during procurement. Additionally, the Fire District will maintain invoices, tracking, and required FEMA documentation and adhere to the AFG Program requirements during the performance period. Because of the large volume of project proposals received by FEMA, the application is written to be competitive against the 10,000plus other fire departments seeking the limited available funding.

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 Manager Tom Kasper at (805) 389-9764.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DK' followed by a stylized horizontal line.

Dustin Gardner  
Fire Chief

DG/TK/GF:bw

Attachments:

- Exhibit 1 - 2022 AFG Application - Brush Engine
- Exhibit 2 - 2021 AFG Application - ACCD Application