



REPORT TO COUNCIL

City of Sacramento

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2604
www.CityofSacramento.org

Consent
April 1, 2008

Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

Title: Grant Application: Fire Station Alerting System

Location/Council District: Citywide

Recommendation: Adopt a **Resolution** authorizing the City Manager to apply for grant funding for the purchase of a Fire Station Alerting System.

Contact: Ray S. Jones, Fire Chief, 808-1601; Michelle Basurto, Program Specialist, 808-1357

Presenters: None

Department: Fire

Division: Office of the Chief

Organization No: 2511

Description/Analysis

Issue: The U.S. Department of Homeland Security is currently accepting grant applications for the *2008 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFG)*. The purpose of the AFG Program is to award 1-year grants directly to fire departments and nonaffiliated emergency medical services to enhance their abilities to protect first responders and the public from fire and fire-related hazards. The Fire Department is seeking grant funding to purchase and replace a deteriorating Fire Station Alerting System estimated to cost \$757,386. If the grant is awarded, the City would be required to share in the cost of the project with an amount equal to twenty (20) percent of the total project cost.

Policy Considerations: The continued response to community, industry, construction, and business for rescue services is consistent with the City Council goal of improving and expanding public safety. Applying for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant is consistent with City Council actions relative to state and Federal grant awards and the City's goal of establishing and strengthening community and regional partnerships.

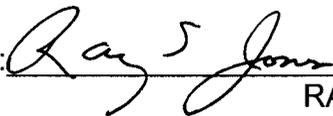
Environmental Considerations: Not Applicable

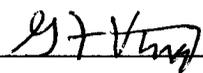
Commission/Committee Action: None

Rationale for Recommendation: The essential component within each fire station for receiving dispatches and incident information is the Fire Station Alerting System. The current system is deteriorating and needs to be replaced. A new system would provide reliable and functional notification. Grant funding would provide the opportunity to offset a significant portion of the cost.

Financial Considerations: The grant program requires that successful applicants in areas serving populations more than 50,000 must provide a 20% match of the total project cost. The Fire Station Alerting System is estimated to cost \$757,386 therefore City matching funds of approximately \$151,477 would be required **contingent upon receipt of award**. It is anticipated that the City's share will be available within the department's operational budget for communications equipment.

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD): If awarded, City procurement policies will be adhered to in the acquisition of goods and services related to this grant.

Respectfully Submitted by:  _____
RAY S. JONES
Fire Chief

Approved by:  _____
GUS VINA
Assistant City Manager

Recommendation Approved:

 _____
RAY KERRIDGE
City Manager

Table of Contents:

Report	pg. 1-2
Attachments	
1 Background	pg. 3
2 Resolution	pg. 4

Background Information:

The essential component within each fire station for receiving dispatch alerts and incident information is the Fire Station Alerting System. Presently three of the twenty-three active fire stations were recently constructed or rebuilt and have new Fire Station Alerting Systems installed. These systems provide higher reliability, better supportability, and broader functionality than the older systems which have been in the remaining twenty stations for over fifteen years. The older alerting systems, designed using custom-built, proprietary components, are unreliable, obsolete and deteriorating. In addition, the system components are not commercially available or easily replaceable. Replacement parts from original spare units are now in very short supply.

The proposed project will provide continuous fire station alerting capability by replacing the system with a commercially available and supportable system. A new system would provide reliable and functional notification that will not only be easier to support but could also improve response times. A new fire station alerting system is essential to meeting national response standards by receiving and relaying dispatch notifications within seconds. In addition it would include several devices to alert and inform firefighters with as much information as possible before arriving at the scene. This would help to improve incident operations and reduce the anxiety associated with responding to an incident by 'front-loading' the responders with key information early in the overall incident response and mitigation.

On March 3, 2008, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security opened the application period for the *Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program*. Applications are due by April 4, 2008. Upon submitting the grant application electronically, a copy will be made available for review with the City Clerk.

RESOLUTION NO.

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

**AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF A
FIRE STATION ALERTING SYSTEM**

BACKGROUND

- A. The essential component within each fire station for receiving dispatch alerts and incident information is the Fire Station Alerting System.
- B. The current fire alerting system, installed over fifteen years ago, was designed using custom-built, proprietary components which have become unreliable, obsolete and are deteriorating.
- C. The Fire Department is seeking grant funding to replace the current system with a commercially available and supportable system to provide a more reliable and functional notification system.
- D. On March 3, 2008, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security opened the application period for the *Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program*. Applications are due by April 4, 2008.

**BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL
RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

- Section 1. The City Manager or his designee is authorized to apply for grant funding for the purchase of a Fire Station Alerting System.