



1.13

DEPARTMENT OF  
FIRE

DENNIS SMITH  
FIRE CHIEF

CITY OF SACRAMENTO  
CALIFORNIA

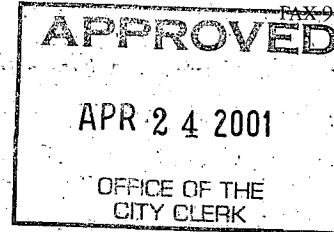
April 12, 2001

1231 I STREET  
SUITE 401  
SACRAMENTO, CA  
95814-2979

PH 916-264-5266  
FAX 916-264-7079

City Council  
Sacramento, California

AG 2001-065



Honorable Members in Session:

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF APPLICATION OF ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTER  
GRANT PROGRAM**

**LOCATION/COUNCIL DISTRICT:** Citywide

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the attached resolution that authorizes the City Manager to sign application of Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program.

**CONTACT PERSON:**

|                                  |          |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| Dennis Smith, Fire Chief         | 264-5190 |
| Charles Bader, Deputy Fire Chief | 264-5360 |

**FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF:** April 24, 2001

**SUMMARY:**

In fiscal year 2001, Congress appropriated \$100,000,000 to carry out the activities of the Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program. The City of Sacramento Fire Department is eligible to apply for a maximum of \$750,000 of these funds and is requesting permission to apply for grant funding to replace a 24 year old rescue rig and to fund the purchase of portable radios and atmospheric monitors.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Defense Authorization Bill for FY2001 authorized the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to make \$100,000,000 in grants directly to local fire departments in up to fourteen categories under the "Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program". FEMA, in cooperation with the United States Fire Administration (USFA) limited the categories to six. Applicants may apply for grants in no

more than two of the six categories. The maximum amount an applicant may be awarded is \$750,000 during this fiscal year.

Of the appropriated grant funds available for award, 56.8% of the funds will be awarded to volunteer or combination (volunteer/paid) departments while 43.2% will be awarded to paid fire departments. The funding for this grant program is for Federal fiscal year 2001. All grants must be awarded by September 30, 2001.

The City of Sacramento Fire Department seeks to replace an aging piece of equipment (rescue rig) and complete two very important programs (portable radios and atmospheric monitors) with funds granted by FEMA under this program.

The existing (and only) rescue rig is a converted, 24 year old retired air compressor vehicle. The tools it carries and the training that the crews have developed are a direct result of the City of Sacramento's decision to sponsor the FEMA Urban Search and Rescue California Task Force 7. The implementation of this rescue rig benefits the citizens of Sacramento and the surrounding County by providing technical rescue capabilities. However, the current vehicle lacks the space to carry the necessary equipment to support all the rescue capabilities, has seating for only two personnel, has become unreliable, and has numerous safety and performance issues. Therefore, grant funding to purchase a new rescue rig is being sought.

Grant funding for portable radios and atmospheric monitors is also being sought. The number of units to fully comply with various state regulations is greater than the number of units owned by the department. To meet state regulations:

- Portable radios are necessary to insure that all employees working in an "immediately dangerous to life and health" (IDLH) atmosphere maintain communication with employees located outside the IDLH atmosphere. The goal is to be able to provide a portable radio to each employee by assigning adequate radios to each company staffed by the department.
- Atmospheric monitors are the only reliable method to determine if an IDLH atmosphere exists. The award of this grant will allow dedicated atmospheric monitors to be assigned to all eight truck companies and Battalion Chief vehicles.

The Fire Department is requesting permission to apply for this funding through the approval of the attached resolution. The application is available for review in the City Clerk's office.

#### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

The items being submitted total \$954,500. This grant requires matching funds. The City of Sacramento falls into the 30% matching cost category. Cost by program would be:

|                            |                      |                  |           |
|----------------------------|----------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Rescue Rig                 | Total Cost \$500,000 | City Share (30%) | \$150,000 |
| Portable Radios            | Total Cost \$388,500 | City Share (30%) | \$116,550 |
| Atmospheric Monitors       | Total Cost \$ 66,000 | City Share (30%) | \$ 19,800 |
| Value of Total Application | \$954,500            |                  | \$286,350 |

The department is seeking one time funding in the Fiscal Year 2002 budget to cover one time equipment costs, the required 30% matching funds will be covered within the requested one time

funds. If the Council does not approve the funds and the Department is successful in securing the grant, the Department will not accept the grant.

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

On-going administrative and maintenance activities, such as purchases of supplies, equipment or materials which are not made for purposes of a public works construction project, do not constitute a "project" and are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act. CEQA Guidelines. Section 15061(b)(1), 15378(b)(3).

**POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:**

Application of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant is consistent with City Council actions relative to state and federal grant awards.

**ESBD EFFORTS:**

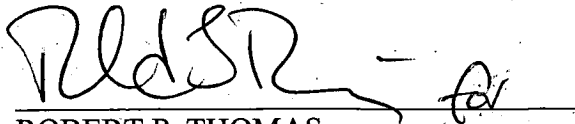
Staff will follow the Emerging and Small Business guidelines when purchasing supplies or services under this grant.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dennis Smith  
Fire Chief

**RECOMMENDATION APPROVED:**



ROBERT P. THOMAS  
City Manager

**APPROVED**  
APR 24 2001  
OFFICE OF THE  
CITY CLERK

**RESOLUTION NO.** 2001-237

ADOPTED BY THE SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL

ON DATE OF \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING  
APPLICATION OF  
ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTER GRANT PROGRAM**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO:**

That the City Manager or his designee is authorized to sign the Application of Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program for the City of Sacramento Fire Department.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK

**FOR CITY CLERK USE ONLY**

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

DATE ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_