

City of Garden Grove

INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

To: Matthew Fertal
Dept: City Manager
Subject: 2010 ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT
ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT AWARD FOR
PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

From: Dave Bertka
Dept: Fire
Date: May 10, 2011

OBJECTIVE

To request City Council approval to accept a Department of Homeland Security (DHS) award of \$37,600 through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program; and to request authorization to use this federal grant money to purchase Level II Soft Body Armor as outlined in the grant application.

BACKGROUND

Since 2001, AFG has helped firefighters and other first responders obtain critically needed equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles, training, and other resources that are needed to protect the public and emergency personnel from fire and other related hazards. This grant requires a 20/80 percent cost share of the total project cost.

In April 2010, the AFG grant application period opened for fiscal year 2010. The Fire Department submitted an application for Level II Soft Body Armor to replace the outdated body armor currently being used by the firefighters. The AFG program received almost 20,000 applications nationwide; at the end of the award process, less than 1 percent would go to California applicants.

On January 28, 2011, the Fire Department was notified by DHS of a successful grant award for a total project cost of \$47,000. Of the total project cost, the federal share is 80 percent or \$37,600 and the fire department's share is 20 percent or \$9,400.

DISCUSSION

The Level II Soft Body Armor enhances firefighter/paramedic safety by offering ballistic and other types of weapon protection during calls in a high-risk environment. The serviceable shelf life of this armor is 5 years; the fire department's body armor is 10 years old. This grant will allow the fire department to replace this outdated piece of personal protective equipment.

The Fire Department is ready to move forward with the grant project implementation.

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FINANCIAL IMPACTS

There is no negative financial impact to the General Fund. Proposition 172 funding, which is restricted for public safety, will be used to cover Garden Grove's required 20% portion, or \$9,400, of the AFG Grant.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council:

- Authorize the Fire Department to accept the 2010 Assistance to Firefighters Grant award of \$37,600; and
- Authorize the Finance Department to increase the Fire Department's budget by \$37,600.



DAVE BERTKA
Fire Chief

By: Lucia Medina-Whittaker 
Senior Administrative Analyst

Recommended for Approval



Matthew Fertal
City Manager