



## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** 5/15/2020

**To:** Board Directors

**Attn:** Mike Del Puppo  
President

**From:** Fire District Staff

**Subject:** Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Assistance to Firefighters Grant - COVID-19 Supplemental (AFG-S) Application

### **BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S BRIEFING PAPER**

#### **ISSUE:**

Staff is asking the Board of Directors for authorization to apply for the FEMA AFG-S COVID-19 Supplemental Grant for reimbursement of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) costs associated with emergency COVID-19 response.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The objectives of the FEMA AFG-S COVID-19 program are to provide critically needed resources to equip personnel to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency and support community resilience. It is the Fire District's goal to provide appropriate PPE to all front-line emergency responders and support staff during this COVID-19 pandemic. Outfitting District personnel with the appropriate PPE allows employees to safely and efficiently respond to all calls for service in our jurisdiction and provide auto-aid and mutual-aid assistance when requested. This comprehensive and cooperative approach allows us to most effectively protect the citizens of Fire District, Fresno County and anyone visiting or travelling within.

**DISCUSSION:**

The basic PPE to keep our employees safe including respirators, eye protection, isolation gowns, gloves, footwear covers, surgical type face masks, and disinfecting supplies are needed to comply with local EMS Agency (LEMSA) and Fresno County Department of Health guidelines.

These PPE purchases allow us to safely and effectively respond to the increased number of calls for service that are associated with COVID-19. The increased PPE expenses that the Fire District have incurred are above and beyond what was budgeted for. To maintain operational readiness at all times, it is necessary for our personnel to don PPE in accordance with the above mentioned guidelines, which is above and beyond normal protocol for donning PPE before COVID-19 guidelines came into place. The PPE donning and additional safety measures that we are taking while responding to calls for service are necessary to protect our personnel and maintain public safety.

The Fire District would be responsible for a total 10% matching dollars as required by the grant guidance. Total grant submission is \$30,622.13. If the grant is approved, it will fund \$27,838.30 and the District's cost share will be \$2,783.83

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. The Board votes to approve staff to apply for the FEMA AFG-S COVID-19 Supplemental Grant to assist with PPE costs associated with COVID preparedness and response.
2. The Board votes not to apply for the FEMA AFG-S COVID-19 Supplemental Grant.

**IMPACTS** *(Consider potential consequences related to each of the following areas of concern for proposed alternatives):*

- Fiscal – This strategy replaces or adds needed PPE at a 90% savings. The Budget Committee can include the cost in the FY20/21 budget.
- Operational – Maintaining supplies of PPE will allow employees to safety and efficiently respond to calls for service.
- Legal – No known impact.
- Labor – No known impact.
- Sociopolitical – No known impact.
- Policy – No known impact.

Health and Safety – Maintaining supplies of PPE allows for the District to provide for the Health and Safety of employees.


Environmental –

Interagency – No known impact.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff is recommending that the Board of Directors approve Option #1 and authorize the Fire Chief or designee to apply and/or accept, on behalf of the District, for the FEMA AFG-S COVID-19 Supplemental Grant to assist with PPE costs associated with COVID preparedness and response.

**APPROVED:**

  
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Josh I. Chrisman, Admin Officer

5/15/2020  
Date