



FRESNO COUNTY FIRE

PROTECTION DISTRICT

Honor, Integrity, Cooperation & Professionalism

MEMORANDUM

Date: 2/12/2020

To: Board Directors

Attn: Mike Del Puppo
President

From: Fire District Staff

Subject: Regional Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Assistance for Firefighters Grant(s) (AFG) Application

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S BRIEFING PAPER

ISSUE:

Staff is asking the Board of Directors for authorization to apply as the host agency for a Regional FEMA AFG Grant for vehicle mounted exhaust filtration systems with the North Central Fire Protection District (NCFPD). In addition, staff is seeking approval for the District to join with NCFPD, as the support agency, in their regional grant application for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Cleaning Machines (Extractors).

BACKGROUND:

FEMA AFG encourages regional grant applications by fire departments to maximize the return on their public safety investments. NCFPD staff approached District staff about our interest in collaborating on two regional grant applications this year. The desire is for the District to apply as the host or lead applicant for the exhaust filtration systems to include the number of Units desired by NCFPD in our collective application. In return, NCFPD would apply as the host or lead applicant for the PPE Extractor Units to include the District's desired Unit needs in their application. In both cases, each agency would be responsible for their portion of the total 10% matching dollars as required by the grant guidance.

DISCUSSION:

The District currently has vehicle exhaust systems that are installed in its fire stations. However, these Units are twelve (12) years old and need costly repairs. In addition, these units have malfunctioned several times thus causing damage to facilities and vehicles. Vehicle mounted filtration devices are now available and provide a more efficient and effective means for exhaust contamination control within our facilities. The District would need forty-five (45) Units and NCFPD would need twelve (12) Units for total collective fleet swap over. The devices cost \$9,785 each with tax and installation. Therefore, the total grant application would total \$557,745. The grant requires a 10% matching contribution by each regional participant. The District's 10% contribution for 45 Units would total \$44,032.50. NCFPD's 10% contribution for 12 Units would total \$11,742.

The District currently has three (3) PPE extractors at various fire stations. Those stations are Station 84 (HQ), Station 87 (South Fresno), and Station 93 (Huron). However, the District has a need to expand the number of these washing machines to ensure that personnel have clean and serviceable gear to limit impacts to emergency responses. Moreover, the current lack of extractors requires personnel to travel outside of their service area(s) to utilize the nearest available machine. Staff has analyzed our needs against our facilities that can support the addition of these Units and has determined that Station 89 (Easton), Station 96 (Mendota), and the Training Center can accommodate the installation of these machines. In addition, these locations will allow the District to have machines available at nearly every other station and will meet the grant guidance to support regional utilization by multiple agencies. Again, NCFPD would be the host or lead agency for this application and the District would be the supporting applicant. The Cost for each extractor/dryer including tax, installation, and facility modifications would be \$28,749/ea. The District's total project costs for three (3) units would be \$86,247. The District's 10% match will be a total expenditure of \$8,625.

Regional grant applications allow departments to share the application workload, provide economies of scale for purchasing, and provide operational depth that transcend jurisdictional lines to leverage resources for the benefit of the collective tax payer(s). This approach is very similar to Automatic Aid agreements for operational gain at time(s) of need regardless of jurisdiction. Typically, when agencies collaborate on regional grants, the application is more desirable and the outcome is more successful as compared to individual requests. Successful grant awards will be allocated for next Budget Fiscal Year 2021/22.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. The Board votes to approve staff to apply for the FEMA AFG Regional grant as the host or lead agency for the vehicle mounted exhaust emission systems with NCFPD. And, authorize staff to collaborate as a support applicant with NCFPD on their PPE Extractor Regional Grant.
2. The Board votes not to apply for either FEMA AFG regional grant as the host or support applicant with NCFPD.

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

- Fiscal – This strategy replaces or adds needed equipment at a 90% savings.
- Operational – District fleet will be modernized and operations will be streamlined thus improving operational reliability and in service time.
- Legal – No known impact.
- Labor – No known impact.
- Sociopolitical – No known impact.
- Policy – No known impact.
- Health and Safety – Personnel will be operating apparatus with the most current safety features and emission controls.
- Environmental – The District will reduce its carbon footprint and the amount of air pollutants produced from its vehicle fleet.
- 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, on behalf of the District, to the FEMA AFG Regional Grant as the host for the desired vehicle mounted emission control systems and participate as the support applicant with NCFPD on their FEMA AFG PPE Extractor grant.

APPROVED:



Chris Bump, District Operations Chief

1/12/2020

Date

EXECUTIVE STAFF