

**Meeting Date:** 3/11/2014

**Report Type:** Consent

**Report ID:** 2014-00153

**Title: Grant: Wildland Fire Prevention Program**

**Location:** Citywide

**Recommendation:** Pass a Resolution 1) authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to apply for grant funding for the implementation of the Wildland Fire Prevention Program; 2) accepting any federal funds awarded; and 3) establishing an operating grant, if awarded, for the Wildland Fire Prevention Program including revenue and expenditure budgets.

**Contact:** Michelle Basurto, Program Specialist, (916) 808-1357; Dan M. Haverty, D.P.A. Interim Fire Chief, (916) 808-1601, Fire Department

**Presenter:** None

**Department:** Fire

**Division:** Special Projects

**Dept ID:** 12001051

**Attachments:**

1-Description/Analysis

2-Resolution

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**City Attorney Review**

Approved as to Form

Lan Wang

2/26/2014 9:36:44 AM

**Approvals/Acknowledgements**

Department Director or Designee: Dan Haverty - 2/21/2014 8:51:02 AM

## Description/Analysis

**Issue Detail:** The U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency is currently accepting grant applications for the *2013 Fire Prevention and Safety Program* (FP&S). The FP&S grants are part of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) and support projects that enhance the safety of the public and firefighters from fire and related hazards.

The Fire Department is seeking grant funding to implement a Wildland Fire Prevention Program which includes developing a Community Wildland Prevention Program (CWPP) for the City of Sacramento. The CWPP will allow the City to continue the planning efforts initiated by the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District (SMFD) westerly along the American River Parkway. In addition, the CWPP is the planning document necessary for the City to apply for fire mitigation grants to accomplish projects to reduce the threat of wildfire in this and other high fire threat areas. The anticipated cost to implement this program and develop the CWPP is \$841,372. If the grant is awarded, the City would be required to share in the cost with an amount equal to five percent of the 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 FP&S 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

**Economic Impacts:** None.

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

**Sustainability:** There are no sustainability considerations applicable to applying for or acceptance of federal funding through the FP&S Grant Program.

**Commission/Committee Action:** None.

**Rationale for Recommendation:** Grant funding will provide the opportunity to offset a significant portion of the cost to implement a Wildland Fire Prevention Program. The Program will include:

- conducting a formal community risk assessment;
- establishing a local definition and boundary for a wildland urban interface (WUI);
- determining local priorities for protection of life, property and critical infrastructure;
- establishing recommendations for fuel reduction and structural ignitability;
- improving coordination and communication between emergency response agencies and the community;
- educating the public by increasing public awareness of fire preparedness and prevention; and
- developing a Community Wildland Prevention Program (CWPP) for the City of Sacramento that will complete the planning effort begun on the eastern portion of the County, especially along the American River Parkway.

Providing public education and developing a CWPP translates to reduced fire risk, cost savings in suppression personnel, increased suppression capabilities, enhanced fire protection and ultimately, a safer community. For the community as a whole, receiving prevention education and participating in the development of a CWPP translates to increased awareness, recognition of civic duty, proactive engagement to address problems, improved communication and trust with government at the local, state and national levels and ultimately, increased community resiliency. Additional benefits of public education and the development of a CWPP include preservation of property, reduced firefighter and civilian injuries and death, opportunities for replication of the CWPP in other adjoining communities outside of the Department's jurisdiction, and increased consideration for future federal funding of hazard mitigation projects. Since wildland areas are so intermingled in this community, the WUI area is large. Because of this, clearly defining that area, assessing it for risks, and developing an action plan to reduce risks and increase community resiliency will benefit all of the citizens that reside within the Department's jurisdictional area. A plan that addresses this problem will help the Department provide fire protection to the non-WUI areas as well with increased efficiency.

Grant funding will fund:

- Consulting services to assist with the facilitation of the CWPP process, develop a web portal to house a community assessment tool and disseminate information, and conduct related environmental analysis
- Personnel (offset/backfill) to manage the implementation of the program, participate on the stakeholders team, conduct risk assessments and workshops,

coordinate the public education component, and manage the web portal and data collection throughout each step of the CWPP development.

- Supplies such as educational brochures and training material.

**Financial Considerations:** The anticipated cost to implement the program and develop the CWPP is \$841,372. The FP&S Grant Program requires successful applicants to share in the cost with an amount equal to five percent of the cost; therefore, City matching funds of approximately \$45,068 will be required contingent upon receipt of award. The match will be funded through the Fire Department's operating budget.

**Local Business Enterprise (LBE):** If awarded, City procurement policies will be adhered to in the acquisition of goods and services related to this grant.

## RESOLUTION NO.

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

### **AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT GRANT FUNDING AND, IF AWARDED, FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A WILDLAND FIRE PREVENTION PROGRAM**

#### **BACKGROUND**

- A. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency is currently accepting grant applications for the *2013 Fire Prevention and Safety Program (FP&S)*.
- B. The Fire Department is seeking grant funding to implement a Wildland Fire Prevention Program, which includes developing a Community Wildland Prevention Program (CWPP), for the City of Sacramento.
- C. The CWPP will allow the City to continue the planning efforts initiated by the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District (SMFD) westerly along the American River Parkway. In addition, the CWPP is the planning document necessary for the City to apply for fire mitigation grants to accomplish projects to reduce the threat of wildfire in this and other high fire threat areas.
- D. The development of a CWPP and public education translates to reduced fire risk, cost savings in suppression personnel, increased suppression capabilities, enhanced fire protection and ultimately, a safer community.
- E. For the community as a whole, receiving prevention education and participating in the development of a CWPP translates to increased awareness, recognition of civic duty, proactive engagement to address problems, improved communication and trust with government at the local, state and national levels and ultimately, increased community resiliency.
- F. Additional benefits of public education and the development of a CWPP include preservation of property, reduced firefighter and civilian injuries and death, opportunities for replication of the CWPP in other adjoining communities outside of the Department's jurisdiction, and increased consideration for future federal funding of implementing hazard mitigation projects.
- G. The anticipated cost to implement the program and develop the CWPP is \$841,372. The FP&S Grant Program requires successful applicants to share in the cost with an amount equal to five percent of the cost; therefore, City matching funds of approximately \$45,068 will be required contingent upon receipt of award. The match will be funded through the Fire Department's operating budget.

**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 implementation of the Wildland Fire Prevention Program.
- Section 2. The City Manager, or his designee, is authorized to accept federal funds in the amount awarded.
- Section 3. An operating grant for the Wildland Fire Prevention Program including revenue and expenditure budgets for the program shall be established for the amount awarded and for the matching funds.