



REPORT TO COUNCIL **3**

City of Sacramento

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2604
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CONSENT
October 31, 2006

**Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council**

**Title: Agreement: Accept Hazardous Material Emergency Preparedness (HMEP)
Grant**

Location/Council District: Citywide

Recommendation: Adopt a **Resolution** authorizing the City Manager or his designee to:
(1) execute a HMEP Assistance Agreement with the Governor's Office of Emergency
Services and (2) establish a grant with a \$12,000 revenue and expenditure budget.

Contact: Ed Vasques, Assistant Chief, (916) 264-7522

Presenters: None

Department: Fire

Division: Special Operations

Organization No: 2553

Description/Analysis

Issue:

The Fire Department's current Hazardous Materials (HazMat) Response Plan was last updated in 1998. Due to numerous internal and external changes, the plan is in need of revision in order to continue to be an effective tool in responding to HazMat incidents in the City. HMEP grant funds will be utilized to update the department Hazmat Emergency Response Plan. The Fire Department plans to utilize an annuitant to perform the revision of the plan.

Policy Considerations:

Approval of the HMEP grant will allow the Fire Department to update the HazMat Plan and prepare the City to respond to HazMat incidents.

Environmental Considerations:

This activity is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it does not constitute a "project" as defined in CEQA Guidelines section 15378, and is otherwise exempt under section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA

Guidelines (no significant effect on the environment).

Rationale for Recommendation:

The City of Sacramento Fire Department's HazMat Plan is out of date (1998), and needs major revisions. A large portion of the hazardous materials incidents that the Fire Department responds to are on the major transportation routes throughout the city. The volume and type of hazardous materials being transported has significantly changed during the last six years. A key focus of the revision pertains to incidents on these routes. Furthermore, to have a current HazMat Response Plan is paramount in effective mitigation of chemical/fuel leaks and spills.

Since 1998, California Office of Emergency Services (CA OES) Fire and Rescue Branch has changed the methodology for response personnel configuration for responses to HazMat incidents to a "team typing" scheme. This change, which must be addressed in the plan, increases the number of personnel required to respond. Further, there have been changes and upgrades to the CA OES Fire and Rescue branch FIREScope Incident Command protocols, definitions, and applications. These too, will affect the revision of the Sacramento City Fire Department's HazMat Emergency Response Plan.

Currently, the Fire Department operates two HazMat Response Teams. The City is under contract to provide emergency HazMat response to the County of Sacramento and City of West Sacramento. Additionally the City is also a CA OES mutual aid response team resource for HazMat incidents in the State of California.

Financial Considerations:

The total cost to update of the HazMat Response Plan is anticipated to be \$15,000, of which \$12,000 will be funded through this grant. There is an obligation on the part of the City of Sacramento to provide matching funds in the amount of \$3,000 or 20% of the total project. The funds are available within the FY2006/07 Fire department operating budget. No augmentation from the General Fund is being requested.

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD):

Purchase of supplies and equipment will be made in accordance with the City's Emerging and Small Business Development (ESBD) program requirements whenever possible.

Attachment 1

Background

The HMEP grant will allow the City of Sacramento to revise and improve its Hazardous Materials Emergency Plan, which is mandated under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986, which is also known as SARA (Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act) Title III. As required by federal statute, SARA Title III, the City's plan has been annexed to the County of Sacramento Area Plan for hazardous materials.

The Hazardous Materials Emergency Plan for the City of Sacramento was last updated in 1998 by the then current Hazardous Materials Assistant Chief. That Chief has since retired. For consistency and ease of revision, the department plans to hire this retired Chief as an annuitant. This individual is a recognized subject matter expert in Hazardous Materials response.

HMEP grant is made available by the United States Department of Transportation (DOT). It is accessed through California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CA OES) and the region's Local Emergency Preparedness Committee (LEPC.) These grant funds are for the development, improvement and implementation of emergency plans.

Attachment 2

RESOLUTION NO.

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

ACCEPTANCE OF THE HAZARDOUS MATERIAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (HMEP) GRANT FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$12,000

BACKGROUND

- A. The Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan for the City of Sacramento was last updated in 1998. Since 1998, numerous changes have occurred that affect the City's response to Hazardous Materials incidents and therefore require the updating of the plan.
- B. The HMEP grant will allow the City of Sacramento to revise and improve its Hazardous Materials Emergency Plan, which is mandated under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986, which is also known as SARA Title III.
- C. The Fire Department has determined the cost for updating the Hazardous Materials Emergency Plan for the City will be \$15,000. Grant funding of \$12,000, or 80%, will come from the HMEP grant. As required by the grant, the remaining \$3,000, or 20%, of the grant will be matched by the City and come from existing Fire Department Fiscal Year 2006/07 budget.
- D. The United States Department of Transportation (DOT), through Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), is endorsed under Federal Hazardous Material Law to provide training and planning grants to local governments and to other public sectors. The Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant is managed by the Office of Emergency Services (OES) through Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC).

BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

- Section 1. The City Manager, or his designee, is hereby authorized to execute the HMEP Assistance Agreement (Assistance No. HMECA6033140), and accept the grant funding in the amount of \$12,000.
- Section 2. The City Manager is authorized to establish the HMEP grant project; a revenue and expenditure budget for the \$12,000 HMEP grant (Fund 250);

and a \$3,000 transfer from the Fire Department operating budget (Fund 101) for the required grant match.

