



# CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

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MEETING DATE: NOVEMBER 20, 2007

ITEM NUMBER:

**SUBJECT:** FIREMAN'S FUND GRANT

**DATE:** OCTOBER 11, 2007

**FROM:** FIRE DEPARTMENT/ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

**PRESENTATION  
BY:**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** BARBARA P. MARCOSA, MANAGEMENT ANALYST  
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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

- ❑ Staff recommends City Council accept a grant in the total amount of \$8,615 from, Fireman's Fund Insurance Company, for the purchase of one (1) smoke ejector, two (2) lighting systems, two (2) rotary saws, and training software .
- ❑ Approve Budget Adjustment No. 08-020 for appropriation of the grant funds to the Fire Department's operating budget (Attachment 1).

## **BACKGROUND:**

The City of Costa Mesa requested \$8,615 in grant funds, to purchase emergency operations and firefighter safety equipment for the Costa Mesa Fire Department. The City will be the recipient of grant funds originating from Fireman's Fund Insurance Company. Availability of grant funds will enable the Fire Department to purchase firefighting equipment and scene lighting for emergency scene operations and arson investigations.

### **Smoke Ejector**

The smoke ejector is used to remove smoke, heat, and toxic gases during firefighting operations. This improves survivability for victims and increases safety for firefighters, due to the removal of heat, toxins and increased visibility in structures. The new smoke ejector will replace the existing, less efficient, smoke ejector. In comparison to the new 20" fan, the old unit is smaller, less reliable and does not have the cubic feet per minute capability of the new fan. The old unit is 9 years old and has had numerous repairs in order to keep it operational.

### **Lighting Systems**

The purchase of two (2) new remote area lighting systems will enable the Fire Department to provide much needed lighting during emergency operations, such as with remote command posts, and during arson team investigations within our city.

The lighting systems are battery-powered and are fully rechargeable. The system requires no external power sources or generators and can operate up to 17 hours on a single charge.

### **Rotary Saws**

Rotary saws are used primarily by our truck companies for forcible entry into buildings. This includes using saws to cut doors, or hinges, in order to gain entry into structures. In some instances, truck companies are assigned to roof operations and may not be available for engine companies to complete forcible entry tasks. The purchase of two (2) rotary saws for our engine companies will provide crews with the necessary tools for gaining access into buildings. Currently, if an engine company needs a saw; the crew must call for an additional truck company to assist. In addition, Firefighters will be able to utilize the saws to gain access into engine compartments of vehicles that are on fire.

### **Training Software**

The training software is a simulation training system that will allow the Fire Department to create realistic simulations on a PC, so that they can be utilized in conjunction with training fire and emergency personnel. The computer software is customizable, enabling us to use imported digital images of structures in Costa Mesa, to create simulated incidents. Simulation training is essential for firefighter preparedness and will assist with professionals' ability to practice and train using scenarios that they are likely to face in the real world. Furthermore, creating simulations on the PC is more cost and time effective than training in real structures.

Included with the software is a communication link that will connect users at multiple installations (all six fire stations) to a central computer. The instructor facilitating the training exercise will be able to control the simulation at those installations via a Local Area Network (LAN).

### **ANALYSIS:**

The Fireman's Fund grant will enable the City of Costa Mesa Fire Department to purchase (1) smoke ejector, two (2) lighting systems, two (2) rotary saws, and training software for a total cost of \$8,615.

### **ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:**

No alternatives were considered.

### **FISCAL REVIEW:**

There are no City matching funds required. Receipt of the grant funds will bind the City to the terms and conditions of the grant for use of the funds, in accordance with Fireman's Fund Insurance Company's Grant Compliance Agreement (Attachment 2). Budget Adjustment number 08-020 is recommended for adoption to appropriate the grant funding received to the Fire Department's operating budget for the equipment purchases referenced herein.

**LEGAL REVIEW:**

No legal review is necessary for this item.

**CONCLUSION:**

Staff recommends City Council accept a grant in the total amount of \$8,615.

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BARBARA P. MARCOSA  
Management Analyst

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MIKE MORGAN  
Fire Chief

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MARC R. PUCKETT  
Director of Finance

DISTRIBUTION: City Manager  
Deputy City Clerk  
Director of Finance  
Grant Administrator  
Staff

ATTACHMENT: 1 [BUDGET ADJUSTMENT NO. 08-020](#)  
2 [Grant Compliance Agreement](#)