

Agenda Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members
From: Bryan Cobb, City Manager
Date: February 1, 2021
Subject: **Resolution No. 4033-21**, Request to Apply for 2021 FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant

Procedure: Consent Agenda

Introduction: This is a request for City Council to approve the submittal of an application to the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Assistance to Firefighters Grant (DHS-FEMA-AFG) program for funding assistance for the purchase of one (1) Wildland and Special Response Fire Apparatus (Brush Truck).

Discussion: The Fire Rescue Department seeks grant funding opportunities to assist with funding operational and capital equipment needs. The Department recommends submitting an application for the FY20 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program, as provided in Attachment 1. The proposed grant application is for one (1) Wildland and Special Response Fire Apparatus. Currently, the City has no wildland firefighting vehicles and must rely on outside resources to respond. At times these outside resources may either be unstaffed or not available to assist. When this occurs, it creates an extended response time which can allow the fire to rapidly grow. This creates a challenge to protect structures and increases the threat level for property damage and life safety within the proximity of a wildland fire. The purchase of this equipment will allow the City to provide adequate and rapid wildland/urban interface fire protection. The vehicle will also be used during hurricanes and tornadoes when access may be difficult due to downed trees, flooding, etc. The new apparatus will be built to specifications following all applicable NFPA standards and shall conform to all federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Budget Impact: There is no budget impact associated with approving the submittal of the grant application. The DHS-FEMA-AFG will provide an estimated \$159,090.91 towards the purchase of a Wildland and Special Response Fire Apparatus, with a required 10% local match estimated at \$15,909.09. If the grant is awarded, City Council will be required to accept or decline the grant award. If accepted, a budget amendment will be presented to City Council to fund the required 10% local match.

Strategic Impact: Be one of the safest communities in the region. Maintain fire response times at superior levels.

Recommendation: It is recommended that City Council adopt Resolution No. 4033-21.

Attachment(s): 1. DHS AFG Notice of Funding Opportunity (pg. 1-3)

Prepared by: Nichlaus Dorey, Training Division Chief