

City of Alexandria, Virginia

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 12, 2002

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PHILIP SUNDERLAND, CITY MANAGER *ps*

SUBJECT: SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF FIRE PROGRAMS TO UPGRADE THE FIRE DEPARTMENT'S COMPUTER REPORTING SYSTEM FOR REPORTS SUBMITTED TO THE STATE

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**ISSUE:** City Council consideration of a grant application, in the amount of \$1,000 to upgrade the Fire Department's computer reporting system for reports submitted to the State.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That City Council:

- (1) approve this grant submission to the Virginia Department of Fire Programs; and
- (2) authorize the City Manager to submit this application for State assistance.

**DISCUSSION:** The Virginia Fire Incident Reporting System (VFIRS) is part of the local, state, and national system for collecting, analyzing, and reporting injuries and losses of life and property caused by fire and other emergencies. The purpose of this grant is to provide an incentive to participate for departments not currently participating in VFIRS, and also to provide current participants an alternative method of submitting data to the Virginia Department of Fire Programs.

The Fire Department will use this \$1,000 to upgrade three computers that are used to enter and edit information into VFIRS. The purchases will include memory, faster processors, and new wiring, which are required by the network.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** There is no match requirement for this grant. The grant period is six (6) months from the date of the award. During this period, the City must purchase the new PC hardware and present the paid bill to the Virginia Department of Fire Programs. The award will be made via electronic transfer.

The Fire Department has submitted the grant application in order to meet the deadline of July 31, 2002, with the understanding that subsequent City Council approval would be required.

**ATTACHMENTS:** None. This grant application may be reviewed in the Office of Management and Budget, Room 3600, City Hall, during normal business hours.

**STAFF:**

Thomas Hawkins, Fire Chief

Virginia Lester, Fiscal Officer, Alexandria Fire Department