

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: OCTOBER 18, 2005  
TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL  
FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER   
SUBJECT: SUBMISSION OF GRANT APPLICATION FOR TRAINING MINI-GRANT THROUGH VIRGINIA FIRE SERVICES BOARD

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**ISSUE:** City Council consideration of a grant application, in the amount of \$4,732, for a training mini-grant, which is administered by the Virginia Fire Services Board (VFSB.)

**RECOMMENDATION:** That City Council:

- (1) Approve the submission of the grant application totaling \$4,732 to the VFSB for three laptop computers to use in the Fire & EMS Training Academy; and
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to execute all the necessary documents that may be required.

**BACKGROUND:** In August 2000, the Virginia Fire Services Board adopted a policy to administer mini-grants from the interest earned from the Virginia Fire Program Fund. The purpose of the mini-grant is to fund training projects and programs to better the education efforts in the fire service. The grant is a maximum award of \$10,000 to Virginia jurisdictions and is based on a competitive application process.

**DISCUSSION:** The City of Alexandria requests funds to purchase three laptop computers for the Fire & EMS Training Academy. The City currently has three computers in the training facility, but they are outdated and do not have the capability to run the software and multimedia aspects of the Department's training program. The new laptop computers would help increase the effectiveness of our training programs.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The City would be able to purchase laptop computers under the State contract for a total cost of \$4,732. If awarded this grant, the City will be responsible for the additional maintenance costs of the computers.

The Fire Department has submitted the grant application in order to meet the deadline of October 1, 2005, with the understanding that subsequent City Council authorization would be required to accept this grant award.

**STAFF:**

Vince Whitmore, Deputy Chief EMS

Brian Hricik, EMS Supervisor - Training

Laura Pettus, Emergency Management Analyst

Gary A. Mesaris, Fire Chief