


City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 13, 2011

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) GRANT PROGRAM FOR A FIRE PROTECTION AND SAFETY (FP&S) GRANT FOR SMOKE DETECTORS AND TRAINING

ISSUE: Consideration of a grant application for the Fire Protection and Safety (FP&S) grant which is part of the Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) grant program, U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council: approve the submission of the grant application (due February 4, 2011); and authorize the City Manager to execute the necessary documents that may be required.

DISCUSSION: On January 3, 2011, FEMA opened the grant application period for the 2010 AFG FP&S grant program. This is a competitive multi-million dollar matching grant program for US governmental and non-profit agencies and organizations to provide financial assistance based on demonstrated need to enhance fire safety and prevention goals.

The Alexandria Fire Department (AFD) is committed to fire prevention and fire safety. It assists Alexandria residents by providing smoke/carbon monoxide alarms and educating residents about the importance of installing alarms, as possible, and trains them on how to maintain them.

FISCAL IMPACT: The AFD is requesting 500 combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, 400 smoke alarms and 100 smoke alarms for the hearing impaired, funding for training of fire educators and funding for advertising the program to the public for a total amount of \$73,000. If awarded, the AFD will be responsible for the 20 percent match equaling \$14,600. These funds will be paid out of the AFD's Virginia Department of Fire Programs annual allotment. City staff will administer the grant. The City is also responsible for the normal administrative costs associated with this grant, including financial and reporting oversight provided by the Fire Department.

The AFD has applied for these funds twice in 2007 and 2009 but so far has never been awarded this grant.

STAFF:

Adam K. Thiel, Fire Chief

James Lynch, Chief, Administrative Services, Fire Department

Robert Rodriguez, Chief Fire Marshall and CSO, Fire Department

Mayuri Middough, Fiscal Officer, Fire Department

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1-25-11


City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

REVISED

DATE: JANUARY 25, 2011

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) GRANT PROGRAM FOR A FIRE PROTECTION AND SAFETY (FP&S) GRANT FOR SMOKE DETECTORS AND TRAINING

ISSUE: Consideration of a grant application for the Fire Protection and Safety (FP&S) grant which is part of the Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) grant program, U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency **through a partnership with the non-profit Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE).**

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council: ~~approve the submission of the grant application (due February 4, 2011);~~ **Approve the partnership of the AFD and IFE for the application to the FP&S grant program (due February 04, 2011);** and Authorize the City Manager to execute the necessary documents that may be required.

DISCUSSION: On January 3, 2011, FEMA opened the grant application period for the 2010 AFG FP&S grant program. This is a competitive multi-million dollar matching grant program for US governmental and non-profit agencies and organizations to provide financial assistance based on demonstrated need to enhance fire safety and prevention goals.

The AFD would send its proposal to the IFE to include in their collaborative application. The AFD is just one of many local government agencies throughout the country including the District of Columbia; Cleveland, Ohio; and Palm Beach, Florida to partner with the IFE. The benefit to the City is that since the IFE is a non-profit organization, there would be no required twenty percent cash match if granted the funds. The IFE has founded Vision 20/20 National Strategies for Fire Loss Prevention which will coordinate the grant on behalf of the IFE.

The Alexandria Fire Department (AFD) is committed to fire prevention and fire safety. It assists Alexandria residents by providing smoke/carbon monoxide alarms and educating residents about the importance of installing alarms, as possible, and trains them on how to maintain them.

FISCAL IMPACT: The AFD is requesting 500 combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, 400 smoke alarms and 100 smoke alarms for the hearing impaired, funding for training of fire educators, funding for advertising the program to the public, for a total amount of \$73,000. If awarded, the AFD will **not** be responsible for the 20 percent match equaling \$14,600. ~~These funds will be paid out of the AFD's Virginia Department of Fire Programs annual allotment.~~ City staff will administer the grant. The City is also responsible for the normal administrative costs associated with this grant, including financial and reporting oversight provided by the Fire Department.

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