

November 3, 2005

Honorable Mayor and Members of
The Hermosa Beach City Council

Regular meeting of
November 8, 2005

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT
PROGRAM AWARD PACKAGE AS DETAILED BY THE
OFFICE OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
COORDINATION AND PREPAREDNESS**

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that Council:

1. Accept the Federal Grant Award of \$162,441.
2. Appropriate \$162,441 in the grant fund with corresponding estimated revenue in the same amount.
3. Appropriate \$8,549 from Prospective Expenditures as the City's share and commitment to participate in the Program.

BACKGROUND

The Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) Grant Program awards grants directly to fire departments of a State to enhance and protect the health and safety of the public and firefighting personnel, with respect to related hazards. Grants are awarded on a competitive basis to applicants that adopt program priorities, demonstrate financial need, and demonstrate the benefit to be derived from their projects.


The AFG Program is conducted by the Department's Office for State and Local Government Coordination & Preparedness (SLGCP) in cooperation with the Department's United States Fire Administration. SLGCP is the principal Federal agency responsible for the preparedness of the United States for acts of terrorism, including coordinating preparedness efforts at the Federal level, and working with all State, local, tribal, parish, and private sector emergency response providers on all matters pertaining to combating terrorism, including training, exercises, and equipment support. To support this mission, SLGCP administers a number of programs that provide a wide array of support to our nation's emergency preparedness and response community.

The fire department participated in the 2005 FEMA competitive grant process with an application requesting funding to upgrade our existing communications hardware. The grant request allows for the purchase of mobile and hand-held portable radios, mobile data computers, and self-contained breathing apparatus mask radio technology. This equipment will provide for a communications system that will allow participation into a complete interoperable communications network with multiple agencies in the greater Los Angeles metropolitan area.

FISCAL IMPACT


This grant requires a 5% commitment from the recipient. The Federal share is \$162,441 of the approved amount and our share of the costs is \$8,549.

Respectfully submitted,



Russell Tingley
Fire Chief

Concur:



Stephen Burrell
City Manager

Noted for Fiscal Impact:



Viki Copeland
Finance Director



U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Office for Domestic Preparedness
Washington, D.C. 20531

Mr. Jerry Gomez
Hermosa Beach Fire Department
540 Pier Avenue
Hermosa Beach, California 90254-3836

Re: Grant No.EMW-2005-FG-04964

Dear Mr. Gomez:

Congratulations, on behalf of Office of State and Local Government Coordination and Preparedness, in collaboration with the U.S. Fire Administration at the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Your grant application submitted under the FY 2005 Assistance to Firefighters Grant has been approved. The approved project costs amount to \$170,990.00. The Federal share is \$162,441.00 of the approved amount and your share of the costs is \$8,549.00.

As part of your award package, you will find Grant Agreement Articles. Please make sure you read and understand the Articles as they outline the terms and conditions of your Grant award. Maintain a copy of these documents for your official file. **You establish acceptance of the Grant and Grant Agreement Articles when you request and receive any of the Federal Grant funds awarded to you.**

The first step in requesting your grant funds is to confirm your correct Direct Deposit Information. Please go online to the AFG eGrants system at www.firegrantsupport.com and if you have not done so, complete and submit your SF 1199A, Direct Deposit Sign-up Form. Please forward the original, completed SF 1199A, Direct Deposit Sign-up Form, signed by your organization and the banking institution to the address below:

Department of Homeland Security
Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate (FEMA)
Grants Management Branch
500 C Street, SW, Room 334
Washington, DC 20472

Attn: Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program

After your SF 1199A is reviewed and you receive an email indicating the form is approved, you will be able to request payments online. Remember, you should basically request funds when you have an immediate cash need (i.e. you have a bill in-hand that is due within 30 days). If you have any questions or concerns regarding the process to request your grant funds, please call 1-877-510-6762.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt A. Mayer".

Matt A. Mayer
Acting Executive Director
Office of State and Local Government
Coordination and Preparedness