

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
FIRE DEPARTMENT
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

CONSENT AGENDA
ITEM NO. 22

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Robert Ojeda, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: Authorizing the Acceptance of Grant Funds for the FY 2005 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program administered by the United States Fire Administration

DATE: February 9, 2006

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This ordinance authorizes the City Manager to accept grant funds for the FY 2005 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program administered by the United States Fire Administration (USFA). Funding will be used for a Roadside Safety Initiative, totaling \$172,590. This amount includes the \$138,072 grant award and a cash match of 20% that amounts to \$34,518.

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Nationally, between 1995 and 1999, 17 firefighters were struck and killed by motorists. According to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, sixteen firefighters from across the country have died on the roadways since 2002. Current standards recommend conspicuous marking for vehicles, amber lights in lieu of strobes when on scene, proper high visibility safety vests, and providing adequate warning of approaching traffic of the emergency scene.

USFA funds will be utilized to provide the San Antonio Fire Department with a comprehensive roadside emergency program. The program will provide training, equipment, and procedures to meet nationally recognized standards pertaining to working safely in and around vehicular traffic. Purchases include safety vests for all Fire and EMS personnel; cones and warning signs; retrofit Fire and EMS vehicles with high visibility chevrons on the rear of the vehicles; and to install amber directional lighting on all Fire vehicles. The grant also provides funding to train firefighters on safe operations when working on roadways (See Attachment I). This project will bring the Department into compliance with the following standards and initiatives:

1. U.S Department of Transportation's Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices, 2003, revised 1 November 2004.
2. National Fire Protection Association 1500, Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health, 2002 edition, sections pertaining to firefighter safety on roadways.

3. United States Fire Administration's Emergency Vehicle Safety Initiative, FEMA FA272/2004.

Since October 2005, the Fire Department has implemented procedural changes as initial steps to provide firefighters with greater safety when operating along roadways. Fire apparatus are now being dispatched to all roadside emergencies to "block" the emergency scene where firefighters, police, and EMS personnel are working. The dispatching of a fire company also allows rapid establishment of the incident command structure, further promoting a "scene safe" environment. This Fire Act Grant Program will build on those safety features by providing the firefighters with personnel and vehicular marking, compliant safety devices to warn motorists of emergency scene management, and proper lighting for fire apparatus.

POLICY ANALYSIS

This ordinance continues the City's policy of seeking outside resources for the enhancement of Department programs. The City has previously been awarded funding under USFA for training activities and equipment.

FISCAL IMPACT

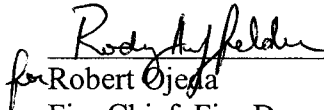
Total funding for the FY 2005 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program is \$172,590. This amount includes a \$138,072 grant award and a General Fund match of 20% (set by the United States Fire Administration) totaling \$34,518. Funds for the required 20% cash match of \$34,518 are available in the department's FY 2006 Adopted Budget. All funds must be expended by September 30, 2006.

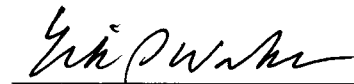
COORDINATION

This ordinance has been coordinated with the Office of Management and Budget, the San Antonio Professional Firefighters Association, Finance and the City Attorney's Office.

SUPPLEMENTAL COMMENTS

The Ethics Disclosure Form is not required.


for Robert Ojeda
Fire Chief, Fire Department


Erik Walsh
Assistant to the City Manager


Sheryl Sculley
City Manager

ATTACHMENT I

FY 05 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program
Internal Order # - 120000000034
Award Number - EMW-2005-FG-15234
September 2, 2005 - September 1, 2006
Functional Area 2000080000010003 SAP Fund 26056000
Fund Center 2003020000
CFDA# 97-044

General Ledger	Description <u>Revenue</u>		Budget
4501100	Assistance to Firefighters Grant	\$	138,072.00
	General Fund In -Kind Match	\$	34,518.00
	Total Revenue	\$	172,590.00

General Ledger	Description <u>Expenditure</u>		Budget
5101020	Overtime	\$	17,478.00
5301030	M&R Material Mach. & Equip.	\$	96,664.00
5304005	Clothing & Linen Supplies	\$	16,490.00
5304050	Tools & Apparatus	\$	16,940.00
5304080	Commodities - Other	\$	21,868.00
5501000	Computer Equipment	\$	3,150.00
	Total Expenditures	\$	172,590.00
	Amount Awarded	\$	172,590.00