

Meeting Date: December 11, 2018



Agenda Item #: *EC*

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

Contact Information:			
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Type of Item:					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consent Agenda	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ordinance First Reading	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Hearing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Council Approval	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ordinance Second Reading	<input type="checkbox"/>	Resolution
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Discussion & Action	<input type="checkbox"/>	Presentation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Workshop

SUBJECT: Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant

BACKGROUND:

Council requested information regarding the SAFER Grant. The SAFER (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) Grant was created to provide funding directly to fire departments and volunteer firefighter interest organizations in order to help them increase the number of trained, "front-line" firefighters available in their communities. The goal of the SAFER Grant is to enhance the local fire departments ability to comply with staffing, response and operational standards established by NFPA (National Fire Protection Agency).

The City of Orange City is eligible to apply for the section of the grant program titled "Hiring of Firefighter Grants" and is ineligible to apply for the section related to Volunteer Firefighters. The next grant cycle has not yet been announced; however, if similar to prior years applications will be required to be submitted during the month of April, with notification of award being made five months later in September. Following award, funding is based on actual new positions being filled and is on a reimbursement basis.

The grant application is highly competitive, and staff will need to begin collecting and compiling data now in order to complete the application form for submittal in April. The City's Grants Coordinator (Theresa Brooks) will assist, but Fire Department Administration will take the lead in assimilating required reports and data. Among the many requirements, is a letter from the City

Council stating the Council Commitment toward the grant application; and obligation of match funds will be required at time of grant award. Thus, submittal of the application may have direct impact on the preparation of the FY19/20 budget.

A more thorough presentation regarding the grant program will be presented at the City Council meeting.

COUNCIL DISTRICT:

City Wide

RECOMMENDATIONS:

City Council is requested to provide guidance on whether staff should apply for the grant next year.

ATTACHMENTS:

Financial Estimates

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The SAFER Grant program funds only a portion of base salary and fringe benefits for new positions. Equipment, training, overtime are not eligible for grant funding. Should Council elect to apply for the grant, it is recommended that three positions be requested. Total costs are shown on the attached Financial Estimate and the City's required match for these three positions is projected to be as follows:

Year 1 - \$81, 354 City Funds

Year 2 - \$72, 324 City Funds

Year 3 - \$155, 300 City Funds

Year 4 - \$214, 356 City Assumes All Costs

STRATEGIC PLAN:

Public Safety

SAFER REIMBURSEMENT ESTIMATES

3-YEAR PROJECTIONS

PREPARED 11/21/18

YEAR 1			
	TOTAL COST	GRANT 75%	CITY 25%
BASE SALARY	32,855	24,641	8,214
MANDATORY OT	3,094	2,320	773
COVERAGE OT	6,000	-	6,000
FRINGE & BENEFITS	26,523	19,892	6,631
INITIAL EQUIPMENT	5,500	-	5,500
COST PER FTE	73,972	46,854	27,118
3 FTE TOTAL	221,915	140,562	81,354

EXCLUDED FROM GRANT

EXCLUDED FROM GRANT

- ASSUMES 3% COLA AND 5% INCREASE IN BENEFITS COMPARED TO FY 2018/19.

YEAR 2			
	TOTAL COST	GRANT 75%	CITY 25%
BASE SALARY	33,812	24,641	9,170
MANDATORY OT	3,184	2,320	864
COVERAGE OT	6,180	-	6,180
FRINGE & BENEFITS	27,786	19,892	7,894
COST PER FTE	70,962	46,854	24,108
3 FTE TOTAL	212,886	140,562	72,324

EXCLUDED FROM GRANT

- ASSUMES 3% COLA AND 5% INCREASE IN BENEFITS COMPARED TO YEAR 1.

- GRANT REIMBURSES FOR 75% OF YEAR-1 COST.

YEAR 3			
	TOTAL COST	GRANT 35%	CITY 65%
BASE SALARY	34,769	11,499	23,270
MANDATORY OT	3,274	1,083	2,191
COVERAGE OT	6,540	-	6,540
FRINGE & BENEFITS	29,049	9,283	19,766
COST PER FTE	73,632	21,865	51,767
3 FTE TOTAL	220,896	65,595	155,300

EXCLUDED FROM GRANT

- ASSUMES 3% COLA AND 5% INCREASE IN BENEFITS COMPARED TO YEAR 2.

- GRANT REIMBURSES FOR 35% OF YEAR-1 COST.