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RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 303241

DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE DEC 18 2007

WHEREAS, Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response [SAFER] grants are designed to help local jurisdictions increase the number of frontline firefighters; and

WHEREAS, the SAFER grant, a five-year program, would offset the cost of firefighters required to staff an engine and truck company in a new fire station opening in FY08 (#47 Pacific Highlands Ranch); and

WHEREAS, as part of the National Fire Service Accreditation process, San Diego Fire-Rescue Department [SDFD] conducted a Risk Assessment/Standards of Response Coverage study, that included a critical analysis of historical data, existing and proposed deployment strategies, distribution and concentration of resources based on time parameters, community risks, and expectations and reliability of emergency response units; and

WHEREAS, the assessment showed that staffing shortages negatively affected response times and decreased the degree to which an engine and/or truck company is available to respond, i.e., the reliability of response; and

WHEREAS, population growth in outlying areas without a corresponding increase in stations and firefighters has resulted in an increase in the area protected per engine district, run volume, building density and a reduction in firefighter per capita ratios; and

WHEREAS, the shortage of truck companies affects the Department's ability to assemble a full effective fire force; and

WHEREAS, adding two fully staffed units to the Pacific Highlands Ranch station will enable the SDFD to improve response times in this hard-to-serve area and surrounding areas; and

WHEREAS, emergency units responsible for responding into this area will experience a reduction in call volume, square miles protected, and population to firefighter ratio, also resulting in a corresponding decrease in response times and unavailability rates; and

WHEREAS, the Pacific Highlands Ranch fire station was designed to house one engine company and one truck company to address response issues and the developer has purchased and delivered both emergency response apparatus; and

WHEREAS, staffing of both units would require 24 fire personnel, including six captains, six engineers, six firefighters, and six firefighter/paramedics, however, current funding will only provide for staffing of the engine company; and

WHEREAS, the SAFER grant would be used to fund part of the cost of the 12 firefighter positions needed to staff both units; and

WHEREAS, the awardee is required to match an increasing proportion of the salary over a four-year period and in the fifth year of the grant the awardee must absorb the entire cost of any positions awarded; and

WHEREAS, the City's cost share would be 10% in year one, 20% in year two, 50% in year three, 70% in year four, and 100% in year five; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, as follows:

1. That the Mayor, or his designated representative, is hereby authorized, for and on behalf of the City, to approve the application to the Department of Homeland Security – Federal Emergency Management Agency [FEMA] U.S. Fire Administration for a grant in the amount of \$2,530,200 from the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response [SAFER] Program.

2. That the Mayor, or his designated representative, is hereby authorized to take all necessary actions to secure grand funding for the staffing of two emergency response units.

3. That the City Auditor and Comptroller is hereby authorized to accept, appropriate and expend grant funds upon receipt to staff the two emergency response units.

APPROVED: MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE, City Attorney

By *William J. Gersten*
William J. Gersten
Deputy City Attorney

WJG:amt
11/13/2007
Or.Dept:Fire/Rescue
R-2008-423

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was passed by the Council of the City of San Diego, at this meeting of DEC 04 2007.

ELIZABETH S. MALAND
City Clerk

By Mary Zumbaya
Deputy City Clerk

Approved: 12.18.07
(date)

JSE
JERRY SANDERS, Mayor

Vetoed: _____
(date)

JERRY SANDERS, Mayor