



City Council Report

Date: October 18, 2021
To: City Council
Through: John Pombier, Assistant City Manager
From: Mary Cameli, Fire Chief
Subject: FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) for Cancer Screenings and Physical Exam/Health Screenings

Purpose and Recommendation

The purpose of this report is to notify the Council of a grant award and to request a resolution authorizing its acceptance. The requested resolution will authorize the City Manager or his designee to enter into a Subgrantee Agreement on behalf of the City with FEMA. The Agreement provides \$1,157,782. to the Mesa Fire and Medical Department (MFMD) for the cost of a full cancer screening physical and a physical exam/health screening for 447 sworn members (sworn employee count at the time of grant application).

Background/Discussion

Since 2001, AFG has protected the health and safety of the public and firefighting personnel against fire and fire-related hazards. The AFG program has identified funds for the Mesa Fire and Medical Department in the amount of \$1,157,782. If approved, the funding will be used to provide oncology consultations, exams, and follow-ups for Firefighters; urology consultations and prostate cancer screenings for all male Firefighters 40 years of age and older; low-dose lung CTs for all Firefighters 40 years of age and older; whole-body MRIs for all Firefighters 40 years of age and older; QT breast ultrasounds for all female Firefighters 30 years of age and older; and colonoscopies (including anesthesia, biopsies, and path) for all Firefighters between the ages of 40-44 since insurance covers those 45 years of age and older. The funding will also be used to provide an annual fitness evaluation and mask fit test to all Firefighters. This is crucial to the health of MFMD's members and is consistent with the department's goal of minimizing instances of occupational cancer.

For budget year 2022, the AFG award will provide \$1,157,782 for cancer screening physicals and physical exams/health screenings.

Alternatives

If the Subgrantee Agreement is not approved, the funding will remain with FEMA to be distributed to other agencies nationwide, resulting in a loss of funding for the Mesa Fire and Medical Department.

Fiscal Impact

The award amount is \$1,157,782 and a 10% match is required. As a result, the City of Mesa's match requirement totals \$115,779. Approving the use of these grant funds will allow the City of Mesa to accept grant funding allocated to the health of Mesa Fire and Medical Department's members.

Coordinated With

This grant funding will be managed through the Mesa Fire and Medical Department and they are in support of this resolution.