



City of Colusa California

STAFF REPORT

DATE: January 17, 2023
TO: City of Colusa Mayor and Council Members
FROM: Fernanda Vanetta, Grant Writer and Logan Conley, Fire Chief through Jesse Cain, City Manager

AGENDA ITEM:

Subject: Fiscal Year 2022 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program Application

Recommendation: Council to approve a 5% match for the acquisition of a ladder truck also known as a Quint or aerial trucks in the estimated amount of \$1.1 Million. If grant is awarded, the purchase would go out for a formal bid with full specifications.

BACKGROUND ANALYSIS:

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program is one of three grant programs that constitute the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA's) focus on enhancing the safety of the public and firefighters with respect to fire and fire-related hazards. The AFG Program provides financial assistance directly to eligible fire departments, nonaffiliated emergency medical service (EMS) organizations, and State Fire Training Academies (SFTAs) for critical training and equipment. The AFG Program has awarded approximately \$8.1 billion in grant funding to provide critically needed resources that equip and train emergency personnel to recognized standards, enhance operational efficiencies, foster interoperability, and support community resilience.

The AFG Program represents part of a comprehensive set of measures authorized by Congress and implemented by DHS. Among the five basic homeland security missions noted in the DHS Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2020-2024, the AFG Program supports the goal to Strengthen Preparedness and Resilience. In awarding grants, the FEMA Administrator is required to consider:

- The findings and recommendations of the Technical Evaluation Panel (TEP);
- The degree to which an award will reduce deaths, injuries, and property damage by reducing the risks associated with fire related and other hazards;
- The extent of an applicant's needs for an AFG Program grant and the need to protect the United States as a whole; and

- The number of calls requesting or requiring a firefighting or emergency medical response received by an applicant.

The Colusa Fire department has no ladder truck and therefore has to rely on neighboring fire departments for any emergency needs for higher structures. As many residents are aware the city has experienced growth in apartment buildings with additional apartments projected. As such the need for a ladder truck is pressing and becoming more so.

Normally this grant requires a 15% cost match but the City of Colusa falls under the following exception:

- "... a jurisdiction of 20,000 residents or fewer, the applicant shall agree to make available non-federal funds in the amount equal to no less than 5% of the grant awarded;"

The match for the AFG Program is a cash (Hard Match) and must be from non-federal sources.

This project also has a short turnaround time and application will be due on February 10, 2023 at 5 p.m. ET. Awards are expected to be made no later than April 30, 2023.

BUDGET IMPACT: The budget impact would be around \$60,000 for the 5% price match and preparation of bid documents for the purchase of the ladder truck.