

<b>MEETING DATE</b>
03-02-2026

# CITY OF LAKE CITY

## Report to Council

COUNCIL AGENDA	
<b>SECTION</b>	
<b>ITEM NO.</b>	

**SUBJECT:** Request to accept grant funding for structure firefighting gear.

**DEPT /** Fire Department

**Originator:** Ret Tompkins, Assistant Fire Chief

<b>City Manager</b> Don Rosenthal	<b>Department Director</b> Joshua Wehinger	<b>Date</b> 02-05-2026
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**Recommended Action:**

I would like to request the approval of accepting and spending grant funds from the Department of Financial Services. These funds will buy new sets of structural firefighting gear.

**Summary Explanation & Background:**

Structural firefighting gear is our main line of protection from not only heat and smoke on calls, but it also is our protection from cuts and other possible injuries when we work vehicle fires or vehicle accidents. These sets of gear have an expiration date, and they are also subject to wear and tear that most times do not allow them to make the 10-year time limit it has on it. The prices for these sets of gear have increased tremendously over last few years.

With hiring the six new personnel, we applied for grant funds from the State of Florida Department of Financial Services to be able to purchase new gear for these new employees to avoid any additional impact on our budget. We have been awarded a sum that will allow us to purchase five complete sets of structural firefighting gear. In total this will save our department and the taxpayers of Lake City \$21,191.92.

This is a time sensitive matter as we need to make the purchase of the gear before price increases occur which the vendor has stated will happen in a short time period.

**Alternatives: Pay for the gear from the budget.**

**Source of Funds: Grant**

**Financial Impact: Cost savings of \$21,191.92**

**Exhibits Attached: Contract from Department of Financial Services.**