



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: February 16, 2021

TO: City Council Members

FROM: Aimee New, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: Approval to apply to FEMA Grants – AFG and SAFER

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Fire Department to submit an Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG) and Staffing for Adequate Emergency Response Grant (SAFER) application, authorize the City Administrator to execute all documents relating to the grant application, and direct the Fire Chief to return to the City Council with the application results and to accept the award.

DISCUSSION

AFG and SAFER grant funding is critically needed to fund resources to equip/train emergency personnel, increase staffing, enhance efficiencies and support community resilience. The Sonora Fire Department has secured several AFG and SAFER grant awards over the years. The Fire Chief is requesting authorization to apply for additional AFG and SAFER grants for Fire Prevention/Education & Code Enforcement (for part-time inspectors to assist with defensible space inspections and education) a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) (for funding for the third Engineer position), as well as join a Regional AFG grant with five other fire agencies for Self-contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) to replace aging and non-compliant equipment.

FISCAL IMPACT

FEMA grants normally require a 5% funding match, but for 2020, only the AFG Fire Prevention and Regional AFG SCBA grant would require a match that would not exceed \$20,000. The SAFER grant does not require a cost share. The funding source would be from the Fire Department matching grant special revenue fund. There is no budget impact to the General Fund.