

# City Council Meeting

## Agenda Item

### Data Sheet

Meeting Date: June 16, 2025

#### Topic:

Authorize the City Manager to execute the necessary documents for a grant application through the Federal Emergency Management Agency Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER), in the amount not to exceed \$460,000 annually for 3 years, to support four person staffing of Firehouse 2 and Firehouse 5.

#### Background:

The Fire Department is seeking authorization to apply for a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) to fund a total of six firefighter positions to be staffed at Firehouse 2 and Firehouse 5. This grant application will have a graduated cost share match (year 1 25% or \$145,902, year 2 25% or \$153,278, year 3 65% or \$418,732) not exceed a total request of \$390,000.

The Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grants (SAFER) was created to provide funding directly to fire departments to help them increase or maintain the number of trained, "front line" firefighters available in their communities.

The goal of SAFER is to enhance the local fire departments' abilities to comply with staffing, response and operational standards established by the NFPA (NFPA 1710). By securing this grant, we aim to provide for four person staffing at the remaining two firehouses which are currently staffed with three personnel per day.

Fire apparatus should be staffed with four personnel to ensure the safety, efficiency, and effectiveness of emergency operations. National standards, such as those outlined by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA 1710), recognize that four firefighters per apparatus are essential to safely perform critical tasks simultaneously upon arrival at a fire scene, including search and rescue, fire attack, ventilation, and securing a water supply. With only three firefighters, departments are often forced to delay key actions, increasing risk to both the public and responders. Adequate staffing not only improves emergency outcomes but also reduces physical strain and mental fatigue on firefighters, supporting long-term health and performance. This staffing will also allow for the state mandate, commonly referred to as the two-in/two-out rule.

**Origination:** Fire Department

#### Recommendation:

Approval

**Party(ies) responsible for placing this item on agenda:** Joe Sykora, Fire Chief

**FUNDING (IF APPLICABLE)**

Are funds specifically designated in the current budget for the full amount required for this purpose?

Yes:   X   No:         

If yes, specify Account Number: # 100-142&145-6001

If no, funds will be transferred from account: #                                  To Account: #                                 

<b>Signed:</b>	<u>Joe Sykora</u>	<u>05/27/2025</u>	<b>Approved by:</b>	<u>                                </u>
	Staff Member	Date		City Manager
				Date