



**TO: LINDA GORTON, MAYOR
URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL**

**FROM: CHARLIE LANTER, DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF GRANTS AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

DATE: January 11, 2021

SUBJECT: U.S. Department of Homeland Security Grant Application under the 2020 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program for Division of Fire and Emergency Services

Request: Council authorization to submit an application to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security under the 2020 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program requesting federal funding in the amount of \$2,000,000 to replace/purchase approximately 260 complete Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBAs) units that are currently three standards behind, more than 10 years old, and no longer supported with part replacement.

Purpose of Request: The primary goal of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) is to enhance the safety of the public and firefighters with respect to fire-related hazards by providing direct financial assistance to eligible fire departments, nonaffiliated Emergency Medical Services (EMS) organizations, and State Fire Training Academies (SFTA) for critically needed resources to equip and train emergency personnel to recognized standards, enhance operations efficiencies, foster interoperability, and support community resilience.

The purpose of this project is to upgrade the current inventory of SCBAs to the recommendations outlined by the National Fire Protection Association. Current SCBAs are three NFPA standards behind and are more than 10 years old. Additionally, part support is no longer available. As a result, the Division expects to lose an average of 15 SCBAs per year due to being unable to fix broken parts. To keep current with NFPA standards this upgrade is necessary. The new SCBAs will come with a 10-year warranty, which will cover all maintenance and repair during said period reducing the Department's out of pocket expense, which averages \$85,000 per year.

What is the cost in this budget year and future budget years? If the grant is approved, federal funds in the amount of \$2,000,000 will be awarded, requiring a 10% match of \$200,000.

Are the funds budgeted? A budget amendment will be completed if approved.

File Number: 0064-21

Director/Commissioner: Wells/Armstrong

