



**TO: JIM GRAY, MAYOR
URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL**

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

DATE: SEPTEMBER 27, 2018

**SUBJECT: U.S. Department of Homeland Security Grant Application under the 2018
Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program for Division of Fire and Emergency
Services**

Request: Council authorization to submit application to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security under the 2018 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program requesting federal funding in the amount of \$2,000,000 to replace/purchase approximately 226 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBAs).

Why are you requesting? 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 Self Contained Breathing Apparatuses (SCBAs) to the X3 Pro 5.5. This upgrade is based on the recommendations outlined by the National Fire Protection Association. Currently the Lexington Fire Department's SCBAs are two standards behind, but when the newest standard, which has been approved, is released, the Department will be three standards behind. Additionally, part support is no longer available for our aging SCBAs. As a result, the Department expects to lose an average of 25 SCBAs per year due to not being able to fix broken parts. The X3 Pro 5.5 has a larger air capacity and also features a clip-in air cylinder for a faster, easier connection. The X3 Pro 5.5 comes 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 \$135,000 per year.

What is the cost in this budget year and future budget years? There is no cost at this time.

Are funds budgeted: If the grant is approved, federal funds in the amount of \$2,000,000 will be available, requiring a grant match of \$200,000. There is a balance of approximately \$90,000 in grant match in the FY18 general fund and an additional request for the balance will be made for FY20 general fund.

File Number: 1045-18

Director/Commissioner: Chilton/Armstrong

