



TO: LINDA GORTON, MAYOR
URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL

FROM: THERESA REYNOLDS, DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF GRANTS AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS

DATE: MARCH 6, 2025

SUBJECT: U.S. Department of Homeland Security Grant Application under the 2025 Assistance to Firefighters Grant- Fire Prevention and Safety for Division of Fire and Emergency Services

Request: Council authorization to submit an application and accept if offered to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security under the 2025 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program - Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) requesting federal funding in the amount of \$25,000 to purchase smoke alarms in Lexington-Fayette County. Match in the amount of \$1,250 is required and requested in FY26 budget year.

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. The FP&S grant program accomplishes this by assisting fire prevention programs and supporting firefighter health and safety research and development.

The FP&S Activity is designed to reach high-risk target groups and mitigate the incidence of death, injuries and property damage caused by fire and fire-related hazards. The Community Services Bureau of the Lexington Fire Department implemented a free smoke alarm installation program within our community. Smoke alarms are paramount for safeguarding lives and property against the devastating effects of fires. As an early warning system, they detect smoke and alert occupants, providing crucial seconds before a fire escalates out of control. Studies show that properly installed smoke detectors reduce the risk of fatalities and injuries in residential fires. Their presence is especially vital at night when people are most vulnerable. Smoke alarms protect households and reduce property damage. Fire prevention is the utmost priority for the Lexington Fire Department, and this grant would allow us to accomplish that mission more effectively.

What is the cost in this budget year and future budget years? \$25,000 is federal funds request. LFUCG is required to provide a 5% match of match of \$1,250 as requested in FY2026 budget for total cost of \$26,250. Future budget years dependent on availability of grant funds.

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

File Number: 0261-25

Director/Commissioner: Wells/Armstrong

