

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to acceptance of the 2023 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant award for the Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Task Force.

Recommendations for Council action, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

1. AUTHORIZE the Chief, Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), or designee, to Accept the 2023 FEMA Cooperative Agreement Grant for the US&R Task Force in the amount of \$1,263,456 for the term of September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2026, and to execute any documents or agreements necessary to accept the grant, subject to the approval by the City Attorney as to form.
2. AUTHORIZE the LAFD to deposit the 2023 FEMA grant funds received under this cooperative agreement into Fund No. 335/38, Account to be determined.
3. AUTHORIZE the Controller, for reimbursement purposes, to transfer 2023 FEMA grant funds from Fund No. 335/38, Account to be determined, to Fund No. 100/38, upon submission of proper documentation by the LAFD for direct staff costs incurred during the grant performance period:
 - a. 1010 – Salaries General Account:
 - b. 1012 – Salaries Sworn Account:
 - c. 1090 – Overtime General Account
 - d. 1098 – Overtime Variable Staffing Account
4. AUTHORIZE the Controller to:
 - a. Transfer 2023 FEMA grant funds from Fund 335/38 to Fund No. 100/38, Revenue Source Code 5346, Reimbursement of Grant Related Costs, for fringe benefits upon submission of proper documentation by the LAFD for costs incurred during the grant performance period.
 - b. Transfer \$482,110 from Fund No. 100/38, Account No. 1012, Salaries Sworn, to Fund No. 335/38, Account to be determined, for the purchase of expense and equipment items, to be reimbursed by the FEMA grant during the period of September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2026, and any extensions granted by FEMA.
5. AUTHORIZE the LAFD and the Controller to transfer funds as needed between Fund No. 335/38 and Fund No. 100/38 for implementation of the 2023 FEMA US&R Cooperative Agreement program through the end of the performance period.

6. AUTHORIZE the Chief, LAFD to negotiate and execute contracts with the following service providers, each not to exceed \$99,000, for the 2023 FEMA grant performance period:
 - a. Canine Search Specialist (three contracts)
 - b. Medical Team Manager (eight contracts)
 - c. Structural Engineering Specialist (eight contracts)
 - d. Task Force Leader (five contracts)
 - e. Safety Officer (two contracts)
 - f. Plans Manager (two contracts)
 - g. Rescue Manager (two contracts)
 - h. Hazardous Materials Manager (two contracts)

7. AUTHORIZE the LAFD to prepare Controller instructions for any technical adjustments, subject to the approval of the City Administrative Officer (CAO); and, AUTHORIZE the Controller to implement the instructions.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The CAO reports that approval of the recommendations contained in the June 3, 2024 CAO report, attached to the Council File, will authorize the LAFD to accept the 2023 FEMA US&R Cooperative Agreement Grant funding in the amount of \$1,263,456 effective from September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2026. The LAFD will front-fund all costs and will be reimbursed by FEMA upon submission of proper documentation. Matching funds by the City are not required. Funds will support the personnel and overtime costs for three positions: one Fire Captain I, one Management Analyst, and one Storekeeper II; office and equipment expenses; and, agreements for specialized services for the US&R CA-TF1 program. The 2023 FEMA grant budget for personnel will support the direct costs and fringe benefits of the three positions in this report; other indirect costs, including Central Services and Department and Administration costs, estimated at \$215,379, are not covered and must be absorbed. Resolution authority for the three positions is included in the 2023-24 Adopted Budget.

Financial Policies Statement: The CAO reports that these actions are in compliance with the City's Financial Policies in that all grant funds will be utilized to the extent possible, to fund the grant program activities.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On June 11, 2024, your Committee considered a June 3, 2024 CAO report relative to acceptance of the 2023 FEMA grant award for the US&R Task Force. According to the CAO, on April 4, 1993, the City entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with FEMA and the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services, to establish the LAFD as one of 28 participating agencies of the FEMA US&R Task Force. As a participating agency, the LAFD receives funding from FEMA for the equipment, supplies, training, and salaries in support of the US&R CA-TF1 Team. Under the terms of this MOA, the LAFD is responsible for organizing and administering the Task Force to include recruiting and training, designating a Program Manager, maintaining capability for 24-hour activation, and complying with financial, administrative, reimbursement, and reporting requirements.

As a participating agency, the LAFD receives funding from FEMA for the equipment, supplies, training, and salaries in support of the US&R CA-TF1 Team. Upon request by the State or Federal government, the LAFD will mobilize US&R CA-TF1 for the purposes of locating, extricating, and providing initial medical treatment to trapped victims of structural collapses at a designated disaster site. On August 12, 2011, Council approved an amendment to the MOA (Council File No. 10-2283-S1) reflecting the transfer of FEMA to the Department of Homeland Security and the publication of the National Urban Search and Rescue Response System regulations. After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the recommendations contained in the CAO report. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Public Safety Committee

COUNCILMEMBER	VOTE
RODRIGUEZ:	YES
LEE:	YES
PRICE:	YES
PARK:	YES
SOTO-MARTINEZ:	YES

ARL

6/11/24

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-