



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council Meeting October 17, 2023

DATE: October 17, 2023
TO: Peter Zanoni, City Manager
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Approval to submit a grant application to the Port of Corpus Christi Authority for incident command training and equipment for the Corpus Christi Fire Department

CAPTION:

Resolution authorizing the submission of a grant application for the Port of Corpus Christi Community Grant for \$44,696.90 for incident command training for 30 emergency personnel and training equipment for the Corpus Christi Fire Department.

SUMMARY:

This resolution authorizes the Corpus Christi Fire Department (CCFD) to apply for funding in the amount of \$44,696.90 from the Port of Corpus Christi Community Grant. The funds will help to enhance the safety of the public and firefighters by providing essential incident command training and equipment.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The Port of Corpus Christi offers its Community Grant on a bi-annual basis (April & October). The grant is awarded locally to non-profits, charitable organizations, and emergency organizations. Its purpose is to enhance the general prosperity, development, prevention, and safety within the community. Funding will provide financial assistance for critically needed resources to equip and train CCFD emergency personnel.

The funds will be used to provide incident command training and necessary equipment for regional emergency personnel. CCFD will use the Blue Card training program for the incident command training. The Blue Card training program provides fire departments with a training and certification system that defines the best Standard "Command Practices" for common, everyday strategic and tactical emergency operations conducted. The training is based on the National Incident Management System's (NIMS) nationally recognized standards. The National Incident Management System (NIMS) guides all levels of government, nongovernmental organizations and the private sector to work together to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to and recover from incidents. This training and certification program produces Incident Commanders that make better decisions that will potentially eliminate the lethal and/or costly mistakes that

cause injury, death, and unnecessary fire losses in the local response area.

The program will train and qualify 30 regional emergency personnel to become Incident Commanders with better decision making to help eliminate mistakes during incidents that cause injury, death, and unnecessary fire losses. The majority of the 30 regional emergency personnel will be CCFD firefighters. The remainder will be emergency response personnel that CCFD regularly works with and that serve crucial roles in regional emergency responses. The personnel include the Emergency Services Districts, Robstown, Portland, and Port Aransas. Currently, CCFD has 223 personnel with Blue Card certifications.

The initial portion of the training is done online, and it takes approximately 50 hours to complete. After the online portion is completed, the trainees attend a three-day simulation lab which is held at the CCFD Training Division's work center. For the simulation, each trainee must successfully serve as the Incident Commander (IC) in a fast attack position and a strategic command position for each of five different building types to become certified. CCFD plans to begin the online training during second quarter of FY 2024, subject to award of the grant.

The grant funds will also be used for training equipment to include two-way radios with chargers, iPad case for 10 iPads with charging station, a case for radios and other equipment and command boards.

The Port of Corpus Christi Community Grant was started in 2015; however, this is the first time that CCFD will be applying for the grant. If awarded, CCFD expects to receive the grant funds from the Port of Corpus Christi before the end of 2023.

ALTERNATIVES:

The alternative is not to submit the application and find other funding sources for the critical equipment and training for the CCFD.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact for the application process. If awarded, the grant funds will be appropriated in the FY 2024 Fire Grants Fund. No City cash match will be required if the grant funds are awarded.

Funding Detail:

Fund:	N/A
Organization/Activity:	N/A
Project # (CIP Only):	N/A
Account:	N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends authorizing the submission of an application for the Port of Corpus Christi Community Grant, as presented.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Resolution