

CITY OF SANTA ROSA  
CITY COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: ANTHONY GOSSNER, FIRE CHIEF  
FIRE DEPARTMENT  
STEVE SUTER, FIRE CAPTAIN

SUBJECT: GRANT APPLICATION TO THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) FOR FUNDING OF 12-LEAD  
EKG MONITORS

AGENDA ACTION: RESOLUTION

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Santa Rosa Fire Department (SRFD) that the Council, by Resolution, 1) authorize staff to submit a grant application to FEMA for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) in the total amount of \$677,170.79 for the purchase of seventeen EKG monitors, associated equipment, and a service contract; 2) authorize the Fire Chief or his designee to accept the grant award and approve and execute all documents and agreements related to the grant, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney; and 3) authorize the Chief Financial Officer to appropriate funds into the project account by the amount of the grant award.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This item relates to City Council Goal # 6 – Commit to Making Santa Rosa a Healthy Community Where People Feel Safe to Live, Work and Play. This grant will provide funding to support advanced life support medical care of residents and City staff with the purchase of seventeen EKG monitors, associated equipment, and a service contract.

BACKGROUND

The 12-lead EKG is a key piece of equipment for evaluation of illnesses and treatments used by paramedics is the 12-lead electrocardiogram (EKG) monitor. Using a 12-lead EKG monitor allows assessment of a patient's heart from multiple sides and determines which treatment is the most effective. Newer monitors also have additional capabilities to evaluate the patient's respiratory function and can identify severe illnesses such as

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sepsis. In cases of abnormal cardiac rhythms or cardiac arrest, the EKG monitor can be used to provide lifesaving electrical therapy.

In 2002, SRFD began providing advanced medical care to the citizens and visitors of Santa Rosa by adding paramedic firefighters. SRFD purchased the most advanced 12-lead EKG monitors available at the time. The paramedic program now provides advanced medical care on its front-line and cross-staffed apparatus. This ensures that our Firefighter/Paramedics can provide first response advanced life support equipment in our city and to the neighboring jurisdictions that are a part of the franchise when they are on major wildfires or other significant events around the state.

The current 12-lead EKG monitors provide reliable function on a daily basis, however, they do not have the ability to upgrade to the latest technology and they are no longer supported by the manufacturer. Our current monitors were purchased between 2005 and 2009. 12-lead EKG monitor technology has advanced considerably since then to include automated vital signs, carbon monoxide (CO) monitoring, and end-tidal carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) monitoring. Carbon monoxide monitoring has become an important topic for firefighters and fire victims exposed to smoke and the products of fire combustion. In addition, end-tidal CO<sub>2</sub> can be used to determine if a sick patient is septic and needs more immediate treatment. In March 2017, the manufacturer of our monitors, Physio-Control Inc., announced a phased discontinuation process as the monitors reach their end of support life. The need for more technologically advanced monitors and the fact that our current monitors are no longer supported has made their replacement a high priority.

Due to a need to replace the 12-lead EKG monitors, SRFD is submitting an application for the 2017 FEMA AFG grant. The total amount submitted for the grant is \$677,170.79.

SRFD has budgeted funds to replace some of the old equipment, however, the account has not accrued enough funding to replace all of the units. The accrued funds will, however cover the estimated 10% match required for a grant of this type and size.

#### PRIOR CITY COUNCIL REVIEW

Not applicable.

#### ANALYSIS

SRFD has budgeted funds to replace the 12-lead EKG monitors with the necessary accessories and a maintenance service plan. The manufacturer announced that the 12-lead EKG monitor model currently used by SRFD will no longer be supported and lacks the ability to be upgraded. Although funding is budgeted annually for the maintenance, repair, and testing of the monitors, SRFD has not accrued sufficient funds to replace the monitors with newer units that have significant clinical, durability, and operational improvements. The newer units have the necessary technology to provide patient care

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following all County protocols and allows SRFD to provide the highest standard of care to the residents and City staff.

Due to a need to replace the 12-lead EKG monitors, SRFD would like to submit an application for the 2017 FEMA grant. The total to be requested from FEMA is \$677,170.79. This total includes the following equipment: Seventeen EKG monitors with the necessary accessory equipment including batteries, battery chargers, cases, pads and a service contract.

#### FISCAL IMPACT

If awarded this grant, SRFD will realize a savings of \$609,453.79 by not utilizing department budget appropriations to replace the current 12-lead EKG monitors and associated equipment. There are sufficient funds in the SRFD budget appropriations, appropriated over several years, to cover the 10% matching funds of \$67,717 required for this grant.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it is not a project which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, pursuant to CEQA Guideline section 15378.

#### BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Not applicable.

#### NOTIFICATION

Not applicable.

#### ATTACHMENTS

- Resolution

#### CONTACT

Anthony Gossner, Fire Chief, [agossner@srcity.org](mailto:agossner@srcity.org), 707-543-3500  
Steve Suter, Fire Captain, [ssuter@srcity.org](mailto:ssuter@srcity.org), 707-543-3500