



CITY of NOVI CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Item F
February 23, 2015

SUBJECT: Approval of Assistance to Firefighter (AFG) – Staffing For Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant Program.

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: Public Safety

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL: 

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Novi Fire Department seeks approval to submit the Assistance to Firefighter (AFG) – Staffing For Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant Program. The Assistance to Firefighter (AFG) – Staffing For Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant Program provides funding directly to fire departments and national, state, local or tribal organizations representing the interests of volunteer/ paid on call firefighters to assist them in increasing the number of firefighters to help fire departments meet industry minimum standards and attain 24-hour staffing to protect communities from fire and fire related hazards and to fulfill traditional missions of fire departments.

The Novi Fire Department is requesting permission to apply for federal grant funding to cover the cost of materials to advertise the need for individuals seeking to become trained and skilled as a Paid-On-Call and Auxiliary Novi Fire Fighters. These materials will include, but not limited to: News Paper Ads (local/regional), Incentives, Banners, Flyers, Mailings, and LED/ information signs at Stations 1 and 4 with an estimated cost of \$6,000 a year for the next four years or \$24,000.

Additionally, the SAFER grant allows funding requests for advanced and specialized trainings. The Novi Fire Department is asking to apply for advanced extrication, machine rescue, risk scene management, flashover trainings and certified instructor training in both EMT and Fire Instruction. The estimated cost to provide the advanced training is \$9,000 for the next 4 years or \$36,000. The total for all grant requests is \$60,000. The City of Novi will have no grant match for the requested funds.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval to apply for 2015 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) for Recruitment and Retention Needs with a total potential federal funding of \$60,000 for the City of Novi Fire Department.

	1	2	Y	N
Mayor Gatt				
Mayor Pro Tem Staudt				
Council Member Casey				
Council Member Markham				

	1	2	Y	N
Council Member Mutch				
Council Member Poupard				
Council Member Wrobel				

MEMORANDUM



TO: DAVID E. MOLLOY, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY
FROM: JEFFERY R. JOHNSON, DIRECTOR OF EMS/FIRE OPERATIONS *JRJ*
SUBJECT: ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTER – SAFER GRANT
DATE: FEBRUARY 17, 2015

The Assistance to Firefighter (AFG) – Staffing For Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant Program provides funding directly to fire departments and national, state, local or tribal organizations representing the interests of volunteer/ paid on call firefighters to assist them in increasing the number of firefighters to help fire departments meet industry minimum standards and attain 24-hour staffing to protect communities from fire and fire related hazards and to fulfill traditional missions of fire departments.

There is \$340 million dollars available for funding in the FY 2014 SAFER. Applications will be accepted through March 6, 2015. SAFER will evaluate each application and score the project from an electronic pre-score, and a Peer Review Panelists scores. SAFER Grants are awarded on a rolling basis beginning on June 1, 2015. The period of performance is between 12 and 48 months from the date of award. There is no cost share or match for this grant.

AFG - SAFER has identified the following funding priorities:

- A. Fire Operations and Safety
 - Firefighter Training
 - Firefighter Equipment
 - Firefighter Personal Protective Equipment
 - Firefighter Wellness and Fitness
 - Modification to Fire Stations
- B. Fire Apparatus Acquisition
- C. Nonaffiliated EMS Organizations
- D. Regional Projects.

The Novi Fire Department is seeking approval to submit the following project to be conducted over the next 48 months:

Fire Fighter Recruitment and Retention (Hiring/Training): With the increase in state mandated training for both Fire and EMS, and an increase in the need for additionally highly qualified individuals to effectively and professionally keep up with the demands of Emergency Response Calls, recruitment and retention is currently a high priority of the Novi Fire Department. Hand out materials and advertising to recruit potential candidates is needed to fill vacancies created by recent retirements and Paid-On-Call that have left

the department. The Novi Fire Department is requesting permission to seek federal funding to cover the cost of materials to properly advertise the need for individuals seeking to become trained and skilled as a Novi Fire Fighters. These materials will include, but not limited to: News Paper Ads (local/regional), Incentives, Banners, Flyers, Mailings, and LED/ information signs at Stations 1 and 4 with an estimated cost of \$6,000 a year for the next four years or \$24,000.

New Novi firefighter recruits currently receive training to become Michigan certified in Firefighter I and II and Basic Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). Once the basic training is completed, the priority is to utilize new recruits for suppression activities, providing Basic Life Support, and specialized hazardous environments to ensure safe staffing levels are achieved and work toward meeting the NFPA standards. The SAFER grant allows us to request funding for more advanced and specialized trainings for example: advanced extrication, machine rescue, risk scene management, and flashover trainings are all considered advanced methods to keep firefighters trained to a higher level. Additionally, current staff can assist with training by obtaining certified instructor status in both EMT and Fire Instruction. The estimated cost to provide the advanced training is \$9,000 for the next 4 years or \$36,000. The total for all grant requests is \$60,000. The City of Novi will have no grant match for the requested funds.

Please let me know if you have any questions.