

**CITY OF GOODYEAR  
CITY COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

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**SUBJECT: Ratify the acceptance of the 2015 Assistance to Firefighters grant award, authorize the City Manager to approve the grant match, budget transfer and execution of all related documents.**

**STAFF PRESENTER:** Christine McMurdy, Grants Administrator and Paul Luizzi, Fire Chief

**CASE NUMBER:** N/A

**OTHER PRESENTER:** N/A

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Ratify the acceptance of the 2015 Assistance to Firefighters grant award in the amount of \$32,728, authorize the City Manager to approve an expenditure of \$3,272 from the grant match fund required for the grant match, approve an FY17 budget transfer for the grant award and execute all documents related to grant management.

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFG) is to enhance the safety of the public and firefighters with respect to fire and fire-related hazards by providing direct financial assistance to eligible fire departments, non-affiliated EMS organizations and State Fire Training Academies for critically needed resources to equip and train emergency personnel to recognized standards, enhance operational efficiencies, foster interoperability, and support community resilience. The program is administered through the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA). (Christine McMurdy, Grants Administrator)

**BACKGROUND AND PREVIOUS ACTIONS:**

The AFG grant program includes a category for Operations and Safety – Wellness and Fitness. These activities are intended to strengthen emergency responders so their mental, physical and emotional capabilities are resilient enough to withstand the demands of all hazards operations. Behavioral health programs, including Critical Incident Stress Management Programs and Employee Assistance Programs are eligible for grant funding.

Since 2013, 10% of the Fire Department staff has been impacted by behavioral health issues. In 2014, the department implemented a web-based program to provide an additional level of behavioral support to the already available Employee Assistance Program. Usage data from the web program, Firefighter sick call outs for behavioral health issues and Constant Staffing records all factored into the decision to collectively assess the behavioral health needs of the Goodyear Firefighters. The AFG program provided an opportunity to fund this initiative.

The Goodyear Fire Department has an exceptional tradition of delivering outstanding customer service. Some of the most talented individuals in the fire service work in Goodyear. Members of the department spend hundreds of hours every year learning the latest response technology and

honing their technical skills in training sessions. It is our obligation to seek out the most appropriate resources to help our coworkers cope with the traumas and stressors that are part of the work they do every day to ensure they can respond to the needs of our citizens in a professional and expeditious manner. Every member of this department is dedicated to service. We believe this additional support will help the men and women in the department continue their mission.

**STAFF ANALYSIS:**

N/A

**FISCAL ANALYSIS:**

FEMA requires applicants that serve a jurisdiction of more than 20,000 residents, but not more than 1,000,000 residents, to commit non-federal funds in an amount equal to and not less than ten percent of the grant awarded. In-kind cost share is not allowable for this grant program. The grant award of \$32,728 requires the city to obligate \$3,272 in grant match to the project.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

N/A