



LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT

RALPH M. TERRAZAS
FIRE CHIEF

October 6, 2020

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
FILE NO. 20-088

FROM:  Ralph M. Terrazas, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR 2021-22 PROPOSED BUDGET

FINAL ACTION:	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved w/Corrections	<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn
	<input type="checkbox"/> Denied	<input type="checkbox"/> Received & Filed	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

SUMMARY

The Los Angeles Fire Department's (LAFD) Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-21 Proposed Budget is being developed in alignment with the Mayor's Budget Policy goals, LAFD's Strategic Plan and administrative priorities, with a primary focus on ensuring our communities are the safest in the nation. In recognition of the Mayor's directives for fiscal stewardship, equity and innovation, and the extremely challenging budget year ahead, the Proposed Budget identifies only the most critical departmental needs to maintain operations at the highest level of public of public safety. The Budget is due to the Mayor on November 20, 2020.

The Department requests a total of \$782 million from various resources (see table below) which includes \$749 million for the operating budget and \$33 million in non-departmental requests for MICLA fleet replacement, facilities maintenance and requests contingent on other approvals. The operating budget for FY 2021-22 is estimated at \$17 million (2.3%) above the current fiscal year, the largest increases of which include the final segment of MOU salary adjustments and a complete inventory replacement of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) gear. These estimates incorporate a 3% reduction requested of departments across the board, which for Fire amounts to \$21 million. The Department will report back on how it will address this reduction when presenting the final proposed budget.

FY 2020-21 Adopted Budget \$732,243,241

FY 21-22 Budget Requests

New Requests:	33,535,775
Salary Changes & One-time	
Adjustments:	4,497,787
Mayor's 3% Reduction Target:	(20,914,027)
Total Estimated Changes:	\$17,119,535

FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget Estimate \$749,362,776

Non-Departmental Requests

Unappropriated Balance	\$9,750,000
Capital Improvement Expenditure Program (CIEP)	\$3,250,000
2020-21 MICLA – Fleet Replacement	<u>\$20,000,000</u>
Total Non-Departmental	\$33,000,000

Total Budget Requests

\$782,362,776

The Department's focus, as illustrated in the attached list of requests (Attachment), is on:

- Continuing Firefighter recruitment with three new academy classes for the placement of up to 170 Firefighters to address an upcoming surge in retirements and departures over the next few years;
- Maintaining robust fire suppression support through the restoration of an Emergency Incident Technician, the continuation of SAFER engine resources and sworn overtime for mutual aid deployments which is reimbursable, and coverage of a cost increase in aerial firefighting contracted resources.
- Adding and restoring staffing resources for fee-supported hazardous materials and fire safety enforcement support, including Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) program management, fire alerting and safety systems (Regulation 4) compliance, and an emerging false alarm program.
- Ensuring field resources are properly and safely equipped to deliver first responder services through funding for end-of-service replacements for Personal Protective Equipment including Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), turnout gear and helmet systems; cardiac monitors and defibrillators; and, emergency apparatus under the MICLA-funded Fleet Replacement Program;
- Providing funding to keep apparatus on a proper maintenance schedule to ensure public safety and avoid costly deferred maintenance, which has been a significant issue with fire boats in the past;
- Providing a minimal level of funding for hardware needs and commercial licensing and broadband services for field information technology applications and Fire data analytics;
- Continuing Capital Improvement Expenditure Program (CIEP) funding for health and safety improvements at various Fire Stations; and,
- Continuing funding for mandatory quarterly payments under the Ground Emergency Medical Transport (GEMT) Quality Assurance Program (QAF) which brings in additional revenue to the City through federal matching funds.

The recommendations of this report authorize the Department to prepare all budget documents and return to the Board with a final proposed budget submission.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Board:

1. Approve the FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget in concept, and authorize the Fire Department's Financial Management Division to prepare all budget documents, and;
2. Instruct the Department to return to the Board with a final FY 2021-22 Proposed Budget document.

Board report prepared by Emilio Rodriguez, Senior Management Analyst II,
Administrative Services Bureau.

Attachment

FY 21-22 LAFD Proposed Budget

Attachment

CATEGORY: OPERATIONAL REQUESTS

Priority	Bur	Unit	Budget Package Title	Positions or Items Requested	Sworn	Civ	Total	Brief Justification
01	TSB	Recruit Services	Valley Recruit Training Academy (VRTA)	Recruit Firefighters - 120 (DT 81 - two new classes at 60 each); 50 (DT 40 - one new class) Sworn Salaries - \$4,406,553 Variable Staffing Overtime - \$5,404,638 Constant Staffing Overtime (DT40) - \$848,684 Expenses - \$1,652,843	0	0	\$12,312,718	Funding request for two new recruit classes in DT 81 (22 weeks) and one new class in DT 40 (10 weeks) for a total of 170 recruits. As field vacancies increase, the Department is subject to the closure of engines, ambulances and other resources, affecting response times, or excessive amounts of overtime to maintain constant staffing. The request reflects the minimum level of recruits needed to maintain attrition due to departures and retirements.
02	TSB	S&M Division	Self Contained Breathing Apparatus(SCBA) Replacement	Two-Year Phase-in Purchase Plan Year 1 - \$12M General Fund Year 2 - \$12M General Fund \$12M AFG \$36M Total Cost Five-Year Lease Plan \$6,838,858 annually	0	0	\$12,000,000	Funding request for a complete inventory replacement of SCBA systems. The current LAFD SCBA systems are NIOSH 2013 certified. In 2023 the current SCBA equipment will no longer be supported by the manufacturer. This will require replacement of air packs, bottles, facepieces and all supporting equipment for a total cost of \$36 million. The budget request represents year one of a two-year phase in plan with anticipated grant support from the Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) program in year two. In view of fiscal constraints, a lease option is available from the manufacturer at \$6.8 million annually for five years.
03	EOP	EOPS	SAFER Grants - City Funding Requirements	Salary funding for City match requirement and costs not reimbursed by FEMA 21-Firefighter (SAFER 17) \$2,338,875 - Sworn Salaries (reflects 35% grant share for remaining 6-mth performance period) \$1,162,350 - Constant Staffing Overtime	21	0	\$3,501,225	Funding request for the continuation of Firefighter staffing under the 2017 SAFER grant which restored a Light Force in Wilmington. The budget request includes the City share of salary costs for FY 21-22 (65% for first six months; 100% for remaining six months) and additional costs not reimbursed by FEMA such as constant staffing overtime. The grant period for the SAFER 16 grant supporting 48 positions has been completed and, therefore, those positions will be requested as fully funded continuing authorities.

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Priority	Bur	Unit	Budget Package Title	Positions or Items Requested	Sworn	Civ	Total	Brief Justification
04	EOP	EOPS	Incident Command Support	1-Firefighter III/EIT	1	0	\$130,321	Staffing request to restore one Emergency Incident Technician (EIT) that was deleted in FY 20-21. EITs assist incident commanders with accountability, situation awareness, resource status and emergency safety procedures during fires. EITs have been restored to all Battalions in the process of reinstituting critical field resources in the last several years after the last economic recession. However, Battalion 14A in South Van Nuys is now left with a void that must be addressed indefinitely with constant staffing overtime or other means.
05	ASB	False Alarm	False Fire Alarm Program	1-Sr. Management Analyst 1-Accountant 1-Accounting Clerk	0	3	\$202,852	Staffing request to manage a pending false fire alarm enforcement program which imposes fees and penalties on property owners with chronic false fire alarm activations. The objective of the program is to significantly reduce the deployment of critical field resources to unwanted false fire alarms. The Sr. Management Analyst will supervise a new False Alarm unit and have the primary responsibility of reviewing fee/penalty appeals by property owners. The Accountant and Accounting Clerk positions will receive, process and reconcile thousands of new payments and perform related clerical work. These tasks cannot be absorbed by existing staff. The program is expected to generate annual revenue of \$1.7 million. All positions are fee supported.
06	TSB	S&M Division	Turnout Gear	Second Set of Turnouts - Year Two	0	0	\$1,400,000	Funding request of \$1,275,000 to provide Firefighters with a second set of protective turnout gear. Additional funding of \$125,000 in the Contractual Services account is requested for professional cleaning, inspection and repair of turnout gear in compliance with NFPA standards, with an incremental goal of \$500,000 for this purpose (\$375,000 has been funded to date). Every set of turnout gear must meet shelf life standards to reduce the risk of injury and carcinogens at significant fire suppression events. This request supports LAFD's Decontamination Policy and NFPA 1851.

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Priority	Bur	Unit	Budget Package Title	Positions or Items Requested	Sworn	Civ	Total	Brief Justification
07	TSB	S&M Division	NFPA Compliant Helmet System	1,100 -Helmets and accessories	0	0	\$300,000	Funding request for the third year of a three-year plan totaling approximately \$900,000 to replace 3,300 helmets approaching end of service life. New helmets will meet NFPA standards and include a shroud and goggle system.
08	TSB	S&M Division	Lifepack 15 Cardiac Monitors	16-Units (\$28,224 each plus tax)	0	0	\$500,000	Funding request for the incremental lifecycle replacement of 250 cardiac monitors. Present LifePak cardiac monitors have exceeded service life per American Hospital Association guidelines. The current units are also reliant on proprietary Getac computers for ePCR functionality, whereas the industry standard has leaned toward conventional iPad units at one third the cost. The requested funding will cover approximately 16 units.
09	TSB	EOPS	Automatic External Defibrillators (AED)	30-AED units - \$67,000	0	0	\$67,000	Funding request for the third year of a five-year plan totaling approximately \$331,156 to replace 150 AED units deployed in the field.
10	EOP	OSB	Fireboat Haul Outs	Boat 1 - \$1,000,000 Boat 4 - \$1,000,000	0	0	\$2,000,000	Funding request for the haul out and routine maintenance of fireboats. Work includes dry dock storage, hull cleaning, surface preparation, anti-fouling paint from waterline to keel, hull paint from waterline to top rail, non-skid deck paint, hull and fire main non-destructive testing, zinc replacements, and rudder / propeller maintenance. Fireboat maintenance is subject to reimbursement by the Port of Los Angeles.
11	ITB		Hardware and Software Support	Contractual services funding for various ITB needs.	0	0	\$475,000	Funding request to address ongoing ITB service, subscription and product needs to support department operations. One-time funding was provided in FY 20-21. An appropriation is requested for FY 21-22.
12	ITB	FCDS	Telecom Recurring Cost	Operating expense funding for service provider costs.	0	0	\$250,000	Funding request to account for increased usage of broadband and other telecom services that support LAFD operations.
13	EOP	AOS	Helitanker Lease	Type I Helicopter Lease	0	0	\$40,500	Funding request for annual lease of Type I Helicopter, representing the year-over cost increase for the \$4.1 million Erickson contract.

CATEGORY: OPERATIONAL REQUESTS

Priority	Bur	Unit	Budget Package Title	Positions or Items Requested	Sworn	Civ	Total	Brief Justification
14	AOP	Risk Mgmt	California Public Records Act (CPRA) Support	1-Management Analyst Offset to be identified pending assessment of vacancies.	0	0	\$0	Staffing request to meet the rising demands of California Public Records requests. The Department has received 2,829 CPRA requests since February 2019 which amounts to an average of 150 requests per month. CPRA requests are currently coordinated through sworn resources in Arson and other units which does not provide the needed centralization and accountability to respond to requests in a timely and thorough manner, particularly as the volume of requests increases. A Management Analyst will provide the appropriate administrative skills and continuity for this function. The salary cost is \$73,609 although a position will be deleted to offset costs.
15	FPB	Admin	Regulation 4 Staffing	1-Fire Captain I	1	0	\$156,159	Staffing request for Regulation 4 administration and compliance. There are approximately 10,000 occupancies with 72,000 fire alerting and protection ("Reg 4") systems in need of inspection, testing and management. Reg 4 systems are expected to grow at a rate of 10% annually due to ongoing construction and changes in fire protection requirements. Legal Unit staffing is minimally addressing inspections and enforcement, and certification testing for Reg 4 inspectors is lacking proper oversight. The position is fee supported.
16	FPB	CUPA	CUPA Program-Administrative Support	1-Hazardous Materials Supervisor	0	1	\$150,000	Staffing request to provide supervision and technical assistance to inspection staff in the field. The CUPA Program has become increasingly complex as evidenced by a growth in State mandated programs and regulated inventory. Current oversight includes intermittent supervision by a Unit Captain and Fire Inspector which is insufficient and unsustainable. This position would also be instrumental in efforts to assume the County's Hazardous Materials Program which has a revenue potential of \$8 million. This position was approved in a previous budget cycle but, as a new classification, was subject to a lengthy review process and delays prior to receiving Civil Service Commission. The position was consequently not continued FY 20-21 although the classification now exists. The position is fee supported.

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Priority	Bur	Unit	Budget Package Title	Positions or Items Requested	Sworn	Civ	Total	Brief Justification
17	ADM	FireStat	Third-party Data Validation	Continuation of funding for Justice & Security Strategies contract	0	0	\$50,000	Funding request to continue the services of an independent and objective third-party statistical and data analysis consultant to review and validate the accuracy and reliability of the performance metrics (a major issue in 2012), reports and dashboards produced under FireStatLA. Current projects include ambulance wall time and electronic patient care record (e-PCR) benchmark analysis. A three-year contract of \$50,000 annually is currently in effect through December 3, 2022. One-time funding of \$25,000 was provided in the FY 20-21 Budget.
OPERATIONAL REQUESTS Total					23	4	\$33,535,775	

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CATEGORY: NON-DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS

Priority	Bur	Unit	Budget Package Title	Positions or Items Requested	Sworn	Civ	Total	Brief Justification
01	EOP		Operations Valley Bureau (OVB) Facility	**CIEP Request** Conversion of old Fire Station 39 to consolidate OVB headquarters and command staff. FY 20-21 Funding: \$2.25M FY 21-22 Request: \$2.25M Total Cost: \$4.5M (pending revision)	0	0	\$2,250,000	Year two funding request for labor, materials, and build out costs necessary for the Operations Valley Bureau (OVB) permanent facility. Since implementation of the four geographic Bureau model in January 2015, the OVB main office has operated from Fire Station 83 and its platoon Command 42 from Fire Station 81. The two functions need to be relocated to a permanent facility in order to accommodate Unity of Command overseeing the Department's largest operational Bureau with high volume of activity. Efforts are underway to reevaluate the project scope and costs in light of ongoing fiscal constraints.
02	TSB	Fire Facilities	Fire Facilities Repairs and Improvements	**CIEP Request** Quarterly Payments for FY 21-22	0	0	\$1,000,000	Funding request to support ongoing repairs, upgrades and improvements and various Fire Department stations and facilities.
03	EMS		GEMT Quality Assurance Fee (QAF) Program	**Unappropriated Balance request** Quarterly Payments for FY 21-22	0	0	\$6,500,000	Funding request for quarterly QAF Program payments and related contractual services costs resulting from the program. The amount requested is subject to change pending anticipated revisions in State fees and reimbursements. This item was funded in the UB in FY 20-21.
04	EOP	EOPS	Mutual Aid Overtime	**Unappropriated Balance request** Sworn overtime funding for deployed members/strike teams.	0	0	\$3,000,000	Funding request for sworn overtime to address a consistent pattern in mutual aid response for fire and disaster response needs outside of the City. This item has been funded in the Unappropriated Balance over the last two years. Expenditures are recovered through reimbursements from the receiving agencies and/or through state or federal emergency response funds.

CATEGORY: NON-DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS

Priority	Bur	Unit	Budget Package Title	Positions or Items Requested	Sworn	Civ	Total	Brief Justification
05	EOP		Extractor Installations	<p>**Unappropriated Balance Request**</p> <p>Installation of extractors at five Fire Stations (units purchased through Foundation support). If \$1.5M AFG successful, grant will fund all remaining extractor needs; City funding to be applied toward 15% match.</p>	0	0	\$250,000	<p>Year two funding request for the installation of extractors at five fire stations at a cost of \$50,000 each, with a plan to incrementally fund five stations annually. Daily firefighter activities expose personal protective gear and equipment to chemicals, dirt, ash, and particulates. Contaminated gear can be potentially life-threatening to firefighters, particularly in the presence of carcinogens. Extractors provide regular, extensive cleaning of protective gear to remove potentially harmful substances and extend the useful life of the gear. This request is pending the outcome of an Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG). If successful, the requested funding would be applied toward a 15% match requirement.</p>
NON-DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS Total					0	0	\$13,000,000	

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CATEGORY: MICLA

Priority	Bur	Unit	Budget Package Title	Positions or Items Requested	Sworn	Civ	Total	Brief Justification
	TSB	S&M Division	MICLA Fleet Replacement Program	Annual replacement of apparatus, fleet vehicles and other equipment.	0	0	\$20,000,000	Funding request for Fleet Replacement Program under the Muncipal Improvement Corporation of Los Angeles (MICLA).
				MICLA Total	0	0	\$20,000,000	