

July 20, 2021

LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT



RALPH M. TERRAZAS
FIRE CHIEF

June 30, 2021

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
FILE NO. 21-064

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

FROM:  Ralph M. Terrazas, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: ADOPTED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-22

FINAL ACTION: ☐ Approved
☐ Denied

☐ Approved w/Corrections
☐ Received & Filed

☐ Withdrawn
☐ Other

SUMMARY

On December 15, 2020, the Board of Fire Commissioners (Board) approved the Los Angeles Fire Department's (LAFD) Proposed Budget submission for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22. The Mayor released his Proposed Budget as required by City Charter by April 20, 2021, and Council adopted the Budget on May 26, 2021. The full listing of the Department's Proposed Budget requests and approved items are included in the attachment to this report.

The Department will utilize \$812 million from various resources supporting a \$746 million operating budget and \$66 million in non-departmental allocations for MICLA fleet replacement, facilities maintenance and Unappropriated Balance reimbursable and revenue generating expenses (Mutual Aid overtime and Quality Assurance Fee payments) and salary contingencies. The \$746 million operating budget for FY 2021-22 is \$14 million above the current fiscal year of \$732 million, a modest growth of 2% due to the deferral of MOU salary adjustments for sworn and civilian employees. The focus of this budget, as illustrated in the requests herein, is on:

- Continuing Firefighter recruitment with three new academy classes for the placement of up to 180 Firefighters to address a surge in retirements and departures over the next three years;
- Maintaining critical fire suppression support through the continuation of SAFER engine resources and sworn overtime for mutual aid deployments, and the restoration of an Emergency Incident Technician to fully staff all Battalions;
- Adding and restoring staffing resources for fee-supported regulation and enforcement, including Regulation 4 fire alerting and safety systems compliance, Oil and Gas regulation, and cannabis enforcement. Funding is also set aside for a False Fire Alarm program currently under development;
- 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, defibrillators, and emergency apparatus under the MICLA-funded Fleet Replacement Program;

- Providing a minimal level of funding for hardware needs and commercial licensing and broadband services for information technology applications connecting command resources to the field;
- Continuing Capital Improvement Expenditure Program (CIEP) funding for health and safety improvements at various Fire Stations and completion of the Operations Valley Bureau Headquarters. Funding to incrementally install extractors at every Fire Station in support of Firefighter safety and decontamination policies is also included.
- Continuing funding for mandatory quarterly payments under the Ground Emergency Medical Transport (GEMT) Quality Assurance Program (QAF) which augments City revenue through federal matching funds.

The breakdown for the FY 2021-22 Adopted Budget is, as follows:

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

FY 21-22 Budget Requests

New Requests:	15,985,303
Continuing Requests and	
One-time Adjustments:	(1,960,193)
Total Estimated Changes:	<u>\$14,025,110</u>

FY 2021-22 Departmental Total **\$746,268,351**

MICLA – Fleet Replacement	\$20,000,000
Capital & Technology Improvement Expenditure Program - Facilities	\$ 1,909,000
Unappropriated Balance – SCBA, Quality Assurance Fee, Mutual	<u>\$44,247,488</u>
Aid, False Alarm, Fire Compensation Adjustments	
Total Non-Departmental	\$66,156,488

FY 2021-22 Adopted Budget with Non-Departmental **\$812,424,839**

The Proposed Budget will continue moving the Department forward in improving response times and furthering the goal to ensure our communities are the safest in the nation.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board:
Receive and file.

Board report prepared by Emilio Rodriguez, Acting Chief Management Analyst, Administrative Services Bureau.

Attachment

FY 21-22 LAFD Adopted Budget

Attachment

CATEGORY: OPERATIONAL REQUESTS

Item	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 - 180 (DT 81 - three new classes at 60 each)	0	0	\$9,141,952	Funding for three new recruit classes in DT 81 for a total of 180. 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. Approximately 700 retirements are expected over the next three years, with a peak of 117 departures in January 2024 alone.
02	EOP	EOPS	SAFER Grants - City Funding Requirements	Salary funding for City match requirement and costs not reimbursed by FEMA 21-Firefighter (SAFER 17)	0	0	\$3,347,940	Funding 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 are continued as fully funded authorities.
03	EOP	EOPS	Incident Command Support	1-Firefighter III/EIT	1	0	\$115,983	Staffing and six months funding to restore a Firefighter III/Emergency Incident Technician (EIT) that was deleted in FY 20-21. EITs are critical for accountability, situation status, resource status, and emergency safety procedures at every emergency incident. EIT coverage includes 42 platoon duty positions over 14 Battalions. Over the last few budget cycles, the Department has achieved its goal to incrementally restore EIT positions to all Battalions that were deleted in the FY 2010-11 Budget. The deletion of this position impacted a platoon duty shift in Battalion 14 in the North Hollywood area and was a setback to maintaining comprehensive coverage in the field.

FY 21-22 LAFD Adopted Budget

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CATEGORY: OPERATIONAL REQUESTS

Item	Bur	Unit	Budget Package Title	Positions or Items Requested	Sworn	Civ	Total	Brief Justification
04	FPB	Admin	Regulation 4 Staffing	1-Fire Inspector II	1	0	\$67,902	Staffing and six months funding 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.
05	FPB	Admin	Oil and Gas Well Regulation	1-Fire Captain I 3-Fire Inspector I 1-Management Analyst	3	1	\$350,706	Staffing and six months funding to increase productivity and workload capacity for a new Oil Well Unit. The Unit will perform annual inspections and issues operational permits to ensure safe operations, as well as issue specific-action permits for well drilling, redrilling and abandonment. These resources will also manage a system to reconcile bond requirements, assist in revising the cost structure for oil wells, and perform related fee studies. These positions may be fee supported subject to further analysis.
06	FPB	Legal	Cannabis Enforcement	2-Fire Inspector II 2-Fire Inspector I	4	0	\$270,221	Staffing and six-months funding to restore two Fire Inspector II and two Fire Inspector I positions for illegal cannabis enforcement. These positions were not continued in FY 20-21.

FY 21-22 LAFD Adopted Budget

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CATEGORY: OPERATIONAL REQUESTS

Item	Bur	Unit	Budget Package Title	Positions or Items Requested	Sworn	Civ	Total	Brief Justification
07	AOP	Risk Mgmt	Early Intervention Treatment Program	Athletic Trainer Contract Funding FY 20-21 Contract Approval - \$110,000 (Oct. 2020 - Sep. 2021) FY 21-22 - 9 months - \$82,500	0	0	\$83,000	Funding to continue contract funding for a nine-month period in FY 21-22 to supplement Innovation Funds received for this injury prevention program. The EITP is the first meaningful LAFD effort to address rising Work Compensation costs. The contractor provides clinical support towards evaluating LAFD members' injuries and developing treatment and corrective exercise plans to help correct or minimize workplace injuries. Ultimately, the program will help reduce Workers Compensation claims and backfill overtime from members placed off duty due to injuries. Every Firefighter field vacancy due to injury costs approximately \$680 in daily backfill overtime. Since October of 2020, the EITP has served 334 members and performed 782 treatments.
08	TSB	S&M Division	Turnout Gear and Maintenance	Second Set of Turnouts - Year Two	0	0	\$1,275,000	Funding of to provide Firefighters with a second set of protective turnout gear. Every set of turnout gear must meet shelf life standards to reduce the risk of injury and carcinogens at significant fire suppression events. Additional funding of \$125,000 for professional cleaning, inspection and repair of turnout gear was not approved.
09	TSB	S&M Division	NFPA Compliant Helmet System	1,100 -Helmets and accessories	0	0	\$291,368	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.
10	TSB	EOPS	Automatic External Defibrillators (AED)	30-AED units - \$66,231	0	0	\$66,231	Third year funding to replace AED units deployed in the field.
11	EOP	Fire Facilities	Extractor Installations	Installation of extractors at Fire Stations	0	0	\$250,000	Funding for the installation of extractors at five or more fire stations with a plan to incrementally fund remaining stations annually. There are currently approximately 36 stations without extractors. 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.

FY 21-22 LAFD Adopted Budget

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CATEGORY: OPERATIONAL REQUESTS

Item	Bur	Unit	Budget Package Title	Positions or Items Requested	Sworn	Civ	Total	Brief Justification
12	ITB	ITB	Hardware and Software Support	Contractual services funding for various ITB needs.	0	0	\$475,000	Funding to address ongoing Information Technology Bureau (ITB) service, subscription and product needs to support department operations. This request addresses increased usage of cloud-based systems, data analytic systems for Firestat metrics and performance reporting, and increased basic licensing costs that support our Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system.
13	ITB	FCDS	Telecom Recurring Cost	Operating expense funding for service provider costs.	0	0	\$250,000	Funding to offset the increased usage of broadband and other telecom services that support field operations. The Department's entire fleet of emergency vehicles is being upgraded with broad band to facilitate greater situational awareness with such capabilities as real time mapping, automated vehicle location (AVL) and drone livestreaming.
OPERATIONAL REQUESTS Total					9	1	\$15,985,303	

CATEGORY: NON-DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS

Item	Bur	Unit	Budget Package Title	Positions or Items Requested	Sworn	Civ	Total	Brief Justification
01	TSB	S&M Division	Self Contained Breathing Apparatus(SCBA) Replacement	**Unappropriated Balance** Phase-in Purchase Plan Year 1 - \$18M Unappropriated Balance (pending AFG grant) Year 2 - \$18M General Fund \$36M Total Cost	0	0	\$21,000,000	Funding 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 funding allocation represents year one of a two-year phase in plan with anticipated grant support from the Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) program. \$3 million supports front funding for AFG purposes which will be reimbursed to the General Fund.
02	EOP	EOPS	Mutual Aid Overtime	**Unappropriated Balance** Sworn overtime funding for deployed members/strike teams.	0	0	\$3,000,000	Funding 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 three years. Expenditures are recovered through reimbursements from the receiving agencies and/or through state or federal emergency response funds.
03	EMS		GEMT Quality Assurance Fee (QAF) Program	**Unappropriated Balance** Quarterly Payments for FY 21-22	0	0	\$6,700,000	Funding for quarterly QAF Program payments and related contractual services costs resulting from the program.

CATEGORY: NON-DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS

Item	Bur	Unit	Budget Package Title	Positions or Items Requested	Sworn	Civ	Total	Brief Justification
04	ASB	False Alarm	False Fire Alarm Program	**Unappropriated Balance** Staffing cost set-aside pending a Council report back.	0	0	\$277,488	Funding in the Unappropriated Balance for the staffing cost of a new False Fire Alarm program pending a report back on program details. Patterned after LAPD's False Alarm Program, the primary objective is to significantly reduce emergency responses to false fire alarms through establishment of a false alarm fee. With false alarms currently averaging 34,000 annually (37,652 in 2019 and 30,521 in 2020), a false alarm program will have a positive effect on response times by increasing the availability of Firefighters for other emergency calls. Per Council instruction (CF 20-0600-S84), the Department is in process of preparing a report and ordinance relative to the establishment of a new fee. The report will address program requirements and a staffing model (to include a Senior Management Analyst, Accountant and Accounting Clerk) with fee recommendations to be reflected in the ordinance. Current Department staffing cannot absorb the workload of processing thousands of new billings and payments and appeals by property owners. The program will generate revenue from non-compliance fees, currently projected at up to \$1.7 million annually.
05	EOP	EOPS	Fire Compensation Adjustments	**Unappropriated Balance**	0	0	\$13,270,000	Funding set aside as a contingency to address recently negotiated sworn Fire Department Memorandum of Understanding bonuses and other salary contingencies.
06	EOP		Operations Valley Bureau (OVB) Facility	**CIEP** Conversion of old Fire Station 39 to consolidate OVB headquarters and command staff. Predevelopment Funding: \$600k FY 20-21 Funding: \$2.25M FY 21-22 Request: \$1.5M Total Cost: \$4.35M (pending revised estimates)	0	0	\$1,179,000	Funding 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. The funding is for the completion of Phase I and Phase 2 costs per the latest Bureau of Engineering estimate.

CATEGORY: NON-DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS

Item	Bur	Unit	Budget Package Title	Positions or Items Requested	Sworn	Civ	Total	Brief Justification
07	TSB	Fire Facilities	Fire Facilities Repairs and Improvements	**CIEP/MICLA** General Fund - \$250,000 MICLA - \$480,000	0	0	\$730,000	Funding to support ongoing repairs, upgrades and improvements and various Fire Department stations and facilities.
NON-DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS Total					0	0	\$46,156,488	

CATEGORY: MICLA

Item	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	