



# LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT

**RALPH TERRAZAS**  
FIRE CHIEF

October 13, 2021

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS FILE NO. 21-095
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TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

FROM: *RMT* Ralph M. Terrazas, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2020 FEMA URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE  
TASK FORCE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT SUPPLEMENTAL  
FUNDING (C.F. 20-1387)

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 Withdrawn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

On April 4, 1993, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was executed between the City, the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), establishing the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) as a sponsoring agency of a FEMA Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Task Force, California Task Force 1 (CA-TF1). An Amendment to the MOA was executed in 2011 (C.F. 10-2283-S1). Since 1993, the City has been awarded annual FEMA Cooperative Agreement grants to fund equipment, supplies, training, contractual services, and LAFD personnel to administer and manage the US&R CA-TF1 program.

LAFD was awarded an additional \$47,918 for the 2020 FEMA Cooperative Agreement Grant, with a period of performance from September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2023. No matching funds are required, but the grant is on a reimbursement basis requiring the LAFD to front-fund expenditures. Following submission of appropriate supporting documentation, FEMA reimburses the City for those expenditures.

The expenditure plan is as follows:

### Equipment:

- \$47,918 - to fund the recapitalization of the equipment cache. The US&R Branch submitted the National US&R Response System Equipment Plan in a FY17 Report to Congress which detailed the need to recapitalize specific items that had or were becoming obsolete. Included in the Equipment Plan is a prioritization plan, a summarized list of equipment requiring replacement, and an Appendix containing a detailed priority list of equipment, cache items and unit costs.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no impact on the General Fund. The FEMA Urban Search and Rescue grant agreement does not require City matching funds. In accordance with grant guidelines, project funds are disbursed on a reimbursement basis.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Board:

1. Approve and transmit the report to the Mayor and the Office of the City Administrative Officer for Committee and City Council consideration.

It is also recommended the Board request that the Mayor and City Council:

2. Accept the 2020 FEMA Cooperative Agreement Supplemental Grant for the Urban Search and Rescue CA-TF1 in the amount of \$47,918 for the term of September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2023, and authorize the Fire Chief, or designee, to execute any documents or agreements necessary to accept the grant on the City's behalf.
3. Authorize the Fire Department to deposit 2020 FEMA grant funds received into Fund 335, Department 38, Account 38020R.
4. Authorize the Controller to transfer \$47,918 from Fund 100, Department 38, Account 001012 (Salaries Sworn) to Fund 335, Department 38, Account 38020R, for the purchase of expense and equipment items, to be reimbursed by the FEMA grant during the period of September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2023, and any extensions granted by FEMA.
5. Authorize the Fire Department to prepare Controller instructions for any technical adjustments, subject to approval of the City Administrative Officer (CAO), and instruct the Controller to implement the instructions.
6. Based on Fire Department submissions to the City Administrative Officer of grant budget modifications approved by FEMA, authorize the Fire Department and Controller to transfer funds, as needed, between Fund 335, Department 38 and Fund 100, Department 38 for implementation of the 2020 FEMA Urban Search and Rescue Cooperative Agreement program through the end of the grant performance period.

Board report prepared by Victoria Rodriguez, Management Analyst, Emergency Operations Bureau.