

# LOS ANGELES FIRE DEPARTMENT

**MILLAGE PEAKS**  
FIRE CHIEF

March 3, 2011

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
FILE NO. 11-035

TO: Board of Fire Commissioners

FROM: Millage Peaks, Fire Chief *m.e.*

SUBJECT: **URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE TASK FORCE FY2010/11  
MOBILIZATION EXERCISE**

FOR INFORMATION ONLY:	<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 Withdrawn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

**Recommendations: That the Board:**

1. That the Board of Fire Commissioners accepts and approves the recommendations of staff.
2. Instruct the Commission Executive Assistant I to forward this report to the Mayor, Office of the City Administrative Officer, Office of the Chief Legislative Analyst, and City Clerk for committee and City Council consideration.
3. Request that the Mayor and City Council authorize the Fire Chief to accept the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) from the California Fire and Rescue Training Authority (CFRTA), a Joint Powers Authority duly formed pursuant to Government Code §§ 6500 et seq., and execute this no-cost MOA in the amount up to \$100,000 for the term of April 1, 2011 through June 30, 2011, subject to the approval of the City Attorney as to form and legality.
4. Request that the Mayor and City Council authorize the Fire Chief, or his designee, to deposit the CFRTA funds received under this MOA into the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), Fund 335, Dept 38, Account to be set up.
5. Request that the Mayor and City Council authorize the Controller to reimburse up to \$100,000, upon reimbursement by the CFRTA, to Fund 100, Department 38, Account 1098, from Fund No. 335, Dept 38, Account set up for this purpose.

**Summary:**

One of the CFRTA ongoing methods of supporting Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Task Force throughout the State of California is through funding of training for agencies supporting USAR teams. In recent years the CFRTA has offered monies for training every few years for the various USAR Teams located throughout the State of California. At this time the CFRTA has extended an opportunity for our Department to exercise our Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) USAR teams.

The Fire Department would like to use these monies to exercise our FEMA USAR Team. This Team is composed of 3-teams of 70 members each, and the exercise will extend over a three-day period, one day per team. Our FEMA USAR Team is sponsored through FEMA as one of the 28 FEMA USAR Task Force throughout the country and identified as CA-TF1. The Department has approximately 210 rostered members on CA-TF1. Those 210 members are broken down into three teams of 70 members. This exercise, over the 3-day period, would consist of mobilization, set up of a staging site, overview of tools, conducting a search and rescue scenario, and the break down of the site. To ensure operational readiness for all members on CA-TF1 this exercise will be repeated for each of the 3-days.

**CFRTA Agreement:**

This Memorandum of Agreement will fund necessary program training for the Department's USAR team by conducting an operational exercise and mobilization. Pursuant to City policy, the Department is seeking approval from the Mayor and the City Council to accept and execute this Agreement. This agreement would allow for the CFRTA to reimburse the Department for the monies expended on the training of these three teams over the three days of training proposed.

In addition to the total amount authorized under the agreement for a USAR Task Force mobilization exercise and training, CFRTA will ultimately be responsible for payment under this contract up to \$100,000, pursuant to the reimbursement process established by CFRTA. Because the City must advance payments, and then obtain reimbursement from CFRTA, the City must have a mechanism to pay personnel for training and backfill through the Fire Departments salary accounts. Also, by exercising the three dedicated FEMA USAR teams, any potential overage in cost may be attributed to the training portion of the FEMA USAR readiness cooperative Agreement that was accepted by Council (C.F.10-2283).

The CFRTA requires that as the Department incurs expenses from this training, expenditures will be reimbursed by CFRTA upon receipts of documented expenses. Future CFRTA monies will continue to be made available to LAFD on a periodic basis furthering our USAR efforts.

**Fiscal Impact:**

There is no impact on the General Fund. All monies will be reimbursed to the Department within the Fiscal Year.

**Conclusion:**

With the assistance of CFRTA monies allotted in the amount of up to \$100,000 to support the training efforts through mobilization exercises to be conducted, the LAFD will be better able to assist the City as well as other jurisdictions in times of need. Also as a sponsor of one of the Nation's 28 FEMA USAR Task Force, the LAFD has been the recipient of financial assistance from FEMA to supplement ongoing costs to maintain Task Force readiness during time of disaster.

By entering into this MOA with the CFRTA, LAFD will be able to conduct this exercise with no cost to the City. The anticipated dates of the exercise will be April 5 through April 7, 2011.

Board report prepared by Mary E. Reuschel, Management Analyst II, Emergency Services Bureau.

**Attachment**

- Agreement

## **AGREEMENT FOR TASK FORCE MOBILIZATION EXERCISE AND TRAINING**

This Agreement is made on the last date written below between the California Fire and Rescue Training Authority (hereafter "CFRTA"), a California Joint Powers Authority duly formed pursuant to Government Code §§6500 et seq., and Los Angeles Fire Department (hereafter "DEPARTMENT").

### Recitals

1. CFRTA is desirous of having a mobilization exercise for the Urban Search and Rescue (hereafter "USAR") Task Forces sponsored by DEPARTMENT.
2. DEPARTMENT has the wherewithal and has arranged to conduct training exercises on April 5 through April 7, 2011 at facilities selected by them.
3. The California Emergency Management Agency – Fire and Rescue Branch, as a member agency of CFRTA, has allocated specific funding to CFRTA for the purposes of conducting these mobilization exercises.

### Terms and Conditions

1. DEPARTMENT will conduct a mobilization exercise for the Respective USAR Task Force consistent with the Mobilization or MOBEX Drill Plans previously submitted to the CFRTA, attached hereto, and incorporated herein by reference, into this Agreement.
2. At a minimum, the exercises will train and be evaluated on the following areas:
  - Task force leadership
  - Task Force movement by ground/air transportation
  - Local government interface
  - Hasty search evaluation
  - Base of Operations
  - Decontamination of search & rescue personnel
  - Food and water provisioning
  - Communications section operations
  - Evaluation of administrative section
    - Planning section
    - PIO
    - Safety Officer
  - Evaluation of
    - Technical information section
    - Operation section
    - Technical search
    - Canine search
    - Rescue
    - Medical section
3. DEPARTMENT will submit any changes to the Mobilization or MOBEX Drill Plans to the designated representative of the CFRTA for approval prior to implementing the change.
4. DEPARTMENT will submit a budget for the exercise to the CFRTA at least 30-days prior to commencement of the exercise for approval by the CFRTA.

5. Exercise budgets submitted by the DEPARTMENT pursuant to paragraph 4, above, may include expenditures for: personnel, expendable or consumable items, transportation of task force personnel, sanitation facilities, fuel, food, potable water, and communications.
6. Any costs incurred and contracts entered into to fulfill this agreement must be consistent with the federal, state, and local laws applicable to the DEPARTMENT.
7. All approvals by the CFRTA must be in writing.
8. A total sum of One Hundred Thousand dollars (\$100,000) has been allocated for use by the DEPARTMENT for accomplishing the objectives identified in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of this section.
9. DEPARTMENT may spend, in advance, up to Twenty Five Thousand dollars (\$25,000) of the total sum allocated to DEPARTMENT and consistent with Paragraphs 4 and 5 herein, for Administrative Costs as defined in Paragraph 10, below. The DEPARTMENT may invoice CFRTA for these funds.
10. For the purposes of this agreement, "Administrative Costs" mean those expenses incurred by the DEPARTMENT for personnel expenditures that are associated with the planning, preparation, and managing of the exercise.
11. DEPARTMENT agrees to invoice CFRTA for costs associated with providing mobilization exercise as specified in Paragraphs 5, 6, and 9 of this Agreement within sixty (60) days of the commencement of the exercise.
12. CFRTA agrees to pay the DEPARTMENT for all costs incurred consistent with this agreement not to exceed the \$100,000 identified in Paragraph 8.
13. No amendment or variation of the terms of this Agreement shall be valid unless made in writing, signed by the parties, and approved as required. No oral understanding or agreement not incorporated in the agreement is binding on any of the parties.

The undersigned agree to be bound by the terms of this agreement and are authorized to sign this agreement on behalf of their respective DEPARTMENT or agency.

Approved and Reviewed by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
California Fire and Rescue Training Authority

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Counsel, Los Angeles Fire Department

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Los Angeles Fire Department

Date: \_\_\_\_\_