

Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council Item ID 72836 Agenda Number 12.

Meeting Date: 8/3/2017 Department: Austin Fire Department

Subject

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Austin Fire Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20160914-001) to accept and appropriate \$57,875 in grant funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency Assistance to Firefighters Grant to purchase a wildfire simulation table to facilitate planning for fuels mitigation using local simulated terrain and data.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$57,875 is available from the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant. The grant period is from May 1, 2017 to Apr 30, 2018. A City funding match is not required. This grant funding covers the purchase and maintenance of a Wildfire simulation table. Maintenance funding is contingent upon available funding in future operating budgets.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached detailing the acceptance and appropriation of grant funds.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Rhoda Mae Kerr, Fire Chief; 512-974-0130 and Tom Dodds, Chief of Staff; 512-974-0132
Council Committee,	
Boards and	
Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

This action authorizes the acceptance of grant funding in the amount of \$57,875 from the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS); Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); Fire Administration-Assistance to Firefighters grant program for the period May 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018.

The funding will reimburse the City for the purchase of a simulation table with interactive agent-based fire modeling that facilitates planning for fuels mitigation using local simulated terrain and data. The simulation table will be utilized by the Fire Department Wildfire Division when training firefighters and delivering presentations to the Fire Adapted Communities (communities in wildfire-prone areas).

The General Fund will not be required to contribute additional funds beyond those currently budgeted to this grant. When the grant funds expire, the Austin Fire Department's need for continuing funding will be evaluated and may be denied.