

Analysis

Item 37: Department of Public Safety Standards and Training

Assistance to Firefighters

Analyst: Julie Neburka

Request: Increase the agency's Federal Funds expenditure limitation by \$356,261 from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant program under the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Analysis: The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) has received \$356,261 in grant funding from the 2019 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program under the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. These funds will be used to purchase a mobile Vehicle Fire training prop, a mobile Flammable Liquid and Gas training prop, a mobile ventilation prop, and two mobile Forcible Entry Trailers. Mobile fire training equipment is especially useful to the agency, as it is used to train both volunteer and professional firefighting staff at their home locations, thus eliminating the need for firefighters to travel to the Public Safety Academy campus in Salem. Grant funds will also be spent on five additional sets of self-contained breathing apparatus for the agency's fire training staff. This grant has a 15% match requirement, and the agency has identified and set aside the required match amount of \$53,439 within its existing budget.

DPSST's grant application was submitted in March 2020. Grant submittal was approved during the February 2020 legislative session, after timely notification to the Legislature. The grant was awarded on August 18th, 2020, and funds must be spent within twelve months of receipt. This grant may only be spent on equipment, personal protective equipment (PPE), and vehicle acquisition.

Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation: The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends that the Emergency Board increase the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training's Federal Funds expenditure limitation by \$356,261 in the 2019-21 biennium for expenditure of an Assistance to Firefighters grant award.

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Department of Public Safety Standards and Training
McDonald

Request: Increase Federal Funds expenditure limitation by \$356,261 for a grant awarded from the 2019 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (USDHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for firefighter training equipment.

Recommendation: Approve the request.

Discussion: The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) is requesting an increase in Federal Funds expenditure limitation to execute the 2019 FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant from the USDHS. This grant provides one-time funding intended to enhance the safety of the public and firefighters by providing resources to equip and train emergency personnel. As a state training academy, DPSST was invited to apply for this grant for fire training equipment and did so after receiving authorization from the Joint Committee on Ways and Means, during the February 2020 Legislative Session.

Subsequently, the agency was approved for a grant in the amount of \$356,261. With these funds, DPSST will purchase a mobile vehicle fire-training prop, a mobile Flammable Liquid and Gas (FLAG) training prop, a mobile ventilation prop, two mobile forcible entry trailers, as well as five sets of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatuses (SCBA). The training props are designed to allow training coordinators to instruct firefighters using hands-on techniques. With these props, students may hone physical skills such as basic hose handling, team attack techniques, fire stream application, and coordinated ground operations, among others. Furthermore, the training made possible with this equipment will achieve requirements for National Fire Protection Association Firefighter I and Firefighter II qualifications. The SCBA's are to equip DPSST's adjunct instructors. This training will be delivered throughout Oregon to over 300 fire service agencies and over 11,000 career and volunteer fire service professionals.

The grant was awarded on August 18, 2020, and must be implemented within 12 months from this date. Since this is a one-time grant for equipment purchases, the grant performance will be complete upon expenditure. The agency reports they have located the preferred equipment and have initiated the procurement process. There is a 15 percent match requirement, totaling \$53,439. To meet this obligation, the agency will utilize savings within the existing 2019-21 biennial budget for the Fire Standards and Training program.

Legal Reference: Increase the Federal Funds expenditure limitation established by chapter 479, section 3, Oregon Laws 2019, for the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training, by \$356,261, for the 2019-21 biennium.



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Public Safety Standards and Training

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September 2, 2020

The Honorable Peter Courtney, Co-Chair
The Honorable Tina Kotek, Co-Chair
State Emergency Board
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301-4048

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

NATURE OF REQUEST

The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) is requesting an increase in Federal Funds expenditure limitation in the amount of \$356,261 for a grant awarded from the 2019 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program under the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

BACKGROUND

During the February, 2020 legislative session, the Joint Committee on Ways and Means authorized DPSST to apply for a grant from the 2019 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program under the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

The goals of this grant will be achieved by purchasing a mobile Vehicle Fire training prop, a mobile Flammable Liquid and Gas (FLAG) training prop, a mobile Ventilation Prop, two mobile Forcible Entry Trailers, as well as five sets of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus's (SCBA). The training props are designed to allow our training coordinators to instruct firefighters with valuable hands-on training, such as basic hose handling, team attack techniques, fire stream application techniques, fire behavior, communication, coordinated fire ground operations, confined space, roof ventilation, window revolutions, as well as achieving requirements for NFPA Firefighter I and Firefighter II. The SCBA's are for DPSST adjunct instructors to assist in additional training in order to provide Oregon's fire service professionals with the safe, thorough training needed to respond safely to incidents. This training will be delivered throughout Oregon to over 300 Fire Service Agencies and over 11,000 career and volunteer fire service professionals.

AGENCY ACTION

On August 18, 2020, DPSST was notified that it was approved for a grant in the amount of \$356,261. The agency has located the equipment and completed the preliminary procurement activities and set aside the required 15% match of \$53,439 within its existing budget.

ACTION REQUESTED

DPSST requests that the Emergency Board increase DPSST's Federal Fund expenditure limitation by \$356,261.

LEGISLATION AFFECTED

Increase Federal Fund expenditure limitation established by chapter 479, section 3, Oregon Laws 2019, for the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training, by \$356,261 for the 2019-21 biennium.
No additional positions or FTE are requested.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eriks Gabliks", is positioned above the printed name and title.

Eriks Gabliks
Director