



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DATE: July 28, 2015
FROM: FIRE DEPARTMENT WARDS: All

**SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2015 DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY/FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA)
URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,230,082 –
SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION**

ISSUE:

Acceptance of 2015 Urban Search and Rescue grant funding in the amount of \$1,230,082 from the Department of Homeland Security/FEMA for Urban Search and Rescue Task Force training, equipment and administrative activities.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Accept grant funding in the amount of \$1,230,082 from the Department of Homeland Security/FEMA Urban Search and Rescue;
2. Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to execute the necessary documents with the Department of Homeland Security/FEMA Urban Search and Rescue; and
3. Authorize increase in estimated revenue in the amount of \$1,230,082 and increase expenditures in the same amount to project accounts as assigned by the Finance Department.

BACKGROUND:

Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) is a “multi-hazard” discipline that may be deployed for a variety of emergencies or disasters, including earthquakes, hurricanes, typhoons, storms and tornadoes, floods, dam failures, technological accidents, terrorist activities, and hazardous materials releases.

The City of Riverside Fire Department is the host agency for Riverside California Task Force 6 (CA-TF6), one of 28 National Task Forces, and one of eight in California that responds as either a FEMA or California Emergency Management Agency (Cal-EMA) resource during emergencies requiring highly skilled search and rescue personnel. CA-TF6 has performed search and rescue for numerous major disasters, including the 1994 Northridge Earthquake, the 9/11 terrorist attacks on

the World Trade Center, Hurricane Katrina, Superstorm Sandy, and most recently, the mudslide in Oso, Washington.

The Fiscal Year 2015 grant award totals \$1,230,082, and will be used for administration, training, equipment acquisition and maintenance of existing rescue equipment utilized by CA-TF6. A portion of the funds will cover the salaries and benefits of 1.0 FTE Fire Captain, 1.0 FTE Battalion Chief, 1.0 FTE General Services Worker and 0.90 FTE Account Clerk II. Due to overlapping grant periods, US&R grants will fund the salaries and benefits of these positions for the entire 2015-2016 fiscal year. Since Fiscal Year 2003-04, Riverside's US&R program has received over \$14 million in Federal grant funds.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The 2015 Urban Search and Rescue grant award totals \$1,230,082, and does not require any City matching funds.

Prepared by:	Michael D. Moore, Fire Chief
Certified as to availability of funds:	Brent A. Mason, Finance Director/Treasurer
Approved by:	Alexander T. Nguyen, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form:	Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney