



Measure Z Purchase - Self-Contained Breathing Apparatuses (SCBA) and Personal Protective Gear (PPE)

Fire Department

Budget Engagement Commission
January 9, 2025



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BACKGROUND

- **NFPA 1981 SCBA Standards Update (2018):**
 - Introduced the Universal Emergency Breathing Safety System (UEBSS) with standardized fittings to enhance interoperability, safety, and performance among NFPA-certified SCBAs.
 - The UEBSS is now recommended for all SCBAs, and all new SCBAs must comply with the latest NFPA standards
- **Scott Air-Pak X3 Compliance:**
 - The City of Riverside Fire Department uses Scott Air-Pak X3 SCBAs with Emergency Breathing Safety System (EBSS) for "buddy breathing."
 - Retrofitting with UEBSS fittings ensure compliance with 2018 NFPA 1981 standards and compatibility with newer SCBAs.



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BACKGROUND

- **Critical Role of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):**
 - Firefighters rely on PPE for safety during emergencies, including fires, rescues, and hazardous incidents
 - Extreme conditions lead to significant wear and tear.
- **Inventory Challenges:**
 - Supply shortages and inflation have driven up the cost of PPE considerably.
 - A combination of increased replacement costs and frequent wear and tear has left the department unable to maintain an adequate inventory of PPE.
 - This shortage affects the ability to properly outfit firefighters and maintain reserve equipment while PPE is being cleaned or repaired



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DISCUSSION

- **The RFD requires funding to address two critical safety and operational needs:**
 - Updating SCBAs systems to meet current NFPA standards; and
 - Purchasing additional PPE to address shortages.
- **SCBA Conversion:**
 - The 2018 NFPA 1981 standards introduced the UEBSS with standardized fittings to enhance firefighter safety and interoperability during emergencies.
 - RFD's current SCBAs need conversion kits to comply with these standards, ensuring compatibility with other manufacturers and improving operational safety during mutual aid responses.



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DISCUSSION

- **Fire Public Safety Additional PPE Needed:**
- RFD is experiencing PPE shortages due to increased wear and tear and rising replacement costs driven by inflation and supply chain disruptions.
 - These shortages compromise firefighter safety and operational readiness.
- Additional PPE is essential to properly outfit all personnel and maintain reserves for cleaning or repairs.



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MEASURE Z FUNDING REQUEST

- **Fire Public Safety Additional PPE Needed:**
- RFD is experiencing PPE shortages due to increased wear and tear and rising replacement costs driven by inflation and supply chain disruptions.
 - These shortages compromise firefighter safety and operational readiness.
- Additional PPE is essential to properly outfit all personnel and maintain reserves for cleaning or repairs.
- One time funding is being requested for SCBA Conversion and PPE in the total amount of \$506,284.



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STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

This item contributes to Strategic Priority Number 2: Community Well-Being and Goal 2.6 – Strengthen community preparedness for emergencies to ensure effective response and recovery.

Cross-Cutting Threads



Community Trust



Fiscal Responsibility



Sustainability &
Resiliency



Equity



Innovation



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RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Budget Engagement Commission:

1. Receive and provide input on the request for funding; and

With at least five affirmative votes, authorize the Chief Financial Officer, or designee,

2. To record a supplemental appropriation in the General Fund, Fire Department, in the amount of \$506,284 from Measure Z available funds to the Fire SCBA Kits expenditure account to purchase Self-Contained Breathing Apparatuses (SCBA) conversion kits and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).



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