

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-110

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARINA  
AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN A LETTER OF COMMITMENT  
FOR THE PURCHASE OF MOBILE RADIOS THROUGH AN ASSISTANCE TO  
FIRE FIGHTERS GRANT (AFG) AND TO APPLY FOR AN ASSISTANCE TO  
FIREFIGHTERS GRANT FOR PORTABLE RADIOS

WHEREAS, the Assistance to Firefighters Grant program is available; and

WHEREAS, the current Mobile and Portable Radio Equipment is reaching its end of life;  
and

WHEREAS, the current Mobile and Portable Radios requires upgrading; and

WHEREAS, the current inventory of Mobile and Portable Radios are costing increasing  
more in maintenance; and

WHEREAS, Mobile and Portable Radios provide mission-critical public safety functions;  
and

WHEREAS, the utilization of current Mobile and Portable radio technology will enhance  
Fire Fighter safety; and

WHEREAS, the utilization of current Mobile and Portable will enhance communications in  
large buildings; and

WHEREAS, the Monterey County Fire Chiefs Association has recommended and supports a  
regional approach to replace and upgrade Fire Department Mobile and Portable Radios; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seaside will apply for a regional grant to purchase Mobile Radios;  
and

WHEREAS, the City of Marina is required to provide a letter of commitment to the City of  
Seaside to participate in the grant process for the mobile radios; and

WHEREAS, the City of Marina will apply for a Regional Assistance to Firefighters Grant to  
purchase portable radios; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Marina as follows:

1. Consider adopting Resolution No. 2015-, approving the City Manager to sign a letter of commitment for the City of Seaside to purchase Mobile Radios through an Assistance to Fire fighters Grant (AFG) and ;
2. Authorizing submission of grant application for the 2015 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program for Fire Department portable radios and,;
3. Authorize the City Manager to execute the grant application on behalf of the City subject to final review and approval by the City Attorney.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Marina at a regular meeting duly held on September 15, 2015 by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Amadeo, Morton, O'Connell, Delgado

NOES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None.

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Brown

ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None.

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Bruce C. Delgado, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Anita Flanagan, Deputy City Clerk

**Exhibit A**

Date: September 15, 2015

To: Brian Dempsey, Fire Chief City of Seaside

From: Layne Long, City Manager

Re: Letter of Commitment, 2015 Assistance to Firefighters Regional Grant

Dear Chief Dempsey:

Please allow this letter to serve as formal notice that the Marina City Fire Department (AGENCY) is committed to the participation in a 2015 Assistance to Firefighters Grant for the purchase of mobile and portable radios for 9-1-1 emergency communications and other local government purposes to be hosted by the City of Seaside Fire Department (City) for the purchase of communications equipment. It is understood that equipment will be researched, selected, purchased and distributed pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding currently being developed.

It is further understood that the following parameters and expectations are associated with this process:

**1. CITY'S OBLIGATION**

- A. The CITY shall coordinate, plan, and purchase mobile and portable radios for 9-1-1 emergency communications and other local government purposes in accordance with appropriate federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations.
- B. The CITY shall coordinate with the grant program manager and appropriate vendors to secure the mobile and portable radios in accordance with local procurement procedures and Federal purchasing guidelines.
- C. Any unexpended dollar amounts contributed by an agency will be returned to the agency within three months after the notice of completion for the project has been filed by the CITY, or the project is declared abandoned by the CITY, which ever is earlier.

**2. AGENCIES' OBLIGATION**

- A. The Agencies shall assist in governing the design and specifications for the mobile and portable radios.
- B. The Agencies shall provide technical input and requirements necessary to create an effective radio specification to meet their individual and collective needs.
- C. The Agencies shall provide funding and resources necessary to complete the purchase of the specified mobile and portable radios pursuant to the grant agreement documents with regards to local matching funds and contractual services as detailed in the cost sharing plan.

**3. COST SHARING PLAN**

In consideration of the foregoing, each Agency shall pay the CITY a share of the radio purchase costs in accordance with the Agency's cost sharing ratio NOT TO EXCEED:

- 15% of the actual purchase cost of all equipment, including taxes, shipping and ancillary items distributed to said agency
- 1.5% of the actual grant management associated costs

Sincerely,

Layne Long, City Manager  
City of Marina  
211 Hillcrest Ave,  
Marina, CA 93933

September 15, 2015

Item No. **8f(3)**

Honorable Mayor and Members  
of the Marina City Council

City Council Meeting  
of September 15, 2015

**RECOMMENDATION TO CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION NO. 2015- , AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN A LETTER OF COMMITMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF MOBILE RADIOS THROUGH AN ASSISTANCE TO FIRE FIGHTERS GRANT (AFG) AND TO APPLY FOR AN ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT FOR PORTABLE RADIOS**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Consider adopting Resolution No. 2015-, approving the City Manager to sign a letter of commitment with the City of Seaside to purchase Mobile Radios through an Assistance to Fire fighters Grant (AFG) and ;
2. Authorizing submission of a grant application for the 2015 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program for Fire Department portable radios and;
3. Authorize the City Manager to execute the grant application on behalf of the City subject to final review and approval by the City Attorney.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Monterey County Fire Chiefs association is supporting a County Wide Regional Grant effort to purchase Mobile and Portable Radios. So far, most every Fire Agency in Monterey County is expected to participate. As this grant is expected to be upwards of 3 million dollars, there will be 3 host agencies. The host agencies will be the City of Marina, the City of Monterey and the City of Seaside. To compensate the host agency for administrating the grant, the participating agencies will pay the host agencies cost share for their grant purchase.

The three grants consist of two grant applications for the portable radios and one grant application for the mobile radios. Marina is slated to be the primary host agency for the portable radios, Monterey City will be the other host agency for the portables. The City of Seaside will be the host agency for the Mobile radios.

For an entity to apply for a grant, they must have either a Letter of Commitment from the participating agencies or a signed MOU with the participating agencies. Because of time constraints, the Monterey County Fire agencies have met and agreed to submit letters of commitment to the Host Agencies in lieu of the MOU's for the Grant Application.

**ANALYSIS:**

The submission of this Regional Grant application will have no bearing or impact on the Marina Fire Departments other planned AFG Grant Applications.

The current radio equipment was purchased in 2006 and has reached its end-of-service-life. The equipment is becoming increasingly expensive to maintain and reliability is diminishing. Typically portable radios are replaced every six to eight years.

The Mobile/Portable radio is possibly the most important tool any entity who provides emergency services uses. It's the primary means of dispatch, the source of on-going communications during events and the lifeline during emergency situations. The life safety of both firefighters and citizens depends on reliable, functional communication tools that work in the harshest and most hostile of environments. Firefighters operate in extreme environments that are markedly different from those of any other radio users. Firefighters operate lying on the floor; in zero visibility, high heat, high moisture, and wearing self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) face pieces that distort the voice. They are challenged further by bulky safety equipment, particularly gloves that eliminate the manual dexterity required to operate portable radio controls. Firefighters also operate inside structures of varying sizes and construction types. The size and construction type of the building also has a direct impact on the ability of a radio wave to penetrate the structure. All of these factors must be considered in order to communicate in a safe and effective manner on the fire ground. The only lifeline that a firefighter has in the heat of the battle is the portable radio. As such, the ability for a firefighter to Communicate is critical to firefighter safety.

Firefighters have some unique requirements, including water-resistant or water-immersion capabilities and the need for intrinsic safety in explosive atmospheres. Firefighters must also be able to transmit in high-noise environments and still be intelligible. Today, we have difficulty in transmitting in large buildings and in areas where we have limited coverage creating safety issues for our firefighters and citizens. Our current equipment precludes us from implementing solutions that will provide the communications necessary to overcome these obstacles. Current technology such as dual band radios, GPS positioning, etc. provide us with the tools necessary to overcome our current limitations.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no cost to sign a letter of commitment for the City of Seaside. If Seaside is successful in their grant application, then we will have the opportunity to purchase Mobile radios at a cost of approximately 16.5 cents on the dollar. For reference, both the mobile and portable radios are expected to cost approximately \$6,000.00 each. Our current inventory includes 32 Portables and 14 Mobile Radios. If we purchase 14 Mobile radios through the grant, our estimated cost will be \$13,800 to purchase \$84,000 worth of Mobile radios.

As a host agency for the portable grant, we will not have any out of pocket expense for the portable radios.

**CONCLUSION:**

This request is submitted for City Council consideration and possible action.

Respectfully submitted,

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Doug McCoun  
Fire Chief  
September 15, 2015

**REVIEWED/CONCUR:**

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Layne Long  
City Manager  
City of Marina