

**CITY OF BUCKEYE
Regular Council Meeting
COUNCIL ACTION REPORT**

MEETING DATE: 09/01/26	AGENDA ITEM: 4.R. FIN - "Fiscal Year 2025 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant Program" Application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency
DATE PREPARED: 08/27/26	DISTRICT NO.: All
STAFF LIAISON: Rob Roach, Grant Program Manager, rroach@buckeyeaz.gov, (623) 349-6165	
DEPARTMENT: Financial Services	AGENDA ITEM TYPE: Consent Agenda Items / New Business

ACTION/MOTION: (This language identifies the formal motion to be made by the Council) Council to take action to ratify and approve the submission of a \$5,304,330 grant application under the "Fiscal Year 2025 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant Program" opportunity to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, with a grant request in the amount of \$3,271,003.50 and a required match of \$2,033,326.50 from the City of Buckeye; and authorize and direct the Mayor, City Manager, City Attorney, and City Clerk to take all steps necessary to carry out the purpose and intent of said grant application.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOCUS AREAS:

A Safe and Sustainable Quality of Life

SUMMARY

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Buckeye Fire-Medical-Rescue Department seeks funding to maintain service levels, firefighter safety, and community risk mitigation through the addition of fifteen (15) new firefighters over a 36-month period. If awarded, these positions will assure staffing readiness for Station 9 coming in July 2027.

If awarded, the project will cover some salary and benefits costs for 15 new firefighters over a 36-month period. The Buckeye Fire-Medical-Rescue Department's goal is to prepare for future growth and potential staffing challenges, while ensuring that there is no disruption in service for this critical community need. If awarded, the funding will ensure that the Buckeye Fire-Medical-Rescue Department's deployment model remains reliable during major station expansions. Once all grant funds have been expended, the City of Buckeye will have the option to retain and fund some or all of the positions out of the General Fund, eliminate the positions, or seek other grant funding opportunities to support some or all of the positions.

BENEFITS:

If awarded, the addition of fifteen (15) new firefighters will ensure that the Buckeye Fire-Medical-Rescue Department's deployment model remains reliable during anticipated major station expansions. This strategic investment in public safety positions the City of Buckeye to safeguard its residents and visitors. Additionally, these positions will assist in reducing the consumption of the Buckeye Fire-Medical-Rescue Department's overtime budget. Most importantly, these positions would increase the overall resiliency of the emergency response system by adding another staffed fire company available to serve the

community every day.

FUTURE ACTION:

If awarded, the Grant Award agreement will be presented to Council for budget authority, as well as the authority to accept and execute the same. If awarded and after all grant funds have been expended and after the 36-month grant period of performance has expired, the City of Buckeye will have the option to retain and fund some or all of the positions using other resources, eliminate the positions, or seek other grant funding opportunities to support some or all of the positions.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

The "Fiscal Year 2025 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant Program" portion is \$3,271,003.50 over a 36-month period. There is a \$2,033,326.50 required match for this grant, which is anticipated to be expended over a 36-month period in fiscal years 2028 through 2030. If awarded, this required match will be included in the Buckeye Fire-Medical-Rescue Department's General Fund Budget in fiscal years 2028 through 2030. The total cost is \$5,304,330, over a 36-month period. If awarded, the Grant Award agreement will be presented to Council for budget authority, as well as the authority to accept and execute said agreement.

CURRENT FISCAL YEAR TOTAL COST:

It is anticipated that there will be no fiscal year 2027 cost. The fiscal year 2028 cost will be \$1,768,110, of which \$1,326,082.50 will be reimbursable by the grant. These same figures apply to fiscal years 2029 and 2030. If awarded, the required match of \$442,027.50 will be included in the Buckeye Fire-Medical-Rescue Department's General Fund Budget in fiscal years 2028 through 2030.

BUDGETED:

No

FISCAL YEAR:

2028 through 2030

FUND/DEPARTMENT:

Buckeye Fire-Medical-Rescue Department

Items related to a project or facility location must include an attached vicinity map for Council Review.

ATTACHMENTS:

[CAR Recap Summary - Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response \(SAFER\) FY25 App.docx](#)
[App Submitted 6.22.26.pdf](#)