



## Request for City Council Committee Action from the Fire Department

**Date:** June 7, 2011

**To:** The Honorable Betsy Hodges, Chair, Ways & Means/Budget

**Subject:** Accept donation of travel expenses to conduct Phase II firefighting training in Eldoret, Kenya.

**Recommendation:** Authorize proper City officials to accept donation of travel expenses to conduct a firefighting training in Eldoret, Kenya.

**Previous Directives:**

Donation of Unit #71530, a 1988 International Pumper Fire Truck, to the City of Eldoret, Kenya (a sister city to the City of Minneapolis) for use by their fire department. Adopted July 17, 2009

Resolution 2010R-555: Accepting the donation of travel expenses to conduct firefighting training in Eldoret, Kenya. Adopted November 19, 2010.

**Department Information**

Prepared by: Jenny Chayabutr, Intergovernmental Relations Department

Approved by:

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Alex Jackson, Fire Chief

Presenters in Committee: Alex Jackson, Fire Chief

**Supporting Information**

Per the request of the Municipal Government of Eldoret the Minneapolis Fire Department in partnership with the International Leadership Institute has developed a three-phase training program for the City of Eldoret. The first phase of training focused on basic firefighting skills, maintenance of the donated fire truck, and first aid, and was conducted in Eldoret from January 10 – 21, 2011

Phase II training to be offered in Eldoret will include advanced firefighting skills, maintenance for the donated fire truck and an ambulance, and emergency medical response. The target dates for the training are July 11 – 22, 2011.

The proposed Phase III training component would invite "trainers" from Eldoret and other cities in Kenya to visit Minneapolis for an advanced training program. This would be a "train the trainer" program. The goal is to strengthen the emergency response system in Eldoret, and make Eldoret a regional center for training in Kenya.

The training is an activity of the sister city partnership between Eldoret and Minneapolis. The Minneapolis-Eldoret sister city is supported by the International Leadership Institute (ILI), a non-profit organization in Minneapolis. The other components of the Phase II training, coordinated and implemented by ILI, are education, basic health for girls, establishment of an ILI Youth Leadership Program and an anti-littering community clean up program. These programs are in addition to the firefighting and first aid training for fire personnel and the municipal medical clinic staff. The total team for the Phase II training includes 12 team members.

The Municipal Government of Eldoret has agreed to pay for all travel-related expenses. The current proposal to Eldoret recommends sending six City of Minneapolis employees, for an estimated airfare total of \$12,600.