



**Request for City Council Committee Action
From the Fire Department**

Date: July 27, 2005

To: Public Safety & Regulatory Services Committee

Referral to:

Subject: Affirming and approving the Fire Department's submission of the SAFER grant application to the United States Department of Homeland Security and committing to the provision of necessary funding to meet the City's cost share obligation over the next five years in the event the Fire Department is awarded the grant.

Recommendation: Authorize the Fire Department to continue to aggressively pursue the SAFER grant, thereby certifying "that the governing body has been informed of the applicant's intention to submit a SAFER grant application and that the local governing body acknowledges the commitment under the grant and that appropriate financial support will be secured for the applicant's cost-sharing obligations."

Previous Directives: None.

Prepared or Submitted by: Jim Clack, Assistant Fire Chief

Approved by: _____
Bonnie Bleskachek, Fire Chief

Presenters in Committee: Jim Clack, Assistant Fire Chief

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget.
(If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)

- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget
- Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- Action requires use of contingency or reserves

Other financial impact (Explain): *Action imposes a financial obligation on the City of Minneapolis to provide a portion of the funding for 16 additional firefighter FTE's that would be added to the authorized staffing profile of the Fire Department, on an escalating scale commencing in 2006 through and including 2010, as detailed in the attached supporting Information.*

Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

Community Impact (use any categories that apply)
City Goals

Background/Supporting Information Attached

The Fire Department has recently applied for a Federal Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant from the United States Department of Homeland Security. The applicant agency must "certify that the governing body has been informed of the applicant's intention to submit a SAFER grant application and that the local governing body acknowledges the commitment under the grant and that appropriate financial support will be secured for the applicant's cost-sharing obligations."

As part of the grant application, the Fire Department has requested assistance in funding sixteen (16) additional fulltime firefighters. In order to qualify for the SAFER Grant, the City of Minneapolis must maintain a budgeted staffing level at the time of application, and further, the city must continue to do so for the subsequent five years. This grant cannot be used to pay for current service levels. Grant-funded firefighters must be completely new employees used to increase service to the citizens of Minneapolis. The increased staffing will be utilized as a means to allow the department to meet NFPA Standard 1710 which sets a target of fifteen firefighters on the fire ground within eight minutes for 90% of responses. This standard is not currently being met on the far south edges of the City of Minneapolis.

If the application is successful, this grant will allow the Fire Department to increase minimum daily staffing from 96 to 100 firefighters per day. This will result in Ladder 2 being put back in service at Station 21 in south Minneapolis. The current total sworn staffing level of the Fire Department is 423 FTE. This grant will bring authorized sworn staffing to 439 FTE.

Financial Obligations:

Year	City	Grant	Total
2006:	\$ 205,000 (26%)	\$ 576,000 (74%)	\$ 781,000
2007:	\$ 339,000 (40%)	\$ 512,000 (60%)	\$ 851,000
2008:	\$ 608,000 (66%)	\$ 320,000 (34%)	\$ 928,000
2009:	\$ 819,000 (81%)	\$ 192,000 (19%)	\$ 1,011,000
2010:	\$ 1,102,000 (100%)	\$ 0	\$ 1,102,000
<i>Grand Totals:</i>	<i>\$ 3,073,000 (66%)</i>	<i>\$ 1,600,000 (34%)</i>	<i>\$ 4,673,000</i>

The Fire Department requests that the City Council authorize, support and commit to the continued pursuit of the SAFER grant.