



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#23-0307

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Greg Chavarria, City Manager

DATE: May 16, 2023

TITLE: Public Hearing and Motion Approving a Third Amendment to the Housing and Community Development 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan for Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CDBG-CV) - (**Commission District 3**)

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission approve a Third (3rd) Amendment to the Housing and Community Development 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan for Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CDBG-CV) (Public Law 116-136). The plan is being amended to appropriate uncommitted CDBG-CV funds in the amount of One Hundred Thirty-Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty-One Dollars and Eighty Cents (\$139,721.80) to the City of Fort Lauderdale Fire Department for the purchase of two (2) fire gear Extractors/Dryers for fire station numbers 46 and 47, and one (1) Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) compressor/fill station for fire station 46 so the firefighters may be better prepared to respond to calls in CDBG eligible areas.

Background

Due to the composition of the firefighter's gear, special gear extractors and dryers are used to clean and disinfect the gear when needed. These units are specialized and are only used for the firefighter's gear. By having these specialized extractors and dryers at the two stations, the firefighter crews can wash/disinfect their gear immediately upon their return from running a call whenever necessary and if it appears the gear may have been exposed to contamination. Gear extractors/dryers are the standard in modern fire facility design and would bring the two fire stations in the CDBG area up to those quality standards.

During the COVID Pandemic, respiratory protection was a prime concern. Options available to first responders were surgical masks, N95 masks and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). The recommended devices are the N95 and SCBA when treating known COVID patients. A proper fitting N95 mask will filter 95% of particulate .03 microns or larger. The SCBA protects the respiratory system 100% from all particulates and gases. Firefighters used their SCBA during the pandemic for protection in known COVID environments. The SCBA requires an SCBA compressor/fill station to refill the air bottles

used with the SCBA to provide clean uncontaminated air to the Firefighter Paramedics. Fire Rescue currently has only one SCBA fixed compressor/fill station. That SCBA fixed compressor/fill station is 18 years old and frequently requires repair/service which could make the unit inoperable at any time. The fire station's only back up is a portable unit on its support vehicle that is also unreliable. The procurement of this unit will provide crews in the CDBG eligible area with a reliable means to fill their SCBA bottles without having to travel long distances.

Resource Impact

There is no known fiscal impact associated with this action.

Strategic Connections

This item is a *2022 Top Commission Priority*, advancing the Homelessness and Housing Opportunities.

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2024 Strategic Plan*, specifically advancing:

- The Neighborhood Enhancement Focus Area
- Goal 4: Build a thriving and inclusive community of neighborhoods.
- Objective: Ensure a range of affordable housing options

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We Are Community, and We Are Prosperous*.

This item supports the *Advance Fort Lauderdale 2040 Comprehensive Plan* specifically advancing:

- The Neighborhood Enhancement Focus Area
- The Housing Element
- Goal 1: The Comprehensive Plan shall support the provision of adequate sites for future housing, including affordable workforce housing.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Public Hearing Notice

Exhibit 2 – Email Communication with HUD

Exhibit 3 – Amended Annual Action Plan

Prepared by: Rachel Williams, Manager, Housing & Community Development,
Development Services Department

Department Director: Christopher Cooper, Development Services