



**DATE:** June 6, 2017

**CATEGORY:** Consent

**DEPT.:** Fire

**TITLE:** **Increase Appropriations in the Fire Department for Reimbursement of Mutual Aid Support Wildland Fires**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

1. Increase appropriations by \$483,706 in the Fire Department for reimbursements received from the California Office of Emergency Services for Mountain View Fire Department's staff hours expended in support of fire fighting operations during the first deployment to the Soberanes Fire in July 2016, the second deployment Soberanes Fire in August 2016, and the August and September 2016 Gap Fire. (Five votes required)
2. For reimbursements not received by June 30, 2017, transfer and appropriate from the General Non-Operating Fund the following amounts: \$47,067 for the Blue Cut Fire; and \$74,072 for the Cedar Fire. (Five votes required)
3. Rebudget Fire mutual aid/strike team vehicle and administration reimbursements up to \$110,574 received and pending for Fire vehicle-related purchases to be completed in Fiscal Year 2017-18. (Five votes required)

### **BACKGROUND**

The Mountain View Fire Department (MVFD) participates in the State of California Mutual Aid System. As a result, the City is reimbursed at agreed-upon rates by the State for personnel hours, and administrative and vehicle cost for participating in strike team/mutual aid deployments.

The following were MVFD strike team/mutual aid deployments:

July 1 to July 8, 2016: Trail Head Fire

July, August, and September 2016: Soberanes Fire

August 14 to August 18, 2016: Clayton Fire

August 14 to August 18, 2016: Blue Cut Fire

August 22 to August 29, 2016: Cedar Fire

August 28 to September 12, 2016: Gap Fire

September 26 to October 1, 2016: Tobin Fire

September 26 to October 4, 2016: Loma Fire

Reimbursements Received and Requests:

- April 2017: \$101,357 reimbursement for the Gap Fire. Requesting \$83,776 to be appropriated for Fire staffing costs and \$17,463 be appropriated for Fire vehicle-related purchases (excludes miscellaneous reimbursement of \$118) to be rebudgeted in Fiscal Year 2017-18.
- May 2017: \$223,864 and \$158,485 for Soberanes Fire. Requesting \$163,878 and \$132,193 be appropriated for Fire staffing costs and \$59,986 and \$26,292 to be appropriated for Fire vehicle-related purchases to be rebudgeted in Fiscal Year 2017-18 to complete the purchase.
- The request for the rebudget up to \$110,574 is related to the appropriations requested above for administration and vehicle-related reimbursements. The funds are identified for a Fire vehicle-related purchase that will be completed in Fiscal Year 2017-18.

The State has been inundated with reimbursement requests due to a very busy wildfire season last year. This has resulted in delayed State reimbursements. It is possible that the remaining five reimbursements the MVFD has requested will not arrive before June 30, 2017.

Dates	Fire	Total Amount	Vehicle Fees	Admin and Misc. Fees	Amount to MVFD Personnel	
8/3 to 10/1/16	Soberanes 2	\$158,485	\$7,008	\$19,284	\$132,193	Received
8/28 to 9/12/16 and 9/1 to 9/16/16	Gap	\$101,357	\$3,072	\$14,509	\$83,776	Received
7/23 to 7/28/16	Soberanes 1	\$223,864	\$34,148	\$25,838	\$163,878	Received
8/14 to 8/17 and 8/17 to 8/29/16	Blue Cut	\$47,067	\$5,275	\$6,690	\$35,102	Pending
8/22 to 8/29/16	Cedar	\$74,072	\$10,510	\$10,529	\$53,033	Pending

**ANALYSIS**

The California Fire Assistance Agreement (CFAA) with the State of California’s Office of Emergency Services requires that fire agencies be reimbursed for time and resources expended in the support of California fires requiring mutual aid fire suppression services. The funds requested in this consent item reimburse the City of Mountain View for overtime costs associated with strike team deployments, administrative costs, and vehicle-related expenses.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The City has been reimbursed a total of \$483,706 by the California Office of Emergency Services for Fire personnel hours related to fire suppression efforts during the Gap Fire and two deployments to the Soberanes Fire. Staff is requesting the appropriations associated with this reimbursement and pending reimbursements as the overtime has been incurred and the appropriations are required to stay within budget for Fire Department expenditures.

**ALTERNATIVES**

1. Decline the increase in appropriations for the reimbursement of MVFD personnel hours, administrative and vehicle costs, and bear the total cost of staff overtime reimbursement.
2. Appropriate funds in an amount different than the reimbursed amount.

**PUBLIC NOTICING** – Agenda posting.

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