



DATE: June 10, 2014

CATEGORY: Consent

DEPT.: Fire

TITLE: **Increase Appropriation in the Fire Department for Strong Motion Instrumentation Program Funds Received**

RECOMMENDATION

1. Increase appropriations in the Fire Department, Building Services Fund, in the amount of \$30,984 for Strong Motion Instrumentation Program funds received as of December 31, 2013. (Five votes required)
2. Approve the carryover of appropriations to Fiscal Year 2014-15. (Five votes required)

BACKGROUND

For many years there have been discussions about whether it is appropriate to use neighborhood grant funds to fund neighborhood Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) activities and supplies. The Council Neighborhoods Committee (CNC) has occasionally allowed neighborhood grant funds to be used for emergency supplies and equipment, but for most of the past 12 years, the CNC has not approved the use of the grant funds for this purpose.

The CNC supports the CERT program but has not funded the requests due to limited neighborhood grant budgets and the fact that CERT grants would be more appropriately managed through the Fire Department.

ANALYSIS

SMIP funds are collected by the Building Inspection Division on an ongoing basis and earmarked for emergency preparedness. The CNC has recently been discussing and unanimously recommended that these funds be used for a CERT grant program.

The City Attorney's Office has determined that the City may use Strong Motion Instrumentation Program (SMIP) funds in this way after providing the Department of

Conservation with information indicating that data utilization and seismic education activities have been adequately funded. The Office of Emergency Services has notified the California Department of Conservation as required (refer to Attachment 1).

If the Council approves the use and carryover of these funds for a CERT grant program, the program would begin in Fiscal Year 2014-15.

FISCAL IMPACT

Since 2000 to December 31, 2013, the Building Inspection Division has received \$30,984 in SMIP funds. The amount of SMIP funds collected varies each year, but generally ranges from \$2,000 to \$2,500 annually. These funds can be used for training, equipment, or projects such as a CERT grant program.

Staff recommends allocating any unexpended SMIP funds to the Fire Department to fund an ongoing CERT grant program on an annual basis beginning in Fiscal Year 2015-16.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Continue to use neighborhood grant funds for emergency equipment and supplies.
2. Do not fund the purchase of emergency equipment and supplies.

PUBLIC NOTICING – Agenda posting.

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Approved by:

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City Manager

LB/7/CAM
122-06-10-14CR-E

Attachment: 1. Letter to Department of Conservation