

Agenda Item #: 35-1

**PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date: August 18, 2009 Consent Regular
 Workshop Public Hearing

Submitted by: FIRE RESCUE

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to:

(A) ratify the Chairman's signature approving a grant application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) A.R.R.A Assistance to Firefighters Grant program in the amount of \$2,773,348, with no cost-share requirement; and

(B) authorize the County Administrator, or his designee (Battalion Chief Thomas Tolbert), to act as the County's representative for the purpose of electronically signing and submitting the Grant Application via the DHS/FEMA website.

Summary: The Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) Fire Station Construction (FSC) Grants provide financial assistance directly to fire departments on a competitive basis to build new or modify existing fire stations in order for departments to enhance their response capability and protect the community they serve from fire and fire-related hazards. The authority for this grant program is derived from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 which provided a total of \$210 million to this grant program. The maximum award for one application is \$15 million with no one project within an application exceeding \$5 million. The primary goal of this grant program is to help fire departments meet their firefighting and emergency response needs. The FSC grant program seeks to support organizations lacking the tools and resources necessary to effectively protect the health and safety of the public and their emergency response personnel with respect to fire and all other hazards. Palm Beach County is requesting \$2,773,348 to fund the construction of Station 74 within the City of South Bay, while committing \$86,864 of the existing project budget to cover the cost of items ineligible under the grant program such as landscaping. The deadline for electronic submission of this grant application to the grantor agency was July 10, 2009. Due to the preparation time, submittal deadlines, and BCC meeting dates, the grant had to be submitted prior to full Board approval. Countywide (SB)

Background and Justification: The purpose of FSC is to provide economic stimulus in the form of jobs and increase the safety of the firefighters and the communities they serve. As such, all program priorities focus on the timeliness of the implementation of the construction project, the effect the new or modified facility will have on the health and safety of the firefighters as well as the benefit the new or modified facility will have on the protection of the community. Palm Beach County Fire Rescue (PBCFR) is requesting \$2,773,348 in grant funding for the construction of fire station 74 in South Bay, Florida. The current fire station is temporarily housed within a renovated section of the South Bay City Hall, providing insufficient working space for personnel, inadequate sleeping quarters for 24-hour operation and poor access for emergency response. The current facility limits Fire-Rescue's ability to staff this response zone with adequate personnel and equipment. The construction of a new fire station on a site that is strategically located within the City of South Bay would reduce response times and increase service delivery by providing accommodations for additional personnel and apparatus. Utilizing grant funds, the new fire station will also provide a safer working environment for firefighters through construction features such as fire sprinkler system, exhaust system, carbon monoxide detectors, and exhaust hood and extinguishment system.

The deadline for submission of this grant application to the grantor agency was July 10, 2009. Due to the preparation time, submittal deadlines, and BCC meeting dates, the grant had to be submitted prior to full Board approval. The approval, signed by the Chairperson, indicated staff would bring this item to the Board on August 18, 2009. If awarded this grant, Fire Rescue will submit an agenda item for the grant award and a budget amendment to acknowledge receipt of the funds.

Attachments:

- 1. ARRA FSC Grant application and related documentation
- 2. Approval memo signed by the Chairman

Recommended By: _____ 7/7/09
 Deputy Chief Date

Approved By: _____ 7/7/09
 Fire-Rescue Administrator Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

	Fiscal Years 2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Capital Expenditures	<u>2,860,212</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating Costs	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
External Revenues	<u>2,773,348</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____
Program Income (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
In-Kind Match (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
NET FISCAL IMPACT	<u>86,864</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____
# ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Is Item Included in Current Budget? Yes X No _____

Budget Account No.: Fund 3700 Dept 440 Unit F089 Object _____

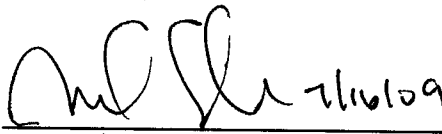

B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

There is no cost-share requirement in the program guidelines for this grant program. However, any ineligible project costs, such as landscaping, furnishings, weight equipment, and decorative items, as well as any and all cost overruns, will be funded out of the existing capital project budget. The Department anticipates this cost to be \$86,864.

C. Departmental Fiscal Review: 

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Dev. and Control Comments:

<u></u> 7/16/09 OFMB 7/16/09	<u></u> Contract Dev. and Control 7/20/09
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B. Legal Sufficiency:

 7-22-09
 Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

 Department Director

THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE USED AS A BASIS FOR PAYMENT.



Fire Rescue

Chief Herman W. Brice

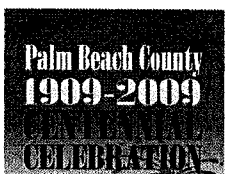
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Board of County
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- Burt Aaronson, Vice Chairman
- Karen T. Marcus
- Shelley Vana
- Steven L. Abrams
- Jess R. Santamaria
- District 7

County Administrator
Robert Weisman



"An Equal Opportunity
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TO: Honorable Jeff Koons, Chairman
and Board of County Commissioners

FROM: *Herman W. Brice*
Herman W. Brice, Administrator
Fire-Rescue

DATE: July 1, 2009

RE: **A.R.R.A. Assistance to Firefighters Fire Station Construction Grants Application (Economic Stimulus Funding)**

Pursuant to Section 309.00 of the Palm Beach County Administrative Code and PPM#CW-F-003, your signature is required for Fire Rescue's grant application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's, Department of Homeland Security (DHS), A.R.R.A. Assistance to Firefighters Fire Station Construction Grants (SCG) Program (grant application attached). This application is due to FEMA not later than July 10, 2009 and the preferred method for grant submission is electronically through the DHS Web Site.

The Grant Application and Program Guidelines are also attached for your review. As part of your authorization on this grant application, Fire-Rescue is requesting that you designate Battalion Chief Thomas Tolbert, through the County Administrator, to act as the County's representative for the purpose of electronically signing this grant application on-line.

The grant application is for a total of \$2,773,348. There is no cost-share requirement associated with this grant program; however, the Department is committing \$86,864 of the existing project budget to cover costs such as landscaping which are ineligible under the grant guidelines. Staff will submit this item for ratification on the Board's August 18, 2009 County Commission Agenda.

Reviewed by: *[Signature]* 7-7-09
Asst. County Attorney Date OFMB Date

Approved by: *[Signature]* 7-8-09
John F. Koons, Chairman Date

Pursuant to Section 309.00 of the Palm Beach County Administrative Code, I hereby designate Battalion Chief Thomas Tolbert to electronically submit, on-line via the DHS website, the attached application for the A.R.R.A. Assistance to Firefighters Fire Station Construction Grants Program.

Approved by: *[Signature]* 7/2/09
Robert Weisman, County Administrator Date