

PALM BEACH COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: February 8, 2022  Consent  Regular  
 Workshop  Public Hearing

Department: Fire Rescue

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

**Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to ratify:**

- A) a FY 2021 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) application electronically submitted to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on December 17, 2021, requesting \$711,956 to fund 90% of the purchase of 44 automatic chest compression devices , for a term of twenty four months beginning from the date of award; and
- B) the designation of the County Administrator, or designee, to act as the County's representative for the purpose of electronically signing and submitting the FY 2021 AFG grant application, including Assurances and Certifications via the DHS FEMA website.

**Summary:** This grant application requests \$711,956 from DHS FEMA for the purchase of 44 automatic chest compression devices which will be added to our front line Advanced Life Support (ALS) engines. The total project cost identified in the grant application is \$783,151.60. The required match for this grant is \$71,195.60 (10% of the federal share), which will be funded from Fire Rescue's contingency reserve.

If awarded, the grant will add automatic chest compression devices to all of our front line engines that do not currently have this device. This device performs automated CPR on a patient and is already on all our frontline rescue units. Performing effective manual chest compressions is exceedingly difficult, the quality varies depending on the responder and the first responder performing CPR gets fatigued quickly. As this happens, the effectiveness of manual chest compressions decreases. Having this device on all our front line units will standardize cardiac arrest care and will also reduce the exposure to COVID-19 and other communicable diseases by limiting the first responder's proximity to the patient. The investment to add these devices to our ALS engines will provide immeasurable benefits to our citizens. Due to the preparation time, submittal deadlines known at the time, and BCC meeting dates, the grant application had to be submitted under the emergency process prior to full Board approval. Countywide (SB)

**Background and Justification:** The FY 2021 AFG Program is a competitive grant program designed to enhance the safety of the public and firefighters with respect to fire and fire-related hazards by providing direct financial assistance to eligible fire departments, non-affiliated EMS organizations, and State Fire Training Academies for critically needed resources to equip and train emergency personnel to recognized standards, enhance operational efficiencies, foster interoperability, and support community resilience.

The AFG Program requires submission of grant applications by electronic format in order to assure an efficient review and competitive scoring of all funding requests submitted under this program. The original deadline for submission of this grant application to the grantor agency was 5:00 p.m. on December 17, 2021, that deadline has since been extended to January 21, 2022. Pursuant to Section 309.00 of the Palm Beach County Administrative Code, the Mayor approved this grant application, which now must be ratified by the Board. The grant application includes certifications of compliance with required assurances and certifications, as stated in the application and related program guidance. If the grant is awarded and the automatic chest compression devices are purchased, the annual maintenance cost for each unit is estimated to be \$1,193 annually, and is not expected to have any additional fiscal impact.

- Attachments:**
1. FY 2021 AFG application and related documentation
  2. Approval memo

Recommended by: P. J. [Signature] 1-18-2022  
Assistant Fire Chief Date

Approved by: P. J. [Signature] 1-18-2022  
For Fire Rescue Administrator Date

Approved by: [Signature] 1/27/22  
County Administrator Date

**II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS**

**A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:**

Fiscal Years	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Capital Expenditures	<u>783,151.</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating Costs	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
External Revenues	<u>(711,956.)</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____
Program Income (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
In-Kind Match (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>NET FISCAL IMPACT</b>	<b>*71,195</b>	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b># ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)</b>	<b>0</b>	_____	_____	_____	_____

Is Item Included in Proposed Budget? Yes \_\_\_ No X  
 Does this item include the use of federal funds Yes X No \_\_\_

Budget Account No.: Fund 1300 Dept 440 Unit 4299 Object 9901

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

\* There is no Fiscal Impact at this time. Should the grant be awarded, a budget amendment will be brought to the Board for approval. The funding source for the required match of \$71,195.60 will be from the Fire Rescue MSTU (Fund 1300) contingency reserves.

C. Departmental Fiscal Review: *[Signature]*

**III. REVIEW COMMENTS**

**A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Development and Control Comments:**

*[Signature]*  
 OFMB At 1/19/22  
 AP 1/19/22 UM 1/19

*[Signature]*  
 Contract Development and Control  
 1-25-22 TW

**B. Legal Sufficiency**

*[Signature]* 1-26-22  
 Sr. Assistant County Attorney Sharon Burrows

**C. Other Department Review:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Department Director