



SAFER Grant

- FEMA Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant
- Objective: Help local fire departments with staffing and deployment capabilities to respond to emergencies
- SAFER is a 3-year grant
- 100% salary and benefits for entry level firefighters



SAFER Requirements

- Maintain SAFER staffing numbers (9) during grant period
- Vacancies must be replaced within a reasonable amount of time (typically 180 days)
- Only full-time firefighters
- SAFER firefighters must be assigned to fire suppression vehicle at least 50% of their time
- Submit to FEMA
 - Quarterly performance reports
 - Semi-annual federal financial reports



Eligible Expenses

- Salary and Benefits
 - FLSA overtime
 - Employer contributions for PERS
 - Workers Compensation
 - Health Insurance
 - Other employee benefit options



Ineligible Expenses

- Administrative costs
- Annual medical and physicals
- Individual overtime costs
 - Exception is FLSA overtime
- Personal Protective Equipment
 - Structure fire turnouts
 - Wildland gear
 - SCBA masks
 - Etc.



Ineligible Expenses







Operational Utilization

Vacancy

- SAFER firefighters will enhance current staffing depth
 - 5 relief personnel for 3 annual vacation days*
 - Backfill scheduled and unscheduled vacancies

No Vacancy

- Improve single company and multicompany response operational effectiveness
 - Improve firefighter safety on emergency scene
 - 4th firefighter on fire apparatus
 - Increase total number of responding firefighters to mitigate incidents
 - Improve operational capabilities



Cost Savings

- SAFER firefighters will cover vacancies:
 - Annual Leave (ex. vacation)
 - Sick Leave
 - Workers Compensation
 - Etc.
- Conservative estimate SAFER FF's will save \$300k annually in OT coverage



End of Grant Plans

Present options/plan to City Manager and Board of Supervisors at 18-24 months

- Options will include
 - Financial savings from SAFER firefighter "overhires":
 - Overtime savings
 - Retain SAFER firefighters
 - Through attrition
 - Paramedics to staff single role ambulance model



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Questions?