



Fire Chiefs' Strategy Leadership Group

October 26, 2018

To: Sonoma County Fire Chiefs

From: SLG

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As you know, among the three priorities set by the Board of Supervisors for Plan implementation was the allocation of some of the existing fire funds to those departments that applied for interim funding to support their ability to maintain service levels in the near term. We are delighted to report that on Tuesday, October 23, the Board of Supervisors approved the provision of funding that met the criteria for operations as outlined in the attached document.

This action fulfills one of the three priorities the SLG is working on at this time. We continue to pursue the best possible strategy for assuring the viability of the VFCs and the Apparatus Replacement program. We will provide a further update at the next Chiefs' Association meeting.

Please reach out to your SLG representative with any questions or comments.

Thank you,

Fire Chiefs' Strategy Leadership Group (SLG)

Attachment: Summary of Funding Approval

List of Agencies to Enter into Agreements with:

Windsor – SAFER Grant - \$198,737

In 2017, Windsor was awarded a SAFER Grant that funded 3 firefighters that allowed Windsor to go to 3.0 staffing. Approval of the funding will allow Windsor to retain the firefighters for this fiscal year and next. This staffing level is supported in the Fire Deployment Plan.

Bodega Bay – Maintain 3.0 Staffing - \$200,000

Based on projected spending levels for this year, Bodega Bay will not be able to maintain 3.0 staffing without this funding. This staffing level is supported in the Fire Deployment Plan.

Cazadero – Amador Station - \$314,000 (Contract will be with Cal Fire)

Monte Rio has discontinued their funding for an Amador Station, which Cazadero relied on for mutual aid during winter months. An Amador Station in Cazadero is part of the Fire Deployment Plan.

Timber Cove – Stipends - \$90,000

Zone 4 relies on volunteers as much as any other area in the County. This funding will allow Timber Cove to continue their volunteer stipend program and for that program to be expanded to volunteers in Fort Ross as well.

Consolidation Project Funding - \$80,000

Originally requested as funding to allow for the Russian River Fire District to move from a part-time to full-time Chief, the funding is now being considered for studies, facilitation efforts, and possible legal analysis that will support consolidation efforts in the area.

Total = \$882,737

This funding approval is a one-time only commitment of funds and there is no promise or guarantee of funding in future years.

It should also be understood that by accepting this funding, your agency is committing to work collaboratively with other agencies in your region to improve the efficiency of fire services through the consolidation of agencies, and that any future funding requests from these agencies be submitted with an analysis of all options that have been considered to increase revenues and/or decrease expenditures prior to seeking funding in the future.