



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
July 8, 2025

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Paul Buddenhagen, City Manager

Submitted by: David Sprague, Fire Chief

Subject: Grant Application: California Fire Safe Council (CFSC) Grant to continue funding an Alameda County Coordinator

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager or designee to apply for and accept a grant, and any amendments for not more than \$225,000 per year in Fiscal Year (FY) 25, FY26 and FY27, from the California Fire Safe Council (CFSC) Grant to contract a county coordinator to serve Alameda County communities, provide resources and education on wildfire safety, promote collaboration, assist local groups with funding opportunities, and aid multi-jurisdictional planning.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The Fire Department (Department) will apply for and receive no more than \$225,000 each FY. There is no requirement for matching funds, and this grant will have no negative impact on the City's budget.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Department requested and received funding for a County Coordinator for Alameda County in FY24. The CFSC requires that applicants request a new grant for the program every one to two fiscal years. The Department is seeking approval to continue providing this service to the region and thus, is proposing to re-apply for another award.

This grant supports the City's Strategic Plan's goals and objectives as follows:

- Goal 1: Create a resilient, safe, connected, and prepared City
- Goal 2: Be a customer-focused organization that provides excellent, timely, easily- accessible service and information to the community.

During the second year of the program Alameda County Residents will benefit from the following expanded services:

1. Build a census of all active wildfire mitigation groups, contact points, collaboration efforts, and projects in Alameda County.

2. Analyze gaps in county-wide wildfire resiliency and emergency preparedness and develop recommendations to fill these needs.
3. Develop mechanisms to improve outreach and coordination efforts, such as group formation, funding plans, governance structures, and state/regional/local planning efforts.

BACKGROUND

California Fire Safe Council funds county coordinator positions and Alameda County is one of six counties that did not have a Coordinator position prior to FY25.

The position is housed within Department and actively coordinates and collaborates with county-wide community groups, fire councils, HOAs, and other mitigation support groups. This grant may also fund a third-party contractor to manage planning activities, fund technology-related costs, and travel costs for the coordinator's training.

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution in support of the Department hosting this regional position.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

Ensuring the Department is maximizing available resources and working with other county coordinators to collaborate on regional mitigation activities will help sustain the local environment and mitigate the potential of fire, mudslides, and other catastrophic impacts associated with the overgrowth of vegetation and loss of habitat post-wildfire.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Department identified this opportunity several years ago; however, no other jurisdiction applied on behalf of Alameda County. Approving this funding will allow the Department to continue to support improved communication and collaboration to reduce wildfire risk throughout Alameda County.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None.

CONTACT PERSON

Shanalee Gallagher, Principal Program Manager, 510-981-3473

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

GRANT APPLICATION: CALIFORNIA FIRE SAFE COUNCIL (CFSC) GRANT TO ESTABLISH AN ALAMEDA COUNTY COORDINATOR

WHEREAS, the California Fire Safe Council funds County Coordinator positions and Alameda County was one of six counties that did not have a Coordinator position; and

WHEREAS, the Berkeley Fire Department applied for and received funding from the California Fire Safe Council (CFSC) in FY24 to contract a county coordinator to serve Alameda County communities, provide resources and education on wildfire safety, promote collaboration, assist local groups with funding opportunities, and aid multi-jurisdictional planning; and

WHEREAS, Department is seeking authority to reapply for the grant in Fiscal Year (FY) 25, FY26 and FY27 to continue providing this important service to the region.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager or his designee is authorized to apply for and accept a grant, and any amendments for not more than \$225,000 per year in FY25, FY26 and FY27, from the California Fire Safe Council (CFSC) Grant to contract a county coordinator to serve Alameda County communities, provide resources and education on wildfire safety, promote collaboration, assist local groups with funding opportunities, and aid multi-jurisdictional planning.

