

City Council – Action Request Form

Date: August 12, 2019

To: Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Members of the City Council

From: Damon Dequenne, Assistant City Manager
William L. Mayo, Fire Chief

Council Action Requested:
Resolution Approving a Match from Piedmont Regional Trauma System to Purchase Ballistic Protective Vests and Helmets for the Winston-Salem Fire Department

Strategic Focus Area: Safe and Secure Community
Strategic Objective: Improve Public Safety Service Quality
Strategic Plan Action Item: No
Key Work Item: No



Summary of Information:

Information was presented to the Public Safety Committee in June explaining that active assailant attacks in the U.S. have steadily increased in recent years. Fire and EMS personnel respond in concert with law enforcement to these types of incidents and, thus, are subject to similar risk. Taking steps to protect our staff is in the best interest of the City.

Level III Ballistic Protective Vests (BPVs) are designed to be lightweight without causing undue restrictions to mobility and are capable of stopping high-velocity and heavy-caliber, long-barreled handgun projectiles. The cost per set of BPVs and helmets is \$700 and WSFD would require 140 sets to outfit an on-duty accompaniment of fire personnel. The total cost is \$98,000.

On March 19, 2019, Piedmont Regional Trauma System voted to match up to \$50,000 in funding to provide BPVs and helmets to the Winston-Salem Fire Department. The attached Resolution and Project Budget Ordinance Amendment request matching City funds in the amount of \$49,000 to support this purchase.

Committee Action:

Committee	Finance 8/12/19	Action	Approval
	Public Safety 8/12/19		
For	Unanimous	Against	
Remarks:			