

City Council – Action Request Form

Date: October 10, 2022

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

From: Patrice Toney, Assistant City Manager
William L. Mayo, Fire Chief

Council Action Requested:
Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of 2022 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant

Strategic Focus Area: Safe and Secure Community
Strategic Objective: No
Strategic Plan Action Item: No
Key Work Item: No



Summary of Information:
 The Winston-Salem Fire Department (WSFD) has been awarded a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant from the Department of Homeland Security. The intent of the grant is to assist career fire departments with improving their compliance with the National Fire Protection Association’s (NFPA) 1710 *Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Departments*. NFPA 1710 recommends that the initial 15 firefighters to arrive on the scene of a moderate risk residential fire should travel no more than eight minutes, 90% of the time. WSFD is accomplishing this 56% of the time.

The SAFER Grant will provide funding to hire 15 personnel for three years and does not require a local match.

If this authorization is approved, it is recommended that the Fire Department and the Budget and Performance Management Department measure the effect of the additional personnel on NFPA 1710 compliance through June 30, 2024. City staff will establish baseline data for key performance measures such as response time and confinement of fire to the room of origin for

Committee Action:

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| Committee | Finance 10/10/22 Public Safety 10/10/22 | Action | Approval |
| For | Unanimous | Against | |

Remarks:

the areas to be served by the additional positions. Based upon the impact of the additional personnel, a recommendation will be made at the end of the grant period to either maintain the increase in authorized staffing and keep the firefighters on the roster or delete the positions and absorb them through attrition.

The attached resolution authorizes acceptance of the 2022 SAFER Grant. The resolution also notes the City's intent to measure the impact of the grant-funded positions during the grant period. This Council Action also includes an amendment to the FY22-23 budget.