



Pompano Beach Fire Rescue

**FIRE ADMINISTRATION
MEMO # 19-A135**

To: Greg Harrison, City Manager
From: John Jurgle, Fire Chief
Date: 9/10/19
Re: Request for Matching Funds for SCBA and RIT Grant

We were notified that our application to the 2018 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) through FEMA was awarded. The grant application included a request to replace outdated self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and equipment for our rapid intervention team (RIT) units. As a side note, we have already budgeted to replace the SCBA units, and this grant will help to significantly offset the total cost for the replacement.

The grant funds the purchase of 62 SCBA units, 62 bottles to accompany the SCBA units, and 62 spare bottles. We were also awarded two RIT packs. These two types of equipment are among the most important within our agency. The SCBA allows firefighters to breathe air from an attached air bottle while engaging in firefighting operations in a hostile environment. The RIT gear allows us to facilitate a rescue if our personnel become trapped while operating on an emergency scene.

Our initial application requested \$527,332 in total funding with a required city contribution of \$52,733. FEMA reduced the total grant amount to \$401,818.18 with a required city contribution of \$40,181.82. The reduction relates to set funding that they will pay for SCBA units, irrespective of our actual cost. In this case, we will be purchasing the same SCBA units that we otherwise need, but we will be paying \$0.10 per dollar spent based on the monies that FEMA has committed to provide.

It is also important to note that the FEMA grant will only replace a portion of our total SCBA inventory as they have special rules for how to request replacements. We will still need funding that was budgeted to replace our entire inventory of SCBAs; however, we anticipate needing only a fraction of what has been budgeted based on the award of the grant.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions.