



Legislation Text

File #: 160995., **Version:** 1

Assistance to Firefighters Fire Prevention and Safety Grant Application FY2016 (NB)

This item requests that the City Commission authorize the City Manager or designee to apply for and, if awarded, accept grant funds from the FY2016 US Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency Fire Prevention and Safety Grant Program.

The Fire Prevention and Safety Grants are part of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants and support projects that enhance the safety of the public and firefighters from fire and related hazards. The primary goal is to reduce injury and prevent death among high-risk populations. The application period for the FY2016 funding opens April 17, 2016 and closes May 19, 2017. Gainesville Fire Rescue proposes the submission of an application that would fund a Home Fire Sprinkler initiative, to raise community awareness about the lifesaving benefits of installing a home sprinkler system in newly constructed homes; funding to revive GFR's "Project Get Alarmed" smoke alarm, CO detector, and home safety evaluation program, which targets economically challenged residents; and the purchase of an inflatable fire safety house designed to enhance home fire safety education and awareness. The Home Fire Sprinkler Initiative will augment GFR's planned economic impact study of all community specific incentives available to absorb the full cost of installing a residential fire sprinkler system, funding for which was approved by the City Commission in October 2015. Project Get Alarmed has proven to be a resounding community success since 2004, but inconsistent funding creates a concerning backlog of applications. The inflatable fire safety house is customizable and designed to deliver numerous fire safety messages, as well as, participation-based lessons, including practice of home escape plans.

The City could receive up to \$103,750. Matching funds of five percent (5%) or approximately \$5,187.50 will be identified in the department's budget.

The City Commission authorize the City Manager or designee to: 1) submit the grant application; and 2) if awarded, execute the grant contract, pending approval by the City Attorney as to form and legality.