

Legislation Text

File #: 11-0143, Version: 2

Chief Administrative Office recommending the Board authorize Chair to sign Amendment I to Agreement 344-F1111, a contract to provide funding to the Garden Valley, Georgetown, Latrobe, Mosquito, Pioneer and Rescue Fire Protection Districts for emergency medical services and equipment, as directed by the Board at the June 9, 2010 budget workshop as an alternative to Aid to Fire. The total funding for this amendment is \$593,244, one-time use of fund balance in CSA No. 7. No change to net county cost. (Refer 6/9/10, Special Meeting)

FUNDING: County Service Area No. 7.

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Fiscal Impact/Change to Net County Cost: \$593,244 one-time use of fund balance in CSA No. 7. No change to net county cost.

Background: The County has historically provided a General Fund subsidy to certain fire districts that have received a lesser share of the ad valorem property tax. This subsidy has been known as "Aid to Fire." Given increasing constraints on the County General Fund, the Board terminated the Aid to Fire contract in June 2009. Working with the Local Agency Formation Commission and the fire districts, the Board commissioned a study, known as the Citygate Report to explore alternatives to fire and emergency services.

During the budget workshop on June 9, 2010 the Board directed the Standing Fire Committee to work with the Chief Administrative Office and the (fire district) Joint Power Association to allocate up to \$600,000 from the Ad Valorem tax within CSA No. 7 annually for two years (minutes attached). Fire chiefs from affected districts agreed to the following amounts per district:

Garden Valley Fire Protection District:	\$131,382
Georgetown Fire Protection District:	\$23,193
Latrobe Fire Protection District:	\$108,145
Mosquito Fire Protection District:	\$22,430

Pioneer Fire Protection District:	\$178,590
Rescue Fire Protection District:	\$129,504

Funds from CSA No. 7 cannot be used for general fire service. Consequently, the contract restricts the use of funds to emergency medical services and related equipment consistent with the purposes of CSA No. 7.

Amendment I extends the term of the contract and provides a second year of identical funding for the same purpose. The Chief Administrative Office notes that the original funding agreement adopted by the Board included provisions to encourage fire districts to study service delivery options including financial and operational reorganizations on a regional or sub-regional scale as identified in the Citygate Report as a condition of a second year of funding.

Reason for Recommendation: The attached contract amendment fulfills the Board's direction with regard to supplemental funds for fire districts.

Action to be taken following Board approval: Chief Administrative Office will work with fire districts for signature approval, and prepare claim for payment by the Auditor-Controller.

Contact: Mike Applegarth

Concurrences: County Counsel and Risk Management