



AGENDA ITEM NO.

COUNCIL MEETING 06/26/07

APPROVED BY

DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

CITY MANAGER

June 26, 2007

FROM: JERRY P. DYER, Chief of Police
 Police Department

BY: RONALD GRIMM, Sergeant
 Special Operations Division

SUBJECT: APPROVE THE AGREEMENT WITH THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AND CITY HEALTH OFFICIALS (NACCHO) FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF A \$10,000 GRANT AWARD TO SUPPORT PROGRAM ENHANCEMENTS TO THE FRESNO POLICE DEPARTMENT'S MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS PROGRAM

KEY RESULT AREA

Public Safety

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends that the City Council authorize the acceptance of a \$10,000 award from the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) to enhance the capacity of the Medical Reserve Corps project.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The United States Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Surgeon General, allocated grant money to communities throughout the country to enhance medical assistance responses to acts of terrorism and natural disasters through the use of Medical Reserve Corps units. The City Council approved and accepted a three year grant award during FY 2003, which lasted through FY 2006. In response to Hurricane Katrina, an additional year (FY 2007) was authorized to exhaust the original funding.

Although there were no direct grant awards offered to Medical Reserve Corps units for FY 2008, the Surgeon General's Office did award a substantial grant to the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), which in turn is offering a \$10,000 award to the City of Fresno's Medical Reserve Corps unit.

KEY OBJECTIVE BALANCE

This NACCHO award balances the three key objectives of prudent Financial Management, Employee Satisfaction, and Customer Satisfaction by bringing in outside funding to provide program enhancements to continue the operations of the Medical Reserve Corps, a valuable volunteer effort that directly supports the community in times of crisis, both natural and man-made. These enhancements will include additional training for current volunteers, as well as greater recruiting opportunities to build and strengthen the unit.

BACKGROUND

In response to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Surgeon General, has provided funding to communities throughout the nation to enhance medical assistance responses to acts of terrorism and natural disasters. This funding has most commonly been used to start and maintain Medical Reserve Corps units throughout the country. The Medical Reserve Corps is a component of the Citizen Corps Program, which harnesses the efforts of volunteer services into one of five groups – Neighborhood Watch, Volunteers in Police Services (VIPS), Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), and the Fire Corps. The Fresno Police Departments Citizen Corps Program is currently active in all of these components with the exception of Fire Corps.

Under the Medical Reserve Corps program, the City of Fresno was originally awarded funding for three years beginning October 1, 2002 and continuing through October 1, 2005. During October 2005, the Department of Health and Human Services extended the program an additional year to allow communities to spend any funding not yet expended and to expand on responses to all catastrophic incidents such as Hurricane Katrina. The City of Fresno's Medical Reserve Corps unit expended all available grant funding and successfully closed-out the Surgeon General's grant in October of 2006.

The Surgeon General's Office has chosen not to offer direct grant awards for FY2008, but instead has awarded a grant to the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), which is offering financial awards to individual Medical Reserve Corps units. The City of Fresno MRC unit has been chosen to receive a \$10,000 cash award, with no financial match required. This is not a traditional government grant award, per se, but is instead a contractual agreement between NACCHO and the City of Fresno. In return for a \$10,000 cash payment to support the continuing efforts of our MRC unit, the City of Fresno will agree to maintain our MRC unit in good standing, to participate in a technical assistance assessment, and to maintain our MRC unit profile on the national MRC website (all of which are routine functions performed by the unit on a regular basis).

At this time the Police Department is asking Council to authorize the acceptance of this \$10,000 award, and to authorize the Chief of Police (or his designee) to enter into the contract with the National Association of County and City Health Officials (a copy of this contract is attached to this Council Report for review).

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact.

JD/rg
06/06/07

Attachments: NACCHO Agreement with City of Fresno