

**CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA**



Agenda Date:	June 20, 2023
Action Required:	Appropriation of Funding
Presenter:	Jeremy Evans, Emergency Management Coordinator
Staff Contacts:	Jeremy Evans, Emergency Management Coordinator Taylor Harvey-Ryan, Grants Program Manager
Title:	Appropriating grant funding from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) Emergency Shelter Upgrade Assistance Fund - \$445,307 (2nd reading)

Background

The Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) Shelter Upgrade Fund allows local governments to secure generators and retrofit shelters for citizens across the commonwealth. The purpose of the Shelter Upgrade Fund is to provide matching funds to localities to install, maintain, or repair infrastructure related to backup energy generation for emergency shelters, including solar energy generators, and to improve the hazard specific integrity (wind retrofit) shelter facilities owned by the locality.

The period of performance is April 15, 2023, through June 30, 2024.

Discussion

This VDEM Shelter Upgrade Grant is a state-funded program that will allow the City of Charlottesville to purchase two larger capacity generators that will replace the older models at Charlottesville High School. The capacity of the new generators is almost triple, (800kw vs 250kw). With the added capacity, it is possible to eventually add other areas of the High School to those generators, moving our City closer to opening an all-hazards disaster shelter.

Notification of award approval was received on May 8, 2023, for the state share amount of \$445,307.

Alignment with City Council's Vision and Strategic Plan

The VDEM Shelter Upgrade Grant meets City Council's Healthiest City vision. Specifically, "Our emergency response systems are among the nation's best", as well as Goal 2 of the City's Strategic Plan, sub-elements 2.1 (Provide an effective and equitable safety system) and 2.4 (Ensure families and individuals are safe and stable).

Community Engagement

N/A

Budgetary Impact

The local share amount is \$200,143 which is currently allocated for generator replacement within Public Works.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the approval and appropriation of grant funds.

Alternatives

If these grant funds are not appropriated, the City will have to purchase smaller generators which will not provide the same level of support for Charlottesville High School at an increased cost.

Attachments

1. VDEM Resolution for Generators