

CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA  
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA



Agenda Date:	December 4, 2023
Action Required:	Approval
Presenter:	Mike Rogers, Deputy Chief of Business Services
Staff Contacts:	Mike Rogers, Deputy Chief of Business Services
Title:	<b>Resolution to appropriate Fire Department FY22 State Homeland Security Program Grant Award, \$51,764.00 (2nd reading)</b>

**Background**

The FY 2022 State Homeland Security Grant Program administered by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) contained provisions for Local Competitive Grant Applicants and Special Operations Teams Grant Applicants (Non-Competitive) to apply for grants in several different categories. In May of 2022, the fire department applied for one of these available grants after submitting the city's required grant submission form. The grant request was related to special operations equipment, for the replacement of one complete set of extrication tools (\$51,764.00) specifically replacing existing older tools with one complete set of new electric/battery powered extrication tools. This replacement tool compliment is slated for Tower 10, which is housed at the Fontaine Avenue Fire Station.

Initially, the department was advised through an awardee release in the Fall of 2022 that we had not been selected for this grant award. The department then received notification on 10/18/2023 from VDEM that we had in fact been awarded funding through this grant and that the period of performance ends on 06/30/2024.

**Discussion**

The current hydraulic extrication tool set on Tower 10 is an older generation set of low pressure hydraulically powered tools run by a mounted pump on the apparatus. The manufacturer of these tools is beginning to phase out their low pressure line of tools and parts. Metals found in some of today's automobiles may also outperform some of the current Tower 10 tools cutting/spreading capabilities.

The tool compliment was purchased with the tower and that aerial apparatus isn't slated for replacement until approximately 2030. The current set of tools will need to be replaced ahead of this date.

**Alignment with City Council's Vision and Strategic Plan**

Public Safety: Charlottesville provides comprehensive, trusted public safety services and treats everyone with respect and dignity.

The tool replacements awarded through this grant will assist the department with providing trusted public safety services.

### **Community Engagement**

N/A

### **Budgetary Impact**

The 2022 Notice of Funding Opportunity for this grant states there is no match required. If the price quote on this tool compliment has increased over the last year, the department may need to make up the difference between the original award amount and a new/refreshed quote amount once received. If this is the case, the additional funds would be expended out of operational monies already allocated in FY24.

### **Recommendation**

Staff recommends approval.

### **Alternatives**

If the grant monies awarded/available are not utilized for this replacement need, operational funding from the departments' line items or other funding sources would need to be used in order to replace this aging tool set that may not be supported by the manufacturer in the near future.

### **Attachments**

1. \$51,764 VDEM Homeland Security Grant