



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: CEO
Department No.: 012
For Agenda Of: 3/1/11
Placement: Departmental
Estimated Tme: 10 minutes
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Chandra L. Wallar, County Executive Officer
Director(s)
Contact Info: Chandra L. Wallar, County Executive Officer
Michael W Dyer, Chief, Santa Barbara County Fire Protection
District, 681.5507
SUBJECT: Request for Proposal to Provide Fire Protection Services to the City of Lompoc

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form:

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form:

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- (A) Receive an update on the feasibility and cost of the Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District providing fire services to the City of Lompoc;
- (B) Provide direction to staff to ensure that neither the County nor the District incur any additional costs for providing services to the City and authorize the submittal of a response to the City;
- (C) Authorize the County Executive Officer and Fire Chief to begin negotiations with the City of Lompoc regarding funding and other issues related to providing fire services to the City.

Summary Text:

On February 16, 2010, the Board of Supervisors authorized the County Executive Officer, County Fire Chief and the Auditor-Controller to review the feasibility of the Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District ("District") providing fire services to the City of Lompoc ("City"), in response to the City's Request for Proposals ("RFP"). Subsequently, the County Executive Officer submitted a draft response to the RFP to the City on April 23, 2010. On January 13, 2011, the County received a letter from the City indicating the City was still interested in receiving a response to the proposal. Accordingly, this item is before the Board to receive an update on the feasibility and cost of the District providing fire services for the City, to provide direction to staff on the proposed costs contained within the proposal, including whether to include any proposed cost-share with the City (CEO recommendation to not include any cost sharing proposal) and to authorize the submittal of the revised RFP response to the City. This item also authorizes the County Executive Officer and Fire Chief to begin negotiations with the City regarding funding and other issues *should* the City decide to enter into negotiations once it receives the County's response to the proposal. Should the City consider negotiating an agreement for

fire services with the District, any proposed agreement would be brought to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

Background:

Overview of Services to be Provided, Costs and Operational Issues

In its April 2010 response to the City's RFP, the District identified the level of fire protection and emergency medical services it would provide to the City. Since then, the cost of service has been updated to reflect Fiscal Year (FY) 2011-12 salary and benefit assumptions; the current indirect cost rate; a 67% cost share by the District for a battalion chief and a 10% cost share by the District for the additional service area and call volume assumed by Lompoc Fire Station #1. The revised cost of service to the City for FY 2011-12 is \$4,253,394, which includes the City's proposed share of response staffing costs (\$3,374,000), indirect costs for District administration/overhead (\$779,394)¹ and depreciation costs of two engines (\$100,000) as illustrated in the tables below.

Table 1: Total Estimated Costs of Services to City

Component	FY 2011-12 Estimated Cost
Indirect Cost ²	\$779,394
Engine Depreciation Cost	\$100,000
Total Staffing Cost ³	\$3,374,000
Total	\$4,253,394

Table 2: Total Staffing Costs to City

Station (City)	Staffing Configuration	Post Positions⁴	FY 2011-12 Estimated Cost
#1	Paramedic Engine ⁵	3	\$1,478,000
#1	Battalion Chief ⁶	1	\$254,000
#2	Paramedic Engine	3	\$1,642,000
#2	Paramedic Ambulance ⁷	2	\$0
	Total Daily Staffing- Response ⁸	9	\$3,374,000

The proposal under consideration to be submitted to the City includes a proposed cost share of \$672,000 to the District in FY 2011-12. This cost includes \$508,000 for an additional battalion chief and \$164,000 for a paramedic engine at Lompoc Fire Station #1. Currently, District battalion chiefs have oversight of 9 stations. As a result of providing services to the City, and assuming the oversight of 2 additional stations, the District would need to create an additional battalion chief post. The cost of this post would be shared by the City (33%) and the District (67%) since the District would receive a benefit by creating a third operations Battalion to strengthen management oversight of personnel and enhance command and control of emergency incidents. Other possible operational benefits of this proposal include augmenting District resources, alleviating existing call volumes responded to by District Station #51 and

¹ Indirect costs include costs associated with District administration (executive oversight, human resources, payroll, logistics, and training), dispatch and other services and supplies costs.

² Ibid #1

³ One post position equals three FTE. Under this proposal, 9 post positions are contemplated, or 27 FTE. One engineer position will also be included for a total of 28 FTE. Cost of engineer position anticipated to be offset by inspection and permit fees so no additional staffing cost is included within the total estimated cost of services to the City.

⁴ Ibid #3

⁵ Total cost for paramedic engine staffing is \$1,642,000, of which Lompoc pays \$1,478,000, or 90%, and the District pays the remaining \$164,000, or 10%.

⁶ Total cost for a battalion chief is \$762,000 of which Lompoc pays \$254,000, or 33%, and District pays remaining \$508,000, or 67%.

⁷ District paramedic ambulance would be moved from Station 51, but continue to transport in its current response zones that do not include the City limits. Paramedic ambulance will continue to provide backup service to AMR in the City of Lompoc as necessary.

⁸ Ibid #3

improving response times to both residents of the City and the District. The District proposes to pay for 10% of the paramedic engine at City Station #1. However, the County Executive Officer does not recommend submitting a proposal to the City that includes any increased costs to the District. The Board may consider providing direction to staff prior to the RFP submittal to ensure that neither the County nor the District incur any additional costs for providing services to the City.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Fiscal Analysis:

Narrative: Under the current proposal, the total cost of service is \$4,925,394, of which \$4,253,394 is the City's cost and \$672,000 is the District's cost. The cost to the District has not been accounted for within the District's existing five year financial forecast or within the District's FY 2011-12 Budget.

Should the Board authorize the submittal of the RFP to the City, then the City will need to consider whether to engage in negotiations for services with the District. If the City is interested and financially able to pursue service arrangements with the District, the City would pay for these services either through direct cost reimbursements, revenue sharing, property tax reallocation or some combination of these methods. The District would pay for additional costs incurred by this proposal through existing District resources or the General Fund. One possible method of payment is through the annexation of the City into the District, which would require the Board of Supervisors and the City to adopt similar resolutions regarding a negotiated tax exchange per Section 99(B)(5) of the Revenue and Taxation Code and require approval by the Santa Barbara Local Agency Formation Commission. The method of payment as well as staffing arrangements and other operational issues would be included within any proposed agreement between the District and the City and subject to approval by the City Council and County Board of Supervisors.

Staffing Impacts: Under this proposal, the District would create a new battalion chief position (3 FTE) to service the City and surrounding unincorporated area. The total proposal includes staffing of 28 FTE: 6 existing FTE and 22 new FTE. There are currently 24 uniformed personnel within the City of Lompoc Fire Department that may be eligible to become employees of the District. The California Health and Safety Code (Section 13861) and the California Government Code (Sections 53292 and 55632) provide the legal authority for the District to furnish services to the City and the Santa Barbara County Civil Service Rules permit the appointment of City Fire Department personnel to positions within the District. The terms of the appointment of these personnel are subject to joint agreement between the City and the Board of Supervisors.

Attachments:

cc:

Chief Michael Dyer, County Fire
Bob Geis, Auditor-Controller
Dennis Marshall, County Counsel
Jeri Muth, Human Resources
Bob Macleod, Human Resources
Lila Deeds, SBCERS