

PS COMMITTEE #1
January 30, 2014
Worksession

MEMORANDUM

January 28, 2014

TO: Public Safety Committee

FROM: Essie McGuire, Senior Legislative Analyst 

SUBJECT: **Worksession – Supplemental Appropriation to the FY14 Operating Budget, Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service, \$1,303,553 for the FY13 Senator Amoss Fire, Rescue, and Ambulance Fund (State 508) Grant**

Today the Public Safety Committee will review a supplemental appropriation to the FY14 Operating Budget, Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service (MCFRS), FY13 Senator Amoss Fire, Rescue, and Ambulance (State 508) Grant, \$1,303,553. The source of funds is State grant funds. The following individuals will be present to participate in this worksession:

- Interim Fire Chief Steve Lohr
- Division Chief Alan Hinde, Volunteer Services, MCFRS
- Dominic Del Pozzo, Budget Manager, MCFRS
- Amy Wilson, Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
- Marcine Goodloe, President, Montgomery County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association (MCVFRA)
- Eric Bernard, Executive Director, MCVFRA

The County Executive transmitted this supplemental appropriation on December 16, and a draft appropriation resolution is attached on circles 3-4. The Council introduced this appropriation on January 14, and held a public hearing on January 28.

I. BACKGROUND

Senator Amoss Fire, Rescue, and Ambulance Grant Funds, also known as State 508 funds, were established to provide grants to local fire departments to renovate stations or acquire fire and rescue equipment. The State awards these funds annually to counties, who then distribute the funds to local fire and rescue departments who expend the funds. Funds can be used for a wide range of facility and equipment related expenses.

In Montgomery County, Amoss funds are allocated among Local Fire and Rescue Departments (LFRDs) through a process established in an MCFRS Policy and Procedure. Under this policy, LFRDs generate proposals for use of the funds which are reviewed by the Amoss Fund Committee. The MCVFRA coordinates this process, reviewing the Amoss Fund

Committee's recommended allocations and forwarding them to the Fire Chief. The Fire Chief then works with the MCVFRA to address any necessary coordination issues and forwards the recommendations to the Executive and Council for appropriation.

In March 2013, the Council approved a supplemental appropriation of FY12 Amoss Funds to the FY13 MCFRS operating budget. The Committee has reviewed regular updates on the backlog of unexpended and unencumbered funds, and receives quarterly reports on the status of Local Fire and Rescue Departments (LFRD) spending of the grant funds.

Quarterly report: The Committee discussed the first quarterly report of FY14 in November of 2013. MCFRS is currently in the process of compiling the information for the second quarterly report, and that information will be forwarded to the Committee when it is finalized, likely in mid-February.

The most recent spending report reflected activity through September 30, 2013. It showed that the LFRDs are very nearly caught up with clearing old grant funds. There were no unencumbered funds prior to grant year 2010, and very little of the 2011 grant year funding remained unencumbered. Clearing the older funds is an important accomplishment, and Council staff acknowledges the concerted efforts of the LFRDs, the MCVFRA, and MCFRS staff to focus on working through this backlog.

The Council appropriated a total of \$1.3 million of FY12 State funds in March 2013. The first quarter report showed that of this amount, \$403,795 remained unencumbered, and approximately \$625,000 had already been spent.

II. FY14 APPROPRIATION

The table on circle 5 shows the proposed allocations for this Amoss appropriation. Of the \$1.3 million total, nearly half (\$641,940) is allocated toward apparatus, and \$410,500 toward facilities. As the Committee has discussed frequently, these are two areas of significant need in fire and rescue services and reflect ongoing high funding priorities.

Council staff recommends approval of the FY14 supplemental appropriation to MCFRS, as submitted.



INTRODUCTION

OFFICES OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Timothy L. Firestine
Chief Administrative Officer

MEMORANDUM

December 16, 2013

TO: Craig Rice, President, Montgomery County Council

FROM: Isiah Leggett, County Executive 

SUBJECT: Supplemental Appropriation # 14-363 FY14 Operating Budget
Montgomery County Government
Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service
FY13 Senator Amoss Fire, Rescue and Ambulance Fund (State 508) Grant,
\$1,303,553

I am recommending a supplemental appropriation to the FY14 Operating Budget of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service in the amount of \$1,303,553 for the Senator Amoss Grant. The appropriation will fund acquisition or rehabilitation of apparatus and capital equipment, and the renovation of facilities used to house apparatus.

This appropriation is needed to expend the proceeds of the FY13 State of Maryland Senator William H. Amoss Fire, Rescue, and Ambulance (State 508) Fund grant and accrued interest. The Amoss Fund was established to provide grants for fire, rescue, and ambulance services to promote high-quality service and the continued financial viability of volunteer fire, rescue and ambulance companies. This supplemental appropriation represents the priorities established by the County Executive and Fire Chief, in coordination with the Montgomery County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association, for the renovation of stations and acquisition of fire and rescue equipment.

I recommend that the County Council approve this supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$1,303,553 and specify the source of funds as State Grant.

I appreciate your prompt consideration of this action.

IL:aw

Craig Rice, President, Montgomery County Council
December 16, 2013
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Attachments: Supplemental Appropriation # 14-363

- c: Bonnie Kirkland, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer
- Jennifer A. Hughes, Director, Office of Management and Budget
- Joseph F. Beach, Director, Department of Finance
- Steven E. Lohr, Fire Chief, Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service
- Marcine Goodloe, President, Montgomery County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association
- Eric Bernard, Executive Director, Montgomery County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association
- Alan Hinde, Division Chief, Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service
- Dominic Del Pozzo, Budget Manager, Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service

Resolution No: _____
Introduced: _____
Adopted: _____

COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: Council President at the Request of the County Executive

SUBJECT: Supplemental Appropriation #14-363 to the FY14 Operating Budget
Montgomery County Government
Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service
FY13 Senator Amoss Fire, Rescue and Ambulance Fund (State 508) Grant,
\$1,303,553

Background

1. Section 307 of the Montgomery County Charter provides that any supplemental appropriation shall be recommended by the County Executive who shall specify the source of funds to finance it. The Council shall hold a public hearing on each proposed supplemental appropriation after at least one week's notice. A supplemental appropriation that would comply with, avail the County of, or put into effect a grant or a Federal, State or County law or regulation, or one that is approved after January 1 of any fiscal year, requires an affirmative vote of five Councilmembers. A supplemental appropriation for any other purpose that is approved before January 1 of any fiscal year requires an affirmative vote of six Councilmembers. The Council may, in a single action, approve more than one supplemental appropriation. The Executive may disapprove or reduce a supplemental appropriation, and the Council may reapprove the appropriation, as if it were an item in the annual budget.
2. The County Executive has requested the following FY14 Operating Budget appropriation increases for the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service:

<u>Personnel Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$0	\$1,303,553	\$1,303,553	State Grant

3. This increase is to expend the proceeds of the FY13 State of Maryland Senator William H. Amoss Fire, Rescue, and Ambulance (State 508) Fund grant and accrued interest.
4. The Senator William H. Amoss Fire, Rescue and Ambulance (State 508) Fund was established to provide grants for fire, rescue, and ambulance services to promote high-quality service and the continued financial viability of volunteer fire, rescue and ambulance companies. The grant

funds are distributed directly to the County in quarterly payments and must be distributed to the Local Fire and Rescue Departments no later than two years after the County receives the funds from the State. Local Fire and Rescue Departments are required to spend or encumber Amoss funds within two years of the date that they receive the funds from the County.

5. In accordance with the State Law, grant funds may be used for the acquisition or rehabilitation of apparatus and capital fire and rescue equipment, and for the renovation of facilities used to house apparatus.
6. In accordance with State procedures, the Fire Chief has consulted with the Montgomery County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association regarding these needs of the Local Fire and Rescue Departments.
7. This supplemental appropriation represents the priorities established by the Fire Chief, in coordination with the Montgomery County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association, for the renovation of stations and acquisition of fire and rescue equipment.
8. The County Executive recommends a supplemental appropriation to the FY14 Operating Budget in the amount of \$1,303,553 for Senator Amoss Grant and specifies that the source of funds will be the proceeds from the FY13 Senator William H. Amoss Fire, Rescue and Ambulance (State 508) Fund grant and accrued interest.
9. Notice of public hearing was given, and a public hearing was held.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland, approves the following action:

1. A supplemental appropriation to the FY14 Operating Budget for the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service is approved as follows:

<u>Personnel Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$0	\$1,303,553	\$1,303,553	State Grant

2. Any funds appropriated in this resolution must be spent or encumbered by each LFRD to which funds are assigned no later than March 1, 2015. Any funds that an LFRD does not encumber or spend by March 1, 2015 automatically revert to the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service on March 2, 2015. The Fire Chief must reallocate any funds reverted under this provision, consistent with applicable State and County laws, regulations, policies, and guidelines.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Linda Lauer, Clerk of the Council

FY13 Amoss Grant Allocations

LFRD Name	Facilities	Apparatus	Support Vehicles	Equipment	Total:	Project Description
Bethesda Fire Dept.	\$68,000				\$68,000	Station 20 renovation
Bethesda - Chevy Chase Rescue Squad		\$120,000			\$120,000	Replacement ambulance
Burtonsville Volunteer Fire Dept.		\$71,940		\$11,000	\$82,940	2004 rescue squad final payment; heavy rescue tools
Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Dept.	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$25,000		\$100,000	Station 30 addition loan payment; ambulance and engine payment; chassis for boat support unit 730
Chevy Chase Fire Dept.	\$13,500				\$13,500	Replace watch desk cabinets and counters and flooring.
Damascus Volunteer Fire Dept.					\$0	No requests for FY13
Gaithersburg-Washington Grove Volunteer Fire Dept.		\$35,000	\$50,000		\$85,000	Replacement ambulance and pickup truck
Germantown Volunteer Fire Dept.		\$50,000		\$18,700	\$68,700	Ambulance purchase; replace Automated External Defibrillator (AED); replace thermal imager
Glen Echo Volunteer Fire Dept.	\$75,000				\$75,000	Station 11 renovation work
Hillandale Volunteer Fire Dept.			\$45,000		\$45,000	Command vehicle
Hyattstown Volunteer Fire Dept.	\$30,500				\$30,500	Station renovation
Kensington Volunteer Fire Dept.	\$35,000	\$60,000	\$25,000		\$120,000	Replace doors and windows; aerial tower loan payment; command vehicle replacement
Laytonsville Volunteer Fire Dept.		\$50,000	\$25,000		\$75,000	Replace 1993 tanker; replace 2002 command vehicle
Rockville Volunteer Fire Dept.	\$40,000	\$40,000			\$80,000	Mortar point up Stations 23 and 33; down payment on engine
Sandy Spring Volunteer Dept.	\$50,000		\$45,000	\$6,413	\$101,413	Station 40 renovation; boat support unit; water search & rescue equipment
Silver Spring Volunteer Fire Dept.	\$60,000				\$60,000	Station 16 facility renovations
Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Dept.		\$75,000			\$75,000	Engine payment
Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Dept.	\$13,500				\$13,500	Building renovation
Wheaton Volunteer Rescue Squad		\$90,000			\$90,000	Replacement ambulance
Total	\$410,500	\$641,940	\$215,000	\$36,113	\$1,303,553	
Grand Total	\$1,303,553					
FY13 Amount Budgeted	\$1,303,553					
Balance	\$0					

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