



**Northwest Fire District  
Governing Board**  
13535 North Marana Main Street  
Marana, Arizona

**SCHEDULED**

**MEMORANDUM NO. {{item.tracking\_number}}**

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<b>Date:</b>	April 23, 2024
<b>To:</b>	Governing Board
<b>From:</b>	Sandy Russell, Analyst
<b>Division:</b>	Business Services
<b>Type of Action:</b>	Formal Action/Motion
<b>Strategic Plan Goals:</b>	Create greater financial efficiencies and ensure financial sustainability and responsibility
<b>Agenda Item:</b>	Adoption of Resolution No. 2024-011 Approving Submittal of a Joint Congressionally Directed Spending Request to Senators Mark Kelly and Kyrsten Sinema for the Purchase of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Equipment to Place Two New Ambulances Into Service

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends adoption of Resolution No. 2024-011. The Fire Chief and Assistant Chiefs reviewed and approved this application for submission.

**MOTION:**

Move to adopt Resolution No. 2024-011 approving submittal of a joint congressionally directed spending request to senators Mark Kelly and Kyrsten Sinema for the purchase of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) equipment to place two new ambulances into service.

**DISCUSSION:**

The decision to apply for this joint congressionally directed spending request was identified in a timeframe which did not allow for prior Board approval as the application deadline was March 29, 2024. As required in the District's Grant Policy, should application time constraints limit prior Board approval, temporary approval to submit the application can be obtained from the appropriate Assistant Fire Chief, with formal Board approval required at the next scheduled Board meeting.

Due to increased demand, Northwest Fire District (NWFD) must place two new ambulances into service to provide Emergency Medical Services to the community served and to remain compliant with the requirements outlined in their Certificate of Necessity (CON) for ambulance transport issued by the State of Arizona Department of Health Services (AZDHS). Two new ambulances will arrive in the Spring of 2025, requiring substantial EMS equipment before being placed into service.

Call volume has increased by over seven percent in the last three years, and all indicators suggest this trend will continue. Since 2021, the wall time (EMS staff waiting in the

Emergency Department to transfer a patient) has increased significantly, and is often two to three hours. The District's CON requires an EMS response within 10 minutes or less to 90% of calls received. NWFD's jurisdictional boundaries encompass over 156 square miles, which creates geographical challenges. With increased calls and wall time, the CON requirements are becoming increasingly difficult to fulfill. AZDHS can revoke the CON if the District cannot satisfy the requirements and the community would suffer; there are areas where NWFD is the sole EMS transport provider. The District is requesting \$337,495 in funds to purchase the necessary EMS capital equipment to place the two new ambulances into service.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

No recommended alternatives.

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**Fiscal Impact**

**FISCAL YEAR:** 24/25

**BUDGETED Y/N:** No

**AMOUNT REQUESTED:** \$0

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Upon approval and at the requests of Senators Kelly and Sinema, this Congressionally Directed Spending Request will be considered for funding under the guidelines of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). This agency does not require matching funds, but projects that show commitment to the project's success with local matching funds or existing resources may receive preferable award consideration. In December of 2023, the Board approved the purchase of two new ambulances in the amount of \$590,083. The anticipated delivery date for these ambulances is May of 2025. Northwest Fire District will provide an additional estimated \$39,234 in non-capital equipment and consumable supplies before the ambulances will be ready to provide services to the community. Northwest is requesting \$337,495 in Federal funding to purchase the required capital EMS equipment to complete this project.

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**Attachments**

Resolution No. 2024-011  
Congressionally Directed Spending Request  
Budget Summary and Detail  
Letters of Support