

D. Adoption of Resolution No. 2024-002 Approving the Submittal of a Grant Application to the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management in the Amount of \$141,203 to Purchase Battery Powered Positive Pressure Ventilation Fan and Tools



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

SCHEDULED

MEMORANDUM NO. 24-0693

Date:	February 27, 2024
To:	Governing Board
From:	Sandy Russell, Analyst
Division:	Finance Services
Type of Action:	Formal Action/Motion
Strategic Plan Goals:	Create greater financial efficiencies and ensure financial sustainability and responsibility
Agenda Item:	Adoption of Resolution No. 2024-002 Approving the Submittal of a Grant Application to the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management in the Amount of \$141,203 to Purchase Battery Powered Positive Pressure Ventilation Fan and Tools

RECOMMENDATION:

The Northwest Fire District (NWFD) Equipment Work Group and staff recommends approval of Resolution No. 2024-002 submitting a grant to purchase battery powered positive pressure ventilation fan and tools.

MOTION:

Move to adopt Resolution No. 2024-002 approving the submittal of a grant application to the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management in the amount of \$141,203 to purchase battery powered positive pressure ventilation fan and tools.

DISCUSSION:

The decision to apply for this grant application was identified in a timeframe which did not allow for prior Board approval as the application deadline was February 2, 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.

The battery powered positive pressure ventilation fan project was initiated by the NWFD Equipment Work Group in April of 2021. The primary objectives of improving safety of frontline personnel and seeking equipment efficiencies by leveraging advancements in technology led to the evaluation of the current gas-powered positive pressure ventilation fans against battery powered platforms. The evaluation in June 2021 resulted in the recommendation of converting the fleet of frontline apparatus to battery powered positive pressure fans and associated tools.

The greatest safety benefit is the elimination of carbon monoxide exposure to firefighters due

to operating gas-powered ventilation fans. Additionally, hydrocarbon products such as fuel and oil for the fans could be eliminated along with the routine maintenance of a gas-powered power plant. An added benefit was the reduction of noise associated with battery powered equipment, thus improving hearing conservation practices. An additional feature and value of the battery operated fans is that they are compatible with misting components that were not available with the current gas-powered units. This feature will provide rehabilitation services to our first responders.

ALTERNATIVES:

None recommended.

Fiscal Impact

FISCAL YEAR: 23/24

BUDGETED Y/N: No

AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$14,120

FISCAL IMPACT: The District would have a 10% match obligation of \$14,120. This expense would be from the fund balance in the Grant Fund.

Attachments

Resolution No. 2024-002
DFFM Application
Questionnaire (Form A)
Budget (Form B)
Equipment Quote
Letter of Support – Representative Teresa Martinez
Letter of Support – Representative Juan Ciscomani

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-002

A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE NORTHWEST FIRE DISTRICT ("DISTRICT") APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF AN APPLICATION TO THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE MANAGEMENT ["AZDFFM"] FOR FUNDING TO PURCHASE BATTERY POWERED POSITIVE PRESSURE VENTILATION FANS AND ASSOCIATED TOOLS.

WHEREAS, the AZDFFM has a grant program which provides funding to help communities acquire equipment and supplies to support and improve their fire prevention and firefighting capabilities (the "Grant Program"); and

WHEREAS, the staff of the District has completed a grant application, attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by this reference, that would enable the District to apply for funding to purchase battery powered positive pressure ventilation fans and associated tools ["Equipment"]; and

WHEREAS, this Equipment would enhance the health and safety of the District's first responders and would also result in less hydrocarbon pollution placed into the environment; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the District has reviewed the terms and conditions of the Grant Program and the application, attached hereto as Exhibit "A", and has determined that submitting the application is in the best interests of the District and its residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Board of the Northwest Fire District that the Governing Board hereby approves the application, attached hereto as Exhibit "A", and authorizes its officers to submit it along with the required 10% grant matching funds of \$14,120; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District agrees to comply with all terms of the Grant Program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District's officers' and staff's actions taken heretofore in support of the application are ratified, and they are authorized to take all additional steps necessary and proper to support the application to the Grant Program.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Board of the Northwest Fire District, this 27th day of February, 2024.

George Carter, Board Chair

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Peg Green, Clerk of the Board

Thomas Benavidez, District Attorney

EXHIBIT A
[*Grant Application Must Be Attached*]

Arizona

FOA - Forestry and Fire Management

2023 SB 1720 Grant

1. Application/Project Title

Implementation of Battery Powered Positive Pressure Ventilation Fan and Tools

2. Organization Name

Northwest Fire District

Unique Entity Number (UEI)

Entities must register with the System for Award Management (SAM) at www.SAM.gov to get a UEI. Renewal each year is required to remain active. If you don't have a UEI, please briefly explain where you are in the process.

CSUKARE9KAG4

3. Program/Project Congressional District (check all that apply)

6, 7

4. Program/Project Legislative District (check all that apply)

16, 17, 18, 20

5. Project Goals and Objectives

Goal 1 – Purchase and implement battery powered positive pressure ventilation fans and tools to create a safer working environment for front line suppression personnel.

Objectives:

I. Reduce firefighter exposure potential and environmental impacts produced by current gas-powered ventilation fans by switching to a battery powered platform. Eliminate carbon monoxide (CO) emissions from gas powered equipment and minimize the need for additional fuel and oil products.

II. Improve hearing conservation measures by reducing noise production associated with positive pressure ventilation.

III. Improve firefighter safety by using a lighter weight ventilation fan with ergonomic options for moving and using the fan. Reduce injury potential by reducing tool and equipment weight and using built-in safety features for ease of mobility.

IV. Provide rehabilitation services to first responders by utilizing compatible fan misters that were not an option with gas powered fans.

Goal 2 - Improve firefighting equipment efficiencies by purchasing tools with multi-purpose designs and cross discipline uses.

Objectives:

I. Purchase a nonproprietary battery system that allows batteries to be shared across different tools to reduce equipment costs and maintenance.

II. Purchase a positive pressure ventilation fan that can be used in various environments to include interior operations (no CO), exterior operations, and confined space operations (vertical tilting capability).

6. Project Timeline

Equipment will be distributed and implemented into operations as soon as it is received.
Vendors have not indicated supply issues with these products.

7. Project Justification

The battery powered positive pressure ventilation fan project was initiated by the Northwest Fire District equipment working group in April of 2021. The primary objectives of improving safety of frontline personnel and seeking equipment efficiencies by leveraging advancements in technology led to the evaluation of the current gas-powered positive pressure ventilation fans against battery powered platform. The evaluation (June 2021) resulted in the recommendation of converting the fleet of front-line apparatus to battery powered positive pressure fans and associated tools. This request is part of a larger initiative to address cancer risk to our first responders. The greatest safety benefit is the elimination of Carbon Monoxide exposure to firefighters due to operating ventilation fans (gas). Secondly, additional hydrocarbon products such as fuel and oil for the fans could be eliminated along with the routine maintenance of a gas-powered power plant. An added benefit discovered was the reduction of noise associated with the battery powered equipment, improving hearing conservation practices. An additional feature and value of the battery-operated fans is that they are compatible with misting components that were not available with our gas-powered units; this feature will provide rehabilitation services to our first responders.

The overall project cost will exceed normal budgetary capacity to replace and standardize the front-line fleet. Northwest Fire District has been active in searching for grant opportunities to support this project. The intent of the grant submission is to assist in equipping our firefighters with improved tools of the trade to enhance their safety and extending current budgetary capacity to address other firefighter personal protective equipment safety initiatives {replacement of turnout gear containing Per-and Polyfluorinated Substances (PFAS) and replacing twenty-year-old brush gear district wide}.

8. Budget

141,203

9. Project Category

SB1720 Project

File Upload Required - Fire Organization Questionnaire - Form A

[2023 SB1720 Fire Organization Questionnaire \(Form A\).docx](#) _

File Upload Required - Budget Form B

[2023 DFFM SB1720 Grant - Budget \(Form B\).docx](#) _

File Upload (Letters of Support)

[Representative Martinez - letter of support Northwest Fire District.pdf](#) _

Upload Vendor/Project Quotes

[MES Dewalt-Stanley.pdf](#) _

Upload Other Attachments (Optional)

[Northwest Fire District Background.docx](#) _

2023 SB 1720 Fire District Equipment Grant Form A – Fire Organization Questionnaire

Fire District Name	
Organization Name:	Northwest Fire District
Communities Served:	Unincorporated Pima County & the Town of Marana
Federal Tax ID:	86-0472471
DUNS #:	806342663
Fire Chief	
Name:	Norman "Brad" Bradley
E-Mail:	BBradley@nwfdaz.gov
Phone (work/cell):	(520) 887-1010

Questions must be completed for all Fire Districts:

Organization Questionnaire	
Please complete ALL responses clearly and concisely. Please write "N/A" in those blanks that do not apply to your department. Failure to fully complete an application clearly may result in the loss of eligibility.	
1. Is your agency a Fire District?	
A. Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
B. No (Organization does not qualify)	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Does your department protect a low income Community?	
A. Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
B. No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If yes identify community/proof: CDBG Opportunity Area – Flowing Wells	
3. What type of department is your community fire organization?	
A. Legal Fire District under A.R.S., Title 48.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
B. Non-profit corporation listed with the Arizona Corporation Commission.	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Entity of an incorporated town or city.	<input type="checkbox"/>

D. Tribal Community Fire Department	<input type="checkbox"/>		
E. Other (please list)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
4. Does your fire department currently have an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Arizona Dept. of Forestry and Fire Management?			
A. Yes	X		
B. No (Contact your DFFM District Manager)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
5. Is the grant opportunity identified in your CWPP?			
A. Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>		
B. No	X		
If Yes, list CWPP:			
6. What is the average number of fires per year within your jurisdiction (over the last 5 years)?			
A. Structural Fires	87		
B. Wildland Fires	82		
7. How many wildland engines does your department have? What are the types and manufacturing years?			
A. Number of Engines:	4		
B. Types and Age:	(2)Type 3-2008 (2)Type 6-2007, 2021		
8. What is your department's annual budget?			
A. \$0 - \$200,000	<input type="checkbox"/>		
B. \$201,000 - \$300,000	<input type="checkbox"/>		
C. \$301,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>		
D. \$501,000 or more	X		
9. Number of times your department has received any grants (monetary or equipment) from the following entities in the last 3 years? (since 2016) For each agency listed below, please indicate whether you received assistance (Y/N) and the amount awarded.			
<u>Granting Organization</u>	<u>Received (Y/N)</u>	<u># Of Grants</u>	<u>Grant Amount</u>
US Dept of Interior (BLM, NPS, BIA, FWS, etc) Rural Fire Assistance	No	0	0
USDA Forest Service - Volunteer Fire Assistance/RFC	No	0	0
FEMA - Assistance to Firefighters Grant	No	0	0
Other (Please Describe) Foundation, ARPA, Tribal, State	Yes	11	2,909,623

10. What is the total number of firefighting personnel you have in your department and Engine Boss?	
A. Number of firefighters:	A. 204
B. Engine Boss:	B. 6
11. In 2023, what were the percentage of wildfire incidents that were "Agency Assists"?	
A. 0 – 20%	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
B. 21 – 40%	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. 41 – 60%	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. 61 – 80%	<input type="checkbox"/>
E. 81 – 100%	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Does your Fire District have a SAM.GOV- UEI number?	
A. Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
B. No	<input type="checkbox"/>

Fire District's Name: Northwest Fire District

Total Project Budget (by project category)			
Budget Detail	<u>Grant Share \$</u> (Amount Requested)	<u>Match \$</u> (Contributed by fire district)	<u>TOTAL</u> (Total of grant and fire dist share.)
		Dollars	
Personnel:	\$0	\$0	\$ 0
Fringe Benefits:	\$0	\$0	\$ 0
Travel:	\$0	\$0	\$ 0
Equipment:	\$127,083	\$14,120	\$141,203
Supplies:	\$0	\$0	\$ 0
Contractual:	\$0	\$0	\$ 0
Other 1:	\$0	\$0	\$ 0
Other 2:	\$0	\$0	\$ 0
TOTAL:	\$127,083	\$14,120	\$141,203

Budget Narrative	
<p>Provide a brief explanation of each budget item. Include an explanation for items that will be reimbursed by grant funds and those that will be provided as project match.</p> <p>(add additional pages if needed). 1500 characters max.</p> <p>The total lowest quote of \$141,202.50 includes shipping and tax. Northwest Fire District is proposing a 10% cost share for all equipment in the amount of \$14,120. The total grant share of this project is \$127,082.50.</p> <p>Northwest Fire District is requesting the following battery-operated equipment and accessories:</p> <p>(7) – 20" Electric fans with 120 V plug in option (2 batteries included) @ \$5,450.30 each for a total cost of \$38,152.10. Two fans will be placed in two ladder trucks and in one air power unit, and one fan will be placed in the special operations squad unit.</p> <p>(14) – 18" Electric fans with 120 V plug in option (2 batteries included) @ \$5,233.73 each for a total cost of \$73,272.22. One fan will be placed in each engine (12 total), the training center, and equipment services.</p> <p>(8) – 20 V/60 V additional batteries maximum 12Ah @ \$315.35 each for a total cost of \$2,522.80.</p> <p>(5) – 12, 20 and 60 V -4 port lithium-ion battery chargers @ \$320.39 each for a total cost of \$1,601.95. These chargers will be used in the ladder truck and air power truck.</p> <p>(14) – 12 to 20 V lithium-ion dual port jobsite charging station with USB ports @ \$151.70 each for a total cost of \$2,123.80. These chargers will be used in the special operations squad unit and engines.</p>	

Budget Narrative - Continued

3500 characters max.

(18) – 20 V lithium-ion cordless brushless reciprocating saw @ \$292.90 each for a total cost of \$5,272.20. This equipment will be placed into each ladder truck and engine, and into the special operations unit, training center, and one spare in equipment services.

(18) – 20 V lithium-ion cordless brushless 4 ½ to 5 in. paddle switch angle grinder @ \$279.04 each for a total cost of \$5,022.72. This equipment will be placed into each ladder truck and engine, and into the special operations unit, training center, and one spare in equipment services.

(4) – Mountain Mister for PPV's or smoke ejectors (compatible with the battery-operated fans for rehabilitation) @ \$353.73 each for a total cost of \$1,414.92.

Sales Tax – Sub Total \$129,382.71 * 8.16% = \$10,569.79

Shipping - \$1,250.00



Quote

Quote # QT1775561
Date 01/09/2024
Expires 03/01/2024
Sales Rep Richardson, Barry J
Shipping Method FedEx Ground
Customer Northwest Fire District
Customer # C38145

Bill To

Northwest Fire District
5225 W. Massingale
TUCSON AZ 85743
United States

Ship To

Attn: Raymond Thibault
Northwest Fire District
7375 Starcommerce Way
Tucson AZ 85734
United States

Item	Alt. Item #	Units	Description	QTY	Unit Price	Amount
SUPER VACUUM	V20-BD-12-AC-SP		V20-BD-12-AC-SP Custom SUPER VACUUM PPV, 2x 12 Ah Batt., 2x AC Chargers, Shore Power	7	\$5,450.30	\$38,152.10
SUPER VACUUM	V18-BD-12-AC-SP		V18-BD-12-AC-SP Custom SUPER VACUUM 18" PPV, 2x 12 Ah Bat., 2x AC Chargers, Shore Power	14	\$5,233.73	\$73,272.22
SUPER VACUUM	MM-MAG		MM-MAG Custom SUPER VACUUM Mountain Mister, for Stream Shaper Guards	4	\$353.73	\$1,414.92
STANLEY	DCB612		DCB612 Custom STANLEY 20V/60V MAX FLEXVOLT 12Ah BATTERY	8	\$315.35	\$2,522.80
STANLEY	DCB104		DCB104 Custom STANLEY DEWALT 4 PORT LITHIUM ION FAST CHARGER	5	\$320.39	\$1,601.95
STANLEY	DCB102		DCB102 Custom STANLEY 12-20V MAX DUAL PORT FAST CHARGER	14	\$151.70	\$2,123.80
STANLEY	DCS386B		DCS386B Custom STANLEY 20V MAX FLEXVOLT RECIP SAW/TOOL ONLY	18	\$292.90	\$5,272.20
STANLEY	DCG416B		DCG416B Custom STANLEY 20V XR PADDLE SWITCH 5IN SAG BARE/TOOL ONLY	18	\$279.04	\$5,022.72

Sourcewell /MES /SuperVac Contract # 040220

Discounts:

Super-Vac 9% off List
Stanley - Non Contract items

Subtotal \$129,382.71
Shipping Cost \$1,250.00
Tax Total \$10,569.79
Total \$141,202.50

Shipping Charges are an estimate and subject to change upon delivery

This Quotation is subject to any applicable sales tax and shipping and handling charges that may apply. Tax and shipping charges are considered estimated and will be recalculated at the time of shipment to ensure they take into account the most current information.

All returns must be processed within 30 days of receipt and require a return authorization number and are subject to a restocking fee.

Custom orders are not returnable. Effective tax rate will be applicable at the time of invoice.



QT1775561

TERESA MARTINEZ
MAJORITY WHIP
1700 WEST WASHINGTON, SUITE H
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007-2844
CAPITOL PHONE: (602) 926-3158
TOLL FREE: 1-800-352-8404
tmartinez@azleg.gov



COMMITTEES:

TRANSPORTATION &
INFRASTRUCTURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
RULES

DISTRICT 16

Arizona House of Representatives
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
February 01, 2024

Josh Hudson
Grants Program Coordinator
Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management
1110 West Washington, Suite 500
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
jhudson@dffm.az.gov

Dear Grants Program Coordinator Hudson:

The Northwest Fire District (NWFD) serves Arizona's communities by protecting 156 square miles in unincorporated Pima County, the Town of Marana, and an estimated 135,865 residents.

I am writing to support NWFD's Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management (DFFM) Grant application, which, if awarded, will provide safety equipment to the district.

This Grant will be used to purchase battery-operated fans and tools to improve safety standards for firefighters and emergency response units in the field. Currently, NWFD operates 16-year-old gas-powered exhaust fans, which are bulky and increase hazards for responding firefighters in the fire suppression environment.

The replacement battery-powered exhaust fans are much lighter and more maneuverable, reducing the risk of injury to firefighters when transporting and deploying the equipment.

The battery-operated fans and complementary tools and accessories (grinders, reciprocating saws, spare batteries, and chargers) provide additional benefits of eliminating noise and trip hazards.

With DFFM grant funding, the district can implement battery-powered ventilation fans and tools throughout the entire front-line fleet, providing a safer, more efficient environment to firefighters and first responders and ensuring that NWFD fulfills its mission to the community.

For these reasons, I support the grant application submitted by Northwest Fire District.

Sincerely,

Representative Teresa Martinez

JUAN CISCOMANI
6TH DISTRICT, ARIZONA

1429 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0306
(202) 225-2542

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0306

February 2, 2024

State Forester Thomas A. Torres
Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management
1110 W Washington St, Ste. 500
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Mr. Torres:

I write regarding Northwest Fire District's (NWFD) application for an Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management grant under the newly established grant program, through Senate Bill 1720, to address critical infrastructure and equipment needs for the state's recognized fire districts. Funding would allow the Northwest Fire District to purchase battery-operated fans and tools with the goal of improving safety standards for firefighters and emergency response units in the field.

NWFD is the largest fire district in the state of Arizona. Within its legal boundaries, NWFD provides fire and emergency medical services, and special operations response across 156 square miles and to a population of approximately 135,865 residents. Of these residents, more than 56,000 reside in the Town of Marana, located in my congressional district.

This proposal seeks to improve firefighter safety by replacing 16-year-old, gas-powered exhaust fans, which are bulky and increase hazards in the fire suppression environment, with new battery-powered fans. In addition to better portability in the field, battery-powered equipment is among the emerging technologies in the fire service that reduce carcinogens in the field environment by helping to reduce contaminants in the air. The battery-operated fans, and complementary tools and accessories (grinders, reciprocating saws, spare batteries, and chargers), provide additional benefits of eliminating noise and trip hazards.

I am pleased to furnish a letter on behalf of Northwest Fire District and I commend the District for their vision to improve firefighter safety. As you make this important funding decision, I respectfully ask that you give Northwest Fire District's proposal full and fair consideration under all applicable rules and laws. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Juan Ciscomani', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Juan Ciscomani
Member of Congress