



LOMPOC FIRE DEPARTMENT

Linual A. White, Jr., Fire Chief

December 6, 2005

TO: Gary Keefe, City Administrator
FROM: Linual A. White, Jr., Fire Chief
SUBJECT: Department of Homeland Security Grant

Recommendation: that the City Council:

1. Approve the receipt of a Department of Homeland Security Grant in the amount of \$32,411 for the purchase of "No Smoke" diesel exhaust removal systems for four fire apparatus.
2. Approve the expenditure of \$4,775.68 from the general fund reserve for the City's share of the above mentioned systems.

Background:

According to a study conducted by the University of Minnesota the burning of diesel fuel results in the emission of exhaust made up of soot and gases representing thousands of different chemical substances. 90% of the soot consists of particles that can be inhaled and deposited in the lungs. Diesel exhaust contains 20-100 times more particles than gasoline exhaust. These particles carry absorbed cancer causing substances known as polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH)'s.

Workers exposed to high concentrations of diesel exhaust have reported short term health problems such as:

- Irritation of the eyes, nose and throat
- Lightheadedness
- Headache
- Weakness, numbness and tingling in the extremities
- Chest tightness
- Wheezing

In an effort to provide a safer environment in the fire station apparatus bays, Engineer Mark Clayton of the Lompoc Fire Department submitted a grant application to the Department of Homeland Security to equip four of our fire apparatus with the Ward Diesel No Smoke Filter System. The system is an

onboard system that filters the soot and gases produced by the starting and running of the diesel engines in enclosed spaces.

The department has received notice from the Grantor that we have been selected to receive a sum of \$32,411.00 from Homeland Security, contingent upon the City providing \$2,101 matching funds plus \$2,674.68 applicable sales tax for a total of \$4,775.68.

This item has been an unfunded budget request.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linual A. White, Jr.
Fire Chief

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO CITY COUNCIL:

Gary Keefe, City Administrator