



ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS Regular Meeting Agenda

Thursday, January 23, 2025
6:00 P.M.

Orange County Fire Authority
Regional Fire Operations and Training Center
Board Room
1 Fire Authority Road
Irvine, CA 92602

Link to:

[Board of Directors Member Roster](#)

NOTICE REGARDING PUBLIC ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION

This meeting is open to the public. Board members will participate in person. There are several alternative ways to make comments including:

In Person Comments at Meeting: Resolution No. 97-024 established rules of decorum for public meetings held by the Orange County Fire Authority. Resolution No. 97-024 is available from the Clerk of the Authority.

Any member of the public may address the Board on items within their subject matter jurisdiction, but which are not listed on this agenda during PUBLIC COMMENTS. However, no action may be taken on matters that are not part of the posted agenda. We request comments made on the agenda be made at the time the item is considered and that comments be limited to three minutes per person. Please address your comments to the Board and do not engage in dialogue with individual Board Members, Authority staff, or members of the audience.

If you wish to speak, please complete a Speaker Form identifying which item(s) you wish to address. Please return the completed form to the Clerk of the Authority prior to item being considered. Speaker Forms are available at the entryway of meeting location.

E-Comments: Alternatively, you may email your written comments to coa@ocfa.org. E-comments will be provided to the Board members upon receipt and will be part of the meeting record as long as they are received during or before the Board acts on an item. Emails related to an item that are received after the item has been acted upon by the Board will not be considered.

This Agenda contains a brief general description of each item to be considered. Except as otherwise provided by law, no action or discussion shall be taken on any item not appearing on the following Agenda. Unless legally privileged, all supporting documents, including staff reports, and any writings or documents provided to a majority of the board members after the posting of this agenda are available for review at the Orange County Fire Authority Regional Fire Operations & Training Center, 1 Fire Authority Road, Irvine, CA 92602 or you may contact the Clerk of the Authority at (714) 573-6040 Monday through Thursday, and every other Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and available online at <http://www.ocfa.org>



In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and [Board of Directors policy](#), if you need reasonable accommodations to participate in this meeting, please complete the [ADA Reasonable Accommodation Form](#) available on the Agency's website and email to COA@ocfa.org, or you may contact the Clerk of the Authority at (714) 573-6040 during regular business hours to submit your request orally. Please notify us at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to enable the Authority to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER by Vice Chair Bourne

INVOCATION by OCFA Chaplain Dave Keehn

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE by Director Sweeney

ROLL CALL by Clerk of the Authority

REPORTS

A. Report from the Budget and Finance Committee

B. Report from the Legislative and Public Affairs Committee

C. Report from the Fire Chief

- Welcome new Board Directors
- 2024 year in review
- Cancer Awareness Month
- Tribute to FAE Kevin Skinner
- Recognize the newly promoted DCs – Sheehan and Schuetz

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Please refer to instructions on how to submit a public comment on Page 1 of this Agenda.

1. PRESENTATIONS

A. Oath of Office for newly appointed Directors:

- Mike Munzing representing the City of Aliso Viejo
- Shari Horne representing the City of Laguna Woods
- Bradley J. McGirr representing the City of Rancho Santa Margarita
- Victor Cabral representing the City of San Clemente
- David Burke representing the City of Cypress
- George Brietigam, III representing the City of Garden Grove
- Tara Campbell, representing the City of Yorba Linda

B. Recognition of outgoing Directors:

- Ross Chun representing the City of Aliso Viejo
- Anne Mallari representing the City of Cypress
- John O'Neill representing the City of Garden Grove
- Tammy Kim representing the City of Irvine
- Noel Hatch representing the City of Laguna Woods
- Carol Gamble representing the City of Rancho Santa Margarita

- Chris Duncan representing the City of San Clemente
- Vince Rossini representing the City of Villa Park

C. Recognition of Past Chair John O’Neill

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters on the consent calendar are considered routine and are to be approved with one motion unless a director or a member of the public requests separate action on a specific item.

A. Minutes for the Board of Directors Meeting

Submitted by: Maria D. Huizar, Clerk of the Authority

The record will show that any Director not in attendance at the meeting of the Minutes will be registered as an abstention, unless otherwise indicated.

Recommended Action:

Approve the Minutes for the November 23, 2024, Regular Meeting as submitted.

B. Proposed 2025-26 Legislative Platform

Submitted by: Robert C. Cortez, Assistant Chief/Business Services Department and Olina Wibroe-Benson, Legislative Affairs Program Manager

Recommended Action

Approve OCFA’s Legislative Platform for 2025-26.

C. Annual Grant Priorities for 2025

Submitted by: Robert C. Cortez, Assistant Chief/Business Services Department and Olina Wibroe-Benson, Legislative Affairs Program Manager

Recommended Action

Approve OCFA’s Annual Grant Priorities for 2025.

D. Homeland Security Grant Program Award

Submitted by: TJ McGovern, Deputy Chief/Emergency Operations Bureau, Tim Perkins, Assistant Chief/Field Operations South and Nick Freeman, Division Chief

Recommended Action

Approve a Budget Adjustment in Fund 121 to increase revenue and expenditures by \$180,000.

E. Revised Personnel Cost Reimbursement Rates

Submitted by: Robert C. Cortez, Assistant Chief/Business Services Department and Alicea Caccavo, Finance Division Manager

Recommended Action:

Approve and adopt the revised Cost Reimbursement Rates for the personnel to be effective and retroactive to July 1, 2024.

F. FY 2024/2025 Mid-Year Financial Report

Submitted by: Robert C. Cortez, Assistant Chief/Business Services Department, James Slobojan, Treasurer/Treasury & Financial Planning and Stuart Lam, Budget Manager/Treasury & Financial Planning

Recommended Action:

Direct staff to return to the Board of Directors on March 27, 2025 for approval of the budget adjustments discussed herein for the FY 2024/25 budget.

G. Proclamation for National Burn Awareness Week

Submitted by: Matt Olson, Director of Communications/ Corporate Communications and Sophia Champieux, Public Relations Manager/Corporate Communications

Recommended Action:

Approve proclamation designating February 2-8, 2025 as Burn Awareness Week.

H. Contract Amendments and Budget Adjustment for Quick Reaction Force (QRF) 2024 Program

Submitted by: Brian Fennessy, Fire Chief and Tim Perkins, Assistant Chief/South Operations

Recommended Actions:

1. Approve and authorize a FY 2024/25 General Fund (121) budget adjustment to recognize an additional increase in QRF related reimbursement revenue of \$4,932,989 and to increase appropriations by the same amount, due to additional incident activity (bringing the new Total Spending Cap from \$21,344,772 to \$26,277,761).
2. Approve and authorize the Purchasing Manager to amend the 2024 QRF-related vendor blanket order contracts by the individual amounts needed in support of the QRF Program so long as the aggregate value does not exceed the new program budget total of \$26,277,761

3. DISCUSSION CALENDAR**A. Election of Board Chair and Vice Chair**

Submitted by: Robert Cortez, Assistant Chief/Business Services Department and Maria D. Huizar, Clerk of the Authority

Recommended Action:

Elect a Chair and Vice Chair for 2025.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

The Brown Act permits legislative bodies to discuss certain matters without members of the public present. The Board of Directors find, based on advice from the General Counsel, that discussion in open session of the following matter will prejudice the position of the Authority on item listed below:

CS1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE TO LITIGATION pursuant to paragraph (2) and (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code: Two (2) Cases

CS2. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6

Negotiators: Peter Brown, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore and Stephanie Holloman, Assistant Chief/Human Resources Director

Employee Organization: Orange County Fire Authority Managers Association (OCFAMA)

Employee Organization: Orange County Professional Firefighters Association, IAFF - Local 3631

CS3. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.5

Position: General Counsel

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

ADJOURNMENT – The next meeting of the Orange County Fire Authority Board of Directors will be on Thursday, March 27, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

**ADJOURN IN MEMORY OF
OCFA FIRE APPARATUS ENGINEER
KEVIN SKINNER**

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

I hereby certify under penalty of perjury and as required by the State of California, Government Code § 54954.2(a), that the foregoing Agenda was posted in the lobby and front gate public display case of the Orange County Fire Authority, Regional Fire Operations and Training Center, 1 Fire Authority Road, Irvine, CA, not less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Maria D. Huizar, CMC
Clerk of the Authority

FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS – THREE-MONTH OUTLOOK:

- Committee Appointments
- Wildfire Awareness Proclamation
- General Counsel Performance Evaluation

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Human Resources Committee
Budget and Finance Committee
Operations Committee
Executive Committee

Tuesday, February 4, 2025, 12 noon
Tuesday, February 11, 2025, 11 a.m.
Tuesday, February 11, 2025, 12 noon
Thursday, February 27, 2025, 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY

**Board of Directors Regular Meeting
Thursday, November 21, 2024
6:00 P.M.**

**Regional Fire Operations and Training Center
Board Room
1 Fire Authority Road
Irvine, CA 92602**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Orange County Fire Authority Board of Directors was called to order on November 21, 2024 p.m.at 6:01 p.m. by Chair O'Neill.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was led by Chaplain Brett Peterson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Rossini led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present:

John O'Neill, Garden Grove, Chair
Ross Chun, Aliso Viejo (6:03 p.m.)
Mike Frost, Dana Point
Shelley Hasselbrink, Los Alamitos
Beth Haney, Yorba Linda
Tammy Kim, Irvine
Austin Lumbard, Tustin
Vince Rossini, Villa Park
Dave Shawver, Stanton
Mark Tettemer, Lake Forest

Troy Bourne, San Juan Capistrano, Vice Chair
Chris Duncan, San Clemente (6:04 p.m.)
Carol Gamble, Rancho Santa Margarita
Noel Hatch, Laguna Woods
Joe Kalmick, Seal Beach
Kelly Jennings, Laguna Niguel
Bonnie Peat, Cypress
Bob Ruesch, Mission Viejo
Joshua Sweeney, Laguna Hills
Donald P. Wagner, County of Orange

Absent:

Chi Charlie Nguyen, Westminster
Katrina Foley, County of Orange
Nitesh Patel, La Palma

Connor Traut, Buena Park
Phil Bacerra, Santa Ana

Also present were:

Fire Chief Brian Fennessy
Deputy Chief TJ McGovern
Assistant Chief Stephanie Holloman
Assistant Chief Rob Capobianco
Director of Communications Matt Olson
General Counsel David Kendig

Deputy Chief Lori Zeller
Assistant Chief Tim Perkins
Assistant Chief Lori Smith
Assistant Chief Jim Ruane
Interim Assistant Chief Baryic Hunter
Clerk of the Authority Maria D. Huizar

Director Chun arrived at 6:03 p.m., Director Duncan arrived at 6:04 p.m.

REPORTS

A. Report from the Budget and Finance Committee Chair

Budget and Finance Committee Chair Bourne reported at its November 13, 2024, meeting, the Committee considered the following items, and by a unanimous vote forwarded them to the Board of Directors to approve the recommended actions: Approval of Annual Statement of Investment Policy and Investment Authorization, Audited Financial Reports for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024, CAL OES Fire Integrated Real-time Intelligence System (FIRIS) Program Mission Commander Contract Management Extension of FY2024/25 and the Quick Reaction Force (QRF) 2025 Program.

B. Report from the Fire Chief

Chief Fennessy reported on the great turnout for the annual Wildland Training Day that occurred a few weeks ago, thanking those Board of Directors who were able to participate. He noted that a ride-a-long with a crew or sit-a-long with a dispatcher is a great investment in knowledge for those who serve on the Board. Those who participated included: Congresswoman Young Kim, Assemblywomen Cottie Petrie Norris and Dianne Dixon, along with Board Directors Chun, Kalmick, Ruesch, and Sweeny. Additional thanks to Local 3631 for supporting the event and all those elected officials who shared the experience which demonstrated their commitment to advocate for our agency and firefighters.

The Chief reported in the past quarter there were 46,818 incidents responded to, which is nearly a thousand more than last year over the same three-month period. Addressing our firefighters, a video of the celebration of the return of one of the injured hand crew members from the neurorehabilitation center in Colorado was shown. The Chief provided a video of the Quick Reaction Force which is a community and national model leading the nation in securing the resources to meet the needs of firefighting. He noted this is one more example of the potential for reducing the magnitude of a wildfire. To conclude Chief Fennessy recognized two retiring Division Chiefs, Steve Dohman and Scott Wiedensohler; along with acknowledging the eight outgoing Board of Directors, so too will the Division Chiefs will be invited back in January for a special recognition of their service.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

1. PRESENTATIONS

A. Recognition of GFOA Annual Comprehensive Financial Report Award (FILE 11.09B)

Chair O'Neill, Fire Chief Fennessy and Assistant Chief Cortez presented the 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report Award, presented to Finance Division Manager Alicea Caccavo, Accounting Manager Gina Cheung, Accountant Dawn Lien, Budget Analyst Jeanette Gage and General Accounting Manager Tammie Pickens. Notably this is the twenty-sixth year awarded to OCFA.

B. Recognition of GFOA Budget Award (FILE 11.09B)

Chair O'Neill, Fire Chief Fennessy and Assistant Chief Cortez presented the distinguished Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Budget Presentation Award for fiscal year 2023/24 to the Budget Finance team; Treasurer James Slobojan, Budget Manager Stuart Lam, Budget Analyst Kavin Parikh, Budget Analyst Jeanette Gage, and Budget Analyst Vivi Nguyen. It was the sixteenth year OCFA has received this prestigious award.

C. Procurement Award (FILE 11.09B)

Chair O'Neill, Fire Chief Fennessy and Assistant Chief Cortez presented the 2024 National Procurement Institute's Achievement of Excellence in Procurement (AEP) Award to the Purchasing Division; Manager Sara Kennedy, Assistant Purchasing Agents Rothchild Ong, James Aguila, Buyers Loanne Kiyama, Kelsey Vanlwaarden, and Juan Alcazar, and Administrative Assistant Annette Salazar. Notably, this was the fourteenth year of obtaining this award.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion of Director Rossini and second by Director Kim, approved 20-0 Agenda Item Nos. 2A-2G (Directors Bacerra, Nguyen, Traut, Foley and Patel absent).

A. Minutes for the Board of Directors Meeting (FILE 11.06)

Action: Approve the Minutes for the October 24, 2024, Regular Meeting as submitted.

B. Approval of Annual Statement of Investment Policy and Investment Authorization (FILE 11.10D)

On November 13, 2024, the Budget and Finance Committee reviewed the proposed agenda item and directed staff to place the item on the Board of Directors agenda by a vote of 5-0 (Director Chun, Patel, Sweeney and Nguyen absent).

Action:

1. Review and approve the submitted Investment Policy of the Orange County Fire Authority, to be effective January 1, 2025.
2. Pursuant to Government Code Sections 53601 and 53607, renew delegation of investment authority to the Treasurer for a one-year period, to be effective January 1, 2025.

C. Audited Financial Reports for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024 (FILE 15.06)

On November 13, 2024, the Budget and Finance Committee reviewed the proposed agenda item and directed staff to place the item on the Board of Directors agenda by a vote of 5-0 (Director Chun, Patel, Sweeney and Nguyen absent).

Action:

1. Receive and approve the reports.
2. Review the calculations used to determine the fund balance amounts assigned to the capital improvement program and workers' compensation, and confirm the calculations consistency with the OCFA's Assigned Fund Balance Policy.

D. Revised Rules of Procedure regarding Board Meetings 11.03)

Action: Adopt Resolution No. 2024-11 to amend the Board Rules of Procedure to reflect the revised meeting schedule and the requirement for Board agendas to be posted ten (10) business days in advance of regular Board meetings.

E. Quick Reaction Force (QRF) 2025 Program (FILE 18.09E)

On November 13, 2024, the Budget and Finance Committee reviewed the proposed agenda item and directed staff to place the item on the Board of Directors agenda by a vote of 5-0 (Director Chun, Patel, Sweeney and Nguyen absent).

Action:

1. Approve the Amendment No. 1 to Funding Agreement with Southern California Edison in the attached form to accept funding in the amount of \$17,099,820 to fund the fixed-cost portion of the 365-day 2025 Quick Reaction Force Program.
2. Approve and authorize the Purchasing Manager to extend the QRF-related vendor contracts, in the forms attached, by the individual amounts needed in support of the QRF Program so long as the aggregate value does not exceed the program budget (see table).
3. Approve and authorize a FY 2024/25 General Fund (121) budget adjustment to recognize 2025 Program funding from SCE for a revenue increase of \$17,099,820 and to increase appropriations by the same amount. The 2025 Program funding will be reflected in the 2024-25 budget.

4. Approve and authorize a FY 2024/25 General Fund (121) budget adjustment to recognize QRF related reimbursement revenue increase of \$1,975,000 and to increase appropriations by the same amount. Reimbursements from Los Angeles County Fire Department, State and Federal agencies are forthcoming.
5. Approve the updated Cost Reimbursement Rate schedule for the daily stand-by and hourly rates for the respective components of the QRF Program (aircraft, equipment and personnel) effective January 1, 2025.
6. Adopt an exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) and direct staff to file a Notice of Exemption.
7. Authorize the Fire Chief to approve non-substantive changes to the Agreements in items 1, 2 and 3 above, provided such changes are consistent with the purpose of the program described herein, do not increase the total cost of the program, and are in a form approved by General Counsel.

F. Cal OES Fire Integrated Real-time Intelligence System (FIRIS) Program Mission Commander Contract Management Extension of FY 2024/25 (FILE 18.09F1)

On November 13, 2024, the Budget and Finance Committee reviewed the proposed agenda item and directed staff to place the item on the Board of Directors agenda by a vote of 5-0 (Director Chun, Patel, Sweeney and Nguyen absent).

Action:

1. Approve and authorize the Fire Chief to enter into a reimbursement agreement with the State of California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) for an additional amount of \$1,666,666 for the provision of Airborne Mission Commanders and Mission Commander administrative support services.
2. Approve and authorize a budget adjustment to increase revenue and appropriations in the FY 2024/25 General Fund (121) budget by \$1,666,666 for Mission Commander (MC) contracts and MC administrative support services for the Cal OES FIRIS Program Extension through April 30, 2025.
3. Approve and authorize the Purchasing Manager to extend the Professional Services Agreements by the individual amounts needed in support of the Cal OES FIRIS Program Mission Commanders for a four-month period through April 30, 2025 so long as the aggregate value of the agreements does not exceed the program budget.

G. Approval of Real Property Donation Agreement - Wildfire Resource Center (FILE 19.07C87)

Action: Approve and authorize the Fire Chief or their designee to enter into a Real Property Donation Agreement for the transfer of ownership of the Rancho Mission Viejo property, as selected by the Board, to the Orange County Fire Authority for the purpose of constructing and operating the new OCFA Wildfire Resource Center.

3. DISCUSSION CALENDAR

A. First Amendment to Amended and Restated Employment Agreement with the Fire Chief (FILE 17.10A2)

General Counsel Kendig introduced the Amended and Restated Employment Agreement.

On motion of Director Hatch and second by Director Hasselbrink, approved 20-0 (Directors Nguyen, Traut, Foley, Hasselbrink and Patel absent) to approve and authorize the Board Chair to execute the First Amendment to the Amended and Restated Employment Agreement with Fire Chief Brian Fennessy.

B. FY2023 SAFER Grant Award (FILE 16.02B6)

Assistant Chief Cortez presented the Grant Award with a PowerPoint presentation.

On motion of Director Bourne and second by Director Kim, approved 20-0 (Directors Nguyen, Traut, Foley, Hasselbrink and Patel absent) to review the item and direct staff to proceed with one of the following options regarding the FY 2023 SAFER grant award of \$5.9 million to accept the FY2023 SAFER grant award.

C. Public/Private Ambulance Services Partnership Authorization to Submit Proposal; Approval of Nondisclosure, Noncompetition, Non-circumvention Agreement (FILE 18.05B)

Assistant Chief Capobianco presented the report. He introduced Special Counsel Andrew Schouten, Partner of Wright, L'Estrange & Ergastolo who addressed the Board.

Chris Hamm, President of Local 3631, spoke in support of the item.

On motion of Director Wagner and second by Director Kim, approved 18-1 (Director Tettermer opposed, and Directors Nguyen, Traut, Foley, Hasselbrink, Patel and Shawver absent) to:

1. Approve and authorize the Board Chair to execute the Confidential Nondisclosure, Noncompetition, Non-circumvention Agreement with Emergency Ambulance Services Inc. attached as Attachment;
2. Delegate authority to the Fire Chief and Assistant Chief/EMS to develop an agreement with Emergency Ambulance Services Inc. to provide basic life support (BLS) ambulance transportation services, to serve one or more Exclusive Operating Areas (EOAs) managed by the County of Orange, with final approval to be subject to Board approval in the event the County issues a notice of intent to award a contract to OCFA; and

3. Delegate authority to the Fire Chief and Assistant Chief/EMS to take all steps necessary and appropriate to develop and submit a competitive proposal in response to the anticipated Orange County RFP for 9-1-1 BLS Ambulance Response, Transportation and Related Services.

Director Shawver returned to the meeting.

D. Board of Director Requested Item - Employee Residential Down Payment Assistance Program (FILE 11.13A)

Vice Chair Bourne introduced the item to the Board of Directors.

On motion of Director Bourne and second by Director Kim, approved 20-0 (Directors Ngyuen, Traut, Foley, Hasselbrink and Patel absent) to provide staff time to review the request and directed staff to return to the Board in March with the following: the potential feasibility; present to the Board any additional staff reports; and whether to channel the research and analysis through any OCFA advisory committee.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Chair O'Neill stated that all out-going Board Members would be invited to the January 2025 Board of Directors Meeting to be recognized for their contributions to the OCFA Board.

Director Shawver spoke of Director Hatch's contributions to the Board of Directors, that he will be missed, and thanked him for his service. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Director Peat introduced herself and spoke of a family member who is a great follower of the OCFA. She noted the retirement of Division Chief Dohman, thanking him for his service to the city of Cypress.

Director Sweeney stated every Board Member who is leaving the Board will be missed and thanked them for their service. He thanked OCFA and Local 3631 for the Wildland fire training and hopes to do it again next year.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

General Counsel Kendig reported the Board would adjourn to Closed Session to hear only item CS1. He too noted the sentiments that many of the Board Members will be missed.

CS1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE TO LITIGATION pursuant to paragraph (2) and (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code: Two (2) Cases

CS2. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6

Chief Negotiators:

Board Chair O’Neill, Board Vice Chair Bourne and Immediate Past Board Chair Rossini

Position:

Fire Chief

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

General Counsel Kendig stated there was no reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT – Chair O’Neill adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m. The next meeting of the Orange County Fire Authority Board of Directors will be on Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

Maria D. Huizar, CMC
Clerk of the Authority



Orange County Fire Authority
AGENDA STAFF REPORT

Board of Directors Meeting
January 23, 2025

Agenda Item No. 2B
Consent Calendar

Proposed 2025-26 Legislative Platform

Contact(s) for Further Information

Robert C. Cortez, Assistant Chief robertcortez@ocfa.org 714.573.6012
Business Services Department

Olina Wibroe-Benson
Legislative Affairs Program Manager olinabenson@ocfa.org 714.573.6048

Summary

This item is submitted for the Committee’s review, prior to seeking the Board of Director’s approval and adoption of the proposed 2025-26 Legislative Platform.

Prior Board/Committee Action

The draft platform was presented to the Committee on October 16, 2024 and staff was directed to incorporate edits, as approved by the Committee, finalize, and return on January 15, 2025 for consideration.

On January 15, 2025, the Legislative and Public Affairs Committee will review the proposed agenda item and consider a recommendation to direct staff to place the item on the Board of Directors agenda for approval. The motion by the Committee will be reported at the Board of Directors meeting for further consideration and final action.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

Approve OCFA’s Legislative Platform for 2025-26.

Impact to Cities/County

Not Applicable.

Fiscal Impact

Not Applicable.

Background

The OCFA Joint Powers Agreement authorizes the Authority to “prepare and support legislation related to the purposes of the Agreement” (Article 1, Section 4, subsection L). The OCFA 2025-26 Legislative Platform establishes a framework for the organization’s advocacy efforts, approved by the OCFA Board of Directors and implemented by OCFA staff and lobbyists. The platform allows staff to communicate OCFA’s positions or concerns on pending legislation, categorized as support, opposition, or monitor as bills advance through the legislative process.

The recommended positions outlined in the platform were based on past legislative history, anticipated legislation, prior OCFA stances, and discussions with Executive Management. In addition, the recommended positions now reflect the feedback that the Committee provided on

October 16, 2024, as shown in the redlined tracked changes identified in the Attachment. Throughout the legislative year, as new bills are introduced, OCFA will analyze them using the Platform for guidance and recommend positions on legislation, regulations, or budget proposals for Executive Committee approval.

Attachment(s)

OCFA 2025-26 Legislative Platform

2025-26 Legislative Platform

Operations and Community Safety

Wildfire Prevention & Suppression

- Support increased state funding of CALFIRE, Contract Counties, and other sources of funding for staffing and pre-positioning of resources during high threat periods (winds, drought, flooding)
- Support funding of aerial resources for both suppression and incident awareness and assessment (IAA)
- Support use of technology to forecast high fire risk conditions, wildfire progression (modeling), and monitoring (cameras, sensors, IAA)
- Support funding for education, fuel reduction, and planning to reduce fire ignitions and loss of life during wildfires
- Support undergrounding of powerlines for the purpose of wildfire mitigation
- Support funding and legislation for improved state and federal land management to reduce fuel levels

Building & Development

- Support funding, tax incentives, and educational programs that encourage home hardening to reduce building ignition during wildfires from embers
- Oppose legislation or efforts to eliminate local discretion and input on developments (housing and commercial) in the Wildland Urban Interface
- Monitor legislation impacting the fire code and related topics (i.e., high-rise buildings, hazardous materials, home hardening, etc.)
- Monitor legislation that mandates the use of solar energy in new developments and mobile fueling expansion
- Monitor proposals for energy storage systems (ESS) in high fire severity zones and their impacts on fire and health safety codes

Community Safety

- Support legislation and budget proposals that streamline enforcement, licensing, and disposal of fireworks or explosive material
- Support legislation and funding for fire safety programs, drowning prevention, and child car seat safety

Arson

- Support stronger penalties and efforts to prosecute arson crimes

Disaster Recovery & UASI

- Support funding for Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) and other Department of Homeland Security grants that address regional or national threats, emergency preparedness, and communication

Insurance

- [Support legislation and proposals that support fire insurance for homeowners with fire mitigation requirements](#)

Emergency Medical Services and 911 System

BLS/ALS & Transport

- Support measures that increase Medi-CAL reimbursement to fire departments for ambulance transport and paramedic treatment
- Support measures that increase county and city authority to exercise local oversight and administration of the EMS system, including the design of service areas and contracting for service
- Support funding and the adoption of standards that improve firefighter safety
- Oppose mandated training or services by local EMS agencies without funding or cost recovery mechanisms

Alternate Destination & Alternative Transport

- Support legislation that encourages local agencies, either through funding or regulatory reforms, to treat patients by transporting to appropriate alternate destinations

Paramedic Licensing

- Monitor measures that revise paramedic licensing processes and impact OCFA hiring or promotional processes

911 Dispatch

- Support measures that reduce false or abusive use of 911 requests for services
- Support legislation and funding for the improvement or expansion of 911 dispatch centers, and establishing back-up systems and locations for continuity of operations

Homeless and Behavioral Health

- Support legislation that provides resources and alternative avenues of health care to adequately address behavioral health issues

Administrative

Revenues, Fees, & Taxes

- Support the use of state and federal funds for wildfire mitigation, defensible space, and suppression efforts (i.e., California State Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds, Federal Forestry, and other land management agencies)
- Oppose the diversion of local revenues, fees, and taxes by the state (i.e., State takeaways, property tax and sales tax “borrowing, etc.)
- Support legislation to increase cost recovery responding to emergency incidents at institutional facilities that are exempt from contributing to local tax base
- Support legislation to increase cost recovery responding to emergency incidents resulting from illegal activity

Employee Benefits/ Risk Management

- Support measures that limit OCFA’s legal or insurance liabilities (i.e., improving efficiency of workers compensation review or settlement of claims)
- Monitor expansion or addition of new presumptive injuries or illnesses that force local agencies to provide benefits without considering if the injury or illness is related to employment
- Support measures that enhance or promote fire service employee safety

JPA Agreement

- Oppose efforts to restrict local control of JPA governance and any restriction on local design of JPA authority

Pensions

- Support measures that reduce liability and increase rate stability for local agencies

Logistics

- Monitor legislation that impacts design/construction of emergency buildings, fire vehicles, or 911 technology systems
- Support legislation that funds fire station construction or assists our member agencies in securing land for station construction
- Support legislation that funds or streamlines planning and installation of electric vehicle charging stations on secured public facilities and infrastructure for the use of essential and public safety employees

2025-2026 Federal Priorities

I. National Urban Search and Rescue Team (US&R)

OCFA is a sponsoring agency of California Task Force 5, one of 28 Task Forces across the country. These are Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) supported Task Forces that provide a federal response capability to nationally declared disasters. The system provides FEMA with a first responder capability using local agencies and personnel to administer and oversee the program. OCFA is responsible for administering federal funds to train and maintain local personnel and equipment that is deployed to national incidents.

In 2016, authorizing legislation was passed to address Task Force concerns with worker compensation, licensing of civilian members, and employment issues. The Task Forces have since then focused on increasing federal appropriations. Congress has for the last several years provided \$38 million annually.

OCFA will work with our national task force partners to advocate for additional funding for the US&R program. Additional funding is needed to replace critical equipment, enhance training, and fund capital replacement/improvement (vehicles, US&R warehouse).

II. Homeland Security & FEMA Grant Programs

OCFA will work with other national groups to support increased federal funding of Fire Act grants from FEMA (SAFER, AFG), Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) funding from Department of Homeland Security, and the U.S. Fire Administration. Santa Ana and Anaheim receive UASI funds and work with OCFA and other fire/law enforcement agencies to address regional equipment and training needs.

III. Wildfire & Forest Management

OCFA will support increased federal funding and efforts to address vacancies and staffing concerns at the United States Forest Service (USFS) to ensure our federal partners can support state and regional incidents. In addition, we will continue to support additional grant funding for the USFS to administer awards at the local level for community level vegetation removal, defensible space, and wildfire prevention/planning.

OCFA may submit requests through our Representatives or US Senators for congressionally directed spending on infrastructure and capital improvements throughout our service areas. Other projects identified through OCFA's budget or capital outlay plans may be considered if eligible based on congressional priorities.

[Additionally, OCFA will support policy updates that reflect the agency's ability to operate the Quick Reaction Force program at night.](#)

2025-2026 State Priorities

I. Wildfire Mutual Aid Resources

In 2022, OCFA secured a historic level of state funding (\$16.95 million) for the construction of a new Wildland Hand Crew Facility thanks to Senator Dave Min (D-Costa Mesa). An additional \$4.2 million in State budget funding was also secured for OCFA as one of six contract counties to expand our hand crew. This funding allowed OCFA to add a second year-around crew. The \$4.2 million is intended to be ongoing as a permanent increase to OCFA's contract county agreement with CALFIRE.

However, the State's 2025/26 fiscal situation appears to be delicate. OCFA will work with our contract county partners and labor representatives to ensure budget funding is provided.

OCFA will also seek support for our Air Operations, including plans to support and augment our helicopter fleet, and the continuance of funding provided by Southern California Edison to OCFA and others for increased aerial firefighting resources. Legislation in support of this program may be required and staff is researching options.

II. Fire Based Ambulance/Paramedic EMS Local Control

Over recent years there have been various efforts to supersede local municipal control of fire-based EMS/ambulance/paramedic service delivery. The California Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) is the state authority responsible for establishing standards for the training and scope of practice for EMS personnel. However, over the last several years the State EMSA has begun considering the establishment of new regulations that will intrude into local control in the design and level of service provided by fire-based municipal EMS agencies.

This effort was opposed by city and fire service leaders across the state, and the EMSA has now paused to allow for a workgroup to meet and discuss with fire service representatives. The OCFA will work with our local member agencies and statewide partners such as the League of Cities, California Fire Chiefs Association, and labor representatives to oppose any underground regulations imposed by EMSA on local agencies. Decisions on the design and level of service must continue to be made by local municipal fire-based EMS agencies that have been providing and funding those services.



Orange County Fire Authority
AGENDA STAFF REPORT

Board of Directors Meeting
January 23, 2025

Agenda Item No. 2C
Consent Calendar

Annual Grant Priorities for 2025

Contact(s) for Further Information

Robert C. Cortez, Assistant Chief robertcortez@ocfa.org 714.573.6012
Business Services Department

Olina Wibroe-Benson
Legislative Affairs Program Manager olinabenson@ocfa.org 714.573.6048

Summary

This annual agenda item is submitted to the Budget and Finance Committee for approval of Orange County Fire Authority's (OCFA) Annual Grant Priorities for 2025.

Prior Board/Committee Action

This annual and routine item has been presented to the Budget and Finance Committee since 2012. The Budget and Finance Committee last approved the Annual Grant Priorities for 2024 in their February 14, 2024, meeting.

On January 15, 2025, the Budget and Finance Committee will review the proposed agenda item and consider a recommendation to direct staff to place the item on the Board of Directors agenda for approval. The motion by the Committee will be reported at the Board of Directors meeting for further consideration and final action.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

Approve OCFA's Annual Grant Priorities for 2025.

Impact to Cities/County

Successful grant applications for staffing and equipment will significantly benefit member cities and the county by enhancing purchasing and staffing capabilities without using OCFA budget funds.

Fiscal Impact

If grant funds are awarded for staffing or equipment, these funds will help offset expenses.

Background

The OCFA applies for grant funding throughout the year based on needs identified throughout the organization. This staff report is provided to establish the 2025 Grant Priorities. The grant priorities for 2025 were established in collaboration with Executive Management and staff to address upcoming funding needs and opportunities. These discussions assisted in identifying potential projects and corresponding grant programs to pursue in the coming calendar year.

In 2024, OCFA received \$5.9 million in SAFER grant funds, \$10,706.04 in Fire Prevention and Safety award funding, and is pending receipt of a \$503,000 award for the CA Firefighter Cancer

Prevention Award in partnership with the University of California, Irvine. Additional annual funding is received by OCFA for managing the Urban Search & Rescue Task Force-5 and for overall preparedness to prevent, prepare, respond, and recover from acts of terrorism.

Please see the attached OCFA Annual Grant Priorities for 2025 for additional information and grant updates.

Attachment(s)

OCFA's Annual Grant Priorities for 2025



Orange County Fire Authority
Annual Grant Priorities

2025

Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG)

AFG funds the purchase of firefighting vehicles, programs, and safety equipment. Applications are accepted for tools, personal protective equipment (PPE), training, wellness and fitness, and station modifications. Departments can submit one application and an additional “regional application” in partnership with one or more other fire departments.

FY 2024 Application

The application period closed on December 20, 2024. OCFA applied for 250 sets of PFAS free turnouts for use in our cadet program, non-live fire training, Girls Empowerment Camp, community events, and Fire OPS 101.

FY 2023 Application

The 2023 application sought to purchase 141 monitors and defibrillators for a total award of \$8,153,340. Unfortunately, OCFA was not selected to receive this award.

Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) [SAFER](#) grant funds the hiring of “front-line” firefighters. This grant prioritizes awards to fire departments seeking funding for positions that will contribute to and improve complying with “NFPA staffing, response, and operational standards that enhance community and firefighter safety.”

FY 2023 Application

The FY 2023 SAFER Grant Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) was released, and the application period opened on March 11 with an application submission deadline of April 12, 2024. Following the Board’s direction provided at its March 28, 2024, meeting, staff applied for the FY 2023 SAFER Grant requesting 15 firefighter/paramedics (FF/PM) for a total funding amount of \$12.2M, which included salaries and benefits for three years. OCFA was awarded \$5.9 million dollars over a 3-year period of performance to hire 15 firefighter/paramedic positions for Fire Stations 7, 18, 57, 45, and 46.

FY 2017 Application

In 2017, OCFA requested and received funding for new firefighter positions, including the addition of a fourth firefighter on engines to enhance service delivery, improve efficiency, and enhance firefighter safety. The grant provided three years of funding with a federal and local cost share split of 75% federal and 25% local in the first two years and 35% federal and 65% local in the third year.

The 2017 grant funded a fourth firefighter on an engine in each of the member cities of Buena Park, San Clemente, Placentia, and Tustin. Adding a fourth firefighter on those units improved

service delivery and enhanced firefighter safety. The cost of each position has been phased-in and will be fully paid for by Buena Park, San Clemente, and Tustin in FY 2024/25.

Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S)

The FEMA [FP&S](#) grant supports projects that enhance the safety of the public and firefighters from fire and related hazards. The primary goal is to reduce injury and prevent death among high-risk populations such as seniors and children. Local agencies may apply for other at-risk groups identified through incident data, studies, or risk assessments.

FY 2024 Application

OCFA was awarded a \$10,196.22 FP&S grant with a non-federal match of \$509.82 to support the Community Risk Reduction Smoke Alarm project, an ongoing program that reduces fires, fatalities, injuries, property loss in family residences, and increased education and awareness of fire prevention in our communities by providing free of charge smoke alarm installations in communities most at risk.

FY 2021 Application

OCFA submitted and received an award in September of 2021 for \$152,892 in federal funds to purchase a Fire Safety Education Trailer. OCFA staff completed the process to solicit competitive proposals and made an award for the trailer delivered in early 2023. The trailer includes kitchen and bedroom modules, including special effects that allow simulation to instruct the public on what to do in an earthquake or kitchen fire.

Crews and Heavy Fire Equipment / Air Operations

[CAL FIRE's Fire Prevention Grants Program](#) provides funding for fire prevention projects and activities in and near fire-threatened communities that focus on increasing the protection of people, structures, and communities. Funded activities include hazardous fuels reduction, wildfire prevention planning, and wildfire prevention education with an emphasis on improving public health and safety while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

FY 2025 Application

Staff will revisit current needs when CAL FIRE announces its next application period. Past awards listed below are in the implementation process, along with other major projects such as the planning and construction of a new hand crew wildland facility. Also, we anticipate the integration of two new helicopters and the recent expansion of our hand crew will be a focus in the upcoming year. Therefore, we are assessing capacity before additional grant applications are considered.

In 2022, OCFA's Crews and Heavy Fire Equipment Section received \$1.25 million for vegetation management activities to purchase equipment and supplies for the hand crew and \$250,000 for a new water tender.

In 2021, OCFA received \$228,429 to purchase specialized heavy equipment and tools for use by the Crews and Heavy Fire Equipment Section ([Link to OCFA Board Item](#)).

These past awards are providing OCFA crews with improved means to complete projects quickly and efficiently thereby reducing the potential for wildfire within the State Responsibility Area (SRA). These projects will reduce the fuel load countywide and ensure proper maintenance of

access roads. These projects include road repair for increasing emergency responses on wildland fires and remote medical aids, the installation of culverts, tree removal, stump grinding, chipping all in one, including the removal of disease-infested trees.

Homeland Security Grants

The Department of Homeland Security and FEMA oversee two grant programs that OCFA is a recipient of through our partnership with local law enforcement. Specifically, the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) and State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) provide funding to enhance regional approaches to preparedness and response to acts of terrorism and other threats (<https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/homeland-security>).

UASI funds are allocated by the federal government to large urban areas including Santa Ana and Anaheim. The SHSP program is administered through the state and the Orange County Sheriff's Department. In both cases, those agencies work with all local law enforcement and fire agencies to identify regional needs.

OCFA receives \$180,000 in annual funding to staff a position assigned to the Orange County Intelligence Assessment Center and is sometimes a recipient of funds to provide training or purchase equipment on behalf of all Orange County fire agencies. Future needs for 2025 are being considered in conjunction with our regional law enforcement and fire agency partners.



Orange County Fire Authority
AGENDA STAFF REPORT

Board of Directors Meeting
January 23, 2025

Agenda Item No. 2D
Consent Calendar

Homeland Security Grant Program Award

Contact(s) for Further Information

TJ McGovern, Deputy Chief Emergency Operations Bureau	tjmcgovern@ocfa.org	714.573.6006
Tim Perkins, Assistant Chief Field Operations South	timperkins@ocfa.org	714.573.6761
Nick Freeman, Division Chief	nicholasfreeman@ocfa.org	949.451.0023

Summary

This item is submitted for approval of the FY 2023 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) in the amount of \$180,000 to fund an Administrative Fire Captain assigned to the Orange County Intelligence Assessment Center (OCIAC).

Prior Board/Committee Action

Funding from HSGP for the Fire Captain position assigned to OCIAC has been received annually since 2008 with funding intermittently for training or equipment.

On January 15, 2025, the Budget and Finance Committee will review the proposed agenda item and consider a recommendation to direct staff to place the item on the Board of Directors agenda for approval. The motion by the Committee will be reported at the Board of Directors meeting for further consideration and final action.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

Approve a Budget Adjustment in Fund 121 to increase revenue and expenditures by \$180,000.

Impact to Cities/County

Not Applicable.

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact includes new federal revenue of \$180,000, with corresponding proposed expenditures in FY 2024/25. The proposed adjustments to the FY 2024/25 budget will have no impact to cash contract city charges.

Increased Cost Funded by Structural Fire Fund:	\$0
Increased Cost Funded by Cash Contract Cities:	\$0

Background

The Homeland Security Grant Program is a key component in advancing the National Preparedness System by supporting the development, sustainment, and delivery of core capabilities necessary to achieve the National Preparedness Goal of ensuring a secure and resilient nation. Achieving these core capabilities requires collaboration across the entire community, rather

than relying solely on a single organization or level of government. This grant supports efforts to build and maintain core capabilities across the prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery mission areas.

On July 16, 2024, OCFA was awarded \$180,000 through the FY 2023 HSGP to fund a full-time OCFA position assigned to the Orange County Intelligence Assessment Center (OCIAC). Serving as a fire agency representative, this position collaborates with law enforcement to combat terrorist threats and educate the public, enhancing the safety and security of Orange County residents.

Attachment(s)

HSGP Award Letter



ORANGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

SHERIFF-CORONER DON BARNES

FY2023 Homeland Security Grant Program Project Approval Notification

July 16, 2024
Chief Brian Fennessy
1 Fire Authority Rd.
Irvine, CA 92602

This letter is to inform you that the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) has approved your project request. The Orange County Fire Authority will be recognized as a sub-recipient for this project award. Your agency can only spend the allocated grant funding on the preapproved project outlined below, and any administrative modifications requested by the County of Orange. Here is the information related to the project approval:

- Subrecipient Name: Orange County Fire Authority
- Subrecipient UEI: LQJ6V7K37UZ3
- Federal Award Identification Number: EMW-2023-SS-00042
- Federal Award Date: May 28, 2024
- Subaward Period of Performance: September 1, 2023 to May 31, 2026
- Subaward Budget Period: September 1, 2023 to May 31, 2026
- Amount of Federal Funds Obligated: \$180,000
- Amount of Federal Award Committed: \$180,000
- Federal Award Project Description: 1 full-time position assigned to OCIAC to focus on Domestic Violent Extremism
- Awarding Agency: Cal OES Department of Homeland Security
- CFDA/Assistance Listing Number: 97.067
- Award Name: Homeland Security Grant Program
- Indirect Cost Rate: Not Applicable
- Identification of whether the award is research and development: No

An in-depth review of the application was necessary before approval, which is required due to stringent HSGP guidelines. After the review, it was determined that your project is a viable concept supported by investment justifications, regional benefit, and alignment with the overall goals and objectives of the Homeland Security Grant.

It is critical that you are familiar with the 2023 Homeland Security Grant Program and the California Supplemental Guidance. You must also contact the Orange County Grant Unit before funding any part of the project that may be questionable regarding procurement guidelines and the allowability of the Authorized Equipment List. To eliminate reimbursement issues, we will seek reimbursement approval from the State on behalf of your agency or jurisdiction. You must also notify the Orange County Grant Unit when your original equipment acquired under the Federal award is no longer needed for the original project or program to receive guidance for the proper disposition of the equipment in accordance with federal guidelines.

If you have any questions regarding this notification or the review process, feel free to contact me or Monique Vansuch at (714) 834-3201 or mvansuch@ocsheriff.gov.

Respectfully,



Captain Jerry Millhollon
Homeland Security Division
Orange County Sheriff's Department
jmillhollon@ocsheriff.gov / (949) 919-4731



Orange County Fire Authority
AGENDA STAFF REPORT

Board of Directors Meeting
January 23, 2025

Agenda Item No. 2E
Consent Calendar

Revised Personnel Cost Reimbursement Rates

Contact(s) for Further Information

Robert C. Cortez, Assistant Chief robertcortez@ocfa.org 714.573.6012
Business Services Department

Alicea Caccavo, Finance aliceacaccavo@ocfa.org 714.573.6304
Division Manager

Summary

This item is submitted to request approval of the revised personnel Cost Reimbursement rates.

Prior Board/Committee Action

On January 15, 2025, the Budget and Finance Committee will review the proposed agenda item and consider a recommendation to direct staff to place the item on the Board of Directors agenda for approval. The motion by the Committee will be reported at the Board of Directors meeting for further consideration and final action.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

Adopt the revised Cost Reimbursement Rates for the personnel to be effective and retroactive to July 1, 2024.

Impact on Cities/County

Not Applicable

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact of the revised rates will be based on the number of incidents that occur throughout the year and will be incorporated into the mid-year budget update.

Background

At its April 25, 2024 meeting, the Board of Directors approved a side letter agreement to Memorandum of Understanding for the Orange County Professional Firefighters Association that added two new job class specifications and certain Specialty Pays to this labor group. As a result, the cost reimbursement rates for five positions have changed. Attachment 1 and 2 reflect the Orange County Fire Authority's revised Cost Reimbursement Rates effective and retroactive to July 1, 2024.

Attachment(s)

1. Updated Cost Reimbursement Rates – Personnel
 - a. Proposed Cost Reimbursement Rates – All Agencies except Cal OES
 - b. Proposed Cost Reimbursement Rates – Cal OES

ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY
COST REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR ALL BILLING AGENCIES (EXCEPT CAL OES)
PERSONNEL
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024 -- REVISED

CLASSIFICATION	2024/25 ADOPTED RATES with ICRP	ADMIN RATE (ICRP)	2024/25 REVISED RATE with ICRP	\$ CHANGE	% CHANGE
SUPPRESSION PERSONNEL					
DEPUTY CHIEF	\$305.74	16.69%	\$305.74	N/A	N/A
ASSISTANT CHIEF	\$284.38	16.69%	\$284.38	N/A	N/A
FIRE DIVISION CHIEF (DC)	\$209.45	16.69%	\$209.45	N/A	N/A
FIRE BATTALION CHIEF (BC)	\$156.52	16.69%	\$156.52	N/A	N/A
FIRE CAPTAIN (FC)	\$105.93	16.69%	\$106.19	\$0.26	0.24%
FIRE APPARATUS ENGINEER (FAE)	\$87.22	16.69%	\$87.40	\$0.18	0.20%
FIREFIGHTER (FF)	\$75.33	16.69%	\$75.37	\$0.04	0.05%
HAND CREW (FIREFIGHTER)	\$40.34	16.69%	\$43.38	\$3.04	7.54%
HAND CREW SUPERVISOR (FIRE CAPTAIN)	\$92.06	16.69%	\$92.06	N/A	N/A
HAND CREW SUPERVISOR (FIRE APP. ENGINEER)	\$78.65	16.69%	\$78.65	N/A	N/A
HAND CREW SUPERVISOR (FIREFIGHTER)	\$70.11	16.69%	\$70.11	N/A	N/A
HEAVY FIRE EQUIPMENT OPERATOR	\$128.89	16.69%	\$141.77	\$12.88	9.99%
FIRE PILOT	\$106.80	16.69%	\$106.80	N/A	N/A
NON-SUPPRESSION PERSONNEL					
ACCOUNTANT	\$90.31	16.69%	\$90.31	N/A	N/A
ACCOUNTING MANAGER	\$98.74	16.69%	\$98.74	N/A	N/A
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	\$58.18	16.69%	\$58.18	N/A	N/A
ASST. FIRE MARSHAL	\$120.83	16.69%	\$120.83	N/A	N/A
ASST. PURCHASING AGENT	\$96.23	16.69%	\$96.23	N/A	N/A
BUYER	\$65.60	16.69%	\$65.60	N/A	N/A
COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN	\$73.40	16.69%	\$73.40	N/A	N/A
COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE SUPERVISOR	\$110.48	16.69%	\$110.48	N/A	N/A
DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL	\$96.91	16.69%	\$96.91	N/A	N/A
EMERGENCY COMM CENTER MANAGER	\$68.50	16.69%	\$68.50	N/A	N/A
ENVR HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICER	\$82.41	16.69%	\$82.41	N/A	N/A
EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN I	\$62.61	16.69%	\$62.61	N/A	N/A
EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN II	\$76.72	16.69%	\$76.72	N/A	N/A
FINANCE DIVISION MANAGER	\$107.76	16.69%	\$107.76	N/A	N/A
FIRE COMM RELAT/ED SPECIALIST	\$78.17	16.69%	\$78.17	N/A	N/A
FIRE COMM RELAT/ED SUPERVISOR	\$82.11	16.69%	\$82.11	N/A	N/A
FIRE COMMUNICATIONS DISPATCHER	\$71.76	16.69%	\$71.76	N/A	N/A
FIRE COMMUNICATIONS SUPERVISOR	\$86.38	16.69%	\$86.38	N/A	N/A
FIRE HELICOPTER TECHNICIAN	\$100.83	16.69%	\$100.83	N/A	N/A
FIRE PREVENTION ANALYST	\$109.43	16.69%	\$109.43	N/A	N/A
FIRE PREVENTION SERVICES SPECIALIST	\$36.23	16.69%	\$36.23	N/A	N/A
FIRE PREVENTION SPECIALIST	\$81.70	16.69%	\$81.70	N/A	N/A
FIRE PREVENTION TRAINEE	\$61.70	16.69%	\$61.70	N/A	N/A
FIRE SAFETY ENGINEER	\$129.27	16.69%	\$129.27	N/A	N/A
FLEET SERVICES COORDINATOR	\$86.38	16.69%	\$86.38	N/A	N/A
FLEET SERVICE DIVISION MANAGER	\$98.74	16.69%	\$98.74	N/A	N/A
FLEET SERVICES SUPERVISOR	\$94.42	16.69%	\$94.42	N/A	N/A
GENERAL LABORER	\$39.68	16.69%	\$39.68	N/A	N/A
GIS ANALYST	\$116.34	16.69%	\$116.34	N/A	N/A
GIS SUPERVISOR	\$140.42	16.69%	\$140.42	N/A	N/A
GIS TECHNICIAN	\$90.62	16.69%	\$90.62	N/A	N/A
HEAVY EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN I	\$76.25	16.69%	\$76.25	N/A	N/A

**ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY
COST REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR ALL BILLING AGENCIES (EXCEPT CAL OES)
PERSONNEL
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024 -- REVISED**

CLASSIFICATION	2024/25	ADMIN	2024/25	\$	%
	ADOPTED RATES with ICRP	RATE (ICRP)	REVISED RATE with ICRP	CHANGE	CHANGE
HEAVY EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN II	\$88.80	16.69%	\$88.80	N/A	N/A
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ANALYST	\$116.34	16.69%	\$116.34	N/A	N/A
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGER	\$104.08	16.69%	\$104.08	N/A	N/A
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST	\$98.13	16.69%	\$98.13	N/A	N/A
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SUPERVISOR	\$140.42	16.69%	\$140.42	N/A	N/A
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TECHNICIAN	\$85.96	16.69%	\$85.96	N/A	N/A
MANAGEMENT ANALYST	\$71.20	16.69%	\$71.20	N/A	N/A
MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT	\$63.04	16.69%	\$63.04	N/A	N/A
MEDICAL DIRECTOR	\$199.23	16.69%	\$199.23	N/A	N/A
PURCHASING DIVISION MANAGER	\$83.65	16.69%	\$83.65	N/A	N/A
RESERVE FIREFIGHTER	\$2.11	16.69%	\$2.11	N/A	N/A
RISK MANAGEMENT ANALYST	\$82.41	16.69%	\$82.41	N/A	N/A
RISK MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST	\$61.58	16.69%	\$61.58	N/A	N/A
RISK MANAGER	\$105.62	16.69%	\$105.62	N/A	N/A
SERVICE CENTER LEAD	\$77.55	16.69%	\$77.55	N/A	N/A
SERVICE CENTER SUPERVISOR	\$103.82	16.69%	\$103.82	N/A	N/A
SERVICE CENTER TECHNICIAN I	\$50.09	16.69%	\$50.09	N/A	N/A
SERVICE CENTER TECHNICIAN II	\$68.09	16.69%	\$68.09	N/A	N/A
SR. ACCOUNTANT	\$69.80	16.69%	\$69.80	N/A	N/A
SR. ACCT. SUPPORT SPEC.	\$65.18	16.69%	\$65.18	N/A	N/A
SR. COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN	\$83.66	16.69%	\$83.66	N/A	N/A
SR. FIRE COMMUNICATIONS SUPV.	\$81.79	16.69%	\$81.79	N/A	N/A
SR. FIRE HELICOPTER TECHNICIAN	\$117.89	16.69%	\$117.89	N/A	N/A
SR. FIRE PREVENTION SPECIALIST	\$97.85	16.69%	\$97.85	N/A	N/A
SR. INFO TECHNOLOGY ANALYST	\$129.42	16.69%	\$129.42	N/A	N/A
SR. MANAGEMENT ANALYST	\$82.41	16.69%	\$82.41	N/A	N/A
SR. SERVICE CENTER TECHNICIAN	\$77.53	16.69%	\$77.53	N/A	N/A
US&R WAREHOUSE & LOGISTICS SPECIALIST	\$71.84	16.69%	\$71.84	N/A	N/A
WILDLAND RESOURCE PLANNER	\$104.18	16.69%	\$104.18	N/A	N/A

MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RATES:					
HAND CREW (FIREFIGHTER)	\$20.42		\$21.96	\$1.54	7.54%
HAND CREW SUPERVISOR (STAFF FIRE CAPTAIN)	\$46.60		\$46.60	N/A	N/A
HAND CREW SUPERVISOR (STAFF FIRE APP. ENGINEER)	\$39.81		\$39.81	N/A	N/A
HAND CREW SUPERVISOR (STAFF FIREFIGHTER)	\$35.49		\$35.49	N/A	N/A
HEAVY FIRE EQUIPMENT OPERATOR	\$65.24		\$71.76	\$6.52	9.99%
SWAMPER/HAND CREW FF	\$20.42		\$21.96	\$1.54	7.54%

ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY
COST REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR CAL OES BILLINGS ONLY
PERSONNEL
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024 -- REVISED

CLASSIFICATION	2024/25	2024/25	\$	%	2024/25	2024/25	\$	%
	ADOPTED REGULAR RATE	REVISED REGULAR RATE			ADOPTED OT RATE	REVISED OT RATE		
SUPPRESSION POSITIONS								
DEPUTY CHIEF					\$305.74	\$305.74	N/A	N/A
ASSISTANT CHIEF					\$284.38	\$284.38	N/A	N/A
FIRE DIVISION CHIEF					\$209.45	\$209.45	N/A	N/A
FIRE BATTALION CHIEF					\$156.52	\$156.52	N/A	N/A
FIRE CAPTAIN					\$105.93	\$106.19	\$0.26	0.24%
FIRE APPARATUS ENGINEER					\$87.22	\$87.40	\$0.18	0.20%
FIREFIGHTER					\$75.33	\$75.37	\$0.04	0.05%
HAND CREW (FIREFIGHTER)					\$40.34	\$43.38	\$3.04	7.54%
HAND CREW SUPERVISOR (FIRE CAPTAIN)					\$92.06	\$92.06	N/A	N/A
HAND CREW SUPERVISOR (FIRE APP. ENGINEER)					\$78.65	\$78.65	N/A	N/A
HAND CREW SUPERVISOR (FIREFIGHTER)					\$70.11	\$70.11	N/A	N/A
HEAVY FIRE EQUIPMENT OPERATOR					\$128.89	\$141.77	\$12.88	9.99%
FIRE PILOT					\$106.80	\$106.80	N/A	N/A
NON-SUPPRESSION POSITIONS								
CLASSIFICATION	2024/25	2024/25	\$	%	2024/25	2024/25	\$	%
	ADOPTED REGULAR RATE	REVISED REGULAR RATE			ADOPTED OT RATE	REVISED OT RATE		
ACCOUNTANT	\$90.49	\$90.49	N/A	N/A	\$90.31	\$90.31	N/A	N/A
ACCOUNTING MANAGER	\$155.96	\$155.96	N/A	N/A	\$98.74	\$98.74	N/A	N/A
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	\$61.87	\$61.87	N/A	N/A	\$58.18	\$58.18	N/A	N/A
ASST. FIRE MARSHAL	\$117.67	\$117.67	N/A	N/A	\$120.83	\$120.83	N/A	N/A
ASST. PURCHASING AGENT	\$95.75	\$95.75	N/A	N/A	\$96.23	\$96.23	N/A	N/A
BUYER	\$68.48	\$68.48	N/A	N/A	\$65.60	\$65.60	N/A	N/A
COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN	\$75.43	\$75.43	N/A	N/A	\$73.40	\$73.40	N/A	N/A
COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES SUPERVISOR	\$108.44	\$108.44	N/A	N/A	\$110.48	\$110.48	N/A	N/A
DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL	\$153.48	\$153.48	N/A	N/A	\$96.91	\$96.91	N/A	N/A
EMERGENCY COMM CENTER MANAGER	\$114.93	\$114.93	N/A	N/A	\$68.50	\$68.50	N/A	N/A
ENVR HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICER	\$133.79	\$133.79	N/A	N/A	\$82.41	\$82.41	N/A	N/A
EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN I	\$66.93	\$66.93	N/A	N/A	\$62.61	\$62.61	N/A	N/A
EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN II	\$79.52	\$79.52	N/A	N/A	\$76.72	\$76.72	N/A	N/A
FINANCE DIVISION MANAGER	\$168.19	\$168.19	N/A	N/A	\$107.76	\$107.76	N/A	N/A
FIRE COMM RELAT/ED SPECIALIST	\$79.66	\$79.66	N/A	N/A	\$78.17	\$78.17	N/A	N/A
FIRE COMM RELAT/ED SUPERVISOR	\$83.18	\$83.18	N/A	N/A	\$82.11	\$82.11	N/A	N/A
FIRE COMMUNICATIONS DISPATCHER	\$73.97	\$73.97	N/A	N/A	\$71.76	\$71.76	N/A	N/A
FIRE COMMUNICATIONS SUPERVISOR	\$86.99	\$86.99	N/A	N/A	\$86.38	\$86.38	N/A	N/A
FIRE HELICOPTER TECHNICIAN	\$101.03	\$101.03	N/A	N/A	\$100.83	\$100.83	N/A	N/A
FIRE PREVENTION ANALYST	\$107.51	\$107.51	N/A	N/A	\$109.43	\$109.43	N/A	N/A
FIRE PREVENTION SERVICES SPECIALIST	\$42.33	\$42.33	N/A	N/A	\$36.23	\$36.23	N/A	N/A
FIRE PREVENTION SPECIALIST	\$82.82	\$82.82	N/A	N/A	\$81.70	\$81.70	N/A	N/A
FIRE PREVENTION TRAINEE	\$64.60	\$64.60	N/A	N/A	\$61.70	\$61.70	N/A	N/A
FIRE SAFETY ENGINEER	\$125.18	\$125.18	N/A	N/A	\$129.27	\$129.27	N/A	N/A
FLEET SERVICES COORDINATOR	\$86.99	\$86.99	N/A	N/A	\$86.38	\$86.38	N/A	N/A
FLEET SERVICE DIVISION MANAGER	\$155.96	\$155.96	N/A	N/A	\$98.74	\$98.74	N/A	N/A
FLEET SERVICES SUPERVISOR	\$95.30	\$95.30	N/A	N/A	\$94.42	\$94.42	N/A	N/A
GENERAL LABORER	\$46.49	\$46.49	N/A	N/A	\$39.68	\$39.68	N/A	N/A
GIS ANALYST	\$113.66	\$113.66	N/A	N/A	\$116.34	\$116.34	N/A	N/A

ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY
COST REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR CAL OES BILLINGS ONLY
PERSONNEL
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024 -- REVISED

CLASSIFICATION	2024/25	2024/25	\$	%	2024/25	2024/25	\$	%
	ADOPTED REGULAR RATE	REVISED REGULAR RATE			ADOPTED OT RATE	REVISED OT RATE		
GIS SUPERVISOR	\$135.11	\$135.11	N/A	N/A	\$140.42	\$140.42	N/A	N/A
GIS TECHNICIAN	\$90.35	\$90.35	N/A	N/A	\$90.62	\$90.62	N/A	N/A
HEAVY EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN I	\$79.10	\$79.10	N/A	N/A	\$76.25	\$76.25	N/A	N/A
HEAVY EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN II	\$90.29	\$90.29	N/A	N/A	\$88.80	\$88.80	N/A	N/A
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ANALYST	\$113.66	\$113.66	N/A	N/A	\$116.34	\$116.34	N/A	N/A
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGER	\$163.20	\$163.20	N/A	N/A	\$104.08	\$104.08	N/A	N/A
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST	\$97.02	\$97.02	N/A	N/A	\$98.13	\$98.13	N/A	N/A
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SUPERVISOR	\$135.11	\$135.11	N/A	N/A	\$140.42	\$140.42	N/A	N/A
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TECHNICIAN	\$86.20	\$86.20	N/A	N/A	\$85.96	\$85.96	N/A	N/A
MANAGEMENT ANALYST	\$118.60	\$118.60	N/A	N/A	\$71.20	\$71.20	N/A	N/A
MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT	\$65.80	\$65.80	N/A	N/A	\$63.04	\$63.04	N/A	N/A
MEDICAL DIRECTOR	\$292.26	\$292.26	N/A	N/A	\$199.23	\$199.23	N/A	N/A
PURCHASING DIVISION MANAGER	\$135.49	\$135.49	N/A	N/A	\$83.65	\$83.65	N/A	N/A
RESERVE FIREFIGHTER	\$1.53	\$1.53	N/A	N/A	\$2.11	\$2.11	N/A	N/A
RISK MANAGEMENT ANALYST	\$133.79	\$133.79	N/A	N/A	\$82.41	\$82.41	N/A	N/A
RISK MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST	\$64.90	\$64.90	N/A	N/A	\$61.58	\$61.58	N/A	N/A
RISK MANAGER	\$165.29	\$165.29	N/A	N/A	\$105.62	\$105.62	N/A	N/A
SERVICE CENTER LEAD	\$79.12	\$79.12	N/A	N/A	\$77.55	\$77.55	N/A	N/A
SERVICE CENTER SUPERVISOR	\$103.68	\$103.68	N/A	N/A	\$103.82	\$103.82	N/A	N/A
SERVICE CENTER TECHNICIAN I	\$55.77	\$55.77	N/A	N/A	\$50.09	\$50.09	N/A	N/A
SERVICE CENTER TECHNICIAN II	\$71.83	\$71.83	N/A	N/A	\$68.09	\$68.09	N/A	N/A
SR. ACCOUNTANT	\$116.71	\$116.71	N/A	N/A	\$69.80	\$69.80	N/A	N/A
SR. ACCT. SUPPORT SPEC.	\$68.11	\$68.11	N/A	N/A	\$65.18	\$65.18	N/A	N/A
SR. COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN	\$84.57	\$84.57	N/A	N/A	\$83.66	\$83.66	N/A	N/A
SR. FIRE COMMUNICATIONS SUPV.	\$82.89	\$82.89	N/A	N/A	\$81.79	\$81.79	N/A	N/A
SR. FIRE HELICOPTER TECHNICIAN	\$116.23	\$116.23	N/A	N/A	\$117.89	\$117.89	N/A	N/A
SR. FIRE PREVENTION SPECIALIST	\$97.20	\$97.20	N/A	N/A	\$97.85	\$97.85	N/A	N/A
SR. INFO TECHNOLOGY ANALYST	\$125.32	\$125.32	N/A	N/A	\$129.42	\$129.42	N/A	N/A
SR. MANAGEMENT ANALYST	\$133.79	\$133.79	N/A	N/A	\$123.61	\$123.61	N/A	N/A
SR. SERVICE CENTER TECHNICIAN	\$80.24	\$80.24	N/A	N/A	\$77.53	\$77.53	N/A	N/A
US&R WAREHOUSE & LOGISTICS SPECIALIST	\$75.17	\$75.17	N/A	N/A	\$71.84	\$71.84	N/A	N/A
WILDLAND RESOURCE PLANNER	\$102.84	\$102.84	N/A	N/A	\$104.18	\$104.18	N/A	N/A

CIVILIAN POSITIONS

AFFILIATED MEMBER	\$66.57	\$66.57			\$66.57	\$66.57	N/A	N/A
CANINE SPECIALIST	\$43.33	\$43.33			\$43.33	\$43.33	N/A	N/A
DOCTOR	\$99.24	\$99.24			\$99.24	\$99.24	N/A	N/A
HEAVY RIGGING SPECIALIST	\$50.00	\$50.00			\$50.00	\$50.00	N/A	N/A
STRUCTURE SPECIALIST	\$77.15	\$77.15			\$77.15	\$77.15	N/A	N/A



Orange County Fire Authority **AGENDA STAFF REPORT**

**Board of Directors Meeting
January 23, 2025**

**Agenda Item No. 2F
Consent Calendar**

FY 2024/2025 Mid-Year Financial Report

Contact(s) for Further Information

Robert C. Cortez, Assistant Chief
Business Services Department

robertcortez@ocfa.org

714.573.6012

James Slobojan, Treasurer
Treasury & Financial Planning

jamesjslobojan@ocfa.org

714.573.6305

Stuart Lam, Budget Manager
Treasury & Financial Planning

stuartlam@ocfa.org

714.573.6302

Summary

This item is submitted to provide a mid-year financial update on the FY 2024/25 budget in accordance with the OCFA's Fiscal Health Plan and to preview expected budget adjustments for approval in March.

Prior Board/Committee Action

On January 15, 2025, the Budget and Finance Committee will review the proposed agenda item and consider a recommendation to direct staff to place the item on the Board of Directors agenda for approval. The motion by the Committee will be reported at the Board of Directors meeting for further consideration and final action.

Recommended Action(s)

Direct staff to return to the Board of Directors on March 27, 2025, for approval of the budget adjustments discussed herein for the FY 2024/25 budget.

Impact to Cities/County

The Five-Year Financial Forecast assumes cash contract city charges will range from 3.50% to 4.50% annually.

Fiscal Impact

Financial impact is detailed in the report, with an overall increase in revenues (all funds combined) of \$29,118,899 and an overall increase in expenditures (all funds combined) of \$28,626,845.

Increased Cost Funded by Structural Fire Fund: \$0

Increased Cost Funded by Cash Contract Cities: \$0

Background

The OCFA's Fiscal Health Plan calls for a comprehensive system to monitor OCFA's fiscal performance. This includes a review and comparison of forecasted revenues and expenditures against actual revenues and expenditures, as well as a mid-year budget review. The attached report

reviews the current year budget, highlights any potential financial challenges to the OCFA, and previews anticipated FY 2025/26 budget issues, to the extent they are known at this time.

FY 2024/25 Budget Review

Significant changes have occurred since the budget was adopted in May 2024, including increases to budgeted beginning fund balance, increase in property tax revenue, increases in both revenue and expenditures related to assistance-by-hire emergency responses, as well as all approved adjustments to-date such as Carryover and new grant funds. These changes are summarized in the table below and detailed in the attached Mid-Year Financial Report.

Fund	Revenues	Expenditures
General Fund (121)		
Property Taxes	\$1,132,496	-
Assistance by Hire/Emergency Incident	\$22,908,334	\$23,077,330
Grant/Reimbursements	\$953,255	\$953,766
OCPFA Retiree Medical Trust Payment	\$3,484,786	\$3,484,786
Miscellaneous	\$2,182,399	-
Personnel/Training	-	\$1,380,509
Supplies/Equipment/Professional Services	-	\$2,793,520
Workers' Compensation	-	(\$2,000,000)
Interfund Borrowing	-	\$262,500
Total General Fund (121)	\$30,661,270	\$29,952,411
GF Capital Improvement Program (12110)	-	(\$4,822,066)
Fire Stations & Facilities (123)	(\$432,892)	-
Comm. & Info Systems (124)	(\$61,319)	-
Vehicle Replacement (133)	\$10,534	\$3,458,500
Settlement Agreement (139)	\$41,773	\$38,000
SFF Entitlement Fund (171)	\$89,688	-
Workers' Compensation (190)	(\$1,190,155)	-
Total All Funds	\$29,118,899	\$28,626,845

Attachment(s)

Mid-year Financial Report

Exhibit 1 – 2024 Trend Analysis - Forecast to Actual Comparison

Exhibit 2 – Updated Five-Year Financial Forecast

Exhibit 3 – Five-Year Financial Forecast Assumptions



In May 2020, the Board of Directors approved the updated Financial Stability Budget Policy. Together with the Fiscal Health Plan, these documents describe the Authority’s strong fiscal policies, a comprehensive system for monitoring OCFA’s fiscal performance, and a framework to assure timely and appropriate response to adverse fiscal circumstances. Included in the Fiscal Health Plan is the requirement for a mid-year financial report, which is presented below.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Property tax is OCFA’s largest source of revenue; therefore, this section focuses on economic factors impacting property values. Residential real estate assessed values have remained elevated in recent years due to a tight housing market with low inventory. The December 2024 Chapman Economic and Business Review forecast predicts a slight decrease of 1.1% in the Orange County median home price for 2025. However, it also anticipates a 3.0% increase in existing home sales and a 12.9% rise in residential permit activity. The low inventory of existing homes is supporting demand for new construction. Mortgage rates remain elevated at around 6.5%, providing little incentive for homeowners to sell their properties and lose their fixed-rate mortgages that were acquired at historically low rates.

CURRENT FISCAL YEAR FINANCES

The following are estimated changes to the budget that are needed since the adoption of the FY 2024/25 budget in May 2024. Overall, the proposed changes in the General Fund result in an estimated total revenue adjustment of approximately \$30.7 million and an estimated total expenditure adjustment of \$29.9 million. *Approximately \$27.6 million of the expenditure adjustments are related to emergency incidents that are offset by corresponding revenue or are items that are cost neutral.* Expenditures not directly offset by corresponding revenue increases are primarily due to increased general liability insurance costs and higher costs for services and supplies that were not known at the time of budget adoption including increased helicopter maintenance and utilities costs.

FY 2024/25 General Fund Estimated Revenue Adjustments - \$30.7 million

Property Taxes: Based on property tax billing data provided by the Auditor/Controller and property tax received to date, preliminary projections indicate an approximate \$1.1 million increase over budget.	\$1,132,496
Assistance by Hire (ABH)/Emergency Incident: ABH is the term used when OCFA responds to requests for assistance to incidents outside our area of responsibility, on a reimbursement basis. Current year activity is \$22.9 million greater than budget due to various in-county and out-of-county responses. Staff will be monitoring this source of revenue for additional reimbursements. An expenditure adjustment is also proposed to the overtime/backfill category to cover the costs associated with providing the ABH services.	\$22,908,334
Grant/Reimbursements: This category represents reimbursements for Grants or other programs where expenditures are reimbursed once incurred. The \$953K adjustment is for University of California PFAS Research Grant (\$504K), Joint Apprenticeship Committee Program (\$200K), 2023 Homeland Security Grant (\$180K), OCSO SONGS Reimbursement (\$40K), combined US&R Grant adjustments (\$20K), and FEMA Fire Prevention Safety Grant (\$10K).	\$953,255



OCPFA Retiree Medical Trust Payment: OCFA’s audit firm Lance, Soll & Lunghard issued a final report on the OCPFA Medical Benefit Trust for the period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 showing a \$3,484,786 excess fund balance credit due to the OCFA. Per the terms of the OCFA/OC PFA Health Plan Agreement, OCFA will remit these funds to the OCFA Retiree Medical Trust held at OCERS, and future contributions will be adjusted. **\$3,484,786**

Miscellaneous: This category of revenue adjustments includes increased interest earnings (\$1.6M), planning & development fees (\$359K), inspection services revenue (\$125K), insurance settlement receipts (\$48K), combined adjustments to cash contract city maintenance charges (\$38K), and Drone Program training revenue (\$28K). **\$2,182,399**

FY 2024/25 General Fund Estimated Expenditure Adjustments - \$29.9 million

Assistance by Hire/Emergency Incident Costs: As mentioned under Revenue for ABH, an adjustment is needed for in-county and out-of-county responses, primarily in the overtime/backfill category, but also for response-related supplies. This category also comprises US&R activation expenditures. Staff will be monitoring these categories closely as the fiscal year progresses. **\$23,077,330⁽¹⁾**

Grant/Reimbursable Programs: These expenditure items include University of California PFAS Research Grant (\$504K), Joint Apprenticeship Committee Program (\$200K), 2023 Homeland Security Grant (\$180K), OCSD SONGS Reimbursement (\$40K), combined US&R Grant adjustments (\$20K), and FEMA Fire Prevention Safety Grant (\$11K). **\$953,766⁽¹⁾**

OCPFA Retiree Medical Trust Payment: OCFA’s audit firm Lance, Soll & Lunghard issued a final report on the OCPFA Medical Benefit Trust for the period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 showing a \$3,484,786 excess fund balance credit due to the OCFA. Per the terms of the OCFA/OC PFA Health Plan Agreement, OCFA will remit these funds to the OCFA Retiree Medical Trust held at OCERS, and future contributions will be adjusted. **\$3,484,786⁽¹⁾**

Personnel/Training: When the Board adopted the FY 2024/25 budget in May, staff was directed to fund a Lead Crew Chief position² and three Firefighter Paramedic Rescuer positions for the Air Operations Program at mid-year. This adjustment includes a prorated amount of \$526K to fund these positions for a partial year. This cost will be partially offset by a \$405K budget decrease for three Firefighter Paramedic Positions that were budgeted to add a 4th firefighter paramedic position to Engine 18 starting January 2025, but are now anticipated to be partially funded by the SAFER Grant beginning in FY 2025/26. This category also includes the impact of the October 2024 Side Letter with the Firefighters (\$660K), Pilot Training (\$324,558), tuition reimbursement (\$235K), and Drone Program Training (\$40K). **\$1,380,509**

¹ Expenditure increase is wholly or partially cost neutral, offset by a corresponding revenue source or dedicated fund balance.

² The “Lead” Crew Chief position will require a new bonus pay for the higher skill set. Staff will propose a side letter agreement with the March staff report for Board review and approval.



Supplies/Equipment/Professional Services: This category includes one-time adjustments for services and supplies which were unknown or for which costs have increased since budget development. Adjustments include increased general liability insurance (\$1.1M), Helicopter 4 maintenance (\$500K), utilities costs (\$431K), workers' compensation excess insurance (\$280K), GE helicopter engine maintenance program (\$237K), 800MHz System cost sharing (\$153K), maintenance for surplus vehicles provided to Investigations Section (\$49K), development impact fee study (\$39K), junior firefighting helmets (\$20K), and power equipment fuel (\$35K). **\$2,793,520**

Workers' Compensation: The OCFA received a new workers' compensation actuarial study dated 7/16/2024 which allows for a \$2.0 million decrease in Fund 121 workers' compensation expenditures while still maintaining funding at the 50% confidence level. Fund 121 workers' compensation expenditures are transferred to Workers' Compensation Fund 190 to pay for workers' compensation claims. **(\$2,000,000)**

Interfund Borrowing: When the budget was adopted in May, the Board approved interfund borrowing as a cash flow management mechanism in FY 2024/25. The money is borrowed from the Workers' Compensation Self-Insurance Fund 190 and repaid with interest which is reflected as a cost to the General Fund. The estimated \$263K increase in interfund borrowing costs are offset by increased General Fund interest earnings revenue of \$1.6M. **\$262,500**

FY 2024/25 CIP and Other Fund Adjustments

- **Fund 12110 – General Fund CIP:** A decrease in expenditures in the amount of \$4,822,066 is needed due to lower than anticipated costs for the SCBA replacement project.
- **Fund 124 – Communications and Information Systems :** An increase in expenditures of \$500,000 is needed to transition the incident reporting standard from NFIRS to NERIS per a mandate issued by the U.S. Fire Administration. A \$500,000 budget decrease is needed for Website Upgrade project savings.
- **Fund 133 – Fire Apparatus:** An increase in expenditures of \$4,460,000 is needed for the purchase of two additional ladder trucks and a \$1,001,500 budget decrease is needed for rebudgeted dozer and tractor vehicle funding that is not needed.
- **Fund 139 – Settlement Agreement:** An increase in expenditures in the amount of \$38,000 is needed to accommodate Trustee and PARS fees for administering the 115 Trust.
- **Fund 190 – Workers' Compensation:** A revenue reduction of \$2,000,000 is required to correspond with the \$2,000,000 decrease in funding provided by Fund 121 referenced in the General Fund expenditure section above.
- **Interest Earnings:** Interest earning revenue for each of the CIP and Other Funds have been increased based on the latest projections. The net interest earnings adjustment is a \$457,629 increase.

FY 2024/25 Fund Balance Transfer Adjustments

- **Unencumbered Fund Balance:** The FY 2023/24 year-end audit identified unencumbered fund balance in the amount of \$4,572,224. This fund balance increase resulted primarily from additional revenue received in the fiscal year, as well as salary savings and S&S savings in the General Fund.



Per the OCFA's Amended Joint Powers Agreement (JPA), the Board of Directors has the discretion to allocate this year-end unencumbered fund balance to the Structural Fire Fund Entitlement Fund for use by eligible member agencies, pursuant to the equity calculation as defined in the JPA. While that discretionary option is available, staff instead recommends allocating the unencumbered fund balance as follows, due to organizational need:

- Allocate 100% to remain in the General Fund to maintain the contingency reserve at 10% of expenditures, pursuant to the OCFA's Financial Stability Budget Policy.
- **Fund 121 and CIP Transfers:** The Financial Stability Policy requires a reconciliation of the 10% contingency reserve at mid-year. With FY 2023/24 unencumbered fund balance remaining in the General Fund, the required 10% contingency amount of \$49,349,852 will be maintained. With added CIP expenditures, the following fund balance transfers are required to maintain positive fund balance across all funds: \$4,500,000 transfer from Fund 12110 to Fund 133.

FUTURE FISCAL YEAR FINANCES

Significant factors that are anticipated to influence the FY 2025/26 budget development include:

- **Prepayment of OCERS Contributions** – Staff will conduct an analysis of OCFA's cash flow position; we expect to prepay half of the employer contributions to take advantage of an approximately 7.0% discount. This discount can fluctuate over time but remained unchanged from last year's amount of 7.0%. The prepayment discount amounts to significant savings. In the current FY 2024/25, OCFA saved an estimated \$2.3M by prepaying a portion of its OCERS contributions.
- **Property Taxes** - Since property tax is the largest source of income for the General Fund at about 63%, we have contracted with HdL Coren & Cone to update our property tax projections. Updated preliminary information for our FY 2025/26 budget will be available in February 2025; therefore, in the interim we are continuing to use prior projections for FYs 2025/26 through 2028/29 of the Five-Year Financial Forecast.
- **Retirement Rates** - The Orange County Employees Retirement System (OCERS) Board has adopted retirement rates for FY 2025/26. Retirement rates in FY 2025/26 are approximately 0.52% lower for safety and unchanged for non-safety compared to FY 2024/25 rates after removing the impact of the additional pension liability contributions OCFA has made to OCERS. Consistent with Board direction, we continue to pay the original rates, capturing those savings and increasing payments directly to our unfunded liability.
- **Workers' Compensation** – The current forecast is based on the workers' compensation actuarial study dated July 2024. We have contracted with Rivelle Consulting to update the actuarial study to be completed in January 2025 which may impact the workers' compensation cost projections in the five-year forecast.

PENDING ISSUES

- **CIP Project Budget Funding/Timing** – The next five-year Capital Improvement Program budgets are in the process of being developed. As we build the CIP, staff is working on options to align the updated five-year CIP schedule with available funding that is primarily derived from transfers from the General Fund.



MONITORING FINANCIAL HEALTH

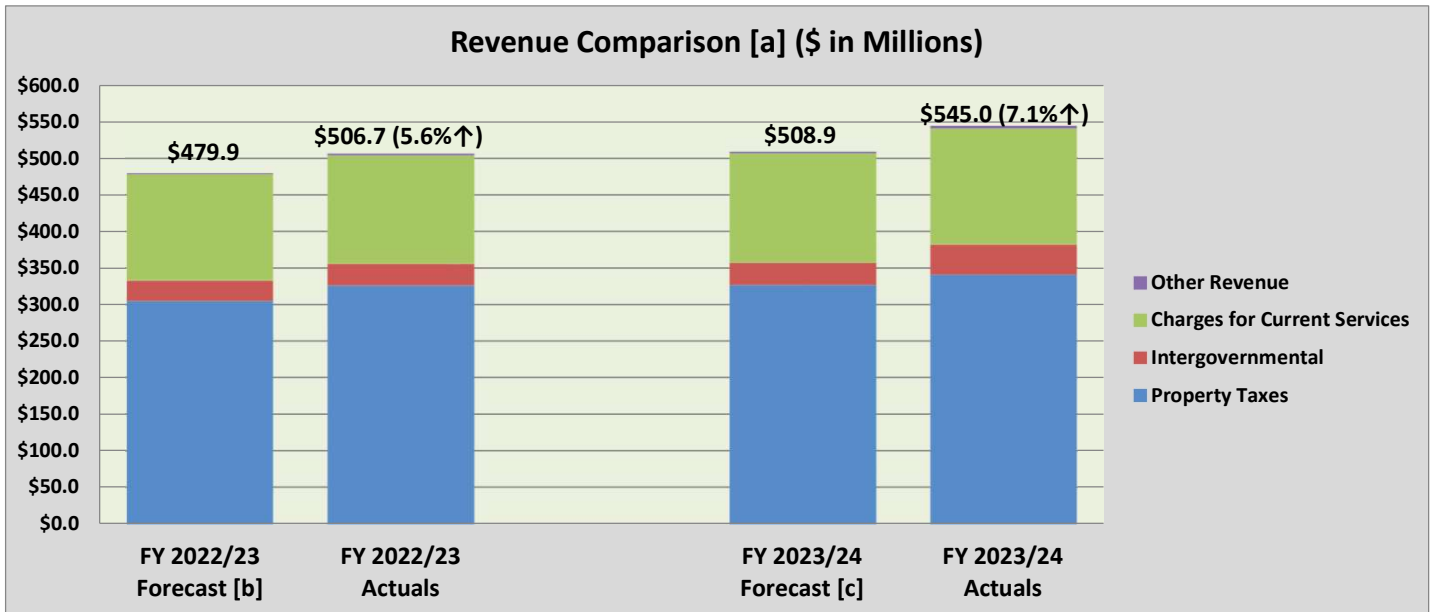
Financial Forecast

The Fiscal Health Plan directs staff to monitor our financial indicators through frequent updates to the Authority's Five-Year Financial Forecast, measuring revenue, expenditures, debt, and committed and uncommitted fund balance. These categories are forecasted using all available information, Board actions, and economic conditions (Exhibits 2 and 3).

A trend report has been developed comparing the differences between the forecasted data and actual financial results and is attached to this review as Exhibit 1.

2024 Trend Analysis: Summary of 2-Year Forecast vs. Adjusted Actuals

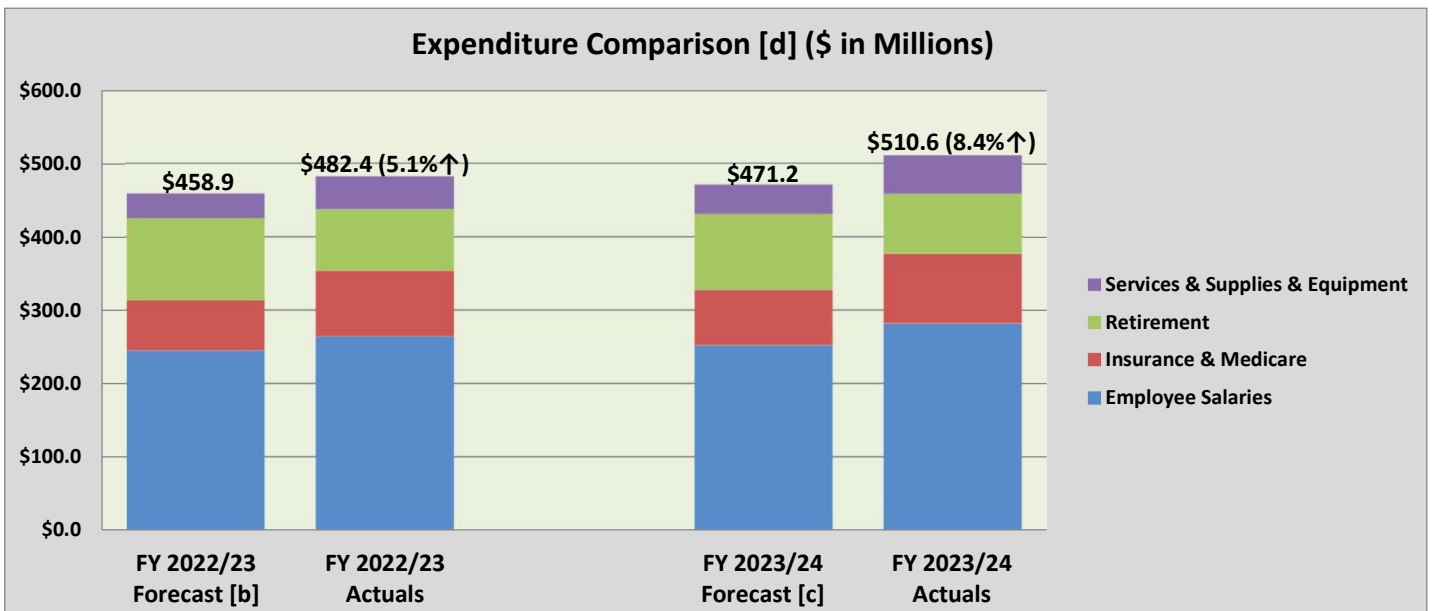
Comparison of 2022/23 Forecast to 2022/23 Actuals
and
Comparison of 2023/24 Forecast to 2023/24 Actuals



[a] Actual revenue adjusted for one-time sources not forecasted such as assistance by hire revenue, grant revenue, donation revenue, and one-time revenue associated with RDA dissolutions.

[b] As presented in the FY2021/22 Adopted Budget - Scenario 1.

[c] As presented in the FY2022/23 Adopted Budget - Scenario 1.



[d] Actual expenditures adjusted for one-time items not forecasted such as grant and donation expenditures.

Scenario 1 - \$5.9M Max SAFER Grant Funding Over 3 Years, 2% Increases after MOU Exp.		PROJECTED FY 2024/25	PROJECTED FY 2025/26	PROJECTED FY 2026/27	PROJECTED FY 2027/28	PROJECTED FY 2028/29
A.	BEGINNING FUND BALANCE - All Funds Combined	295,761,892	252,551,428	251,799,340	261,487,687	277,104,826
GENERAL FUND Revenue & Expenditures						
	Property Taxes	358,765,181	370,636,824	406,448,525	427,153,649	448,729,374
	State Reimbursements	16,786,908	16,786,908	16,786,908	16,786,908	16,786,908
	Federal Reimbursements	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
	One-Time Grant/ABH/RDA	73,389,789	-	-	-	-
	Community Redevelopment Agency Pass-thru	28,532,644	30,765,240	14,629,608	15,509,971	16,249,560
	Cash Contracts	148,114,007	154,692,862	160,736,213	166,321,404	172,472,735
	Community Risk Reduction Fees	8,194,287	8,194,287	8,194,287	8,358,173	8,525,336
	ALS Supplies & Transport Reimbursement	4,547,600	4,547,600	4,547,600	4,547,600	4,547,600
	Interest Earnings	3,761,452	1,670,022	1,759,003	1,845,000	1,940,102
	Other Revenue	1,416,239	1,416,239	1,416,239	1,416,239	1,416,239
	General Fund Revenue	643,608,107	588,809,982	614,618,383	642,038,944	670,767,855
	New Positions for New Stations	-	-	1,179,909	1,818,535	4,935,954
	Employee Salaries	285,158,899	293,955,876	299,483,984	308,204,363	316,024,757
	Retirement - Regular Annual Payments	88,021,351	95,544,592	96,708,085	100,669,455	108,262,050
	Accelerated Pension / Retiree Medical Paydown	21,814,115	29,242,631	34,647,456	35,807,106	41,075,871
	Workers' Compensation (Transfer to Fund 190)	24,400,324	27,929,760	31,053,885	35,246,721	36,304,123
	Other Insurance	39,923,993	41,007,172	42,609,480	44,309,558	46,330,443
	Medicare	4,130,363	4,262,360	4,342,518	4,468,963	4,582,359
	One-Time Grant/ABH Expenditures	27,643,884	-	-	-	-
	Salaries & Employee Benefits	491,092,929	491,942,391	510,025,316	530,524,701	557,515,556
	Services & Supplies/Equipment	55,749,081	54,476,394	55,078,388	55,783,384	55,791,902
	Irvine Settlement Agreement (Transfer to Fund 139)	2,668,000	2,668,000	2,668,000	2,668,000	2,668,000
	New Station/Enhancements S&S Impacts	-	-	80,136	123,510	380,719
	One-Time Grant Expenditures	45,915,412	-	-	-	-
	General Fund Expenditures	595,425,422	549,086,785	567,851,840	589,099,595	616,356,177
B.	Incremental Increase in GF 10% Contingency	2,024,726	2,367,763	1,336,023	2,008,810	2,198,782
	GENERAL FUND SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	46,157,959	37,355,433	45,430,519	50,930,538	52,212,896
C.	Operating Transfer from Operating Contingency	-	-	-	-	-
	Transfers to CIP Funds from General Fund Surplus	46,157,959	37,355,433	45,430,519	50,930,538	52,212,896
	One-Time Pension / Retiree Med. Paydown from GF Surplus	-	-	-	-	-
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP)						
	Interest Earnings	2,824,031	2,349,075	2,371,344	2,488,489	2,634,195
	Cash Contracts	1,963,179	2,022,076	2,082,737	2,145,219	2,209,574
	Developer Contributions	1,868,550	1,276,550	3,376,550	1,276,550	828,620
	Operating Transfers into CIP from General Fund Surplus	46,157,959	37,355,433	45,430,519	50,930,538	52,212,896
	Total CIP Revenue	52,813,719	43,003,134	53,261,150	56,840,797	57,885,285
	Fund 12110 - General Fund CIP	33,251,393	11,609,700	7,806,600	5,070,300	4,565,200
	Fund 123 - Fire Stations and Facilities	23,298,955	1,500,000	1,300,000	13,300,000	17,200,000
	Fund 124 - Communications & Information Systems	7,408,054	1,200,000	1,500,000	4,500,000	4,250,000
	Fund 133 - Fire Apparatus	25,784,740	28,477,230	32,875,060	22,007,800	20,814,500
	Lease Purchase Payments	4,933,000	4,933,000	4,933,000	4,933,000	4,933,000
	Total CIP Expenses	94,676,142	47,719,930	48,414,660	49,811,100	51,762,700
D.	CIP SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) - Deposit to/withdraw from CIP reserve	(41,862,423)	(4,716,796)	4,846,490	7,029,697	6,122,585
OTHER FUNDS						
	Fund 190 - WC Revenue - Transfer from GF	24,400,324	27,929,760	31,053,885	35,246,721	36,304,123
	Fund 190 - WC Revenue - Interest Earnings	6,283,071	4,065,498	4,104,039	4,306,780	4,558,950
	Fund 190 - WC Cashflow Payments per Actuary	32,235,643	33,193,043	34,454,355	35,816,767	36,891,270
E.	Deposit to WC Cashflow Reserve	(1,552,248)	(1,197,785)	703,569	3,736,734	3,971,803
	Fund 139 - Irvine Settlement Revenue - Transfer from GF	2,668,000	2,668,000	2,668,000	2,668,000	2,668,000
	Fund 139 - Irvine Settlement Revenue - Interest Earnings	1,130,482	794,730	802,265	841,897	891,191
	Fund 139 - Irvine Settlement Expenditures - Per Agreement	2,206,000	668,000	668,000	668,000	668,000
F.	Deposit to Fund 139 - Irvine Settlement Agmt.	1,592,482	2,794,730	2,802,265	2,841,897	2,891,191
G.	Fund 171 - SFFEF Expenditures	3,413,001	-	-	-	-
	ENDING FUND BALANCE (Note) - All Funds Combined	252,551,428	251,799,341	261,487,687	277,104,826	292,289,187
Ending Balance by Fund						
	Operating Contingency (10% of Expenditures)	49,349,852	51,717,615	53,053,638	55,062,449	57,261,231
	Reserve for Cash Contract City Station Maintenance	475,000	475,000	475,000	475,000	475,000
	Structural Fire Fund Entitlement Fund (Fund 171)	10,204	10,204	10,204	10,204	10,204
	Irvine Settlement Agreement (Fund 139)	34,090,466	36,885,196	39,687,461	42,529,358	45,420,549
	CIP FUND BALANCE	5,397,857	681,061	5,527,550	12,557,247	18,679,833
	Workers' Compensation Cashflow Reserve (Fund 190)	163,228,049	162,030,264	162,733,833	166,470,567	170,442,370
	Total Fund Balances	252,551,428	251,799,341	261,487,687	277,104,826	292,289,187

Note: Ending Fund Balance is calculated by adding rows A+B+C+D+E+F-G

Forecast Assumptions – Mid-Year Revised

Basic Assumptions

The Adopted FY 2024/25 Budget, and the Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan approved by the Board of Directors on May 23, 2024 form the basis for this financial forecast with the following adjustments:

- Updated total beginning fund balance from the FY 2023/24 audited financial statements.
- All approved budget adjustments that have occurred since the adoption of the budget.
- Proposed FY 2024/25 mid-year adjustments.

General Fund Revenues

- **Secured Property Taxes** – The Harris & Associates Final 2024 Report Typical Scenario provides the growth factors assumed for the forecast. The following are projections of current secured property tax growth:

FY 2024/25	5.72%
FY 2025/26	3.83%
FY 2026/27	10.26% (Irvine pass-thru revenues transferring to property tax in FY 2026/27)
FY 2027/28	5.38%
FY 2028/29	5.32%

- **Public Utility, Unsecured, Homeowners Property Tax Relief, and Supplemental Delinquent Taxes** – All of these categories of property taxes are projected to remain constant during the forecast period.
- **State Reimbursements** – State reimbursements are expected to remain constant, pending more details from CAL FIRE.
- **Federal Reimbursements** – This revenue is projected to remain constant.
- **Community Redevelopment Agency Pass-thru Revenue** – Harris & Associates completed a Redevelopment Area Excess Revenue Analysis of pass-thru and residual revenues from the dissolution of the redevelopment agencies dated April 1, 2024. The forecast figures come from this report. Dissolution of the Irvine Successor Agency is projected for FY 2026/27 and Irvine pass-thru revenues are projected to transfer to ad-valorem property tax revenue in this year.
- **Cash Contracts** – The forecasted calculations are based on the Joint Powers Agreement and subsequent amendments with year-over-year changes ranging from 3.50% to 4.50%. In addition, this revenue category includes John Wayne Airport contract proceeds with an annual 4.00% increase cap, which is projected to continue through the forecast period.
- **Community Risk Reduction Fees** – Community Risk Reduction Fees are projected to remain constant through the forecast period from FY 2024/25 through FY 2028/29, pending any changes approved by the Board.

- **ALS Supplies & Transport Reimbursements** – This revenue is estimated to remain flat, pending any changes approved by the Board.
- **Interest Earnings** – Assumes an average annual return of 3.50% for FY 2024/25, 3.00% for FY 2025/26, and 2.50% thereafter.
- **Other Revenue** – This revenue source includes various items such as reimbursements for training and cost recovery for the firefighter handcrew and is projected to remain flat over the forecast period.

General Fund Expenditures

- **Salaries & Employee Benefits** – S&EB is composed of the following factors:
 - ✓ **New Positions for New Stations** – The forecast assumes that new vehicles will be in service for Station 67 starting 11/1/2026 and Station 12 on 7/1/2028.
 - ✓ **Employee Salaries** – Projected salaries reflect increases consistent with the approved labor group MOUs.
 - ✓ **Retirement** – Retirement costs reflect projected employer retirement rates, which are based on the OCERS provided rates for FY 2024/25. The projected employer rates in the outer years of the forecast are based on a Segal Consulting study dated July 2, 2024 provided by OCERS. FY 2025/26 rates are approximately 0.52% lower for safety and unchanged for non-safety compared to FY 2024/25 rates.

FY	Safety	General	Source
2024/25	42.01%	35.02%	FY 2024/25 based on OCERS provided rates. Outer years based on Segal Consulting Study dated July 2, 2024. Effective rates adjusted to remove impact of additional OCFA UAAL contributions.
2025/26	41.49%	35.02%	
2026/27	41.19%	34.92%	
2027/28	41.69%	35.22%	
2028/29	43.79%	36.72%	

In accordance with the Updated Snowball Strategy presented to the board in November 2015, the forecast includes the following unfunded liability paydowns:

- Contributing additional funds each year using projected savings that will be realized under new Public Employees’ Pension Reform Act (PEPRA) of \$6.8M in FY 2024/25 and continuing in different amounts until payment is complete.
- Contributing an additional \$1M each year starting in FY 2016/17 and increasing by \$2M each year until it reaches \$15M and continuing at \$15M thereafter.
- In prior years, contributed \$1 million per year from surplus fund balance available in the Workers’ Compensation Self-Insurance Fund from FY 2016/17 through FY 2020/21.
- Beginning in FY 2017/18 at mid-year, if CIP is sufficiently funded, allocate 50% of the General Fund surplus, if any, to UAAL with the remaining 50% used to fund CIP.
- ✓ **Workers’ Compensation** – FY 2024/25 assumes a 50% confidence level for ongoing Workers’ Compensation costs. The 50% confidence level is assumed throughout the

forecast period. Workers' Compensation costs in the forecast period are based on projected payments in the Rivelle Consulting Services January 2024 Actuarial Study.

- ✓ **Other Insurance** – Medical insurance rates for firefighters assume no increases through FY 2025/26 and 2.50% annual increases thereafter. For staff members, they are projected to grow by 10% annually. This category also includes \$37,000 for unemployment insurance in FY 2024/25.
- ✓ **Medicare** – Annual amounts are calculated at 1.45% of projected salaries.
- **Services and Supplies (S&S)** – S&S is held flat unless a new fire station is built, specific increases have been identified by section managers, or one-time grant proceeds have been received.

Net General Fund Revenue

This figure equals the General Fund Revenue minus the General Fund Expenditures.

Incremental Increase in General Fund 10% Contingency

This is the amount needed to add to the General Fund 10% Contingency each year to maintain this category of fund balance at the required policy level of 10% of General Fund expenditures (less one-time expenditures).

Transfer to Fund 139 from General Fund Surplus

This is the amount needed to pay for City of Irvine Settlement Agreement costs.

General Fund Surplus/(Deficit)

This figure is equal to the Net General Fund Revenue less the incremental increase in the General Fund 10% Contingency and the transfer out to Fund 139. In years when there is a surplus, unless an exception is triggered, 50% is transferred to the CIP funds and 50% is used to paydown unfunded liabilities as outlined in the Financial Stability Budget Policy. In years when there is a deficit, the deficit amount must be drawn from the 10% Contingency, and once those are exhausted, from fund balance for CIP.

Capital Improvement Program/Other Funds Revenue

- **Interest Earnings** – Assumes an average annual return of 3.50% for FY 2024/25, 3.00% for FY 2025/26, and 2.50% thereafter.
- **State/Federal Reimbursement** – The forecast assumes no State/Federal reimbursement revenue in the forecast period.
- **Cash Contracts** – The forecast calculations are based on the Joint Powers Agreement and subsequent amendments.
- **Developer Contributions** – The forecast assumes we will receive developer contributions to fund fire stations and vehicles in all years through FY 2028/29.
- **Workers' Compensation Transfer** – These amounts equal the General Fund Workers' Compensation budget.

- ***Fund 139 Transfer*** – These amounts are transferred from the General Fund to pay for various expenditures required under the City of Irvine Settlement Agreement.
- ***Operating Transfer In*** – This figure equals the Operating Transfer Out from the General Fund.

Capital Improvement Program/Other Funds Expenditures

Expenditures for each CIP fund are based on the CIP Budget.

- ***Irvine Settlement (Fund 139)*** – Budgeted expenditures in Fund 139 are based on the City of Irvine Settlement Agreement.
- ***Structural Fire Fund Entitlement (Fund 171)*** – The forecast period assumes no Structural Fire Fund Entitlement expenditures beyond FY 2024/25.
- ***Self-Insurance Fund (Fund 190)*** – Self-Insurance Fund expenditures are based on projected payments in the Rivelle Consulting Services January 2024 Workers' Compensation Actuarial Study.

Fund Balances

- ***Operating Contingency*** – Reflects policy of 10% of the General Fund expenditures each year (less one-time expenditures and UAAL payments). General Fund deficits (if applicable) are deducted from this category of fund balance.

Assigned Fund Balances

- ***Irvine Settlement (Fund 139)*** – Funding is set aside for City of Irvine Settlement Agreement costs, including the 115 Trust.
- ***Self-Insurance Fund (Fund 190)*** – Funding is set aside for Workers' Compensation outstanding claims at the 50% confidence level per Board policy. The required amount is based on the actuarial report for Estimated Outstanding Losses as of the last full fiscal year prior to report issuance. The required funding levels are maintained by retaining funds in fund balance that reflect the difference between the workers' compensation transfer and Fund 190 expenditures.
- ***Capital Improvement Program*** – This fund balance includes funding for future capital replacements and is reduced annually by the cost of capital assets and increased in years when there are Operating Transfers into the CIP.



Orange County Fire Authority
AGENDA STAFF REPORT

Board of Directors Meeting
January 23, 2025

Agenda Item No. 2G
Consent Calendar

Proclamation for National Burn Awareness Week

Contact(s) for Further Information

Matt Olson, Director of Communications MattOlson@ocfa.org 714.573.6028
Corporate Communications

Sophia Champieux, Public Relations SophiaChampieux@ocfa.org 714.573.6752
Manager/Corporate Communications

Summary

Annually, the Orange County Fire Authority proclaims the week that includes February 2-8, 2025 as Burn Awareness Week.

Prior Board/Committee Action

Not applicable.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

Approve proclamation designating February 2-8, 2025, as Burn Awareness Week.

Impact to Cities/County

Not Applicable.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

Background

Burn Awareness Week helps bring awareness to the dangers of scalds and burns and brings together burn awareness organizations, burn survivor support groups, public safety professionals, and injury prevention activists to help others become more educated about the effects burns can have on people's lives.

According to statistics, approximately every 60 seconds someone in the U.S. sustains a burn injury serious enough to require treatment, and almost three out of four burn injuries occur in the home. These preventable injuries often result from direct contact with fire or flame during activities such as cooking, using a fireplace, or lighting candles.

This year, National Burn Awareness Week will be observed February 2-8, 2025. The campaign's theme, "Burn Prevention Where You Live, Work, and Play – Preventing Burns in the Homes," serves to remind us to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe from burns. We encourage Orange County residents to practice fire safety measures, particularly in their homes, and to support public safety initiatives and activities during National Burn Awareness Week 2025.

Attachment(s)

Proposed Proclamation

**PROCLAMATION
NATIONAL BURN AWARENESS WEEK 2025**

WHEREAS, burn injuries continue to be one of the 10 leading causes of accidental death and injury in our Nation where every day, 300 children ages 0 to 19 are treated in emergency departments for burn-related injuries.; and

WHEREAS, approximately every 60 seconds someone in the U.S. sustains a burn injury serious enough to require treatment; and

WHEREAS, almost three out of four burn injuries occur in the home; The majority of these burns are preventable; and

WHEREAS, almost half of burn injuries are caused by direct contact with fire or flame, such as while cooking, using a fireplace, or lighting candles; Nearly one-third of burn injuries are caused by scalding water or other hot liquids, like coffee; Chemical burns are the least common type of burn, representing only about 1 in 30 admissions to burn centers; and

WHEREAS, non-fatal burns are a leading cause of morbidity, including prolonged hospitalization, disfigurement and disability; and

WHEREAS, Orange County residents are responsive to public education and outreach measures and can take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

WHEREAS, the 2024 National Burn Awareness Week theme, “Burn Prevention Where You Live, Work, and Play – Preventing Burns in the Homes” effectively serves to remind us to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange County Fire Authority Board of Directors does hereby declare February 2nd through February 8th, 2025, as “National Burn Awareness Week.”



Orange County Fire Authority
AGENDA STAFF REPORT

Board of Directors Meeting
January 23, 2025

Agenda Item 2H
Consent Calendar

**Contract Amendments and Budget Adjustment for
Quick Reaction Force (QRF) 2024 Program**

Contact(s) for Further Information

Brian Fennessy, Fire Chief	brianfennessy@ocfa.org	714.573.6010
Tim Perkins, Assistant Chief Field Operations South	timperkins@ocfa.org	949.702.3868

Summary

This agenda item is submitted for approval to increase the total QRF Program Spending Cap and related blanket order contracts and budget adjustment to close out the 2024 QRF program year. Approval of this item will recognize increased reimbursement revenue associated with the QRF responding to major incidents, and it will authorize the processing of invoice payments to vendors, also associated with responding to major incidents. QRF resources were utilized during a number of late 2024 season wildland fires such as the Franklin Fire, Mountain Fire, and Bridge Fire and associated QRF costs are reimbursable to the OCFA.

Prior Board/Committee Action

On November 16, 2023, the Board of Directors authorized the 2024 QRF program to continue for a duration of 365 days from January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024. This included funding and approval of various agreements for services (aerial firefighting equipment, a mobile retardant base, a program manager, Helicopter Coordinator and other related services) for a Total Spending Cap of \$19,369,772.

On November 21, 2024, the Board of Directors authorize a FY 2024/25 General Fund (121) budget adjustment to recognize 2024 QRF Program related reimbursement revenue increase of \$1,975,000 and to increase appropriations by the same amount. However, this amount was not allocated to any contracted services agreements at the time and, therefore, was not authorized for payment to any specific vendor. The budget adjustment increased the Total Spending Cap from the original \$19,369,772 to a revised cap of \$21,344,772.

On January 15, 2025, the Budget and Finance Committee will review the proposed agenda item and consider a recommendation to direct staff to place the item on the Board of Directors agenda for approval. The motion by the Committee will be reported at the Board of Directors meeting for further consideration and final action.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

1. Approve and authorize an FY 2024/25 General Fund (121) budget adjustment to recognize an additional increase in QRF related reimbursement revenue of \$4,932,989 and to increase

appropriations by the same amount, due to additional incident activity (bringing the new Total Spending Cap from \$21,344,772 to \$26,277,761).

2. Approve and authorize the Purchasing Manager to amend the 2024 QRF-related vendor blanket order contracts by the individual amounts needed in support of the QRF Program so long as the aggregate value does not exceed the new program budget total of \$26,277,761.

Impact to Cities/County

The QRF services will enhance regional aerial wildland fire response.

Fiscal Impact

Authorization of the Budget Adjustments will increase revenues and expenditures by \$4,932,989 from additional anticipated reimbursements. Reimbursements from Los Angeles County Fire Department, State and Federal agencies are forthcoming.

Background

Quick Reaction Force (QRF) Program

Wildland fire remains the most significant threat to life and property in California. Given the devastating and destructive wildfires of recent years, Governor Gavin Newsom, as well as fire agencies and utility companies throughout the state, continue to emphasize that wildfire mitigation and suppression are a top priority. The QRF is organized and dispatched as a complete aviation suppression package with everything it needs to operate at full capacity without having to rely on logistical support from the incident organization. When a wildland fire exceeds the suppression effort mounted during initial attack, the QRF Program rapidly deploys additional reinforcement aircraft including Very Large Helitankers, Aerial Supervision aircraft, and mobile fire-retardant plant services. The components of the QRF are strategically located throughout the three partner counties with Orange County's resources based at the Fullerton Municipal and Chino Airports. The QRF operates within the defined fire threat areas of the SCE service territory.

Program Funding

Fixed Costs

SCE funding covers the fixed costs of the CH-47, S-61 and S-76 Aerial Supervision Aircraft, and the ATGS/HLCO for 365 days. In addition, SCE will fund the standby costs for the mobile retardant plant for 180 days during the highest-risk portion of the year, July – December. SCE also funds program management.

Variable Costs

Separate from the SCE Program Funding, agencies requesting QRF services cover the variable costs via ABH cost reimbursement. Program non-reimbursable costs covered by State Augmentation funds.

The table below details the additional revenue reimbursement to be recognized and appropriated and the contract amendment increases in order to process invoice payments for Coulson Aviation Inc. and Perimeter Solutions for the 2024 QRF Program:

Program Funding:		
Funding Source	Description	2024 Additional Funding
Reimbursement Revenue*	Cost reimbursements from Ventura County Fire Dept, Los Angeles County Fire Dept, State and Federal agencies	\$1,975,000 <i>(Board action taken, Nov 2024)</i>
		\$4,932,989 <i>(This Board action, Jan 2025)</i>
Total Funding Sources:		\$6,907,989

Allocation of Increased Program Spending Caps to Vendors:		
Contractor	Description	Spending Cap Increase
Coulson Aviation Inc.	CH-47/S-61 Very Large Helitankers and S-76 Aerial Supervision Aircraft	\$3,607,989
Perimeter Solutions	Mobile Retardant Plant	\$3,300,000
Total Spending Cap Increase:		\$6,907,989

Resources Available to Other Fire Agencies Upon Request

The CH-47 VLHT, S-61 helitanker, and S-76 Aerial Supervision Aircraft daily standby lease and hourly flight rates, the mobile retardant plant daily standby and variable cost rates, Air Tactical Group Supervisors, and a Program Manager were added to the equipment cost reimbursement rate schedule (known as the Assistance by Hire rates or ABH rates). These ABH rates serve as the basis for OCFA cost reimbursement for services requested by other fire service agencies.

Accordingly, OCFA is expecting reimbursement funds totaling \$6,907,989 for QRF aircraft flight time and retardant usage on various fires this season. The Board previously recognized \$1,975,000 of these anticipated reimbursements and staff is now returning for approval to recognize additional reimbursements. We are expecting these reimbursement funds from Ventura County Fire Department, LA County Fire Department, Cal Fire and USFS utilizing our existing agreements

OCFA will be responsible for the flight-time charges for OCFA’s own use of the CH-47, S-61, and S-76 Aerial Supervision Aircraft resources.

Staff recommends approval of the stated recommended actions to process vendor payments for the 2024 QRF Program year.

Attachment(s)

None.



Orange County Fire Authority
AGENDA STAFF REPORT

Board of Directors Meeting
January 23, 2025

Agenda Item No. 3A
Discussion Calendar

Election of Board Chair and Vice Chair

Contact(s) for Further Information

Robert C. Cortez, Assistant Chief robertcortez@ocfa.org 714.573.6012
Business Services Department

Maria D. Huizar, Clerk of the Authority mariahuizar@ocfa.org 714.573.6041

Summary

The Rules of Procedure includes provisions for the election of the Board Chair and Vice Chair.

Prior Board/Committee Action

This is an annual and routine item for Board Member consideration.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

Elect a Chair and Vice Chair for 2025.

Impact to Cities/County

None.

Fiscal Impact

None.

Background

The Rules of Procedure adopted by the Board of Directors includes a provision for election of the Chair and Vice Chair, as follow:

“RULE 6. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS/ABSENCE OF PRESIDING OFFICER

- (a) The officers of the Board are the Chair and Vice Chair.
- (b) Elections for Chair and Vice Chair shall be held at the first meeting of each calendar year. The method of nomination and election of the Chair and Vice Chair will be at the discretion of the Board.
- (c) The Presiding Officer of the Board shall be the Chair, or in the Chair’s absence the Vice Chair, followed by the Immediate Past Chair, then the Budget and Finance Committee Chair.”

The Vice Chair may call for nominations for the 2025 Board Chair and Vice Chair positions, close the nominations, vote on the matter and declare the results.

Attachment(s)

None.