

## Purchase Justifications

The following is a list of items the Department is unable to purchase in FY22 but are essential for maintaining industry standards and meeting the needs of Council and City Staff's identified goals for keeping the Department safe and healthy.

### 1. Fire Safety Supplies and Testing

Industry standards require regular maintenance of safety supply hydro testing for self-contained breathing apparatus, oxygen tanks, and water hoses. The Department is behind schedule on testing fire equipment and has never contracted for professional hose testing.

### 2. Health and Safety

- a. *Turnout Sets*: Turnouts refer to the set of heavy fire-resistant incident gear that firefighters are required to wear for calls. HFD established a best practice of keeping a backstock of nine turnout sets in the event, a firefighter required an emergency replacement. The department exhausted its back stock for regular replacement, and additionally, the cost of the set has increased 15% for a total of \$3,300. A complete replacement cycle for turnouts is \$103,000 and needs replacement on or near an annual basis. The \$120,000 will fund a full replacement for active sets and replace the backstock.
- b. *Station Boots*: Per the City's established MOU with Local 1909, staff may request boot replacement at any time. The cost per pair is \$400, and the average annual cost for replacement is around \$16,000.
- c. *Life Scan<sup>1</sup>*: City Council and City Manager identified firefighter health and safety as top priorities; the Department requests Life Scan services for all sworn staff. Life Scan Wellness program focuses on early detection and prevention for public safety officers. Their primary focus is pre-cancer screening, cardiovascular physicals and monitoring, and diseases associated with symptoms of long-term mental health challenges (e.g., stroke, diabetes, aneurysms).

### 3. Increased Cost of Supplies and Un-funded Mandates

- a. *General Supplies*
  - i. The pandemic caused an increase in ordering personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies by 14% due to new standards and procedures.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://lifescanwellness.com/>

- ii. The Department has also focused on purchasing eco-friendly turnout laundry soap that removes toxins, hydrocarbons, and other contaminants and continues the purchase of eco-friendly apparatus soap.

*b. Foam*

In April of 2019, a high-profile Berkeley fire and response contaminated a storm drain and nearby stream with foam, killing approximately 100 fish. In 2020, lawmakers voted to ban the sale and use of fire-retardant foam that contains perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, a class of chemicals commonly known as PFAS. These chemicals cause kidney and testicular cancer, thyroid disease, and other serious health problems. The passing of Senate Bill 1044<sup>2</sup> requires HFD to dispose of the total supply on hand and replace it with new foam. The new foam is not as potent, so the department has quadrupled its foam order—from one palette to four annually—and the price has increased five percent for new and less-offensive ingredients. The existing foam supply requires a Hazmat team for proper disposal with an approximate cost of \$7,000.

*c. Emergency Medical Services*

Alameda County implemented another unfunded mandate and scope of practice change in 2018. All ALS response vehicles are required to carry a minimum amount of Torodal and Fentanyl. Additionally, the Department's EMS budget increased by \$5,000 to supply the City's new ALS response unit, Squad 2.

#### **4. Equipment and Technology**

*a. FirstNet*

In previous years, IT and Fire Departments split the cost of a \$16,000 annual contract for service. IT transferred this contract to the Fire Department as of FY22.

*b. Fire RMS*

HFD expanded its existing contract with ESO, a records management system for emergency medical service calls, to include fire incident data. This upgrade will allow the department to have all incident data on one platform, streamline NFIRS reporting, and respond to additional requests from City Manager's Office for the Policy Innovation Workgroup.

#### **5. Local Hazard Mitigation Plan**

FEMA requires an approved and adopted Local Hazard Mitigation Plan to participate in Cal OES Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. In 2020, the Department was awarded Phase

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<sup>2</sup> [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201920200SB1044](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200SB1044)

I funding of \$21,000 for a defensible space program. Staff is currently awaiting Phase II approval for an additional \$300,000 award to complete the program. Without this plan update, FEMA can and will de-fund the project.

**Table 1: Purchase Requests**

Category	Budget Item	Budgeted in Previous Years	Actual Cost	Needed for FY22
Fire Equipment Testing	SCBA, O2 Bottles	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
	Hose Testing	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Health & Safety	Turnouts	\$ 32,000	\$ 132,700	\$ 132,700
	Station Boots	\$ 2,000	\$ 16,000	\$ 14,000
	Cancer screening	\$ -	\$ 103,000	\$ 103,000
Supplies	Supplies	\$ 49,000	\$ 55,000	\$ 6,000
	EMS Supplies	\$ 69,000	\$ 76,000	\$ 7,000
Equipment & Technology	Fire RMS	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
	Firstnet	\$ 8,000	\$ 16,000	\$ 16,000
Policy Mandates	LHMP	\$ -	\$ 16,600	\$ 16,600
	Foam Removal and Replacement	\$ 6,800	\$ 24,000	\$ 17,200
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 179,000</b>	<b>\$ 454,300</b>	<b>\$ 351,500</b>