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+DATE: April 2, 2008  
TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers  
FROM: Fire Department  
SUBJECT: **ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES RELATED TO THE 2007 CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES DISASTER**

**SYNOPSIS**

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution approving application to the Governor's Office of Emergency Services seeking reimbursement for expenses related to the October 2007 wildfires; and authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to sign all documents required to apply for reimbursement, and to sign all contracts and documents if the reimbursement is approved.

**BACKGROUND**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) declared the October 2007 wildfires that swept through Southern California as FEMA-1731-DR-CA. The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services is charged with processing applications for public assistance and California Disaster Assistance Act grants, to reimburse public agencies for expenses related to FEMA-1731-DR-CA. The City of Oceanside, including the North County Humane Society (NCHS), identified approximately \$144,000 in Firestorm 2007 related expenses and is applying to the Governor's office for reimbursement of these costs. NCHS, a subcontractor to the City's Public Works Department, has applied for FEMA reimbursement as a Private Non Profit (PNP) organization under the sponsorship of the City of Oceanside.

**ANALYSIS**

Several departments in the City incurred expenses as a result of undertaking emergency protective measures in anticipation that the October fires would reach Oceanside. Following is a summary of City department involvement in the fires and the activities that caused them to incur expenses:

- Fire Department, besides assisting other agencies fight the fires through the state's mutual aid system also ran the command center at Fire Station 3, provided briefings and updates on the fire situation, and activated a modified EOC in the City.

- Harbor Department incurred costs for renting and servicing portable toilets and sinks for evacuees threatened by the fires who had camped along the Harbor.
- Information Technology staff set up and prepared an alternate emergency dispatch center at Fire Station 6.
- Neighborhood Services Department employees were instrumental in caring for and supporting fire evacuees at an evacuation center set up at El Camino High School.
- Police Department took action to reduce and/or eliminate immediate threats to life and public safety and to protect public and private properties.
- Water and Sewer employees worked long hours to monitor facilities and equipment threatened by the fires.
- North County Humane Society, a subcontractor of the Public Works Department , provided animal control services including setting up an animal shelter.
- After the fires, Public Works Department staff was charged with power-washing the large amounts of ash that had been blown into the City by high winds, as well as any debris removal.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Of the approximately \$144,000 request submitted, any reimbursement approved by FEMA will be used to offset fire-related expenses incurred by the individual departments and/or reimburse the General Fund. If FEMA approves any reimbursements for the NCHS, they would be paid to the City which would in turn reimburse the NCHS.

### **COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE REPORT**

Does not apply.

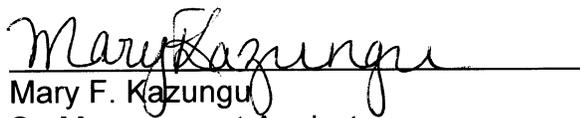
### **CITY ATTORNEY'S ANALYSIS**

The resolution has been reviewed by the City Attorney and approved as to form.

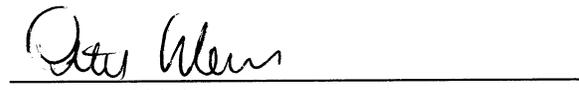
**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution approving application to the Governor's Office of Emergency Services seeking reimbursement for expenses related to the October 2007 wildfires; and authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to sign all documents required to apply for reimbursement, and to sign all contracts and documents if the reimbursement is approved.

PREPARED BY:

  
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Mary F. Kazungu  
Sr. Management Analyst

SUBMITTED BY:

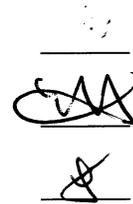
  
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Peter A. Weiss  
City Manager

REVIEWED BY:

Michelle Skaggs Lawrence, Deputy City Manager

Terry Garrison, Fire Chief

Teri Ferro, Financial Services Director

  
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1 RESOLUTION NO.

2 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
3 OCEANSIDE APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR  
4 REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE  
OCTOBER 2007 CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES DECLARED  
FEMA-1731-DR-CA

5 WHEREAS, the City of Oceanside is a legally constituted municipal government under  
6 the laws of the State of California; and

7 WHEREAS, the Governor's Office of Emergency Services processes applications for  
8 public assistance and California Disaster Assistance Act grant programs related to the October  
9 2007 California wildfires disaster declared as FEMA-1731-DR-CA.

10 NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Oceanside does resolve as follows:

11 SECTION 1. The filing of the application with the Governor's Office of Emergency  
12 Services for reimbursement of City costs associated with FEMA-1731-DR-CA is hereby  
13 approved.

14 SECTION 2. Peter A. Weiss, City Manager, or his designee, is hereby appointed and  
15 authorized to sign all documents required to apply for reimbursement, and to sign all contracts  
16 and documents for the reimbursement if approved.

17 PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Oceanside, California,  
18 this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2008, by the following vote:

19  
20 AYES:  
21 NAYS:  
22 ABSENT:  
23 ABSTAIN:

24 MAYOR OF THE CITY OF OCEANSIDE

25 ATTEST:

26 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

27 \_\_\_\_\_  
28 City Clerk

*Robert J. Hamilton, ASST.*  
City Attorney