



Council Agenda Report

To: Mayor Wagner and the Honorable Members of the City Council

Prepared by: Lisa Soghor, Assistant City Manager

Approved by: Reva Feldman, City Manager

Date prepared: March 13, 2019 Meeting date: March 25, 2019

Subject: Update on Woolsey Fire and Storm Damage Costs

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and file an update of costs associated with the Woolsey Fire and the subsequent winter storms.

FISCAL IMPACT: The current estimate for emergency response and repairs to City facilities and infrastructure from the Woolsey Fire is approximately \$7.8 million. The estimate for emergency protective measures and debris removal related to the winter storms is approximately \$1.4 million. Of the total \$9.2 million, the City anticipates reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) in the amount of \$8.4 million. The City will be responsible for paying approximately \$850,000. This amount will be included in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 budget.

DISCUSSION: On January 28, 2019, staff presented the Mid-Year 2018-2019 budget to Council. At that time, staff was in the early stages of working with the City's insurance company California Joint Powers Insurance Authority (JPIA) and FEMA to address damages to City facilities and infrastructure caused by the Woolsey Fire as well as expenditures related to the City's emergency response during the fire. Since that time, staff has developed more accurate cost estimates for the work already undertaken and the repairs that still need to be made.

Staff has submitted damage estimates to FEMA that total approximately \$7.8 million dollars. If they are all approved, FEMA will cover 75% of those costs. The CalOES will cover an additional 18.75%. The City would be responsible for the remaining 6.25% which totals approximately \$500,000.

In January, staff had estimated that an additional \$200,000 would be needed for storm response and debris removal during the current fiscal year. Subsequently, stronger and more intense storms hit the Malibu area in late January and February. Staff is currently estimating that emergency response and debris removal costs will be closer to \$1.4 million.

On February 26, 2018, Governor Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency due to the winter storms in a number of counties across California including Los Angeles County. The declaration means that CalOES will cover 75% of the costs associated with the storms. The City would be responsible for the remaining 25% which would be approximately \$350,000. After the rainy season, staff will conduct an assessment of damage to City infrastructure caused by the storms including culverts, drains, roadways and embankments and will present those costs to Council at a future meeting.

Staff will present more detailed information regarding fire and storm related expenses during the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 budget process.

ATTACHMENTS: None.