



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Puget Sound Fire receives two federal grants

Kent, Wash – 10/7/19

As we begin the celebration of Fire Prevention Week, Puget Sound Fire would like to announce the receipt of two federal grants. Last week at the Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority Governance Board meeting, it was approved to accept two federal grants for the fire department totaling almost \$1.5 million dollars. The grants were awarded last week and include two federal grants through the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) and the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program!!

- SAFER Grant for \$948,191.60. This is for four (4) firefighter positions to be hired after the first of the year. The grant allocates 75% of their pay and benefits for year 1 and 2 and then 35% in year 3.
- FIREACT Grant for \$545,454.54 for a Heavy-Duty Rescue or similar. The grant is from FEMA with the award being \$545,454.54.

In a message thanking the team that worked on the grants Fire Chief Matt Morris said: “As an organization that believes in continuous improvement through innovation, we are always seeking new opportunities and methods to fund our services and organizational needs. We recognize that this is our responsibility as a community partner in building trust in our relationships with those we serve. Division Chief Markley is our designated grant writer and leads a team of our folks from all over the department seeking out and applying for grants.” The collaborative effort between multiple divisions included human resources, fleet services, planning, and finance.

This is also another example of how working as a regional fire authority we can provide effective and efficient service to the communities we serve. The hiring process has already been started so we can make job offers soon. These positions will replace firefighters will be retiring in 2020.

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