



**North Tooele Fire District  
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To: Board of Trustees

From: Fire Chief, Kevin Nunn

Re: Grant Funding

One of the most significant ways in which we can positively impact our Fire District is through grant funding. There is no “free lunch” – there are always reports and administration once grants are received. However, with minimal impact to our budgets, occasionally, we can reap significant benefits. I won’t apply for any grants that might require more work than benefit.

I have significant experience within the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program and the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Program. I have limited experience with the Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) Grant Program. After submission, award notification can take up to a year. Whichever grant program we apply for, if we are awarded, I have high confidence that Cassandra and I will be able to handle the administration.

The most important aspect of grant writing is to be prepared. We have six months to prepare for the application period which usually starts in December and continues through February. By then, I hope to have a list of projects to apply for and grants “ready for submission”. These projects will range from simple to complex. I will try to prepare The Board for all the ramifications within the applications. For example,

- 1) AFG – Wildland Fire PPE, Computer-based Simulation Table, Alert Wildfire Cameras, Smoky Bear Fire Danger Rating Signs. This type of an application would be simple equipment, installation and inventory. There is usually a 10% cost match from NTFD.
- 2) SAFER – (1-9 hiring additional staffing). This type of application would increase our staffing FREE for usually 1-2 years. Then NTFD would have to make a decision to retain those hired or be able to sustain the costs within our personnel budget. I’m not a fan of this program simply because if we hire, I want to retain. Firefighters will not commit to our department unless there is a future within the program.
- 3) SAFER – Recruitment and Retention. This type of application could improve our staffing with a recruitment program for volunteers/part-time, etc. We can include a stipend program or a tuition reimbursement program or a live-in program, etc. This allows for some creativity within an application.

Prior to application, I will keep The Board informed of any plans, potential benefits and concerns. If you hear of any grants or if there is anything you would like me to apply for, please let me know.

Sincerely,  
  
Kevin Nunn, Fire Chief, North Tooele Fire District