



Staff Report

TO: City Council
FROM: Elizabeth Gibbs, City Manager
Darron Usher, Principal Management Analyst
DATE June 3, 2025
SUBJECT: Approval of the FY 2025/26 Local Responsibility Area Wildland Protection Reimbursement Agreement

Description Request to approve the FY 2025/26 Local Responsibility Area Wildland Protection Reimbursement Agreement with CAL FIRE.

Background and Analysis:

The City currently contracts with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) for wildland fire protection of 1,173 acres of designated wildland area within the Beaumont city limits. Wildland areas located within incorporated cities, fire protection districts, or special districts are classified as Local Responsibility Areas (LRAs), and fire suppression responsibilities within these areas rest with the local agency.

Due to frequent high winds and dry conditions, wildland fires continue to pose one of Beaumont's greatest natural disaster risks. Fires in these areas can quickly exceed the capacity of local resources, requiring assistance from CAL FIRE for supplemental support such as engines, inmate hand crews, bulldozers, and aircraft.

Without a formal agreement, any resources provided by CAL FIRE would be treated as assistance-by-hire, resulting in direct costs to the City from the time of dispatch. By entering into this agreement, the City ensures that CAL FIRE will respond to wildland incidents within the LRA at no additional per-incident cost, treating the area as they would adjacent State Responsibility Areas.

This agreement provides essential fire suppression support and aligns with the City's risk management and public safety priorities.

Fiscal Impact:

The cost to enter into the FY 2025/26 agreement with CAL FIRE is \$55.58 per acre with a 10.77% administrative charge, totaling \$65,200.48. Funding is programmed in the Fire Department FY 2025/26 Budget, Account 100-2100-7068-0000.

The estimated cost to prepare this staff report was \$400.00.

Recommended Action:

Waive the full reading and adopt by title only, "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Beaumont, California, Approving an Agreement with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for Services from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 for Fire Protection Services within the Local Responsibility Areas within the City" and;

Authorize the City Manager to execute the FY 2025/26 Wildland Protection Agreement and issue a Purchase Order in the amount of \$65,200.48.

Attachments:

- A. FY2026 Wildland Protection Agreement
- B. Resolution