



# AGENDA REPORT

Department: Fire Department  
Prepared by: Walter Amedee, Emergency Manager  
Meeting Date: Tuesday, June 3, 2025  
Approved by: Scott W. Huth, Interim City Manager

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**SUBJECT:**

California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) Mutual Aid

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt the Resolution Entitled, "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Clarifying the California Fire Assistance Agreement (CFAA) by Identifying Suppression/Safety and Non-Suppression Personnel that can be Compensated Portal to Portal for Services Rendered at Incidents, as Requested by the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)."

**BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE PRIOR ACTION:**

Not Applicable.

**EXPLANATION:**

On May 5, 2015, the City Council adopted Resolution 2015-54, authorizing portal-to-portal compensation for emergency response personnel and enabling the City to seek reimbursement from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) or the requesting agency.

Portal-to-portal compensation is calculated from the moment a staff member and/or equipment resource is dispatched from their home base until they return. This policy is particularly important for participants in the California Fire Assistance Agreement (CFAA), as it ensures full reimbursement for costs associated with aid assignments. These costs include expenses for National City Fire Department response personnel deployed to the assignment, as well as the cost to backfill their positions during deployment. Portal-to-portal compensation also applies to apparatus and equipment with associated use fees.

The authorization provided in Resolution 2015-54 referred generically to "suppression/safety and non-suppression personnel to be compensated portal-to-portal for services rendered at incidents." Cal OES has requested that the City identify the specific classifications of the personnel who would be responding to incidents and further clarify portal-to-portal compensation.

The new resolution identifies those response personnel to include Suppression/Safety classifications—Fire Chief, Fire Division Chief, Fire Battalion Chief, Fire Captain, Fire Engineer, and Firefighter—as well as Non-Suppression classifications to include Emergency Manager. In addition, National City Fire Department response personnel will be compensated above straight time/overtime when applicable while in the course of their employment, away from their official duty station, and assigned to or supporting an emergency incident, or pre-positioned for emergency response.

The adoption of the proposed Resolution will allow the incorporation of updated language in the CFAA as requested by Cal OES and formally identify the terms and conditions under which National City Fire Department response personnel, and the personnel necessary to backfill behind them, are compensated on a portal-to-portal basis as described herein while assigned to mutual aid under the CFAA.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT:**

In FY 2024-25, the National City Fire Department responded to nineteen California Fire Assistance Agreement incidents. The total reimbursement amount for these responses was approximately \$1,454,826.40, of which the City receives approximately \$279,740.86 in Administrative service charges.

**RELATED CITY COUNCIL 2020-2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:**

Public Safety

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:**

This is not a project under CEQA and is therefore not subject to environmental review. CCR15378; PRC 21065.

**PUBLIC NOTIFICATION:**

The Agenda Report was posted at least 72 hours before the Regular Meeting date and time, and 24 hours before a Special Meeting in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act

**ORDINANCE:**

Not Applicable

**EXHIBITS:**

Exhibit A - Resolution