

16969 JACKSON SLOUGH ROAD ISLETON, CA 95641

**News Release - River Delta Fire District** 

For Immediate Release Date: August 25, 2023

**Contacts: Fire Chief, Paul J. Cutino** 

**Subject:** Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG)

The River Delta Fire District has secured \$159,841 in Federal "Assistance to Firefighters Grant" funding to purchase new, state of the art self-containing breathing apparatus (SCBA's). The SCBA's will be placed on Engines 94, 294, 394, 594 and Battalion 94.

According to River Delta's Fire Chief Paul Cutino, the Fire District applied for the grant based upon a strategy that will improve firefighter safety, training and enhancing firefighting capability and response. The funding will increase River Delta Fire District's First Responder's capacity to protect the health and safety of firefighters and the public through the purchase of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus.

According to FEMA, the primary goal of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) is to meet the firefighting and emergency response needs of fire departments and non-affiliated emergency medical service organizations.

Since 2001, AFG has helped firefighters and other first responders obtain critically needed equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles, training and other resources necessary for protecting the public and emergency personnel from fire and related hazards.

"The River Delta Fire District is very appreciative of the opportunities the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant provides to the firefighters in this nation. This grant finding replaces our antiquated SCBA's that was beyond its service life and now allows us to maintain a state of readiness while serving the citizens of our Isleton communities and our mutual aid partners." According to Fire Chief Paul Cutino.

The grant provided for 90% of the SCBA costs, with River Delta Fire District providing \$7,992.00 matching funds for the remainder of the purchase. "We would not be able to provide the matching funds necessary to make this grant successful if it were not for the fundraisers and passing of Measure H from our beloved community. The Firefighters and District Board greatly appreciate your continued support."

Chief Cutino further added that announcements will be coming soon about additional grant awards that River Delta Fire District has recently received."

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