



FIRE SERVICES
Request to Solicit Proposals

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
August 2014

**A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO SOLICIT PROPOSALS FOR
CONTRACT FIRE SERVICES
(City Manager)**

Existing Law:

Title III Section 40(f) of the Charter of the City of San Bernardino, State of California, provides that the “Council shall have power to establish and maintain a fire department, prescribe fire limits and adopt regulations for the protection of the City against fires.”

Further, Title X, Section 183, of the Charter indicates “The Fire Department shall consist of a Chief of the Fire Department and as many ranking officers, firefighters, and other employees as the Mayor and Council may determine” and prescribes the duties of Chief of the Fire Department therein.

This Resolution would direct the City Manager to request proposals to all qualified surrounding Fire Departments, including the San Bernardino County Fire Department and Cal Fire, for the purpose of contracting fire service on behalf of the City of San Bernardino.

Recommendation:

Pass the Resolution requesting submittals for contract fire services for consideration by the Mayor and Common Council.

Discussion:

The City of San Bernardino’s adopted Fiscal Years 2014-2015 Budget established a complete spending of \$28.1 million for the provision of fire services by the City of San Bernardino Fire Department. For Fiscal Year 2013-2014, total fire services’ costs were \$30.4 million or \$141.40 per capita.

In addition to these direct costs, additional costs including labor negotiations, labor-dispute resolution and litigation are borne by the City and should be factored into the overall cost of providing fire services.

In 2012, the City filed for Chapter 9 Bankruptcy protection. To exit Bankruptcy, an approved Plan of Adjustment must be submitted to the Court to demonstrate the ability of the City of pay its creditors and for the purpose of demonstrating sustainability by the City over the designated period of time.

This Resolution would direct the City Manager to request proposals for providing fire services within the City and to enter into discussions with responding agencies regarding contract fire services for the City. Further, this comparative data will be utilized to demonstrate to the Bankruptcy Court the long-term sustainability for the provision of fire services within the submitted Plan-of-Adjustment.

The City must make decisions, evaluate options, and provide accurate information for the Plan-of-Adjustment. Proposals from qualified agencies will assist in that process.