



*City of South Fulton Government*

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Department of Communications**

MEDIA CONTACT: Sheena Screen

Communications Specialist

470-809-7748 ● 404-979-4561 (cell)

[Sheena.Screen@cityofsouthfultonga.gov](mailto:Sheena.Screen@cityofsouthfultonga.gov)

5440 Fulton Industrial Boulevard, SW Atlanta, GA 30336

[www.cityofsouthfultonga.gov](http://www.cityofsouthfultonga.gov)

<https://twitter.com/COSFGA>

**Council Approves Grant Match to Allow Specialized Training for City Firefighters**

**(City of South Fulton, GA – Tuesday, August 25, 2020)** – A FEMA grant will allow South Fulton firefighters to receive specialized aircraft rescue firefighting training. The City Council Tuesday passed a motion to approve a \$10, 690.91 grant match to receive \$106,909.09 in federal funding through the 2019 Assistance to Firefighters Grant program.

The primary goal of the AFG is to enhance the safety of the public and firefighters by providing financial assistance to fire departments. AFG provides funding for critically needed resources to equip and train emergency personnel to recognized standards, enhance operations efficiencies, and support community resilience.

“We are excited to know that 15 of our firefighters will have the opportunity to travel to another state to participate in the Aircraft Rescue Firefighting Program at the accredited South Carolina Fire Academy,” said Sterling Jones, Interim Fire Chief of the South Fulton Fire Rescue Department.

Firefighters will undergo a five-day, 40-hour international certifications course to learn the necessary skills to perform aircraft rescue. ARFF firefighters will use hands-on foam applications and learn best practices to fight live flammable liquid fires.

The federal funds will also provide training in other specialty areas: hazardous materials, driver operator training for sergeant firefighters who serve as relief drivers when responding to emergencies, and the opportunity for firefighters to learn life-saving paramedic skills.

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