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**NEWS  
RELEASE**

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# City of El Paso Fire Department Awarded More Than \$4.4 Million in Federal Funding to Strengthen Emergency Response

**EL PASO, Texas**—The City of El Paso Fire Department (EPFD) has been awarded more than \$4.4 million in federal funding to enhance public safety through expanded staffing and upgraded emergency response capabilities.

The majority of the funding comes from a \$4.26 million Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The SAFER Grant will fund 21 new entry-level firefighter positions to help the department meet National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards for emergency response times and staffing levels. The new firefighters will serve the planned Far East El Paso fire station which is anticipated to open in 2026.

“As our city continues to grow, especially in Far East El Paso, it’s critical that we ensure every resident receives the same high level of safety and service,” said Mayor Renard U. Johnson. “This investment strengthens our fire department and reflects our continued commitment to protecting lives and property across all corners of our community.”

The new Far East fire station will be located 2.5 miles from the nearest facility and will house both a front-line fire engine and an ambulance.

“This grant is another example of how we’re planning strategically to meet the needs of our growing city while being fiscally responsible,” said City Manager Dionne Mack. “By securing federal funding to expand our emergency response network, we’re reducing the local financial burden and ensuring residents across El Paso can continue to count on timely, professional service when it matters most.”

In addition to the SAFER award, EPFD’s Special Operations Division received a \$159,565 FY26 Border Zone Grant to purchase specialized extrication equipment that supports complex rescue and border security operations.

The new equipment will enhance EPFD’s ability to respond to incidents such as confined-space rescues, catastrophic vehicle accidents, and high-speed pursuits.

For more information, visit the El Paso Fire Department at [www.ElPasoTexas.gov/fire-department](http://www.ElPasoTexas.gov/fire-department).

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