

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-O-009

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO AMEND THE FY2023-2024 FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE) POSITION LISTING BY ADDING TWENTY-FOUR FIREFIGHTER CADETS, FA2 POSITIONS AND AMENDING FIRE STRENGTH FROM 407 TO 431 FOR THE CITY OF LAREDO FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR A TOTAL OF \$1,800,000.00. FUNDING IS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUND.

WHEREAS, The Laredo Fire Department has a current fire strength of 407 firefighters; and

WHEREAS, Laredo's growth has required a need for the Laredo Fire Department to expand and increase the number of Firefighters on duty; and

WHEREAS, Increasing the number of firefighters allows for quicker response times to emergencies. Faster response times can make a significant difference in controlling and mitigating the impact of fires, accidents, and other emergencies; and

WHEREAS, More firefighters mean increased coverage and capacity to handle multiple incidents simultaneously. This leads to better protection of the community and its residents, contributing to overall public safety; and

WHEREAS, The City of Laredo plans to open a future fire station (Fire Station 16 – Buena Vista); and

WHEREAS, The City, through the use of funds from the American Rescue Plan Act, will add 24 new firefighter cadet positions to meet the City's growing needs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAREDO, TEXAS THAT:

Section 1. This ordinance authorizes the City Manager to amend the FTE position listing for the fiscal year 2023-2024. Specifically, it allows for the addition of twenty-four Firefighter Cadets (FA2 positions) to the City of Laredo Fire Department. The amendment seeks to increase the fire strength of the City of Laredo Fire Department from 407 to 431 positions. This indicates an expansion in the number of authorized firefighting personnel. The total cost associated with this increase in firefighting personnel is specified as \$1,800,000.00. The funding for this amendment is stated to be available through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Fund.

Section 2. This ordinance shall be cumulative of all provisions of ordinances of the City of Laredo, Texas, except where the provisions of this ordinance are in direct conflict with the provisions of such ordinances, in which event the conflicting provisions of such ordinances are hereby repealed.

Section 3. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Council that the phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and sections of this ordinance are severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section of this ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and sections of this ordinance, since the City Council would have enacted the same without the incorporation in this ordinance of any

such unconstitutional phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section.

Section 3. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon passage.

**PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR ON THIS
_____ DAY OF _____ 2024.**

**DR. VICTOR T. TREVINO
MAYOR**

ATTESTED:

**JOSE A. VALDEZ, JR.
CITY SECRETARY**

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

**DOANH “ZONE” T. NGUYEN
CITY ATTORNEY**

BY: _____

ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY