

DATE: 09/21/2023

TO: 911 Emergency Response Advisory Committee

FROM: Andy Ancho, Reno Fire Department Division Chief of Emergency Management

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING for the Dispatch-Fire Station Alerting System software, hardware, and installation costs for the City of Reno Public Safety Dispatch in an amount not to exceed \$140,287.66

SUMMARY

Currently, the City of Reno's Public Safety Answer Point (PSAP) transmits audible notification alerts to responding fire station(s) during emergency fire events to inform fire staff of required resources. The system that was used for this purpose was end-of-life and out of warranty. The City of Reno Public Safety Dispatch and Fire Department was approved for a new system to ensure there is a robust enhanced communication system between dispatch and the fire stations required during fire emergency calls by the Washoe County 911 Emergency Response Advisory Committee in September 2021.

BACKGROUND

At the September 2021 the City of Reno submitted an agenda request for a PURVIS Fire Station Alerting System with a total budget of not to exceed \$1,240,000.00. Two payment options were presented with a one-time estimated payment of \$1,099,712.34 plus a 10% contingency and a 5 year installment of \$224,942.47 annually for a total of \$1,124,712.34 plus a 10% contingency. The Washoe County 911 Emergency Response Advisory Committee approves the one-time payment of \$1,099,712.34. City of Reno is now requesting an additional payment of \$140,287.66 to complete the project. These additional requested funds still ensures the overall budget is within the requested not to exceed amount of \$1,240,000.

NRS APPLICABLE

NRS 244A.7645 Provides approval of costs associated with maintenance, upgrade and replacement of equipment necessary for the operation of the enhanced telephone system. The following is a complete definition of the NRS 244A.7645, with applicable sections highlighted:

NRS 244A.7645 Establishment of advisory committee to develop plan to enhance or improve telephone system; creation of special revenue fund; use of money in fund.

1. If a surcharge is imposed pursuant to [NRS 244A.7643](#) in a county whose population is 100,000 or more but less than 700,000, the board of county commissioners of that county shall establish by ordinance an advisory committee to develop a plan to enhance the telephone system for reporting an emergency in that county and to oversee any money allocated for that purpose. The advisory committee must consist of not less than five members who:
 - (a) Are residents of the county;
 - (b) Possess knowledge concerning telephone systems for reporting emergencies; and
 - (c) Are not elected public officers.

2. If a surcharge is imposed pursuant to [NRS 244A.7643](#) in a county whose population is less than 100,000, the board of county commissioners of that county shall establish by ordinance an advisory committee to develop a plan to enhance or improve the telephone system for reporting an emergency in that county and to oversee any money allocated for that purpose. The advisory committee must:
 - (a) Consist of not less than five members who:
 - (1) Are residents of the county;
 - (2) Possess knowledge concerning telephone systems for reporting emergencies; and
 - (3) Are not elected public officers; and
 - (b) Include a representative of an incumbent local exchange carrier which provides service to persons in that county. As used in this paragraph, “incumbent local exchange carrier” has the meaning ascribed to it in 47 U.S.C. § 251(h)(1), as that section existed on October 1, 1999, and includes a local exchange carrier that is treated as an incumbent local exchange carrier pursuant to that section.

3. If a surcharge is imposed in a county pursuant to [NRS 244A.7643](#), the board of county commissioners of that county shall create a special revenue fund of the county for the deposit of the money collected pursuant to [NRS 244A.7643](#). The money in the fund must be used only:
 - (a) In a county whose population is 45,000 or more but less than 700,000, to enhance the telephone system for reporting an emergency, including only:
 - (1) Paying recurring and nonrecurring charges for telecommunication services necessary for the operation of the enhanced telephone system;
 - (2) Paying costs for personnel and training associated with the routine maintenance and updating of the database for the system;
 - (3) Purchasing, leasing or renting the equipment and software necessary to operate the enhanced telephone system, including, without limitation, equipment and software that identify the number or location from which a call is made; and
 - (4) Paying costs associated with any maintenance, upgrade and replacement of equipment and software necessary for the operation of the enhanced telephone system.

(b) In a county whose population is less than 45,000, to improve the telephone system for reporting an emergency in the county.

4. If the balance in the fund created in a county whose population is 45,000 or more but less than 700,000 pursuant to subsection 3 which has not been committed for expenditure exceeds \$1,000,000 at the end of any fiscal year, the board of county commissioners shall reduce the amount of the surcharge imposed during the next fiscal year by the amount necessary to ensure that the unencumbered balance in the fund at the end of the next fiscal year does not exceed \$1,000,000.
5. If the balance in the fund created in a county whose population is less than 45,000 pursuant to subsection 3 which has not been committed for expenditure exceeds \$500,000 at the end of any fiscal year, the board of county commissioners shall reduce the amount of the surcharge imposed during the next fiscal year by the amount necessary to ensure that the unencumbered balance in the fund at the end of the next fiscal year does not exceed \$500,000.

(Added to NRS by 1995, 1056; A 1999, 1686; 2001, 621, 2125; 2007, 561; 2009, 641; 2011, 1124)

STAKEHOLDER REVIEW(s)

Stakeholders are City of Reno Public Safety Dispatch, the Reno Fire Department and the Department of Information Technology (Reno).

PREVIOUS ACTION

This request for funding was previously brought to the E911 board for approval on January 21, 2021 and the request from the board was to coordinate with the other Fire Departments and Dispatch centers since all the Fire Station Alerting Systems were in need of replacement. In addition, it was also requested to be added to the 5 year budget plan for the E911 Committee to assist in fiscal planning. Every Fire Department received the bids and contact information from each of the vendors who produced a viable product. It should be noted however that previous purchases of software to enhance PSAP communications have been approved by the board on various occasions. On September 23, 2023 the E911 board approved the purchase and installation of the PURVIS Fire Station Alerting System for City of Reno.

FISCAL IMPACT

The Enhanced 911 Fund is a special revenue fund which receives revenue pursuant to NRS 244A.7643 in the form of telephone surcharges collected to support the emergency reporting system. Budget authority exists within the E911 Fund to support the Dispatch and Fire Station Alerting System. The total cost for the system, including software, hardware, project management, training, installation and warranty would not exceed \$1,125,000.00 for a five-year contract.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the E911 Emergency Response Advisory Committee approve the request for additional funding for the Dispatch-Fire Station Alerting System software, hardware, and installation costs for the City of Reno Public Safety Dispatch in an amount not to exceed \$140,287.66

POSSIBLE MOTION

Motion to approve additional funding for the Reno Dispatch-Fire Station Alerting System software, hardware, and installation costs for the City of Reno Public Safety Dispatch in an amount not to exceed \$140,287.66