

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Communications and Technology Management RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION Item No. 12

Subject: Approve negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreements with the City of Lockhart and Bastrop County for the purchase of radio system infrastructure and subscriber radio equipment to expand the Austin/Travis County Regional Radio System under a contract amendment to be executed by the City of Austin and Motorola, Inc.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$4,794,396 is available from the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Police Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund; COPS 2007 Technology Grant; local grant match fund in the amount \$350,694.50 is available from the City of Lockhart and \$1,247,437.50 is available from Bastrop County.

For More Information: Peter Collins, Chief Information Officer/974-2344

Boards and Commission Action: Related to items #11, #34 and #55.

Prior Council Action: 6/21/07 – Council approved a resolution authorizing application for \$6,000,000 in grant funds from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services to purchase radio system infrastructure and subscriber radio equipment to expand the Austin/Travis County Regional Radio System to the City of Lockhart and to Bastrop County.

Since it's beginning in 2000, the Austin-Travis County Regional Radio System (RRS) sought opportunities to expand and provide a means of interoperable voice and data communications to its neighboring jurisdictions. In 2005, with the award of a COPS Interoperable Communications Grant, the Williamson County trunked 800 MHz radio communication system was upgraded and integrated into what is now known as the Austin-Travis County/ Williamson County Regional Radio System (ATW-RRS).

On June 21, 2007, Council approved a resolution authorizing application for \$6,000,000 in grant funds from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services to purchase radio system infrastructure and subscriber radio equipment to expand the Austin/Travis County Regional Radio System to the City of Lockhart and Bastrop County. On September 17, 2007, the City was notified of a grant award under the COPS Technology Program totaling \$4,794,396.

These interlocal agreements will allow the City to expand the 800 MHz Trunked Radio System to cover Bastrop County and the City of Lockhart under a contract with Motorola Communications, Inc. The purchase of the radio system infrastructure and subscriber radio equipment is partly being funded by the COPS grant in the amount of \$4,794,396 that requires matching funds totaling \$1,598,132. The following shows the breakdown of the use of the grant funds and appropriate cost sharing amount:

City of Lockhart: \$1,052,083.50(grant), \$350,694.50 (match) Bastrop County: \$3,742,312.5(grant), \$1,247,437.50 (match) Total: \$4,794,396 (grant), \$1,598,132(match)= \$6,392,528

Interoperable communications will enhance the timeliness and capabilities of emergency communication from one agency to another as well as from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. These improvements will save lives of responders and citizens and enhance joint response operations. Future phases of the ATWBL-RRS

Strategic Plan include extending this digital voice network communication capability to first responders in nearby Blanco, Burnet, Hays, Lee, Fayette, and Llano counties, as well as expanding the ATWBL-RRS footprint into Middle Rio Grande Development Council of Governments area along the Texas-Mexico border.