



Thursday, May 25, 2006

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**Communications and Technology Management
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

#9

Subject: Authorize the negotiation and execution of an Interlocal Agreement with the Capital Area Planning Council of Governments (CAPCOG) to accept the amount of \$866,000 of 9-1-1 funding to purchase equipment for the establishment and operation of the Austin/Travis County 9-1-1 Emergency Communications Back-up Public Safety Answering Point facility.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available through CAPCOG from the Texas Commission on State Emergency Communications in accordance with Section 771.0751 of the Health and Safety Code.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Additional Backup Material
(click to open)
No Attachments Available

For More Information: Peter Collins, CIO/974-2344; Mary Lou McCarver, Project Manager/974-3097

The City of Austin and Travis County provide regional multi-governmental public safety services to the citizens of central Texas at The Combined Transportation, Emergency & Communication Center (CTECC). CTECC began operations in the fall of 2003 as a "mission critical" 24/7/365 communication center. A need has been identified for a back-up center in the event that critical communication functions have been interrupted. This back-up center, which would serve to mitigate risk, would address only a limited portion of operations.

All funds (\$866,000) for the back-up center will be provided through the Texas Commission on State Emergency Communications. The funds will be used in the purchase of additional equipment necessary and related to the establishment and operation of the back-up Public Service Answering Point (PSAP).

The City is locating and implementing the communications back-up center in the CAPCOG facility to provide basic service for Public Safety 9-1-1 services. Participating entities are the:

- Austin Police Department (APD),
- Austin Fire Department (AFD),
- Austin/Travis County Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and
- Travis County Sheriff's Office (Sheriff)

In the event that 9-1-1 call taking and dispatching operations must evacuate from CTECC, minimal operations will continue in the back-up facility. Although not all of the functionality currently in use at CTECC will be operational at the back-up PSAP, sufficient systems will be in place to handle 9-1-1 calls and dispatch emergency staff. The initial systems to be installed are:

- Plant, 9-1-1 phone
- Radio System
- Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD)