



Recommendation for Action

File #: 19-1157, **Agenda Item #:** 6.

2/21/2019

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Communications and Technology Management Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20180911-001) to accept and appropriate \$4,860,509 in disaster recovery grant funds from the Texas General Land Office; and authorizing negotiation and execution of an agreement with the Texas General Land Office to install additional radio communications sites in southeast Austin and Travis County.

Lead Department

Communication and Technology Management.

Fiscal Note

Funding in the amount of \$4,860,509 is available from the Texas General Land Office. A cost share is not required in order to accept this grant. Maintenance for the equipment installed through this grant will be paid by the Greater Austin/Travis County Regional Radio System (GATRRS) Partners. A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information:

Wireless Communications Manager, Robert Turner at 512.972.3209

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

GATRRS Governing Board approved requesting this funding at their September 29, 2017 meeting.

Additional Backup Information:

This funding will be used to add two radio communications sites to improve public safety radio communications in southeast Austin and Travis County during times of flooding and other natural disasters. The City of Austin is the managing partner of the Greater Austin/Travis County Regional Radio System (GATRRS); a partnership of the City, Travis County, Austin ISD, and the University of Texas at Austin.

As part of the after action review of the October, 2015 flooding, GATRRS partners identified radio communications system limitations in south east Austin and Travis County as impacting ability to deliver emergency services during times of flooding. Through the Texas General Land Office Disaster Recovery program, the City requested funding to make radio communications improvement in southeast Austin and Travis County to be better prepared for future flooding events.

The Texas General Land Office has approved this request for radio communications equipment for southeast Austin and Travis County and therefore authorization to negotiate and execute the related agreement is being requested. There is no funding match required for this grant. Maintenance of the equipment installed through this grant will be paid by the GATRRS partners.