

PSAP Grant Program Grant Ranker

View Application--205--Gloucester County - Complete PSAP Replacement \ Upgrade

Grant Period: 2010

Tier: Replacement of non-vendor supported wireless E-911 equipment or service to enable primary PSAP to maintain current service levels to the general public (**NON-VENDOR SUPPORTED**)

Grant Program: Continuity and Consolidation **Grant Type:** Individual PSAP

Priority: CPE (CPE)

Primary PSAP Applicants: Gloucester County

Jurisdictions Served: Gloucester, County of

Project Director:

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Project Description:

Total Project Cost \$15,000,000.00

Amount Requested: \$150,000.00

Statement of Need:

Gloucester County is in the middle of a \$15+ million dollar investment to our public safety communications system. This project includes the expansion of the currently existing regional public safety radio system that has served York County, James City County, the City of Williamsburg, and the City of Poquoson very well for the last several years such that it will also serve Gloucester County. The project includes funding to construct a new Emergency Communications Center (ECC) which will include a completely new PSAP to accommodate the 6-position radio dispatch equipment being provided by Motorola as part of the Radio System. The original overall project budget was intended to fund the complete replacement of the County's aged 3 position CPE (PLANT MAARS) with PLANT Vesta Pallas to ensure compatibility with our radio system partners. Unfortunately, while the radio system portion is under contract and is moving forward, the CPE portion of the project is not yet under contract. Cost overruns on the massive project are currently projected at \$250,000. Given CPE upgrades are not under contract, some very difficult decisions are now looming, and reduced CPE functionality is a realistic outcome. Allocation of \$150,000 of PSAP funding to Gloucester County could be put to immediate use with past awards to enable the purchase of the 6-position CPE of the same type and quality being used by our radio system partners. Maintaining consistency with our partners is an important step towards our goal to broaden the PSAP redundancy currently enjoyed between York County and James City County so that it includes Gloucester County. In this scenario, we envision that if any one of the three PSAPs is lost due to technical or physical disruption the other two

could transparently absorb its call volume. We currently anticipate that the new radio system will go live during the summer of 2009 and with it, the new PSAP will go live as well (within temporary quarters to start). The overall project has a very thorough work plan and timeline which culminates with the construction of a completely new ECC building and PSAP center. This project is a major step forward for Gloucester County's public safety answering point and their critical link between the public and first responders. The Gloucester County Board of Supervisors has committed to the long-term sustainability of the project via resolution acknowledging the magnitude and importance of long term recurring maintenance service contract costs.

Comprehensive Project Description:

The overriding goal of this project is to replace the County's existing 3-position Plant MAARS system that was put into service in the late 1990's. Maintenance of the existing CPE equipment continues to get more difficult every year due to the availability of parts and availability of knowledgeable repair technicians capable of installing and maintaining those parts. In addition to the overriding goal, the County will also enjoy improved functionality of the newer product, expansion from 3-positions to 6-positions, and compatibility with our partners (York County and James City County). Implementation of the overall project is marching forward. Gloucester County is in the process of converting a portion of the current Sheriff's office to be a temporary equipment room and dispatch floor that is fully conditioned (power, UPS, HVAC, etc). The equipment room will meet Motorola's very protective and strict R56 standards. This measure will serve to protect the County's (and Commonwealth via PSAP grant funding) investment while the permanent facility is designed and constructed. On a parallel track, the Plant Vesta Pallas equipment, data logging and management equipment, dispatch furniture, and other required equipment will be procured so it is ready to be installed in the new equipment room and dispatch room. Gloucester will proceed carefully with the selection and procurement of this equipment remaining cognizant of our ultimate plan to leverage the capabilities of York and James City PSAP centers in the future as back up centers. As an ultimate statement of longevity, Gloucester has allocated funding to construct an entirely new Emergency Communications Center (ECC), which will house the PSAP. The building is scheduled to be available in approximately two years at which time the PSAP will be relocated from the temporary location noted above.

How will the equipment purchased will support future technologies for PSAP readiness?:

The equipment being purchased will serve the County for many years into the future. The benefits gained by purchasing the same equipment used by our radio system partners will make available to Gloucester County the backup/redundancy capabilities they now share.

Budget and Budget Narrative:

The six position Plant Vesta Pallas system that is consistent with the systems already installed in York County and James City County is anticipated to cost approximately \$750,000. Motorola is in the process of developing a site specific quote through Plant to confirm pricing. This quote, when available, can be provided upon request.

Evaluation:

The evaluation of a successful implementation will be evident upon moving from the current legacy system to the proposed system during the summer of 2009.

Attachments