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CSG



State of New Hampshire

DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY
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July 31, 2024

The Honorable Ken Weyler, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI, authorize the Department of Safety, Division of Emergency Services and Communications, to accept and expend \$1,093,707 of American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF), to award a grant to the Northern Borders Dispatch for the costs associated with highly imperative upgrades that will have an immense impact to the Coos County dispatch center and how first responders communicate and respond to calls in that area. This is an allowable use of ARPA SFRF funds under Section 602 (c)(1)(C) for provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue. Effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2025. Funding Source: 100% Federal Funds

Funds are to be budgeted in SFY2025 in the following account:

02-23-23-236510-28XX0000¹ – Department of Safety, Division of Emergency Services and Communications, NBD Dispatch Upgrades – ARP

<u>Class</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Requested Action SFY 2025</u>
000-400338-16	Federal Funds	\$ (1,093,707)
041-500801	Audit Fund Set Aside	1,094
072-500573	Grants to Institutions-Federal	1,092,613
TOTAL APPROPRIATION		\$ 1,093,707

EXPLANATION

The purpose of this request is to award a grant to Northern Borders Dispatch, to procure a computer-aided dispatch system to replace their current incoming call recording system software. Their dispatch center is currently utilizing the Incident Management Control System through Central Square Technologies, formerly known as Tritech Software System, who no longer support their current software and is now considered obsolete. Northern Borders Dispatch will also invest in simulcasting their telecommunications antennas, to be able to communicate on all antennas to reach their first responders in assisting in all their calls, especially when assigning first responders out

^[1] All direct program costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602PH2317A and all administrative and indirect costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602PH2317Z. Accounting classifications may be subject to technical changes at the discretion of the Department of Administrative Services' Division of Accounting Services.

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for search and rescues calls. These updates will benefit all the departments they dispatch for, along with the other agencies they work alongside daily such as United States Border Patrol, Drug Enforcement Administration, New Hampshire (NH) and Vermont (VT) State Police, NH and VT Fish and Game and the Sheriff Departments in both NH and VT. This project is a necessity not only to Northern Borders Dispatch and their first responders, but also to the 6,498 citizens in the 22 towns they serve in the rural Great North Woods of NH, VT, and Maine (ME).

Additional beneficial features of the Computer-Aided Dispatch software program entail covering all 1,400 square miles they respond to, by mapping and making it readily available to dispatchers and first responders. As opposed to the current process where dispatchers must switch between separate computer monitors to be able to access each state's different mapping system or even rely on paper maps to search for locations, thus delaying the response time. The expected outcome of this project is to keep Northern Borders Dispatch and all area first responders always connected in a more efficient manner to improve response time for public safety.

These are allowable uses of ARPA SFRF funds under Section 602 (c)(1)(C) for provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue. In accepting ARPA SFRF funds, the Department agrees to work collaboratively with the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery to ensure accurate and timely reporting to U.S. Department of Treasury on the use of the funds.

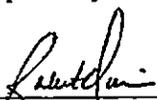
Funds are to be budgeted as follows:

Class 041 – Audit Fund Set-Aside: Represents the audit fund set-aside associated amount for this request (0.1%).

Class 072 – Grants to Institution: appropriation for the distribution of funds to grant to sub-recipient.

In the event that Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert L. Quinn
Commissioner of Safety