



State of New Hampshire

DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY
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September 8, 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 Homeland Security and Emergency Management, to accept and expend \$1,250,000 of American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF), to award a grant to the Capital Area Mutual Aid Fire Compact for the cost associated with replacing radio system equipment no longer supported by the manufacturers and enhancing overall radio system coverage performance. This is an allowable use of ARPA SFRF funds under Section 602 (c)(1)(A) to respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts. 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:

02-23-23-236010-28XX0000¹ – Department of Safety, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, CAMAFC Radio System – ARP

<u>Class</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Requested Action SFY 2025</u>
000-400338-16	Federal Funds	\$ (1,250,000)
041-500801	Audit Fund Set Aside	1,250
072-500573	Grants to Institutions-Federal	1,248,750
TOTAL APPROPRIATION		\$ 1,250,000

EXPLANATION

The purpose of this request is to award a grant to the Capital Area Mutual Aid Fire Compact (CAMAFC), who has applied for NH ARPA funds to assist in funding their project of updating their radio system equipment. CAMAFC is a District Fire Mutual Aid System established under NH RSA 154:30-a and is a Public Municipal Corporation. CAMAFC organizes fire and emergency medical services (EMS) mutual aid and provide dispatching and radio infrastructure for 24 NH towns and cities in 4 counties along with the Central NH Hazmat Team that serves 59 towns in 10 counties. They cover 545,135 acres and serve 148,491 citizens of central New Hampshire. This project is essential to continue providing critical communications

⁽¹⁾ All direct program costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602PH23184A and all administrative and indirect costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602PH23184Z. 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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equipment for fire and EMS emergency response. These funds will support their proposed system upgrade through:

- Replacing all end-of-life equipment.
- Converting Dispatch Channel to repeater operation enabling all radios on the system to hear both sides of dispatch communications. This will also enable portable radios to communicate with each other by transmitting through the repeater, effectively extending their communication range.
- Improving coverage by adding five [5] additional transmitter sites:
 - Washington, Wear-Mine Hill, Hooksett-Londonderry TRPK (change from voter to transmit) Pittsfield-Catamount, Deerfield-Saddleback and Loudon-NHMS
- Upgrading existing Dispatch Console to work with new radio system configuration.
- Microwave system changes to provide resiliency and redundancy and incorporate new sites.
- Upgrading dispatch channel and incident base stations to P25 digital, repeated operation.
- Procuring DC Power Supply – Battery-Rectifier primary and backup power for all sites.
- Procuring new antennas and transmission lines at all sites.
- Upgrading transmitter site grounding as necessary.
- Smartphone integration to provide access to new technology and improve coverage.
- System Surveillance / Alarm Monitoring for improved situational awareness.
- System Maintenance – currently divided between several companies due to using equipment from various manufacturers

Through this one-time expense, CAMAFC will utilize these funds to assist with their overall \$5.9M project, enhancing their radio system to continue providing timely emergency coverage to a significant portion of the state.

These are allowable uses of ARPA FRF funds under Section 602 (c)(1)(A) to respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts. In accepting ARP FRF 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