



Recommendation for Action

File #: 23-2823, **Agenda Item #:** 15.

9/21/2023

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with Uvalde County to support the County's access to, and use of, the City-managed Greater Austin-Travis County Regional Radio System Master Site core computer server and related radio and network equipment, software, and programming benefitting public safety agencies in the greater Uvalde County area.

Lead Department

Communications and Technology Management.

Fiscal Note

Depending upon the availability of grant funding to Uvalde County from the State of Texas, the amount potentially due to the City would be approximately \$329,000 or more, collectible in Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025 by the Communications & Technology Management Department (CTM)-Wireless Communication Services Division.

For More Information:

Inquiries should be directed to Pushpa Srinivasa, CTM-Wireless Communication Services Division Manager, (512) 972-3209, pushpa.srinivasa@austintexas.gov.

Additional Backup Information:

The City of Austin and its other Partners in the Greater Austin-Travis County Regional Radio System (GATRRS) have provided leadership for a multi-jurisdictional Project 25 (P25), interoperable VHF / 700 MHz / 800 MHz trunked radio communications system. In 2005, a \$6,000,000 federal grant to the City of Austin provided a substantial upgrade to the GATRRS "Master Site," with the stated purpose to include the hosting of other government jurisdiction radio systems into a common wide-area system to improve radio communications interoperability for day-to-day operations, mutual aid, and critical incident operations among government agencies. "Interoperability" is defined by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security as: "the ability of emergency response agencies to talk to one another via communication system - to exchange voice and/or data with one another on demand, in real time, when needed, and as authorized."

COA executed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Middle Rio Grande Council of Governments on July 13, 2005 to permit radio tower sites within its member counties, including Uvalde County, to connect to the Austin GATRRS "Master Site" operated by the City of Austin CTM-Wireless Communication Services. Uvalde County and its nearby sister counties desire to improve the two-way radio system to better serve the public using State of Texas grant funds. Accordingly, Uvalde County would be contracting via interlocal agreement for City of Austin personnel services to support the upgrade from the City.