RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

This grant program is funded by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), in consultation with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and administered at the state level by the California Governor’s Office of Homeland Security.

Grant funds are allocated to planning areas within the State. Mariposa County is a member of the Central Planning Area along with Kern, Kings, Tulare, Fresno, Madera and Merced counties. For administration purposes the State has formally allocated the FY 2007 grant to the Central Planning Area administered by the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) recipient, City of Fresno.

Representative from all seven counties and the City of Fresno (UASI) have met and established a committee to ensure interagency collaboration and cross-discipline coordination to meet the communication needs of first responders statewide. Our representative is Undersheriff Binnewies and Capt. Robles. Memoranda of Understanding are required by the grant program to ensure continuity with the Planning Areas.

The FY 2007 grand will provide funding for a communication consultant to assess the region’s interoperable capabilities and provide recommendations for improvement. Funding is available for planning without a local match and the lead agency City of Fresno will facilitate the Request for Proposal process to hire the technical consultant. The first year allocation of $5.4 million will fund the technical consultant and a portion of the consultant’s recommended projects for the entire region. The grant allows for 100% funding of the planning portion and 80% funding of the consultant’s recommended projects. A 20% local match will be required of each member-county when infrastructure or equipment is identified necessary for their respective county.

At this time, the financial impact of this grant is unknown. Upon completion of the assessment, needs and costs to the county would be presented to the Board and approval would be sought after that time if priorities and money dictate.

It is recommended that you authorize the Chair to authorize the Operational Area (Mariposa County) to participate in the FY 2007 Public Safety Interoperable Communications grant as a member of the Central Valley Planning Area; to authorize the CAO or Designee to sign the letter of intent; execute all needed Memoranda of Understanding with all agencies noted above and sign all grant documents as necessary.

This grant program has been discussed with the CAO and he supports the County’s involvement.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS: The Board has approved similar grants which positively affect Mariposa County in the communications area, however, I’m not sure if the Board has of yet entered into a grant that is Regionally shared for communications.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION: Communication grants for public safety have evolved from being awarded to individual county (Operational area) to Regional area. The trend is that all operational areas (County) within a Region must participate in the grant to
further interoperability between areas, providing a benefit to the entire region. If an operational area refuses to participate, the grant awarded to the Region is in jeopardy.

Financial Impact? ( ) Yes ( ) No
Budgeted in Current FY? ( ) Yes ( ) No ( ) Partially Funded
Amount in Budget: $0
Additional Funding Needed: $0
Source:
Internal Transfer
Unanticipated Revenue
Transfer Between Funds
Contingency
( ) General ( ) Other

Annual Recurring Cost: $0
See Attached

CLERK'S USE ONLY:
Res. No. 427
Ord. No. 
Vote - Ayes: 5
Noes: 
Absent: 
Approved
( ) Minute Order Attached ( ) No Action Necessary
The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.
Date:
Attest: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
County of Mariposa, State of California
By: Deputy

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:
✓ Requested Action Recommended
No Opinion
Comments:

CAO: 

Revised Dec. 2002
September 2, 2008

Chief Jerry Dyer, Fresno Police Department
City of Fresno UASI
2323 Mariposa Mall
Fresno, Ca 93721

RE: Letter of Intent – To Participate in the Fiscal Year 2008 Interoperable Emergency Communication Grant Program

This letter is to confirm the intention of the County of Mariposa to participate in the Interoperable Emergency Communication Grant Program (IECGP) in coordination with the Central Planning Area facilitated by the City of Fresno Urban Areas Security Initiative. The Central Valley Planning Area has been designated by the California Governor's Office of Homeland Security to administer the IECGP Grant Program in coordination with the 7 Central Valley counties.

In addition to the lead agency, City of Fresno, the Central Valley Planning Area counties of Kern, Tulare, Kings, Fresno, Merced, Mariposa, and Madera will work together to identify improvements to the Central Valley necessary to ensure regional interoperable communications.

The City of Fresno has agreed to administer the grant program on behalf of the Central Valley Planning Area. The 2008 Grant Award allows for planning activities to be reimbursed at 100%.

The Mariposa County Board of Supervisors has approved participation in the IECGP Grant Program and has authorized the County Administrative Officer to complete all Memoranda of Understanding with the Central Valley participants and any grant documents necessary.

Further, the County Administrative Officer has authorized Undersheriff Doug Binnewies to represent the County on the Central Valley Planning Committee. Undersheriff Binnewies can be reached at (209) 966-3615 or e-mail him at dbinnewies@mariposacounty.org.
RE: Letter of Intent - IECGP
September 2, 2008
Page 2

Mariposa County looks forward to a long and successful partnership with the planning area members to improve interoperable communications in the Central Valley.

Sincerely,

LYLE TURPIN
Chairman
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

Cc: Doug Binnewies, Mariposa County Undersheriff