



REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

DATE: February 26, 2008

SUBJECT: Support for \$900,000 Federal Funding Request to Improve the
Emergency Communications System

Report in Brief

Federal funding in the amount of \$900,000 is being requested by Yolo County for the improvement of the Yolo Emergency Communications Agency's communications system. The funding will provide for back-up radio transmit repeaters, receivers and other equipment needed to achieve radio redundancy and reduce the number of failed communication attempts.

Staff recommends that the City Council approve and authorize the Mayor to sign a letter of support for the federal funding request for the emergency communications system.

Background

The County of Yolo has requested \$900,000 in federal funding to improve the Yolo Emergency Communications Agency's (YECA) emergency communications system. YECA is responsible for four primary law enforcement and fire VHF radio systems that support 21 public safety agencies. The \$900,000 will pay for back-up radio transmit repeaters, receivers, and other equipment needed to achieve radio redundancy and reduce the number of failed communication attempts by police, fire, and other emergency personnel. Some of the existing equipment is over 25 years old.

YECA will provide up to \$300,000 in matching funds for the emergency communication improvements. The improvements would increase YECA's radio systems' coverage, reliability and capacity. The improvements are also a first step towards achieving an interoperable radio communications network for multi-regional public safety communications.

Discussion

Improving YECA's emergency communications system is important because it is integral in maintaining the safety of public safety personnel safety and providing quick response to citizen's calls for service. Addressing existing communication deficiencies is priority for YECA and its member agencies.

SUBJECT: Support for \$900,000 to improve emergency communication system

PAGE: 2
ITEM:

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact for the City of Woodland.

Public Contact

This item was included in the posting of the City Council agenda.

Recommendation for Action

Staff recommends that the City Council approve and authorize the Mayor to sign a letter of support for the federal funding request for the emergency communications system.

Prepared by: Carey F. Sullivan
Chief of Police

Mark G. Deven
City Manager

Attachment: Letter of support for federal funding to improve emergency communications system for signature of the Mayor.

February 18, 2008

Duane Chamberlain
Chairman, Yolo County Board of Supervisors
625 Court Street, Room 204
Woodland, CA 95695

RE: Support for \$900,000 to improve emergency communications system

Dear Chairman Chamberlain:

The City Council of the City of Woodland supports Yolo County's request for \$900,000 in federal funding to improve the Yolo Emergency Communications Agency's (YECA) emergency communications system. YECA is responsible for four primary law enforcement and fire VHF radio systems that support 21 public safety agencies. The \$900,000 will pay for back-up radio transmit repeaters, receivers, and other equipment needed to achieve radio redundancy and reduce the number of failed communication attempts by police, fire, and other emergency personnel. Some of the existing equipment is over 25 years old.

YECA will provide up to \$300,000 in matching funds for the emergency communication improvements. The improvements would increase YECA's radio systems' coverage, reliability, and capacity and also are a first step towards achieving an interoperable radio communications network for multi-regional public safety communications.

Improving YECA's emergency communications system is important to the Woodland City council because it is integral in maintaining officer safety and quick response to citizens' calls for service.

YECA must immediately address the emergency communication deficiencies to ensure an effective and coordinated emergency response. The Woodland City Council urges support for this important project.

Sincerely,

David Flory
Mayor