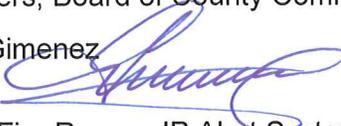


Memorandum



Date: December 13, 2013

To: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor 

Subject: RFP 899 - Fire Rescue IP Alert System for Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department

The memorandum serves to update the Board of County Commissioners (Board) on Request for Proposals 899 (RFP 899), which was advertised by the Internal Services Department (ISD) on behalf of the Miami-Dade Fire Rescue (MDFR) on November 19, 2013 for an Internet Protocol based Fire Station Alerting System (System).

MDFR received grant funding in May 2013 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to fund a majority of the cost of this new System. However, the grant requirements associated with this funding require MDFR to expend the grant funding and have the new System in place by the end of April 2014. In light of these requirements, staff from ISD and MDFR are making all efforts to expedite the RFP process to ensure that MDFR can meet these requirements and avoid losing its grant funding.

As such, it is my intention, upon completion of a competitive RFP process and selection of the highest-ranked proposer, to proceed with the award of this contract and present the award to the Board retroactively. Given the timeframes mentioned above as well the benefits of implementation of this new System, which are discussed further below, I believe it is in the best interest of the County to proceed in this manner, and to advise the Board in advance of this action.

It is estimated that the cost of the System will be approximately \$1.8 million. The funding sources that have been identified are \$1,015,974 from the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant, \$531,000 in Fire Impact Fees, and \$254,000 from the General Fund.

Internet Protocol Fire Station Alerting System

MDFR is seeking to solicit and implement a System similar to that used in hundreds of fire departments throughout the country, which will provide automated dispatching and fire station notification capabilities, interfaced with the County's Computer Aided Dispatch system, and will be deployed at 65 fire stations across the County. The new System will provide MDFR with numerous operational, regulatory and public safety-related benefits including the following:

- Assists MDFR in adhering to various National Fire Protection Association standards for response time and communications centers, in meeting various industry benchmarks for fire response time, and will support MDFR with its Insurance Service Office rating.
- Provides fire station alerting with the capability to dispatch multiple fire units at different stations simultaneously across the County, therefore improving response times, reducing call back-up during high call volume periods, and potentially saving lives.
- Improves call volume management by allowing dispatchers to automatically route and dispatch over the network to each individual station within seconds.
- Provides an overall improvement to the public safety of our residents through decreased response time, which has a direct correlation to better outcomes in medical and fire-related emergencies, which, in turn, decreases the likelihood of loss of life and/or extensive property damage.

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Grant funding received from FEMA requires that a full and open competitive procurement process be used to select a vendor. ISD has worked closely with MDFR in developing RFP 899 (attached) and includes all applicable federal requirements associated with the FEMA grant.

Please contact Lester Sola, Director, Internal Services Department, if you have questions or concerns.

c: Robert A. Cuevas, Jr., County Attorney
Genaro "Chip" Iglesias, Deputy Mayor
Office of the Mayor Senior Staff
Lester Sola, Director, Internal Services Department
David Downey, Fire Chief, Fire Rescue
Charles Anderson, Commission Auditor