

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: CEO-Office of Emergency Services/Fire Warden

BOARD AGENDA # *B-5

Urgent

Routine

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES NO

(Information Attached)

AGENDA DATE March 24, 2009

4/5 Vote Required YES NO

SUBJECT:

Approval to Issue an Invitation to Bid for Mobile Data Terminals to Support Local Ambulance Providers, Funded through Homeland Security Grant Funds

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Authorize the General Services Agency to issue an Invitation to Bid for the purchase of mobile data terminals for several ambulance providers within Stanislaus County.

FISCAL IMPACT:

On November 25, 2008 the Board of Supervisors accepted the Fiscal Year 2008 State Homeland Security Grant to enhance local Homeland Security efforts, which listed mobile computer devices as one of the projects to be funded. The grant included funding in the amount of \$147,000 for the Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs). The MDTs will be purchased for several ambulance providers within Stanislaus County. There is no impact to the General Fund associated with this purchase.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2009-180

THIS ITEM WAS REMOVED FROM THE AGENDA.
NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.

DISCUSSION:

On November 25, 2008, the Board of Supervisors accepted the Fiscal Year 2008 (FY08) State Homeland Security Grant. The Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) is included within the FY08 grant program. The MMRS program enhances a jurisdiction's response to a mass casualty event, enabling the jurisdiction to use its own resources until significant external resources arrive. The core requirement of the MMRS program is the integration of first responder, medical treatment, public health and emergency management components into an integrated system. Public Health, hospitals and Emergency Medical Service (EMS) agencies may request grant funding during the application process for the Homeland Security Grants. The requests are made through the Stanislaus County Homeland Security Workgroup Public Health and EMS representatives. The representatives work with the medical health agencies to make recommendations on projects included in the grant application. Pursuant to grant guidelines, the funding allocation for the State Homeland Security Program is then approved by the Approval Authority. The Approval Authority for Stanislaus County consists of the Stanislaus County Public Health Officer, Stanislaus County Fire Warden, City of Modesto Fire Chief, Stanislaus County Sheriff, and the City of Modesto Police Chief.

The FY08 Homeland Security Grant included \$147,000 for Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs) for several ambulance providers in Stanislaus County. The funding provides a total of twenty-one MDTs for the following ambulance providers who serve the communities and surrounding areas outlined in the table below.

Ambulance Provider	Communities Served
Oak Valley Ambulance	Oakdale, Riverbank, Waterford, Hickman, La Grange, Knights Ferry
Pro Transport	Hughson
Hughson Ambulance	Hughson
Westside Ambulance	Newman
Patterson	Patterson, Grayson, Crows Landing, Del Puerto Canyon

MDTs will allow all ambulance providers within Stanislaus County to communicate in the same format. American Medical Response, the largest ambulance provider in Stanislaus County, who serves the communities of Modesto, Ceres and Turlock, had previously invested in MDTs for their ambulances. The system will allow for better communication with LifeCom, the designated emergency ambulance dispatch center in Stanislaus County. Some of the benefits of utilizing MDTs include:

- Access to emergency call information in an easier to read format
- Reduce the amount of radio traffic and provide real-time data by being able to indicate when en route to a call, when on scene of a call, when beginning transportation, and upon arrival at patient destination
- Ability to access mapping software to aid in response to calls
- Ability to track location of units responding to other calls which will increase safety of not only ambulance personnel but citizens
- Provide for the ability to receive updates on a patient's condition
- Allow for limited internet access that will allow ambulance personnel to search for information on treatment policies and issues such as the effects of or treatment for a particular hazardous material
- Allow all ambulance providers to communicate via a standardized system
- Provide for better communication in the response of multiple units to a large scale event
- Direct access to call information in the LifeCom CAD
- Ability to receive confidential information regarding an emergency call

Once issued, the Invitation to Bid will remain open for fourteen days. Staff anticipates returning to the Board for award of the bid in May 2009.

POLICY ISSUES:

Authorizing General Services Agency to issue an Invitation to Bid for the purchase of MDTs supports the Board priorities of *A safe community, A healthy community* and *Effective partnerships* by enhancing the ability of local ambulance providers to more efficiently communicate and respond to emergency calls.

STAFFING IMPACT:

Existing staff from the Chief Executive Office – Office of Emergency Services and the General Services Agency will prepare and issue the Invitation to Bid.