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COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

June 5, 2012

Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street, 4th Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

Re: Interoperable Communications Consultant Contract

Dear Honorable Members:

Enclosed please find an accompanying memorandum and proposed resolution from the Department of Emergency Services requesting authorization to utilize $148,055.00 from the previously accepted FY 10 Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program (IECGP) funds and enter into a contract with Federal Engineering Inc. to assist the department with interoperable communications consulting.

Should your Honorable Body require further information, I encourage you to contact Commissioner Dan Neaverth Jr. at the Department of Emergency Services. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

MCP/bb
Enclosure

cc: Dan Neaverth Jr., Department of Emergency Services

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Department of Emergency Services
Re: Interoperable Communications Consultant Contract
Date: May 18, 2012

SUMMARY

It is recommended that the Erie County Legislature approve the attached resolution to award Federal Engineering Inc. a contract with Erie County Department of Emergency Services to assist with interoperable communications consulting.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no fiscal impact on the county operating budget. Said contract is 100% reimbursed through the FY 10 Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Department of Emergency Services will be allowed to hire a contractor to assist the department with updating the regions Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan, narrow banding program assistance, life cycle cost analysis of communications equipment purchased through homeland security funds, interoperability training and channel sharing plans with the first responders of the region.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

FCC mandates require region wide narrow banding of all communications equipment. The region's Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan is in need of an update due to the vast amount of new communications assets introduced within our region. Due to the funding received from homeland security for interoperable communications, the Department of Emergency Services is required to create a life cycle cost analysis to provide to the Office of Homeland Security. With the most recent additions, to our first responder communications capabilities the Department of Emergency Services has identified the need to create end user training on both equipment and available interoperable channels.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

Without this Legislation the Department of Emergency Services will not be able to hire this contractor to assist with the interoperable communications requirements mentioned above.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The County Executive will sign the contract, the consultant will be hired and the Department of Emergency Services will fulfill its requirements.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

RE: Interoperable Communications Consultant Contract

WHEREAS, the Department of Homeland Security through the NYS Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services has agreed to provide funding in the amount of $940,095 in federal assistance through the FY 10 Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program to continue the implementation of a program to enhance the ability of Erie County to manage emergency and disaster situations; and

WHEREAS, a Request for Proposals for an interoperable communications consultant was issued in March 2012 and reviewed in compliance with Section 1908 of the Erie County Administrative Code which resulted in (6) six submissions which are available for public inspection during regular business hours; and

WHEREAS, a committee appointed by the Commissioner of Emergency Services reviewed said proposals and has recommended that the contract be awarded to Federal Engineering Inc.;

WHEREAS, the contract with Federal Engineering Inc., will provide interoperable communications consulting as required by the terms of agreement and grant; and

WHEREAS, the contract will be managed by the Erie County Department of Emergency Services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature does hereby authorize the County Executive to enter into contract with Federal Engineering Inc. for the purpose of providing interoperable communications consulting in an amount of $148,055.00 from currently available IECGP 2010 funds, account 516020 grant HS167IECGP1013; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the County Executive's Office, the Division of Budget and Management, the Department of Personnel, the Department of Emergency Services c/o Melissa Calhoun, the County Comptroller, and the County Attorney.