

**Council Meeting: May 8, 2012****SUBJECT: Budget Modification No. 24 to Appropriate \$34,808 of 911 Emergency Medical Services Incentive Funds and \$25,000 of Santa Clara County Funded EMS Enhancement Projects****BACKGROUND**

The Santa Clara County EMS system is collectively one of the largest in the United States. The provision of emergency medical services within Santa Clara County is administered by the Santa Clara County EMS Agency (SCCoEMS). As such, SCCoEMS has contracted within its exclusive operating area with a private paramedic provider – Rural/Metro – to provide paramedic transport ambulance services. In an effort to efficiently deploy the resources in the system, the contract executed between the individual cities and Santa Clara County provides incentive payments to cities that meet performance criteria.

These incentive payments are identified as First Responder Funding within the contract. Performance criteria to receive funding for the use of Emergency Medical Dispatching and Medical Priority Dispatch System are identified within Annex B of the Contract: First Responder Funding in the Santa Clara County Exclusive Operating Area. The mechanism for the distribution of the funds is through Annex C of the contract: Authorized Funding Provided to 911 Emergency Medical Services Provider Organizations. Annex C also allows the County to distribute funds from other sources to the individual Cities for projects which support the enhancement of the EMS System.

The purpose of Annex B is to enhance each participating city's emergency medical dispatch capabilities. The funds received will be used to:

- Determine the most effective use of emergency medical dispatching (EMD) and the Medical Priority Dispatch System (MPDS). MPDS is a critical tool used by dispatchers to assess the type of EMS calls processed through a dispatch center. The provision of pre-arrival medical and safety instructions to the caller from the dispatcher is a key component in starting medical care as soon as possible.
- Identify objective criteria and establish benchmarks that may be used to improve system efficiencies and patient outcomes.
- Train dispatchers in new and changing MPDS and EMD procedures.

The intent of the incentive funds is to provide financial support to cities in their work to enhance EMS dispatch capabilities by developing recommendations for

the EMS System, implementing MPDS, and revising EMD standard operating procedures and policy.

Additionally, within the contract, Annex C authorizes the County to provide First Responder Agencies specific funding for projects. This funding can come from identified County EMS sources and be provided to perform enhancements to the County EMS system through direct allocation to participating agencies.

## **EXISTING POLICY**

### **4.1 Law Enforcement Sub-Element**

Goal 4.1A: Provide a safe and secure environment for people and property in the community.

Policy 4.1D.2: Provide effective and efficient management of Public Safety resources in order to meet the needs of: the community, the internal organization, and those mandated by regional, State, and Federal agencies.

## **DISCUSSION**

DPS' participation in this funding opportunity is voluntary. Funding is provided for meeting specific performance standards that benefit the EMS System. By July of each year, Santa Clara County will issue a notice indicating the maximum amount of funding available to DPS. The amount of eligible funding will be determined using a formula that considers, but is not limited to:

- Increases in EOA authorized billing charges,
- Consumer Price Index changes, and
- DPS' EMS call volume.

Annual allocations may increase, remain the same, or decrease based on EMS call volume (defined as an EMS call where County EOA ambulance was dispatched), available funds, damages levied, and other factors. Any unused allocation of First Responder Funds will be deposited into the Santa Clara County EMS Trust Fund annually.

DPS will use the funds received to enhance its emergency dispatch capabilities. As intended, all First Responder Funds will be used to train dispatchers and other emergency services personnel in new EMD and MPDS procedures and policies. The funds also will be used to support all work related to developing and implementing changes to EMD and MPDS procedures and policy.

The contract authorizes Santa Clara County to acquire funds or utilize EMS Trust Fund monies to support Enhancement projects. Funds allocated for the purpose of Enhancement will only be expended within the guideline of the

project scope. In the event the project scope is not feasible, fiscally viable or beneficial to DPS then the funding will not be accepted or received.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

DPS' Communications Services Division (Dispatch) and DPS' Training Unit will be responsible for meeting the criteria outlined to receive the First Responder Funds. The Strategic Services Division will be responsible for managing the grant. The Department of Finance has confirmed the City has available resources to administer the grant.

The First Responder Funds Program is voluntary, and there is no net fiscal impact to the General Fund from the City's participation in this program. If the City chooses to terminate the agreement after receiving the funds, it will be responsible for any liquidated damages incurred while performing under the agreement. Damages shall not exceed the allocated funding. In the event the agreement is terminated, all applicable funding opportunities will cease. The funds will be distributed quarterly. As with other funds which are distributed incrementally throughout the year, any expenditure of First Responder Funds will be made only after the quarterly allocation is received. Any enhancement project participation will also not exceed the allocated funding and will not be spent until the allocation is received.

As stated earlier, the effective dates of the 911 EMS Provider Agreement are July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2016. Total expected revenues for FY 2011/2012 total \$34,808. For FY 2012/2013, DPS is expected to receive approximately \$80,000, and that amount has been incorporated into the recommended FY 2012/2013 Budget. Each year, DPS will evaluate expected funding from this program and will incorporate that amount into the following year's project budget.

In addition to the \$34,808 in First Responder fees DPS will receive in FY 2011/2012, the department has also been allocated \$25,000 in Enhancement Project funds. Budget Modification No. 24 has been prepared to accept and appropriate \$34,808 in First Responder funds and \$25,000 in Enhancement funds.

Required Local Match

NONE

Increased Cost To City Upon Grant Termination

NONE

**Budget Modification No. 24  
 FY 2011/2012**

	<b>Current</b>	<b>Increase/ (Decrease)</b>	<b>Revised</b>
<b>General Fund</b>			
<u>Revenues</u>			
Santa Clara County EMS	\$0	\$59,808	\$59,808
 <u>Expenditures:</u>			
New Project - FY 2011/12 – FY 2015/16 First Responder Funds for EMD and MPDS Enhancement	\$0	\$34,808	\$34,808
 New Project - FY 2011/12 Santa Clara County Funded EMS Enhancement Projects	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000

**PUBLIC CONTACT**

Public contact was made by posting the Council agenda on the City’s official-notice bulletin board outside City Hall, at the Sunnyvale Senior Center, Community Center, and Department of Public Safety; and by making the agenda and report available at the Sunnyvale Public Library, the Office of the City Clerk, and on the City’s Web site.

**ALTERNATIVES**

1. Approve Budget Modification No. 24 to appropriate \$59,808 of 911 Emergency Medical Services Provider Incentive Funds and Santa Clara County Funded EMS Enhancement Projects and include \$80,000 expected revenues for FY 2012/2013 in the recommended FY 2012/2013 Budget.
  
2. Do not approve Budget Modification No. 24 to appropriate \$59,808 of 911 Emergency Medical Services Provider Incentive Funds and Santa Clara County Funded EMS Enhancement Projects and include \$80,000 expected revenues for FY 2012/2013 in the recommended FY 2012/2013 Budget.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends Alternative #1: Approve Budget Modification No. 24 to appropriate \$59,808 of 911 Emergency Medical Services Provider Incentive Funds and Santa Clara County Funded EMS Enhancement Projects and

include \$80,000 expected revenues for FY 2012/2013 in the recommended FY 2012/2013 Budget.

Reviewed by:

Frank J. Grgurina, Chief of Public Safety  
Prepared by: Jeffrey Hunter, Captain – Strategic Services

Reviewed by:

Grace Leung, Director of Finance

Approved by:

Gary M. Luebbers  
City Manager