

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE December 7, 2012

TO The Honorable Members of the Public Safety Committee:  
Pauline Medrano (Chair), Sheffie Kadane, (Vice Chair), Carolyn Davis, Sandy Greyson,  
Delia Jasso

SUBJECT Professional Radio Engineering Services for a new P25 Compliant Trunk Radio System

## **Addendum Agenda Item # 1 and 2**

\* Authorize (1) an Interlocal Agreement with Dallas County for participation in the design and implementation of a new P25 compliant trunk radio system; (2) the receipt and deposit of funds from Dallas County in an amount not to exceed \$205,833; and (3) an increase in appropriations in the amount of \$205,833 in the Capital Projects Reimbursement Fund - Not to exceed \$205,833 - Financing: Capital Projects Reimbursement Fund

\* Authorize a service contract for professional radio engineering services to assist the City in the assessment of the City's operational needs, develop specifications and requirements for a new P25 compliant trunk radio system and respond to RFCSP questions and develop RFCSP amendments during the solicitation process – RCC Consultants, Inc., most qualified proposer of five - Not to exceed \$823,330 - Financing: Urban Area Security Initiative Grant Funds (\$617,497) and Capital Projects Reimbursement Fund (\$205,833)

The City of Dallas departments rely on two-way radio communications for effective communications throughout the City to accomplish their various missions. Public Safety operations require reliable radio communications as well as adequate radio coverage to keep citizens, visitors, and first responders safe within our city. Other City departments also require radio communications for a variety of duties and jobs throughout the City.

Additionally, Dallas County has utilized the City of Dallas to provide its radio network and radio network maintenance since the 1990s. Dallas County pays annually to utilize the City's network through an existing interlocal agreement for services. Both agencies see the benefits of working together to develop a joint radio system and as such, Dallas County has agreed to fund 25% of the cost for a service contract for radio engineering services. As this project moves forward into future phases, it is anticipated that the relationship between the two agencies will continue in a similar arrangement.

The purpose of this contract is to engage RCC Consultants to aid in the development of an open RFCSP that provides opportunities for multiple vendors to submit proposals for the new countywide radio network using established Project 25 open radio communications standards. The use of RCC will provide the City and Dallas County with an independent, highly experienced consulting firm who understands current technologies as well as provides an independent, non-vendor biased RFCSP to use for system procurement. This new contract was competitively bid with RCC Consultants being the selected firm after extensive interviews and evaluations of all participants by a panel of internal and external communications experts.

As the selected consulting partner, RCC Consultants, Inc. estimates this work effort to take 16 to 18 months, and the level of effort RCC will support the City with includes:

- Assembling participants from the City, County and other countywide cities to capture detailed radio operational documentation of business requirements;
- Developing detailed technical requirements for the new radio system such as coverage area, capacity, reliability and redundancy needs;
- Preparing long range expansion forecasts;
- Performing system testing and acceptance criteria;
- Acquiring FCC licensing for the new radio network;
- Developing the Request for Competitive Sealed Proposal (RFCSP);
- Assisting the City and County with Vendor Proposal Evaluation, Best and Final Price negotiations; and
- Providing assistance with contract development, vendor terms and conditions and service level negotiations.

RCC has 30 years of engineering experience in local government wireless communications and has the experience and expertise needed to assist the City and County in the successful replacement of the aging radio system. RCC Consultants has already aided over 50 other Texas cities, counties, and the State of Texas in addressing their radio communications needs including but not limited to Houston, Austin, San Antonio, Plano, Mesquite, Garland, Grand Prairie, Grapevine, McKinney, Burleson, Irving, and the counties of Dallas, Collin, Ellis, Harris, Jefferson, Galveston, Montgomery, and Bexar to name a few. RCC Consultants has been retained by several regional and Texas municipalities to design and build networks that are compliant with the new State of Texas Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) migration adhering to the Project 25 radio standards. RCC is currently in the process of assisting the City of Houston in the final stages of implementing their new citywide Project 25 radio communications system that supports 20,000 radio users. RCC assisted Houston in obtaining the robust system it needs while achieving some significant cost savings.

The City's new standards-based network will eliminate the vulnerabilities of our current systems and will markedly improve radio interoperability between Dallas County and the City of Dallas as well as other surrounding cities, counties, state and federal agencies.

Please contact me should you have additional questions.



Jill A. Jordan, P.E.  
Assistant City Manager

C: The Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
Mary K. Suhm, City Manager  
Thomas P. Perkins, Jr. City Attorney  
Rosa Rios, City Secretary  
Craig Kinton, City Auditor  
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge  
A.C. Gonzalez, First Assistant City Manager  
Ryan S. Evans, Assistant City Manager  
Forest Turner, Assistant City Manager  
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager  
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer  
Edward Scott, Director, Controller's Office  
Frank Libro, Public Information Office  
David O. Brown, Chief of Police  
Louie Bright, Chief of Dallas Fire and Rescue  
William Finch, Director/CIO, Communications and Information Services  
Michael Frosch, Director, Business Development and Procurement Services  
Stephanie Cooper, Assistant to the City Manager – Council Office