RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF SABINE COUNTY, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE COMMITTMENT OF LOCAL COUNTY FUNDS AND PARTICIPATION IN A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT MITIGATION (CDBG-MIT) PROJECT BY THE DEEP EAST TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (DETCOG) FOR REGIONWIDE INTEROPERABLE RADIO COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE.

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court of Sabine County desires to develop a viable community, including decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities; and

WHEREAS, certain conditions exist which represent a threat to the public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and in the best interests of Sabine County to commit local funds and participate in the DETCOG Regionwide Interoperable Radio Communications Infrastructure Project under the Community Development Block Grant Mitigation Program administered by the Texas General Land Office;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF SABINE COUNTY, TEXAS:

1. That the County commits local funds not to exceed $ 35,000.00 as a contribution toward the DETCOG Regionwide Interoperable Radio Communications Infrastructure Project, if funded.

2. That the County participate in the DETCOG Regionwide Interoperable Radio Communication Infrastructure Project, if funded.

Passed and approved this 26TH day of October, 2020.

County Judge

County Clerk

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REQUESTED AMOUNTS FOR CDBG-MIT RADIO GRANT
ONE PERCENT LOCAL MATCH

BASED ON POPULATION BRACKETS

County	Population		Funds Requested
Angelina	87,092		$ 100,000
Nacogdoches	65,711		$ 90,000
Polk	50,031		$ 60,000
Jasper	35,872		$ 50,000
San Jacinto	28,719		$ 45,000
Shelby	25,418		$ 45,000
Houston	23,169		$ 40,000
Tyler	21,696		$ 40,000
Trinity	14,740		$ 35,000
Newton	13,746		$ 35,000
Sabine	10,589		$ 35,000
San Augustine	8,232		$ 30,000
	385,015		$ 605,000

PUBLIC NOTICE

DEEP EAST TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
PROPOSED APPLICATION
for
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)
MITIGATION (MIT) FUNDS

Funding Agency:	Texas General Land Office
Program	Hurricane Harvey State Mitigation Competition
Proposed Project	Public Safety Communications Project

DETCOG is proposing the submission of an application(s) for CDBG-MIT grant funds under the Hurricane Harvey State Mitigation Competition. The application deadline is 5:00 P.M. on October 28, 2020.

DETCOG encourages citizens to participate in the development of the application(s) and to make their views known by presenting their opinions, comments, and suggestions to Lonnie Hunt, Executive Director, Deep East Texas Council of Governments, 1405 Kurth Drive, Lufkin, Tx 75904-1929. Written comments must be received at the offices of Deep East Texas Council of Governments located at the above address by 5:00 p.m. on October 26, 2020 to be considered. For additional information, or to request a copy of the project synopsis via email please contact the DETCOG office at at 936-634-2247 or the grant administrator for the project, **Ray Vann, Raymond K. Vann & Associates, LLC**, at 936-634-2550 ext. 101.

This document presents a proposed **Public Safety Communications Infrastructure Project that will provide regionwide interoperable radio service in all twelve counties in the DETCOG region.**

Posted on

Date: 10/12/2020
Time: 9:00 A.M.
Place: DETCOG OFFICES, 1405 Kurth Drive, Lufkin, Texas 75904

Posted By: Lonnie Hunt
Name: Lonnie Hunt
Title: Executive Director, DETCOG

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DETCOG

Deep East Texas Council of Governments
Public Safety Communications Infrastructure Project
Proposed CDBG-MIT Grant Plan

Overview of Need

The ability for first responders to communicate during a disaster or emergency event is a critically basic need. This need for reliable, interoperable communications has become increasingly apparent over the last two decades. During incidents such as the terror attacks on September 11, 2001, Hurricane's Katrina and Rita in 2005, Hurricane Ike in 2008, and Hurricane Harvey in 2017, the ongoing call for improved communications has been heard loud and clear. Unfortunately, the resources for the DETCOG region to answer this call have simply not been available.

Over the last 20 years, jurisdictions within the DETCOG region have attempted to address the problem of a lack of adequate public safety communications. Several systems have been developed and implemented, but these systems have all fallen short. The result is a patchwork system throughout the region where agency-to-agency communications are nonexistent and even responder-to-responder communications within an agency is often unreliable or even absent.

Around the State of Texas, larger populated areas with more financial resources have been able to address this need by creating interoperable radio networks that vastly improve communications within an agency and allow different agencies the ability to easily communicate with each other during a crisis. A communications black hole exists within our state. That communications black hole is the DETCOG region.

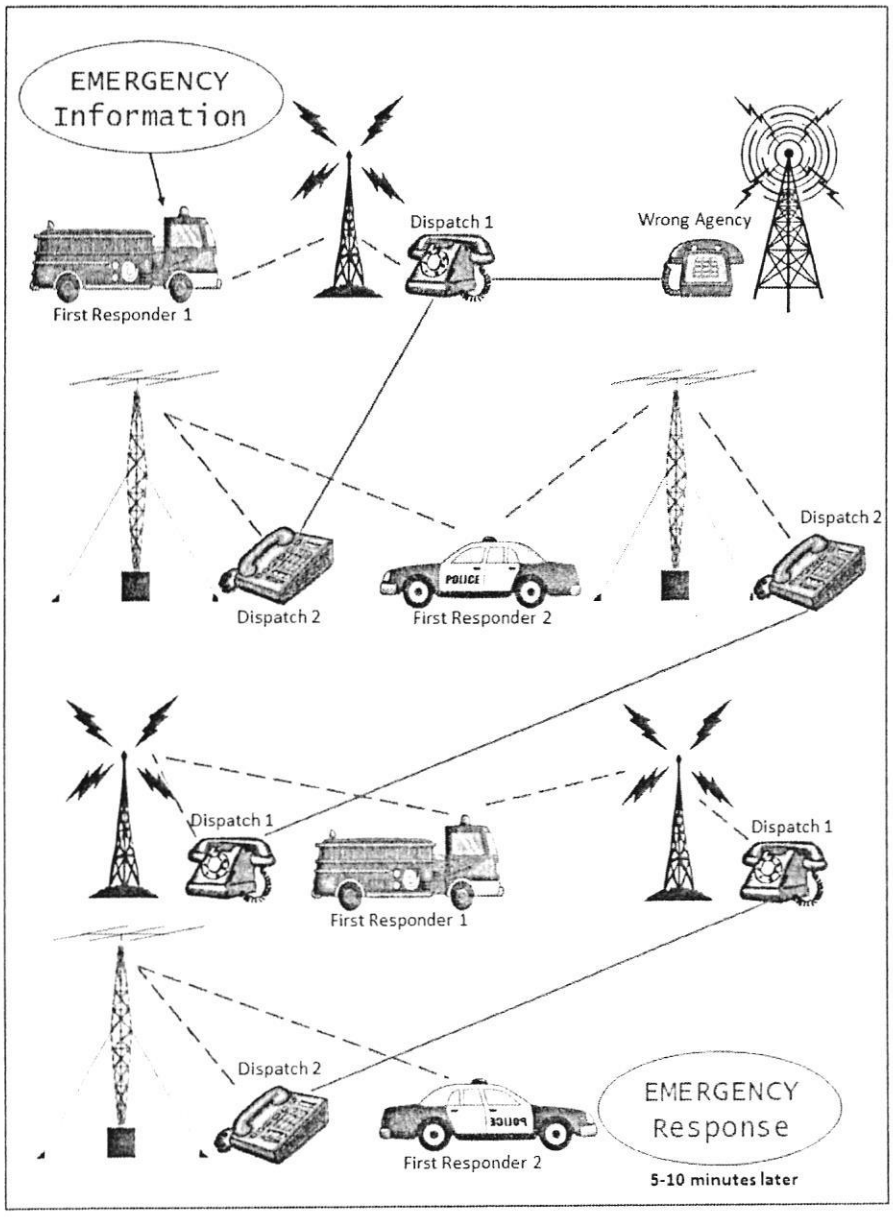
The result is an ongoing series of risks to our citizens as well as those who are evacuated into or through our region. Although this project serves our region with a population of just over 380,000 people (per Census data), the impact of this project will potentially benefit millions more. There are several major evacuation routes from the Houston-Galveston area as well as the Beaumont-Port Arthur area that pass through DETCOG region. (See map below.) Agencies from those regions that need to communicate with agencies within our region are not able to do so. Likewise, agencies in our region cannot communicate effective among each other.

For example, first responders in the Woodville area, located on the US Hwy 69 evacuation corridor from the Beaumont-Port Arthur area, may need to communicate with first responders further north along the US Hwy 69 evacuation corridor. An attempt for a Woodville first responder to communicate directly with first responders in Lufkin is slow, cumbersome and unreliable. Today the first responder would need to radio their local dispatch center (assuming this responder was in an area of adequate radio coverage). Then the local dispatch center would need to telephone the Lufkin area dispatch center. The Woodville dispatcher would relay the message to the Lufkin dispatch center and then the Lufkin dispatch center would relay the message to the proper first responder.

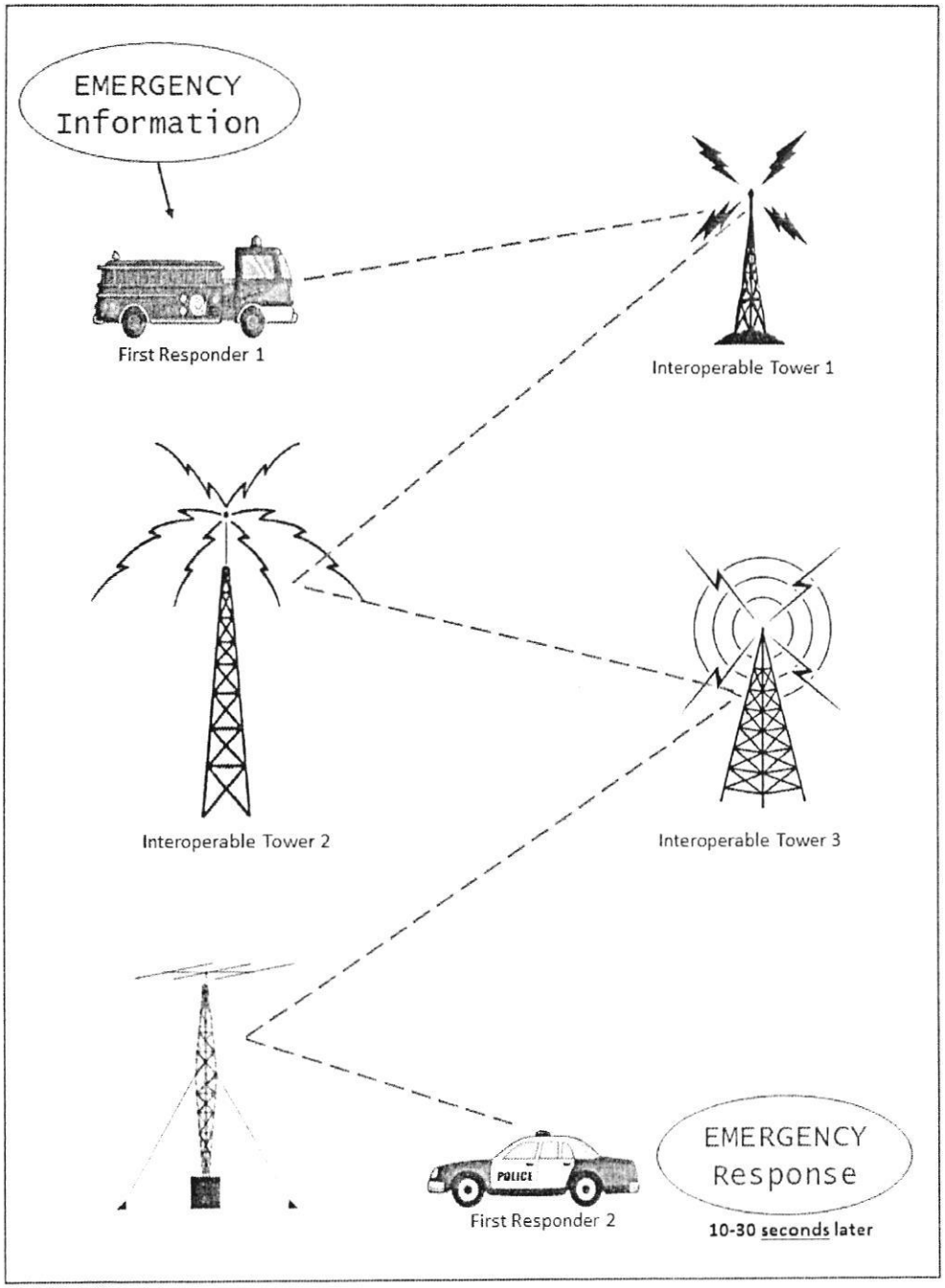
This method of communication invites delays. For example, the Woodville area dispatch center may contact the dispatch center in Lufkin at the Angelina County Sheriff's Office only to learn that the Lufkin Police Department is the correct receiving party. This causes unnecessary and potentially dangerous delays.

This method of communication also invites inaccuracies. For example, when the message finally reaches the appropriate first responder, the information passed from dispatcher to dispatcher may be inaccurate or incomplete. Again, this is a dangerous scenario.

In addition, requests for additional information or clarifications from the receiving first responder would result in a reversal of the communication trail just described followed by a repeat. It would look something like this:



Dependable, fast and accurate communications would allow the first responder in Woodville to communicate directly with the intended first responder in Lufkin. This communication trail would be much quicker and more accurate looking something like this:



DETCOG

Deep East Texas Council of Governments
Public Safety Communications Infrastructure Project
Proposed CDBG-MIT Grant Plan

Objectives and Goals

The goal of this pubic safety communications infrastructure project is to increase resilience to disasters and reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of loss of life, injury, damage to and loss of property, and suffering and hardship, by lessening the impact of future disasters, especially related to hurricanes, tropical storms, tropical depressions, and riverine flooding.

This goal will be achieved by meeting the following project objectives:

- Construction of communication towers throughout the region
- Equipping communication towers with interoperable communication systems
- Hardening communication towers through structure design and backup power generators
- Constructing local dispatch consoles
- Connecting to the P25 Harris County Regional Radio System, known as TXWARN

As describe above, lack of communications impacts the DETCOG region by preventing efficient, rapid response to emergencies. The Deep East Texas Council of Governments, Region 14, Regional Interoperable Communications Plan (RICP) that was adopted by DETCOG and the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe on October 24, 2019 and December 9, 2019, respectively. The RICP is an 84-page plan addressing the communication needs of the region. The issue at hand can be summed up in one sentence found on page C1 of the RICP. This form is intended to evaluate the current radio systems in DETCOG, but t reads simply, "No Interoperable Radio System in Existence Within DETCOG Region 14." The other 417 fields in the form are left blank.

This communication impediment needs to be addressed. Reliable communications reduce response times during emergency incidents and will reduce or eliminate the risks mentioned above of loss of life, injury, damage to and loss of property, and suffering and hardship.

The entire RICP plan, offers solutions to mitigate against this major communications gap. For example, pages 11-35 of the plan lists solutions by each county with each county constructing numerous well-equipped communication towers and dispatched consoles. Each county is also shown with a list of deficiencies that prevent the plan from moving forward. At the top of each deficiency list for each county is lack of funding. It is only through a program like the Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) that this goals of the RICP can be achieved. In fact, it is safe to say, that only through the current offering from the Texas General Land Office (GLO) can this project become a reality.

And the State of Texas agrees with this statement! On page 64 of, *Eye of the Storm: Report of the Governor's Commission to Rebuild Texas*, it states, "In short, full system interoperability carries a heavy price tag, and its absence was a challenge to responders during Hurricane Harvey. This disaster reminds us once again of the importance of widespread radio interoperability during major storms. And the need for such a system isn't unique to the coast; the state has to plan for its next disaster, which could occur anywhere in the state."

On page 67, the report also states, "Given the frequency of disasters and emergencies in Texas, not only on the coast but throughout the state, Texas citizens would benefit from a system with enhanced interoperability."

This project was developed with a focus on long-term planning and an integrated approach to housing, fair housing obligations, infrastructure, economic revitalization, and overall community resiliency.

- Housing
  - Short-term considerations include the negative inconveniences associated with construction activities as well as the positive impacts of addressing immediate concerns of public safety responses being impeded by lack of adequate public safety communications.
  - Long-term considerations include the positive impacts of addressing public safety responses being impeded by lack of adequate public safety communications which, if addressed, will increase the overall livability of the DETCOG region as a whole. In addition, there are many areas in the region, such as in forest lands, where private cell providers cannot construct towers. This leaves significant gaps in cell phone and data coverage for residents. Space on these towers would be available for cell phone and data providers to lease thus increasing service in many areas.
- Fair Housing Obligations
  - Short-term considerations included a review of DETCOG's current Fair Housing Policy. The project will benefit the entire region and it not anticipated to negatively impact DETCOG's Fair Housing obligations.
  - Long-term considerations include the need to revisit the Fair Housing Policy and make revisions and additions as necessary. Additionally, since the construction of significantly high towers will be of concern, DETCOG will need to monitor concerns by local residents and address issues such as "NIMBYism."
- Infrastructure
  - Short-term considerations include addressing the power (including back-up) and fiber infrastructure needed at newly constructed towers and consoles.
  - Long-term considerations include the ongoing costs of maintaining the towers and consoles.
- Economic Revitalization
  - Short-term considerations include the negative inconveniences associated with construction activities. These should be very minimal since most activity will occur in rural settings.
  - Long-term considerations include the overall livability of the DETCOG region which can help attract additional businesses and industries.
- Overall Community Resiliency
  - Short-term considerations include improved access for local public safety response to daily needs such as fires, medical emergency and law enforcement needs.

- Long-term considerations include improved access for all disaster response personnel as well as recovery activities.

Budget

The cost of this project is estimated to be $60,600,000. DETCOG will apply for $60,000,000 in CDBG-MIT grant funds with a local commitment of $600,000 in cash and/or in-kind match.

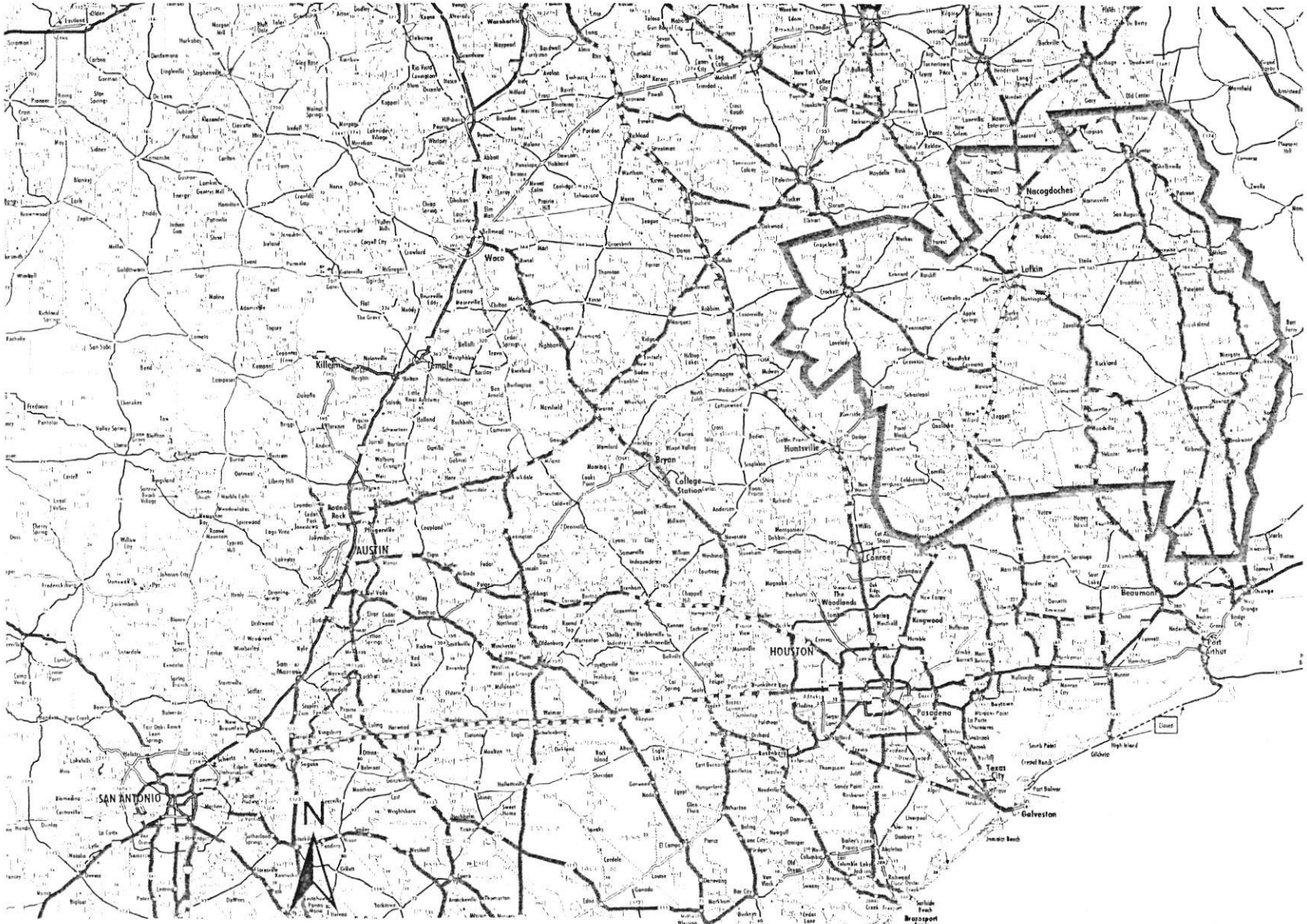
Activity	Amount
Construction and Acquisition	$49,565,220
Engineering	$ 7,434,780
Administration (3rd Party)	$ 3,150,000
Administration Local	$ 450,000
TOTAL	**$60,600,000**

Actions

In order to meet the objectives and goals outlined above, the following actions will be undertaken:

- Procurement of Professional Service Providers (Grant Administration, Engineering) for application and implementation services
  - Completed prior to application development and submission
  - Responsible parties include Selection Committee and DETCOG Board of Directors
- Project Development
  - Completed prior to application development and submission
  - Responsible parties include DETCOG Executive Director, DETCOG Public Safety Director DETCOG Public Safety Planner, DETCOG Board of Directors, Members of General Public, Lead Engineer, Grant Administration (GA) Project Manager
- Submission of all start-up documentation
  - To be completed within 60 days of GLO contract execution date
  - Responsible parties include GA Project Manager and GA Team
- Completion of Design
  - To be completed within 365 days of GLO contract execution date
  - Responsible parties include Lead Engineer and Engineering Team
- Completion of Environmental Review
  - To be completed within 365 days of GLO contract execution date
  - Responsible parties include GA Project Manager and GA Team
- Acquisition
  - To be completed within 545 days of GLO contract execution date
  - Responsible parties include GA Project Manager and GA Team, with assistance from Lead Engineer and Engineering Team and Acquisition Specialist if needed.
- Procurement of Construction Contractor(s)
  - To be completed within 635 days of GLO contract execution date

  - Responsible parties include Lead Engineer and Engineering Team with coordination with GA Project Manager and GA Team, awarded by DETCOG Board of Directors
- Construction Notice to Proceed
  - To be completed within 695 days of GLO contract execution date
  - Responsible parties include Lead Engineer
- Issuance of Certificate of Construction Completion
  - To be completed within 1,425 days of GLO contract execution date
  - Responsible parties include Lead Engineer
- Submission of Closeout Documentation
  - To be completed within 1,530 days of GLO contract execution date
  - Responsible parties include GA Project Manager
- Issuance of Administrative Complete Letter
  - To be completed within 1,620 days of GLO contract execution date
  - Responsible parties include GA Project Manager and GLO



June 12, 2020

Hurricane Evacuation Routes

- Major Evacuation Route
- Potential EvacuLane On Major Evacuation Route
- Potential EvacuLane & Potential Contraflow Route
- Potential Contraflow Route

Texas Official Travel Map-© Texas Department of Transportation

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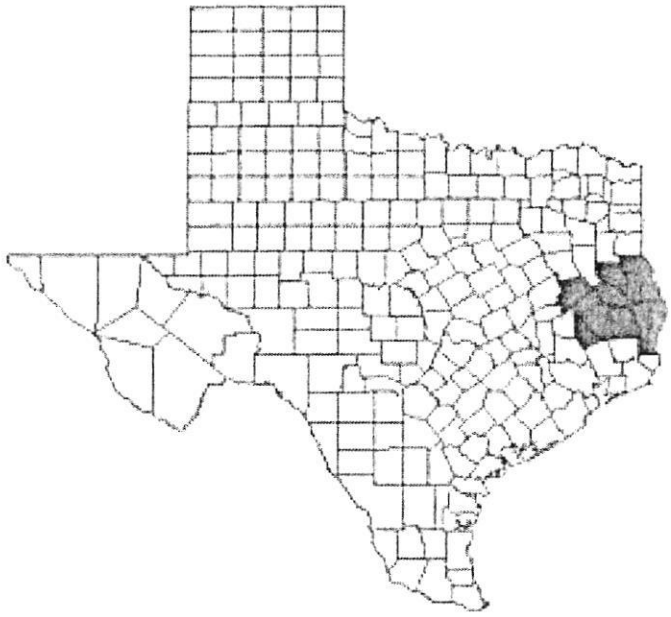
CDBG-MIT
Public Safety Communications Infrastructure Project
Regionwide Benefit



	Population based on HUD (LMISD) Data	Population based on Census (B01003) Data
Angelina County	84,580	87,092
Houston County	19,715	22,955
Jasper County	34,865	35,504
Nacogdoches County	60,125	65,558
Newton County	13,900	14,057
Polk County	41,995	47,837
Sabine County	10,355	10,458
San Augustine County	8,445	8,327
San Jacinto County	26,880	27,819
Shelby County	25,520	25,478
Trinity County	14,325	14,569
Tyler County	19,040	21,496
Region TOTAL	**359,745**	**381,150**

CDBG-MIT: Budget Justification of Retail Costs
(Former Table 2)

Cost Verification Controls must be in place to assure that construction costs are reasonable and consistent with market costs at the time and place of construction.

Applicant/Subrecipient:	Deep East Texas Council of Governments (DETCOG)
Site/Activity Title:	DETCOG Region/Regionwide Hurricane, Tropical Storm, and Tropical Depression Mitigation
Eligible Activity:	Communications Infrastructure

Materials/Facilities/Services	$/Unit	Unit	Quantity	Construction	Acquisition	Total
400' Guyed Tower	$ 239,000.00	EA	28	$ 6,692,000.00	$ -	$ 6,692,000.00
Concrete Shelter	$ 113,000.00	EA	28	$ 3,164,000.00	$ -	$ 3,164,000.00
Electrical	$ 23,000.00	EA	28	$ 644,000.00	$ -	$ 644,000.00
Generator and Fuel Tank	$ 47,000.00	EA	28	$ 1,316,000.00	$ -	$ 1,316,000.00
Gravel Access Drive & Site Paving	$ 37,000.00	EA	28	$ 1,036,000.00	$ -	$ 1,036,000.00
Security Fencing & Gates	$ 55,000.00	EA	28	$ 1,540,000.00	$ -	$ 1,540,000.00
RF Antenna System	$ 1,098,000.00	EA	28	$ 30,744,000.00	$ -	$ 30,744,000.00
Communications Console	$ 83,000.00	EA	40	$ 3,320,000.00	$ -	$ 3,320,000.00
Electrical Service to Site	$ 22,000.00	EA	28	$ 616,000.00	$ -	$ 616,000.00
Fiber Optic Service to Site	$ 11,000.00	EA	28	$ 308,000.00	$ -	$ 308,000.00
Tower Site Acquisition	$ -	EA	28	$ -	$ 6,615.00	$ 185,220.00
	$ -		0	$ -	$ -	$ -
	$ -		0	$ -	$ -	$ -
	$ -		0	$ -	$ -	$ -
	$ -		0	$ -	$ -	$ -
	$ -		0	$ -	$ -	$ -
	$ -		0	$ -	$ -	$ -
	$ -		0	$ -	$ -	$ -
	$ -		0	$ -	$ -	$ -
	$ -		0	$ -	$ -	$ -
TOTAL	$ 1,728,000.00			$ 49,380,000.00	$ 6,615.00	$ 49,565,220.00

1. Identify and explain the annual projected operation and maintenance costs associated with the proposed activities.

Annual O&M costs include, but are not limited to, franchise utility services, generator maintenance and fuel, and other site maintenance. O&M costs are estimated to be approximately $5,000 per year for each tower location.

2. Identify and explain any special engineering activities.

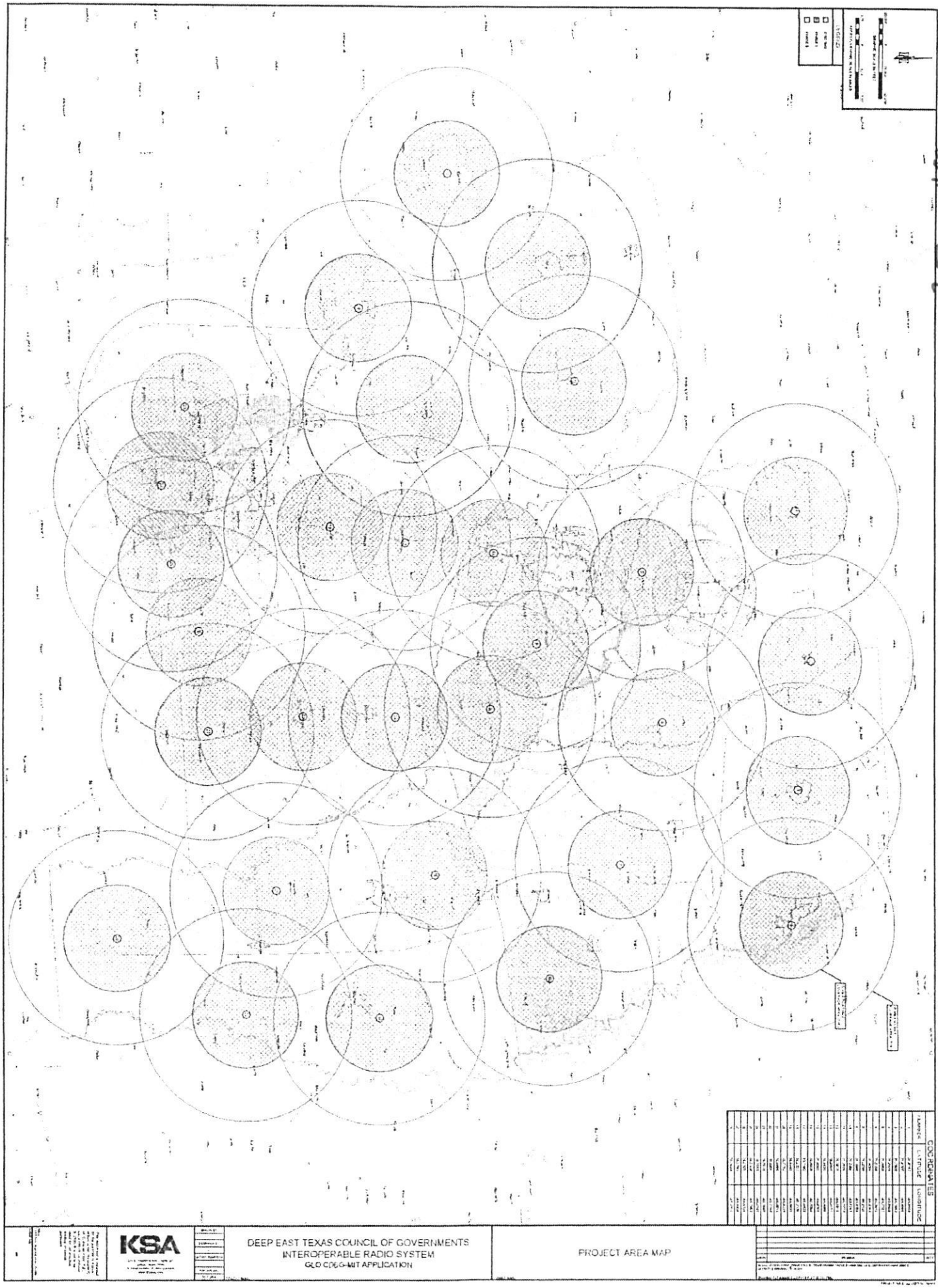
Topographic and boundary surveyihng, geotechnical investigations and studies.

STATE OF TEXAS
C. DANIEL HAYS
96630
LICENSED
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER

Seal

Date:	10/9/2020
Phone Number:	936.637.6061

Signature of Registered Engineer/Architect Responsible For Budget Justification:



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