

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA
M E M O R A N D U M**

TO: Honorable Board of County Commissioners

THROUGH: John A. Titkanich, Jr., County Administrator

THROUGH: David Johnson, Director
Department of Emergency Services

FROM: Karen Rackard, 911 Coordinator

DATE: May 25, 2023

SUBJECT: Joint Regional Next Generation 9-1-1 Systems and Services MOU And Application for 911 State Grant Program

BACKGROUND.

Brevard County, Indian River County, Lake County, Orange County, Osceola County, Seminole County and Volusia County, encompass a portion of the 9-1-1 Region 5, as designated by the Florida Department of Management Services for the purposes of establishing regional 9-1-1 initiatives. As we know, emergency incidents and disasters do not recognize county boundaries. Additionally, the legacy routing of 9-1-1 calls, built around landline telephone technology does not route cellular callers to the authorities based on their physical location. A large majority of calls for assistance now come from cellular callers.

The Joint Regional Next Generation 9-1-1 Systems and Services Project Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) recognizes the need to move toward Next Generation 9-1-1 and allow for improved 9-1-1 services across jurisdictional boundaries. Under the MOU, each county agrees to collaborate on the framework for providing the Next Generation 9-1-1 Systems and Services, while each county retains the right to select and implement the equipment and services that best meet their requirements. This MOU will also assist each of the counties in being eligible for the Florida 9-1-1 State Grant Program. These state grants are awarded to assist Public Safety Answering Points in upgrading to NG9-1-1 capabilities. Under the MOU, each county will be responsible for submitting a grant application and subsequent documentation for grant reimbursement.

Staff is also seeking Board approval to apply for the Florida 9-1-1 State Grant Program consistent with the MOU. The justification for this project is based on the NENA i3 NG911 standard requiring the county 911 agencies to support interoperability and share accurate location information as the transition from legacy 911 to NG911 systems evolves. The Florida 9-1-1 State Grant Program will fund the entire project, should Indian River County receive an allocation from the 9-1-1 Board. The Chairman must sign the grant application before submittal to the 9-1-1 Board.

FUNDING.

The cost of the Region GIS Repository project is \$207,472.16 and will be funded with a budget amendment allocating the grant revenue and expenses. If the grant is not awarded, a budget amendment from 911 Surcharge Fund/Cash Forward-Oct 1st will be needed.

RECOMMENDATION.

Staff recommends the Board approve the Joint Regional Next Generation 9-1-1 Systems and Services Project MOU and authorize the chairman to execute the MOU and any other documents necessary to effectuate the MOU. Additionally, staff recommends the Board to authorize the Chairman to execute the attached E911 State Grant Application.

ATTACHMENT.

Joint Regional Next Generation 9-1-1 Systems and Services Project MOU
Application for the 911 Grant Program