


# CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

A COAST GUARD CITY

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Mayor Eisenbeisz and Assembly Members

**Thru:** John Leach, Municipal Administrator 

**From:** Robert Baty, Police Chief and Craig Warren, Fire Chief

**Date:** January 12, 2023

**Subject:** **Approval of Grant Application to the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHS&EM)**

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### Background and Analysis

The Sitka Police and Fire Department are applying for a non-matching Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Grant (DHS&EMG) in the amount of \$627,820. This grant is used for helping fund our community's preparation for emergencies.

The part of the grant (\$67,000) would replace the aging portable radios for the Police Department, allowing for the PD to maintain the current level of communication availability. ~70% of current radio inventory is reaching/has exceeded recommended lifespan, reaching End of Life, and replacement accessories are no longer being made for current inventory.

A large part of the grant (\$410,820) would be used to replace outdated portable and mobile radios for the Fire Department, EMS and Search and Rescue. Current radio inventory is reaching/has exceeded recommended lifespan and replacement accessories are no longer being made for current inventory.

Last part of the grant (\$150,000) would be used to replace and upgrade the current secure door access system for the Police Department. The current Kantech System is over 10 years old and runs on an operating system that is no longer supported, making it difficult to repair or buy supplies for. Previously applied to DHS&EM for this project but due to the steep increase in price of materials, project was not viable. Asking again but for more monies to cover the rising cost of materials.

The Police Department has annually applied for this grant from the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management since 2003. Items purchased with these grants greatly help improved the safety and security of Sitka and its residents. Some of

the equipment purchased includes the Emergency Response Vessel (ERV), the repowering of the ERV, replacing the floatation on the ERV, the tsunami warning system towers, Life Scan Fingerprint System, upgraded camera security for the PD, Harbors and City Hall, new radio consoles for the PD, new portable radios for the PD & FD, Active Shooter Training, Forward Looking Infrared Radiation System for the ERV, alarm package for the hilltop joint communication site (ALMR), emergency communications for the EOC and a Radio Repeater Install at Mud Bay.

### **Fiscal Note**

As there is no match requirement for this grant program, should this grant application be approved, a supplemental capital appropriation in the amount \$627,820 would be requested. Of note, all equipment purchased with funds from Homeland Security must be documented and agency approval must be obtained prior to sale/disposal.

### **Recommendation**

Approve the accompanying resolution authorizing the Municipal Administrator to apply for this grant and execute it should it be awarded.

CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-03

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (DHS&EM)**

**WHEREAS**, the City and Borough of Sitka Police and Fire Department seeks to obtain a grant in the amount of \$627,820 to cover the cost of new portable radios for the PD, new portable and mobile radios for the FD, EMS and SAR, and replace/upgrade the current secure door access system in the PD; and

**WHEREAS**, the DHS&EM has a grant program available to cover the cost; and

**WHEREAS**, the grant will have no other costs associated with it.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka that the Administrator is authorized to apply for and execute the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Grant.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** by the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska on this 24<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2023.

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Steven Eisenbeisz, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Sara Peterson, MMC  
Municipal Clerk

1<sup>st</sup> and final reading: 1/24/2023

Sponsor: Administrator