



UNIFIED POLICE

GREATER SALT LAKE

To: Utah State 911 Committee

From: Board of Directors
Unified Police Department

Date: September 27, 2010

Re: Request for Funds to Conduct an Independent Study of 911 Services in Salt Lake County

During the 2010 Legislative session, HB 173, 911 Amendments, was passed in an effort to improve 911 services in the State. The bill was proposed as a result of a Legislative audit conducted on 911 operations and services in Salt Lake County. Both the audit and the discussions developing the Legislative intent as the bill was modified made clear the need for a comprehensive independent study to develop a master plan for 911 services in the County. In anticipation of this study, the Legislature added language to the Bill approving the State 911 Committee to fund this study. The language added this year authorizing this study to be funded through the State 911 Committee is found in UCA 50-10-602(6) which reads: "*The committee may employ an outside consultant to study and advise on the issue of public safety answering points.*"

This study is critical to maintaining an effective 911 system in the County. The evolving technological advancements and the ever changing economy make this study necessary for all stakeholders and policymakers to have all the required information in order to make the best decision on 911 services. The scope of the requested study is to assess, evaluate, and identify currently existing resources, identify needs and gaps of the 911 service in Salt Lake County and develop for consideration a master plan containing optional models for providing the most efficient and effective 911 service to fill the needs of the citizens now and in the future. As identified in the statutory language, this study will focus on the current PSAP configuration and make recommendations on what the appropriate PSAP configuration needs to be to meet the needs of the county. The cost of the study will need to be determined but it is anticipated that it should not exceed \$150,000.

It is also to be noted that our Board has been working closely with the Board of Trustees of the Valley Emergency Communications Center and have coordinated to make this request jointly.

Therefore, the Board of Directors of the Unified Police Department respectfully requests the State 911 Committee approve funding for the hiring of an independent consultant to conduct a review and produce a report and submit recommendations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dennis R. Webb". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "W".

Mayor Dennis Webb
Chairman, Unified Police Department



VALLEY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

Bluffdale City
Fire Department

September 23, 2010

Cottonwood Heights City
Police Department

Draper City
Police Department

Midvale City
Police Department

Midvale City
Fire Department

Murray City
Police Department

Murray City
Fire Department

Salt Lake County
Unified Fire Authority

Sandy City
Police Department

Sandy City
Fire Department

South Jordan City
Police Department

South Jordan City
Fire Department

South Salt Lake City
Police Department

South Salt Lake City
Fire Department

West Jordan City
Police Department

West Jordan City
Fire Department

West Valley City
Police Department

West Valley City
Fire Department

Alta, Town of
Herriman City
Holladay City
Riverton City
Salt Lake County
Taylorsville City

Utah 911 Committee
Mr. Bill Jensen, Program Manager
Department of Public Safety
4501 South 2700 West
Taylorsville UT 84114-1775

Re: Request to Fund an Independent Study of 911 Services in Salt Lake County

The November 2009 Legislative Auditor General's report, "*A Performance Audit of the 911 System in Salt Lake County*" states that the organization of Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) throughout the state is an important public safety concern. The audit also provided recommendations that Salt Lake Valley Emergency Communications Center (VECC) and the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office, now Unified Police Department (UPD), and County officials resolve issues pertaining to their 911 services.

During the 2010 Legislative session, HB 173, 911 Amendments, was passed in an effort to improve 911 services in the State. The bill was proposed as a result of a Legislative audit conducted on 911 operations and services in Salt Lake County. The legislation supported the audit's recommendation that the Legislature strengthen the role of the Utah 911 Committee to give them authority to implement statewide planning for the 911 system by including UCA 50-10-602(6) which reads: "*The committee may employ an outside consultant to study and advise on the issue of public safety answering points.*"

The members of VECC request that the 911 Committee fund an independent study of 911 services in Salt Lake County. This study will be critical in providing recommendations to County officials for an effective 911 system. Evolving technological advancements and the ever changing economy make this study necessary for all stakeholders and policymakers to have all the required information in order to make the best decision possible on 911 services.

The study, to be conducted under the auspices of the Salt Lake County Council of Governments, would assess, evaluate, and identify resources and needs of the 911 services in Salt Lake County and provide recommendations for consideration for a master plan for providing the most efficient and effective 911 service to fill the needs of the citizens now and in the future.

Based upon approval to fund the study and with guidance from the 911 Committee, County officials will propose the scope of the study in preparation for the generation of requests for proposals from competent consultants.

Sincerely,

Mayor Russ Wall, Chairman
VECC Board of Trustees

cc: Mayor Dennis Webb, UPD Board Chairman
WH/cw



CHRIS BURBANK
CHIEF OF POLICE

SALT LAKE CITY CORPORATION
POLICE DEPARTMENT



RALPH BECKER
MAYOR

October 8, 2010

Utah State 911 Committee

Re: Funding Request for Independent Study of 911 Services in Salt Lake County

Dear Committee Members:

HB 173 (911 Amendments) was passed during the 2010 Legislative session in an effort to evaluate 911 services. In anticipation of an independent study, the Legislature added language to the Bill allowing the State 911 Committee to fund the study.

I believe the scope of the requested study should be to assess and identify the redundancy needs of 911 service within the County. Salt Lake City and Valley Emergency Communications Center currently operate independent but redundant 911 public safety answering points. The question at hand is the need for additional answering points within the County. The cost of the study has yet to be determined and is not anticipated to exceed \$150,000.

Therefore, on behalf of the city of Salt Lake City, I respectfully request the State 911 Committee approve funding to hire an independent consultant for this study.

Sincerely,

Chris Burbank
Chief of Police