

Staff Report

Subject: Norfolk Southern Grant Application
Author: Clint Hodges, Fire Chief & EMA Director
Department: 55-FIRE
Meeting Date: 11/07/2023
Item Description: Consideration to approve a grant application to Norfolk Southern for a UAS (Drone)

Summary Recommendation: Staff recommends approving the submission of a grant application to Norfolk Southern for a UAS (Drone)

Executive Summary/Background:

Norfolk Southern Railroad has a Safety First Grant program, with applications limited to \$15,000. Effingham County Fire Rescue is requesting to apply for this grant to fund a UAS (Drone). ECFR/EMA has FAA Part 107 licensed pilots, so this UAS would open up additional response capabilities, while also enabling emergency personnel to survey large, hazardous scenes from a distance, before committing staffing and additional equipment.

No funding match is required.

Options/Alternatives for Commission to Consider:

Recommended: Approval of an application to Norfolk Southern for a UAS (Drone)

Other Alternative(s): Deny

Department Review: Fire-Rescue

Funding Source: N/A

Attachments: NS Grant Application