



Date: 11/21/2024

To: Department of Justice – Community Oriented Policing Services attn. Tammy Richardson

From: Danny Renfrow – Chief of Police

Sole Source Justification Letter

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## Introduction

On September 30, 2024, the Town of Truckee was notified by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (the COPS Office) approved the funding application submitted by the Town of Truckee for our Radio Infrastructure Improvement Project in the amount of \$468,000. This funding request was approved under the FY 2024 COPS Technology and Equipment Program Invitational Solicitation.

The Town of Truckee is requesting consideration by the Department of Justice COPS Office for authorization of sole source equipment and technology procurement relating to Phase 1 of the Project, which includes the purchase of 50 new subscriber handheld radios, 27 new portable mobile vehicle radios, and their associated equipment.

The following sections include the project description (section I), the justification for the sole source authorization (section II), the budget breakdown of the project (section III), and the necessary declarations for the organization (section IV).

## I. Project Description

The Radio Infrastructure Improvement Project (the Project) will allow the Town of Truckee to replace its aging radio infrastructure by upgrading and replacing all end-user “subscriber” radios allowing for communication across multiple frequency bands (all-band) and bringing our system into compliance with Project 25 interoperability standards. The Police Department’s existing radio infrastructure is between 10 and 15 years old and in need of replacement to meet current technology and encryption standards. The total Project Cost is estimated at approximately \$850,000, with \$468,000 of this project approved for Federal Funding via Federal Earmark and by the Department of Justice COPS Office in September 2024.

There are two phases to this project. Phase I consists of replacing all end-user subscriber radios, which includes the replacement of 27 portable mobile vehicle radios, 50 handheld radios, and their associated equipment. The purchase of these newer “all-band” subscriber radios will enhance usability and effectiveness for radio communications, implement DOJ mandates for encrypted

communications, allow for radio user location identification during emergencies, and provide interoperability with local and regional law enforcement, CAL FIRE, and other State and Federal Agencies. The replacement of the existing radios will also ensure compatibility with the upgrade of the radio tower equipment to a digital system, which is Phase II of the Project. Phase II of this project will be a transition to using the State of California Radio Interoperability System (CRIS) for base stations, transmitters, and receiver sites in Nevada County. This system will be operated and maintained by the State of California Public Safety Communications (PSC) division of the Governor's California Office of Emergency Services (Cal-OES).

The replacement and upgrade of existing radio equipment will result in better, more comprehensive radio communication coverage throughout Nevada County. It will provide enhanced capacity for countywide communications for fire and law enforcement agencies on an ongoing basis. This enhanced communication network is critical in the event of emergencies, such as wildfires, major winter snow events, and other natural and man-made disasters. Nevada County has experienced several such natural disaster events multiple times in the past several years. Given the needed integration not only between the equipment to be purchased for this project but also integration with other county law enforcement and fire agencies, Motorola has been viewed as the preferred "public safety grade" equipment vendor for this project and the Town desires to purchase the radio equipment from them. In addition, Cal-OES PSC has recommended the use of Motorola handheld and portable mobile end-user radio equipment for the CRIS, including the specific types and features for each radio.

The Town of Truckee is, therefore, requesting that the COPS Office consider granting authorization for sole source procurement with Motorola for Phase 1 of the Project for the purchase of the handheld and portable mobile vehicle radios and their associated equipment. The following justifies this sole source procurement authorization request.

## II. Sole Source Justification

The Town of Truckee believes that it is necessary to contract Motorola Solutions on a sole source basis due to Motorola brand radios only being available from Motorola Solutions or their recognized vendors. The need to use Motorola brand radios is based on several factors, which are detailed below.

**The uniqueness of items to be procured from Motorola:** The Motorola brand was specifically selected by the State of California for building out the California Radio Interoperable System (CRIS), as it adheres to SAFECOM guidance, and the equipment meets APCO Protocol 25 (P25) public safety communications standards for interoperability. The Town of Truckee's use of Motorola subscriber radios ensures complete and seamless compatibility with not only the State's CRIS system but most agencies in our local and regional area.

**Vendor's Expertise in Radio Equipment:** Motorola Solutions and brand radios have a long-standing reputation in the Public Safety Communications industry for providing "Public Safety Grade" radio equipment. Motorola has been in business for over 90 years and is currently doing business with more than 100,000 public safety and commercial customers in over 100 countries.

**Compatibility of Equipment with Dispatch:** In August of 2022, Nevada County moved its Regional

Dispatch Center from its old location at the Nevada County Jail, across the highway to a more suitable and preferred location. The Regional Dispatch Center provides law enforcement dispatching for the Town of Truckee, along with all other municipal and county law enforcement in Nevada County. In doing so, all new consoles and radio transmission equipment were purchased and installed in the dispatch center. Motorola was ultimately the vendor chosen to engineer the new dispatch center and Motorola brand equipment was purchased and installed.

**Compatibility of Current Radio Infrastructure Equipment:** Currently, all base stations, transmitters, and receivers used by the Town of Truckee Police Department are Motorola equipment. As part of Phase II of the Project, the Sheriff's Office, as the manager of the Regional Dispatch Center, also expects to purchase Motorola brand radio equipment for installation at numerous communications vaults and towers in and around Nevada County for migration to the State CRIS system. The CRIS system uses Motorola equipment for its base stations, transmitters, receivers, and much of its microwave and backhaul equipment.

**Delays will impact officer safety and result in potential cost increases:** Moving forward with Phase I will allow Town of Truckee law enforcement personnel to immediately enjoy increased interoperability with local and regional law enforcement and fire partners, as the individual subscriber radios will be programmed with agency frequencies that we currently cannot communicate over. A delay in the purchase will have an impact on officer safety as officers may not be able to communicate with partner agencies in times of emergencies. Additionally, the Town has been notified by the vendor of a potential 8 to 10% cost increase in January 2025 if the equipment is not ordered before that time.

Given these considerations, such as the industry expertise of Motorola, equipment compatibility with existing the Regional Dispatch Center and Town of Truckee radio equipment, as well as the compatibility with Phase II of this Project, along with the safety and price increase concerns, the Town of Truckee is requesting that the COPS Office authorize the ability to sole source the purchase of these radios and associated equipment from Motorola.

Phase I of the Project (purchase of the subscriber handheld and portable mobile radios) can be considered a stand-alone project as the radios are not dependent on Phase II of the project but will seamlessly integrate with the equipment being purchased for Phase II. There should be no requirement for an Environmental Assessment before acquiring these radios, as there is no environmental impact for portable mobile radios installed in vehicles and handheld radios carried on someone's person.

### III. Project Budget

The Radio Infrastructure Improvement Project is estimated to cost approximately \$850,000 of which \$468,000 is federally funded. The following provides a summary of the Project budget. The New Subscriber Radios are Phase 1 of the Project (\$850,000) and the Town of Truckee desires to contract with Motorola for the reasons described above.

<b>Funding Source:</b>	<b>Budget Cost</b>	<b>COPS Funding [1]</b>	<b>Local Funding</b>
<b><u>EQUIPMENT/TECH</u></b>			
Equipment Implementation	\$44,570	\$0	\$44,570
New Subscriber Radios	\$765,430	\$468,000	\$297,430
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$810,000</b>	<b>\$468,000</b>	<b>\$342,000</b>
<b><u>OTHER COSTS</u></b>			
Project Management & Implementation Support	\$40,000	\$0	\$40,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$40,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$40,000</b>
<b>TOTAL PROJECT</b>	<b>\$850,000</b>	<b>\$468,000</b>	<b>\$382,000</b>

*As approved in COPS Office Technology grant.*

### IV. Sole Source Declaration

The Town of Truckee desires to maintain the security of the Public and its Law Enforcement Officers and it is recognized that radio communications are a critical component of public safety in both normal and emergency situations. The Town of Truckee has determined that Motorola Solutions is the preferred vendor due to the superiority of the Motorola brand equipment and its ability to integrate with existing infrastructure as well as the infrastructure upgrade that will occur with Phase II of the Project.

The Town of Truckee purchasing rules allow for the use of other competitively bid contracts (often referred to as “piggybacking”) for the purchase of goods and services. Following this rule, the Town of Truckee will be using the State of California Leveraged Purchase Agreement (LPA) (STPD-SW-1311-01) to purchase the radio equipment for this project. The LPA contract is administered through the California Department of Technology Statewide Technology Procurement section and is valid through 05/11/2027. Motorola Solutions is the contracted vendor for LPA STPD-SW-1311-01 and will supply all Motorola radios listed in Phase I of the Project. The State of California and Motorola Solutions, as a part of the LPA contract, have agreed that all state agencies and any city, county, special district, educational agency, local government body, or corporation empowered to expend public funds may use the contract for the purchase of Motorola brand radios through Motorola Solutions.

Using the guidance of the Town and other procurement policies, it was determined that it was in the best interest of the Town of Truckee to sole source the Phase I handheld radios and equipment with Motorola Solutions. Therefore, the Town of Truckee is now requesting that the DOJ COPS Office grant the Town authorization to sole source with Motorola Solutions for Phase I of this Project.

