



TO: John McDonough, City Manager

FROM: Eden Freeman, Grants Administrator

DATE: June 16, 2011 for submission on the Agenda of the June 21, 2011 City Council Meeting

ITEM: Consideration of Approval of Application for Allocation under FY2011 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Grant Program.

Background

The Byrne JAG Grant Program provides funding to support all components of the criminal justice system, ranging from multijurisdictional task forces to crime prevention and domestic violence programs, courts, corrections, treatment, and justice information sharing initiatives. Awards are available both directly from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) (if the applicant is eligible to receive more than \$10,000) or through the State Administrative Agency (SAA) appointed by the Governor. The City has previously been ineligible to receive a direct allocation under the Byrne JAG program because we did not have three years of completed part one crime statistics under the name of the City.

On June 6, 2011, the staff learned that the City has finally qualified to receive a direct allocation under the Byrne JAG Grant program. Our total allocated award is \$21,794.

The solicitation requires that the application be made available for review by the applicant's governing body (City Council) no less than 30 days before the submission of the application and that the public have an opportunity to comment on the proposed use of the funds. Funds can only be used to directly benefit the jurisdiction in which the applicant is based.

Discussion

For the FY2011 Byrne JAG Local Allocation, the City proposes to utilize our allocation (\$21,794) to purchase and install a state-of-the-art video conferencing system, linking the City's facilities with our private partners. This proposed use of our FY2011 Byrne JAG allocation is in direct support of the Bureau of Justice Assistance's stated priority of counterterrorism and information sharing/fusion centers.

*City
Manager*

Alternatives

Council could choose authorize the submission of this application. However, if this is the outcome, the City will forfeit the direct allocation of funds and perhaps endanger any future awards under this program.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval and submission of the application.

Attachment

1. Application

Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program FY2011 Local Solicitation

City of Sandy Springs, Georgia

Combating Crime and Terrorism Through Information Sharing

Program Narrative

The City of Sandy Springs is one of the newest cities in the State of Georgia and operates in a Council – Manager form of government. Incorporated December 1, 2005, the City has made dramatic strides in providing effective and efficient services to residents.

Sandy Springs is a demographically diverse community and covers a 38 square mile area in north Fulton County, Georgia. Sandy Springs is the second largest city in the metropolitan Atlanta area and is the sixth largest city in the State of Georgia. In 2010, the City's population was 65% White, 20% Black and 14.2% Hispanic. The City is home to more than 40% of the available hospital beds in the metropolitan Atlanta area and is proud to be the home of Northside Hospital, Saint Joseph's Hospital and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. While the City's residential population is 93,853, the daytime population swells to more than 200,000, due to the concentration of major corporations and businesses. Sandy Springs is home to many outstanding businesses, including corporate giants such as First Data, Newell Rubbermaid, UPS, Cox Enterprises, Wendy's/Arby's Group, Porsche North America, ING North America and Spectrum Brands.

With all of the successes experienced by Sandy Springs since incorporation, there remain areas of need for equipment when coordinating responses in the community during times of emergency, including acts of terrorism and disasters. For the FY2011 Byrne JAG Local Allocation, the City proposes to utilize its allocation (\$21,794) to purchase and install a state-of-the-art video conferencing system, linking the City's facilities with its private partners. This proposed use of the FY2011 Byrne JAG allocation is in direct support of the Bureau of Justice Assistance's stated priority of counterterrorism and information sharing/fusion centers.

The purpose of this project is to enhance public safety and private sector communications and collaboration during times of emergency or disasters, including response to criminal activity. The goals of the project are:

1. Provide a method for external partners (both private and public) to virtually connect to the City's Emergency Operations Center (EOC);
2. Reduce by 25% the time required to receive and relay critical information to critical partners; and
3. Increase by 25% participation in tabletop and full-scale exercises by partners and City entities.

A comprehensive video conferencing system will enhance the connection between

private sector partners, including Northside Hospital, UPS and Cox Communications and the City's Emergency Operations Center (EOC). These private partners already have access to the City's online EOC information management and collaboration tool, WebEOC, but a secure video conferencing link would allow for an enhanced level of interaction during times of need. In addition, a video conferencing system will also provide the infrastructure for other entities within the City, such as the Police Department headquarters, 911 Emergency Communications Center, mobile incident command centers and City Hall to remotely connect to the EOC. The purchase and installation of a comprehensive video conferencing system will provide a platform for other cities' law enforcement agencies to share intelligence and information both with the City's EOC and the Police Department's real-time crime analysis center.

If approved, the City of Sandy Springs proposes to purchase and install the proposed video conferencing system in the first year of this grant award. The City currently receives a Byrne JAG Formula pass through award from the Governor's Office for Children and Families. Where appropriate, the City will coordinate the use of the equipment proposed for purchase through the FY11 Byrne JAG Local award with the efforts of other related justice-funded programs. Sandy Springs is not located in a disparate jurisdiction; therefore, coordination with other local governments in the submission of this application is not required.

**Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program
FY2011 Local Solicitation**

City of Sandy Springs, Georgia
Combating Crime and Terrorism Through Information Sharing

Budget and Budget Narrative

Category and Description	Amount
Personnel No funds are requested in this category.	\$ 0
Fringe Benefits No funds are requested in this category.	\$ 0
Travel No funds are requested in this category.	\$ 0
Equipment The City proposes to purchase and install an open architecture-based video conferencing system, which will allow multiple interfaces and group meetings. The system will accommodate multiple simultaneous connections to allow for a seamless sharing of data, intelligence and information. This amount is an estimate only and the final cost may be higher, which would be covered from Police Department Forfeiture Funds.	\$ 16,794
Supplies No funds are requested in this category.	\$ 0
Consultants/Contracts No funds are requested in this category.	\$ 0
Other Funds are requested to cover the cost to install the system in the City's real-time information sharing center.	\$ 5,000
Total	\$ 21,794

For the FY2011 Byrne JAG Local Allocation, the City proposes to utilize its allocation (\$21,794) to purchase and install a state-of-the-art video conferencing system, linking the City's facilities with its private partners who have video conferencing links available in their facilities. This proposed use of its FY2011 Byrne JAG allocation is in direct support of BJA's stated priority of counterterrorism and information sharing/fusion centers.

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The City is requesting no administrative funds. Should the bids for the purchase of this equipment be above the amount awarded, the City will cover any cost difference through the use of forfeiture funds. As this project has not been funded in the City budget, City funds will not be supplanted to support this project.

**Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program
FY2011 Local Solicitation**

City of Sandy Springs, Georgia

Combating Crime and Terrorism Through Information Sharing

Review Narrative

The City of Sandy Springs made this application available for review by the governing body, the Mayor and City Council, and the general public on Friday, June 17, 2011. The application is posted on the City's website at www.sandyspringsga.org. A public hearing on this application will be held at the Council's regular Council meeting on Tuesday, June 21, 2011 at 6:00 PM. A certified copy of the meeting minutes, including public comment is attached under "Additional Attachments" to this application.

**Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program
FY2011 Local Solicitation**

City of Sandy Springs, Georgia

Combating Crime and Terrorism Through Information Sharing

Abstract

With all of the successes experienced by Sandy Springs since incorporation, there remain areas of need for equipment when coordinating responses in the community during times of emergency, including acts of terrorism and disasters. For the FY2011 Byrne JAG Local Allocation, the City proposes to utilize its allocation (\$21,794) to purchase and install a state-of-the-art video conferencing system, linking the City's facilities with its private partners. This proposed use of its FY2011 Byrne JAG allocation is in direct support of BJA's stated priority of counterterrorism and information sharing/fusion centers.

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A comprehensive video conferencing system will enhance the connection between private sector partners, including Northside Hospital, UPS and Cox Communications and the City's EOC. These private partners already have access to the City's online EOC information management and collaboration tool, WebEOC, but a secure video conferencing link would allow for an enhanced level of interaction during times of need. In addition, a video conferencing system will also provide the infrastructure for other entities within the City, such as the Police Department headquarters, 911 Emergency Communications Center, mobile incident command centers and City Hall to remotely connect to the EOC. The purchase and installation of a comprehensive video conferencing system will provide a platform for other cities' law enforcement agencies to share intelligence and information both with the City's EOC and the Police Department's real-time crime analysis center.

The top five identifiers associated with this project are:

1. Communications
2. Data Sharing/Linkage
3. Justice Information Sharing
4. System Improvements
5. Terrorism Preparedness